

Artist: Alexander Calder

Title: Crinkly with a red disc

Date: 1973

Location: Pennsylvania USA

“Question: Is it true that Marcel Duchamp invented the name “mobile” for your work?
Calder: Yes, Duchamp named the mobiles and Arp the stabiles. Arp said, “What did you call those things you exhibited last year? Stabiles?”

Question: How did the mobiles start?

Calder: The mobiles started when I went to see Mondrian. I was impressed by several colored rectangles he had on the wall. Shortly after that I made some mobiles; Mondrian claimed his paintings were faster than my mobiles.

Question: How do you get that subtle balance in your work?

Calder: You put a disk here and then you put another disk that is a triangle at the other end and then you balance them on your finger and keep on adding. I don't use rectangles—they stop. You can use them; I have at times but only when I want to block, to constipate movement.”



http://www.calder.org/system/downloads/1962_Artist's_Voice.P0349.pdf

<http://www.calder.org/life/selected-texts>