Drawing in Space : Stereoscopic Drawings by Vladimir Tamari

3D Center of Art & Photography, Portland Oregon, USA

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Tokyo Autumn, Thinking of Jerusalem 31 Nov1980. Colored inks on film. Stereoscopic drawings made by Palestinian artist and inventor Vladimir Tamari using the 3DD (3 Dimensional Drawing Instrument) pictured below. The drawings will appear solid when viewed through special glasses.



Tamari invented the 3DD instrument in 1963 in Ramallah, and built the first prototype in Arab Jerusalem in 1964. He built the model shown here in Japan around 1977.

Photo by Walter Witholt

Vladimir Tamari's website: www.ne.jp/asahi/tamari/vladimir/

3D Center of Art and Photography website: http://3dcenter.us/

"Imagine that you have a magical pen which can draw in three-dimensional space, creating lines that resembles a

wire sculpture ... "

Inspired by what he refers to as the "solidity and sharpness of things viewed in the clarity of light" of his native Palestine, artist Vladimir Tamari invented just such a magical pen to capture volume and depth in drawings. But rather than relying on sorcery to achieve the magic of stereoscopic drawing, Tamari invented the *3DD*, a stereoscopic drawing instrument that incorporates two pens, two lenses and a drawing handle. To create his 3D drawings, Tamari guides the drawing handle of the 3DD which in turn controls two pens that are spaced accordingly. As he "draws in space," he looks through two lenses of a stereoscopic viewer which fuse the two pens into one pen so that he can see the drawing being created in 3D. Looking through a similar stereoscope the finished drawings can be viewed in stereo popping up in 3D space..

he first, simple stereoscopic drawings were produced in 1836 by Charles Wheatstone, the inventor of the stereoscope. These mostly consisted of basic geometric shapes. In the early 20th century, noted artists Marcel Duchamp, Rene Magritte, and Salvador Dali experimented in 3D drawing and painting, although no major developments in technique or instrument design were manifested. The first 3D drawing instrument was patented in 1939, put forth by MIT Professor J.T. Rule, although it does not seem to have become widely known. Alternative designs for 3D drawing instruments were published in 1958 by Professor R. L. Gregory but were difficult to put into practical use and it wasn't until 1964 that Vladimar Tamari's first 3DD prototype was built in Jerusalem. To this day, Tamari regrets the 1967 loss of his prototype to an Israeli rocket that hit his home in Ramallah. During 15 years of development, Tamari perfected his 3DD by 1982 and in the process has made hundreds of stereoscopic drawings, a portion of which are on display in the Gallery at the 3D Center of Art & Photography. One of Tamari's 3DD drawing instruments will also be on display and the 3D Center will offer two stereoscopic drawing workshops to coincide with the exhibition. (Workshop dates to be determined at a later date.)