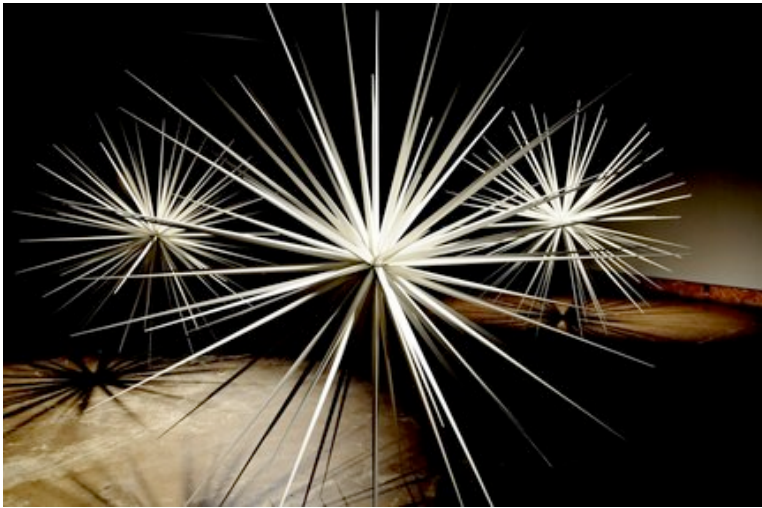


## Rich and Helen DeVos purchase ArtPrize piece by artist Norman Mooney

By [Jeffrey Kaczmarczyk | The GR Press](#)

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File Photo by T.J. Hamilton | The Grand Rapids Press

ArtPrize entry Norman Mooney's "Windseeds" was purchased by Rich and Helen DeVos.

[See photographs of the piece on the DeVos estate](#)

GRAND RAPIDS — [ArtPrize](#) brought [Norman Mooney's](#) "Windseeds" to Grand Rapids in September for the 18-day urban exhibition. Rich and Helen DeVos have decided the sculpture by the Brooklyn, N.Y.- based artist will remain in West Michigan. Mooney's three-piece sculpture has been purchased by Rich and Helen DeVos and has been installed on the grounds of their estate in Ada, according to a story online today in [artdaily.org](#).

DeVos, co-founder of Amway Corp., and his wife are grandparents of ArtPrize founder Rick DeVos.

"Windseeds," which was displayed at [Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts](#) during ArtPrize, finished among the [Top 25 entries](#) in the inaugural competition by popular vote of viewers using social media. A total of 37,264 registered voters cast 334,219 votes during the exhibition that opened Sept. 23.

The pieces of cast aluminum sculpture are 60-sided isohedrons, each of the three measuring 8-foot by 6-foot by 6-foot. Sales price has not been disclosed. But during the 18-day exhibition, Mooney had listed the three pieces for sale on ArtPrize's website for \$48,000 for one piece, \$90,000 for two, or \$140,000 for the set of three. Discussions on the sale began during ArtPrize, but Mooney had created "Windseeds" for indoor display, so the pieces had to be returned to his studio in Brooklyn to be reworked for permanent outdoor placement.

"They were just set on their points on the ground," he said. Mooney extended some of the points and added steel spikes to go below grade and be bolted to concrete.

"It still looks like they're sitting on the points, which is important to the work, so it still looks like they're floating," he said.

Though constructed of cast aluminum, Mooney also added a UV-protected clear-coat finish to the pieces. Mooney, who was in town last week to install the pieces at the DeVos estate, said he's pleased with the site and outdoor placement. "I think it actually heightens the pieces in a way," he said. "They're almost more delicate and fragile outside." [Mooney](#), who was born in 1971 in Dublin, Ireland and now lives in New York, is represented by Causey Contemporary Gallery in Brooklyn. The gallery also represents [Ran Ortner](#), whose oil painting "Open Water no. 24" [was awarded the grand prize](#) of \$250,000 on Oct. 8.

Mooney has completed a number of large-scale permanent installations in both New York and Europe. His work can be found in the collections of the San Francisco Museum of Art, the Mint Museum of Art, and among privately held collections. During ArtPrize, Mooney visited Grand Rapids to install "Windseeds" at UICA and remained in town for opening day, so he got a small taste of the event.

"It was fabulous to see all the energy and the enthusiasm," he said.

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