talc. ART PACK

Make Paint Spin workshop

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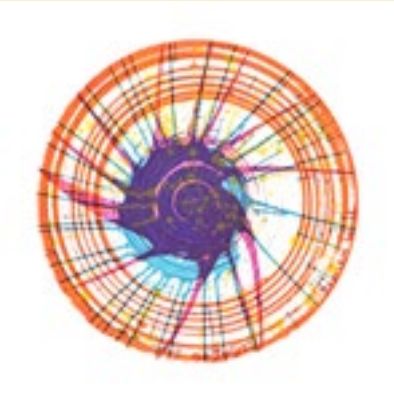
This art pack provides everything you need to build a Spin Painting Machine. The machine will work with power generated by a little solar cell, so you can harness the power of the sun to make it work by finding a sunny spot indoors or outdoors, or you can place it underneath a table lamp (less environmentally friendly, but a good back-up plan during a grey Winter!). The faster your machine spins, the more exciting the effects will be.
Quite a few contemporary artists used machines to rotate their images whilst dripping paint onto the paper or canvas:

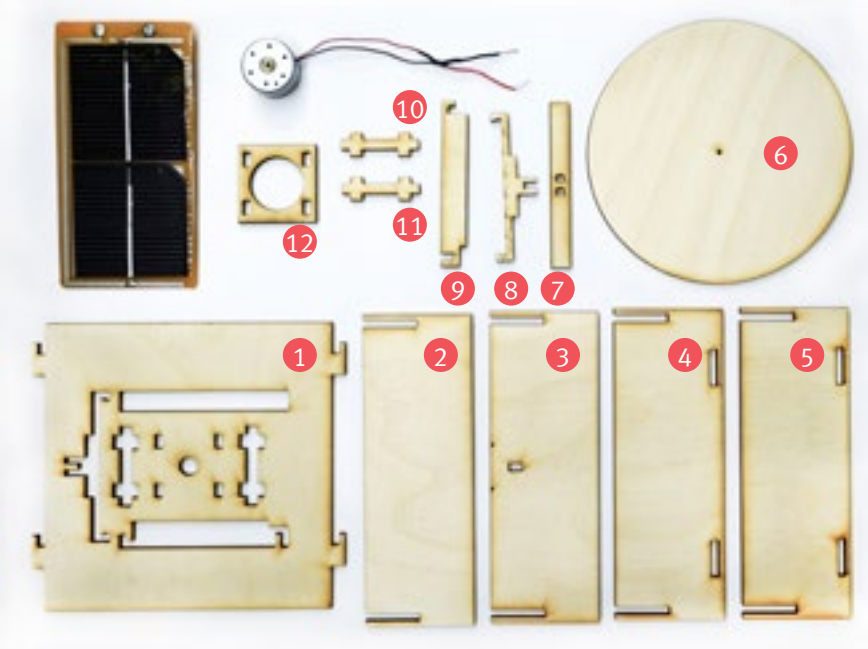
Alfons Schilling:
Rotationsbild, 1962

Annick Gendron:
Spin Painting 1969



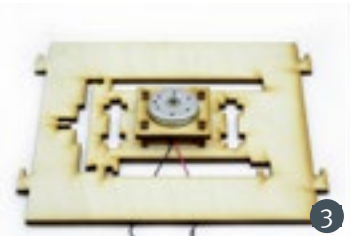
Damien Hirst:
Round, 2002

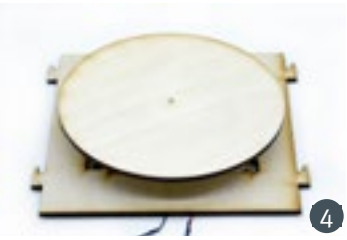
Alfons Schilling (1934-2013) The Viennese painter build his first vertical rotator in 1961 and started the production of a series of 'Rotationsbilder'.
Annick Gendron (1939-2008) From 1968 to 1973 the French artist Annick Gendron used industrial wheels to spin paint on Plexiglas. At the end of the 1960s she was one of the first artists to use centrifugal force to produce large-sized artworks, inspired by children's spin paintings.
Damien Hirst was also inspired by children's spin paintings, and says that it was seeing a demonstration of a motorised cardboard spinning machine on the children's television show Blue Peter in 1975, when he was just 9 years old, that set him on the path to creating art. He returned to the idea in the 1990s, utilising more spectacular materials, sizes, and shapes.

