Rain by Lynda Cole
ArtPrize 2011: 3rd Place Public Vote Winner

Rain is a kinetic sculpture using squares of silver leaves on polyester film. The squares are suspended and move with air currents, creating a slow natural motion, like rain. Artist Lynda Cole compares the gentle feeling of this motion to the sensation one has when watching water on the ocean, shadows on the wall, or clouds against the sky. As the geometric shapes in this kinetic sculpture shift, they transform shape and cast new shadows on the gallery floor.

A mobile is a type of sculpture that is built out of delicate suspended components that move in response to air currents or motor power. A kinetic sculpture is a 3-D work of art that has the added dimensions of movement and time. Reflected light and cast shadows can expand out from a piece of artwork to change the feeling of a room.

Creative Challenge: Floating Film Mobile

Make your own mobile to create a sense of balance or imbalance depending on how you arrange the suspended elements.
- Hold the sticks in an X shape and wrap tightly in place with the pipe cleaner to make the cross-piece for your mobile. Add a loop to hang it from if you would like.
- Cut 4 pieces of thread as long as your forearm and tie one to each of the 4 ends of the cross-piece.
- Choose pieces of foil and film that interest you. Cut them into different shapes and tape them along the length of each hanging thread.
- Try hanging more strings from the cross-piece and see how it affects the balance of your mobile.
- Hang your mobile up at home to and see how the air currents affect the suspended shapes. Does it cast a shadow on the ground or reflect light onto the walls?

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