

CHAIN REACTION CONTRAPTION

Contraption: a machine or device that appears strange or unnecessarily complicated, and often badly made or unsafe

MORE STUFF

reference, some online links, there's lots out there to discover

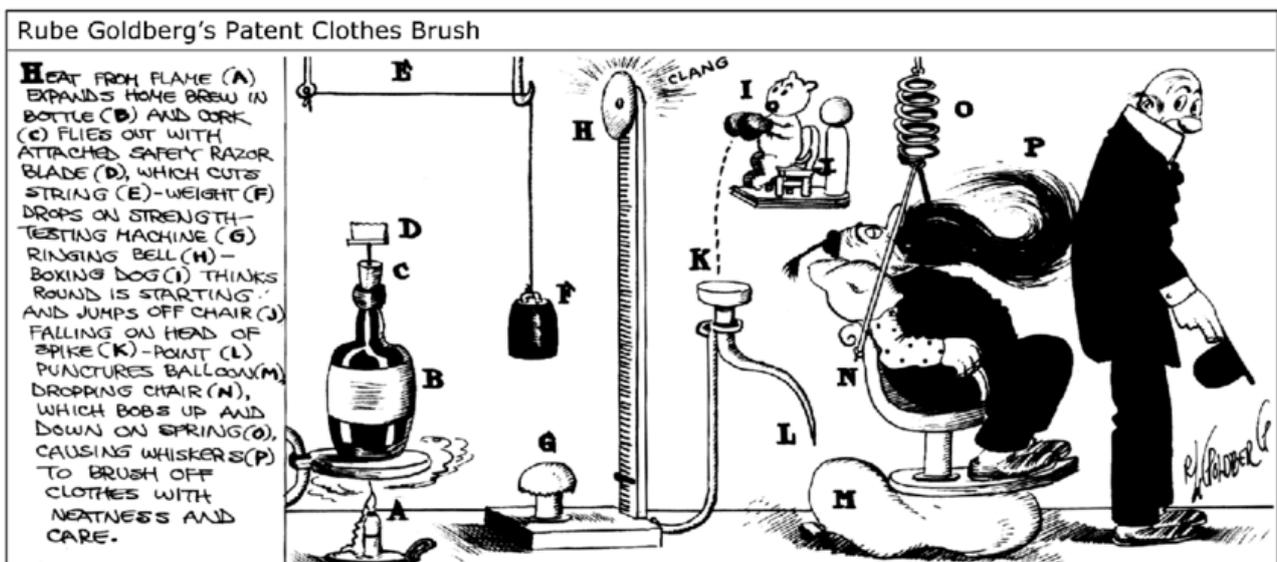
Rube Goldberg 1883 -1970

An American Pulitzer Prize winning cartoonist, who began his career as an engineer.

He drew elaborate illustrations of chain reaction contraptions, designed to solve a simple task, such as opening a window or switching off an alarm clock. He never built any of his inventions, but he inspires people to make their own Versions.

There are regular, competitions in the USA to make "Rube Goldberg" machines. His name is so commonly used it is in the Dictionary.

Rube Golberg (adjective) – a comically involved, complicated invention, normally chain reaction, laboriously contrived to perform a simple operation.