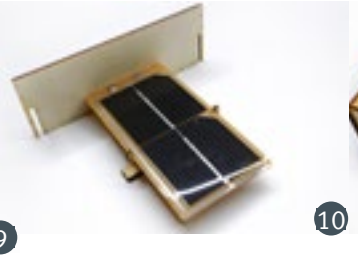


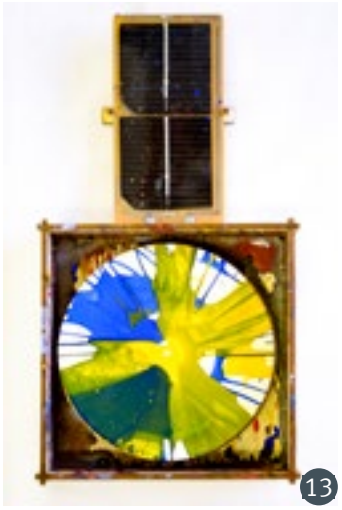
Here you can see what's included in TALC's Make Paint Spin art pack, including a solar cell, a solar motor, and 12 laser cut plywood parts. Lay out all of the plywood parts exactly as shown in the picture so that you know which part is which.

We have also supplied paper discs that fit on to the rotating base. These are the canvases on to which paint will be applied.









How to build the Spin Machine

1 The top of the motor features a small metal prong (the axis) surrounded by 7 small holes. Push the top of the motor into part 12 so that the plywood sits in the middle of the motor body.

2 Slot parts 10 and 11 into part 12 on either side of the bottom of the motor, creating a little platform.

3 Push the motor platform feet into the corresponding holes in the centre of part 1. Make sure that the cables are fed through the cut-out so that they are below part 1.

4 Push the disc (part 6) onto the motor axis. Make sure that the top of the axis is flush with the plywood disc. This works best if you use one of the other plywood parts to press against the axis – don't try to do this with your fingers.

5 The side panels (parts 4 & 5) slot onto the L-shaped hooks on part 1. The side panels slide and click into place, locked in by the L-shaped hooks.

6 Slot part 2 onto the sides at the top of the frame, on the opposite side from the cables. Make sure that part 2 is pushed all the way down so that it sits flush with the tops of the side panels.

7 Assemble parts 3 and 9 to make a holder for the solar cell. Slot the hook of part 9 into the central cut-out of part 3. Make sure that the bottom of both parts sit flush against your table. Fix the joint with some wood glue and leave until it is set.

8 Push part 8 onto the slot of part 9, applying wood glue to fix the joint.

9 Push the two little feet of part 8 through the holes in part 7 to create a stable support. Fix with some glue.

10 Once all the glue is set, push the solar cell into the solar cell holder, with the plus & minus end towards the side of part 3.

11 Carefully slot part 3 onto the main structure, as you did with part 2 in step 6.

12 Now for the fiddly part! Attach the cables to the solar cell by unscrewing the small metal nuts on the back of the solar cell, wrapping each of the metal cable ends around one of the screws, between the small metal washers, and securing each with the little metal nuts. Play around – the polarity can be swapped for clockwise / anti-clockwise rotation. Check the connections are good by placing your machine in a sunny spot, or under a lamp. If it spins, your solar cell is connected!

13 Now you are ready to paint! Use TALC's pre-cut paper discs, or you can cut your own paper/wood/fabric to size by drawing around the plywood disc (part 6). Carefully fix them onto the plywood disc with some blu-tack (other reusable adhesives are available) without pushing down the plywood disc. Find a sunny spot or a bright lamp to work beneath. Mix acrylic paint with water and drip it onto the paper disc whilst the disc is spinning – experiment with different colour combinations and speeds!

PLEASE SEND PICTURES OR VIDEOS OF YOUR SOLAR POWERED SPIN PAINTING BACK TO TALC – either with wetransfer.com or email: info@talc.org.uk!

This art pack is created for TALC's community project *growth: seed* funded by Creative Communities.