

About the Cover

This month's cover shows one of Helaman Ferguson's works (not mentioned in this month's article by him on the preceding pages). In the words of Claire Ferguson (in *HELAMAN FERGUSON: Mathematics in Stone and Bronze*):

"‘Double Torus Stonehenge’ is a graduated linking to unlinking of two handles on a double torus, without tearing or breaking. Close your hands, then link the thumb and forefinger of each hand with the other. Now, without opening the fingers, try to separate them. The challenge is to find a deformation that unlinks a pair of linked handles."

The pieces are placed on a wooden disk roughly the size of a table top. Helaman comments, "I would like to carve some big stones in a circle like this, big enough for people to climb on and crawl through. Two hundred eighty tons would be about right."

Two copies of this work are held by the Maryland Science Center. The photograph was taken by Jonathan Ferguson.

—Bill Casselman
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