<https://www.rubegoldberg.com>

Heath Robinson 1872 -1944

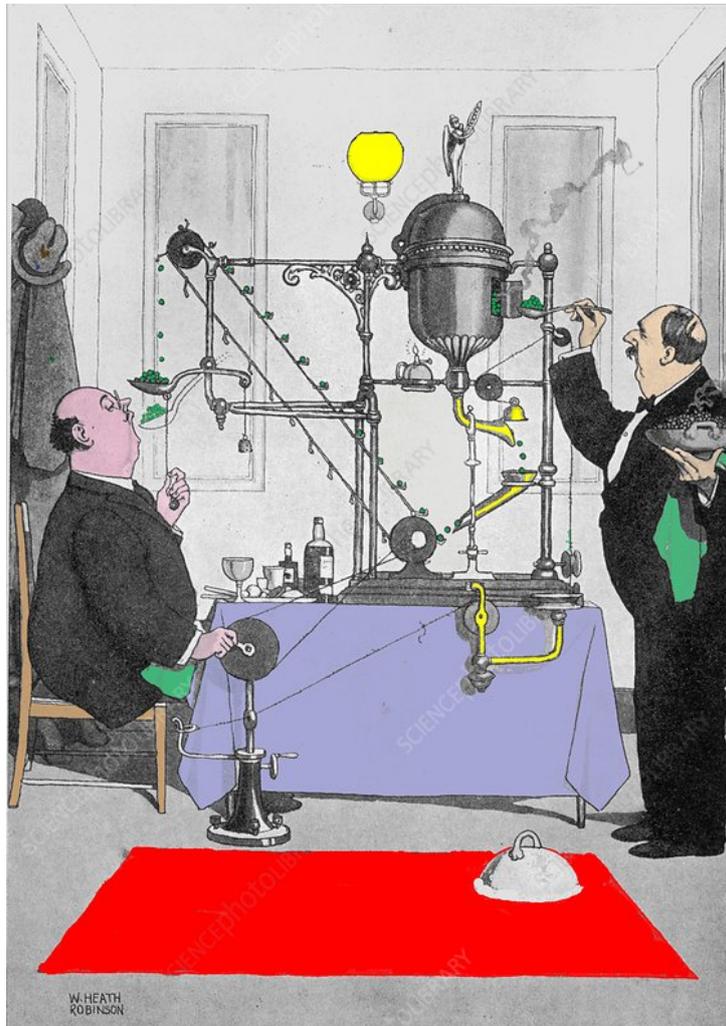
An English cartoonist, illustrator and artist.

He produced a lot of diverse work, but is best known for his drawings of whimsically elaborate machines to achieve simple tasks.

One of his most famous series of illustrations was for the first *Professor Branestawm* book, written by Norman Hunter. The stories were about a brilliant, eccentric and forgetful professor, a perfect backdrop for Robinson's drawings.

His name became so widely used in the UK as an adjective, it also made the Dictionary.

Heath Robinson (adjective): An invention, machine or process that is makeshift, fragile, poorly engineered or overly elaborate.



www.heathrobinsonmuseum.org/williamheathrobinson

SOME EXAMPLES, TUTORIALS & IDEAS

DoodleChaos is a channel on youtube here's some tutorials with good simple breakdowns of moves look at ones with "Rube Goldberg" in the title

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL95C92D116B87D4B1>

Rube Goldberg Ideas : does what it says

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgDF1tyOvU>

StickTrickDominoDude

His channel bit heavy on the dominoes but this one is good:

