

HOW

EXPERT TIPS AND TECHNIQUES FOR BETTER PHOTOS

CREATIVE THINKING

X-RAY ARTIST

Turn industrial X-rays into something fun

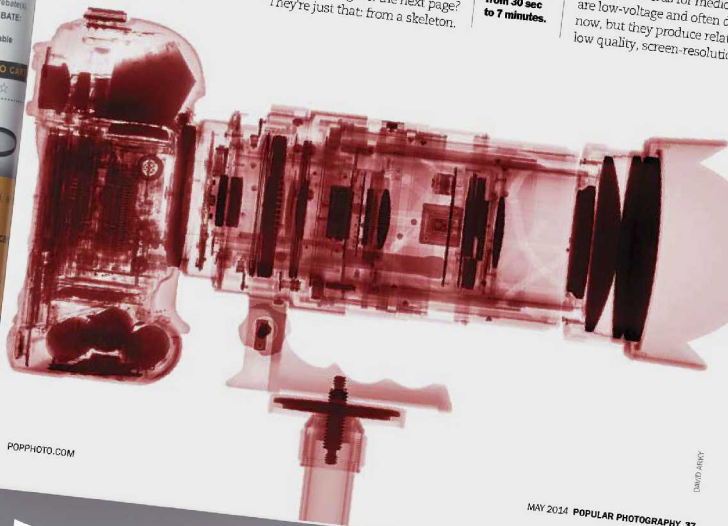
WHEN YOU see really cool X-ray photographs like the one on this month's cover by New York-based conceptual still-life photographer David Arky, you could be forgiven for hoping that maybe Santa could score you an X-ray camera for the holidays this year.

"That's not going to happen," says an amused Arky, pointing out that in the U.S. these machines are tightly regulated. No one is allowed to X-ray other people unless it's medically necessary. His skeletal legs on the next page? They're just that: from a skeleton.

David Arky's image of a tripod-mounted Canon EOS-1D X and Sigma 50-500mm f/4.5-6.3, shot for us, is a composite of four X-rays with exposure times varying from 30 sec to 7 minutes.

Still, we thought you might want to learn how Arky actually makes these amazing photos. To that end—and as the opening salvo of this month's big how-to feature (page 57)—we asked him to explain how he uses heavy-duty, industrial-grade cameras for his more artistic ends.

X-ray cameras for medical use are low-voltage and often digital now, but they produce relatively low quality, screen-resolution



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David Arky