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Sculpture finds new home in nature at Pyramid Hill

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Alex Chefetz (left) and artist Barton Rubenstein stand next to the newly erected 'Skybound' sculpture at Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park Tuesday, July 10, 2012, in Hamilton, Ohio. The sculpture is a gleaming 30-foot high sculpture weighing almost 2,500 pounds by artist Barton Rubenstein of Chevy Chase, Md. Staff photo by Nick Daggy

HAMILTON — Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park has added a new 30-foot tall sculpture to its display of outdoor artwork.

Artist Barton Rubenstein of Chevy Chase, Md. said Tuesday he made the nine-hour trek to Hamilton to deliver and erect his sculpture "Skybound," part of his Sculpture in Suspension series.

The sculpture will be in the park through the summer of 2014. The park is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, according to Joe Statzer, spokesman for Pyramid Hill.

"Skybound" stands 30 feet tall with a weight of 2,500 pounds. Rubenstein said the stainless steel sculpture is comprised of a series of hollow, diamond-like shapes connected by an inner tube carefully concealed so the shapes appear to be floating above the ground.

"It's really cool to design a sculpture that is gravity-free," Rubenstein said.

A reception with the artist will be at 1 p.m. July 28 at the park.

Rubenstein said the piece came to life after he met with Harry T. Wilks, founder of Pyramid Hill, during a trip to Ohio last year. Rubenstein said while he was a finalist in a national competition at the University of Cincinnati, he made a visit to Pyramid Hill after hearing about it from a friend in Washington, D.C.

"I can't tell you how amazing this park is. ... It's a stunning place to view monumental art," Rubenstein said.

Rubenstein said Pyramid Hill has the sculpture on a three-year loan, after which Wilks will have the first rights to purchase.

"(The sculpture) shows off a very different personality depending on the time of day," Rubenstein said.

Rubenstein also specializes in water and kinetic sculptures.

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Nick Daggy/Staff photographer

Alex Chefetz helps to release ropes after Pyramid Hill's new 'Skybound' sculpture is erected Tuesday, July 10, 2012, in Hamilton, Ohio. The sculpture is a gleaming 30-foot high sculpture weighing almost 2,500 pounds by artist Barton Rubenstein of Chevy Chase, Md.