99 Amazing Chain Reaction Tricks Part 3

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2odi5nszVWkc>

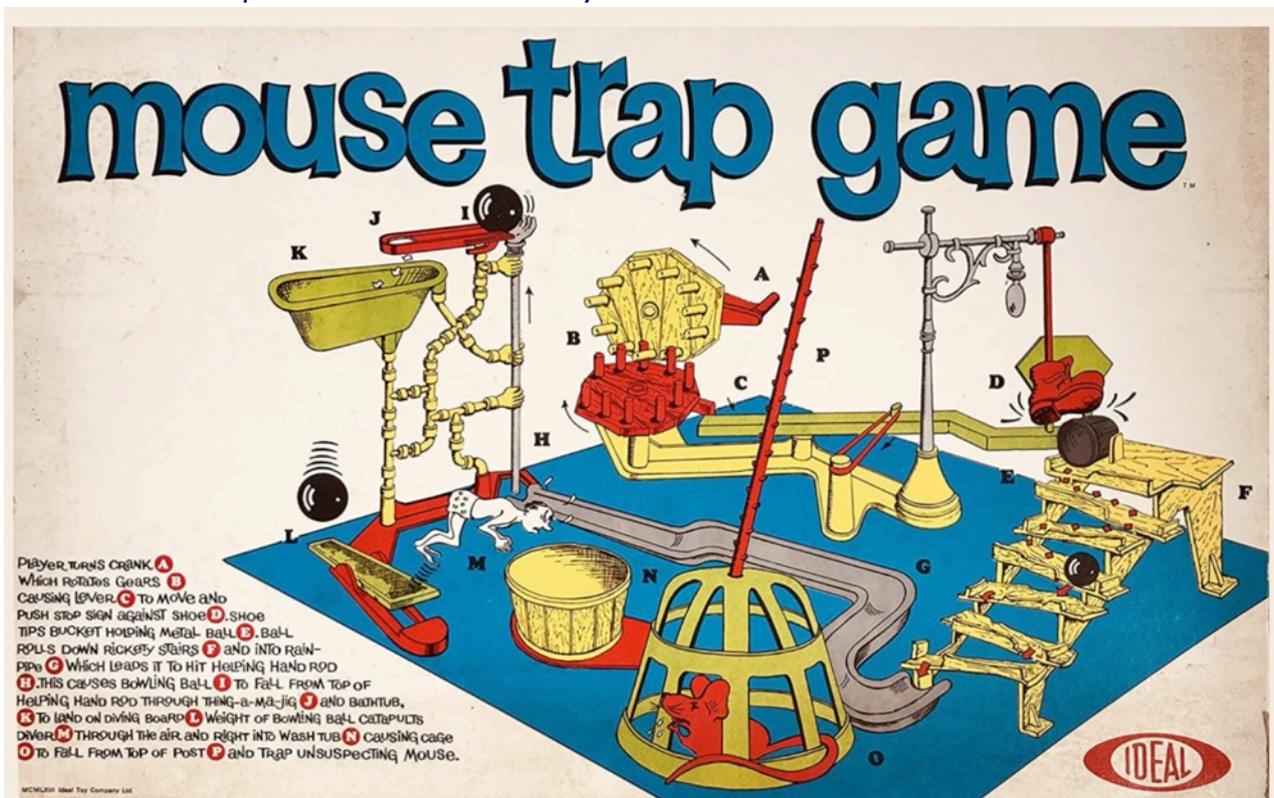
Joseph's Machines is a good youtube channel, this one shows some interesting moves

Pass The Pepper: Social Distancing is Nothing to Sneeze At

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XwaH-qT4Rm0>

BOARD GAME

The Mousetrap Game – a classic from my childhood and a version is still made



see it working: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PklueltoIFc>

MOVIES

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (From about 1.45mins)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RBJGpNTP_IY

Pee Wee's Big Adventure (from about 1.10 mins)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KVdqwD_bcPs

Wallace and Gromit: The Curse of the Were Rabbit,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dv5hMrZzdIU>

ANIMATION

Tom and Jerry: Designs on Jerry funny clever cartoon all the way though.

The end sees the machine in action

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TYocldOGDDg&list=PLUZkanG9w8DYdIxc9nabIPHZyrcD7fnsU>

COMIC

Rubi's Screwtop Science - The Beano

Demonstrating how contraptions don't always work as you hope



MUSIC VIDEO

OK GO - *This Too Shall Pass*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qybUFnY7Y8w>

ARTISTS

Fischli and Weiss: *The Way Things Go (Der Laufe der Dinge)*

a 29 minute film of their contraption

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXo7YUP-J3w>

PERFORMANCE

JON HICKS (*this is me*) – *Elephants*

I like contraptions in my shows, here's a simple one as a finale to a routine.

From 0.53 mins: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I-4_KIU9-Ro&t=144s

WORKS by Haywood Hix - me again with Mark Haywood and our outdoors chain reaction extravaganza: the contraption catapults the shed cat to deliver sugar lumps for our cups of tea.

<http://www.haywoodhix.com/showreel>



Jon Hicks

“Walk your own path”



Jon Hicks has a Fine Art degree.

He has worked as a pavement artist, scenic artist, prop maker and set builder.

Since 2000 he has worked as a performer and travelled the world.

He performs solo, in collaborations and as a member of award winning variety troupe Slightly Fat Features.

His performances are diverse: from a high skill speed painting act to deadpan clowning routines.

Most of his work incorporates his skills as an artist and maker.

He is very fond of contraptions and chain reactions.

He collaborated with artist Mark Haywood in 2013 and with Arts Council of England funding, they developed the outdoors chain reaction show WORKS.



<http://www.thejonhicks.com/home>

<http://www.haywoodhix.com>

<http://www.slightlyfatfeatures.com>