

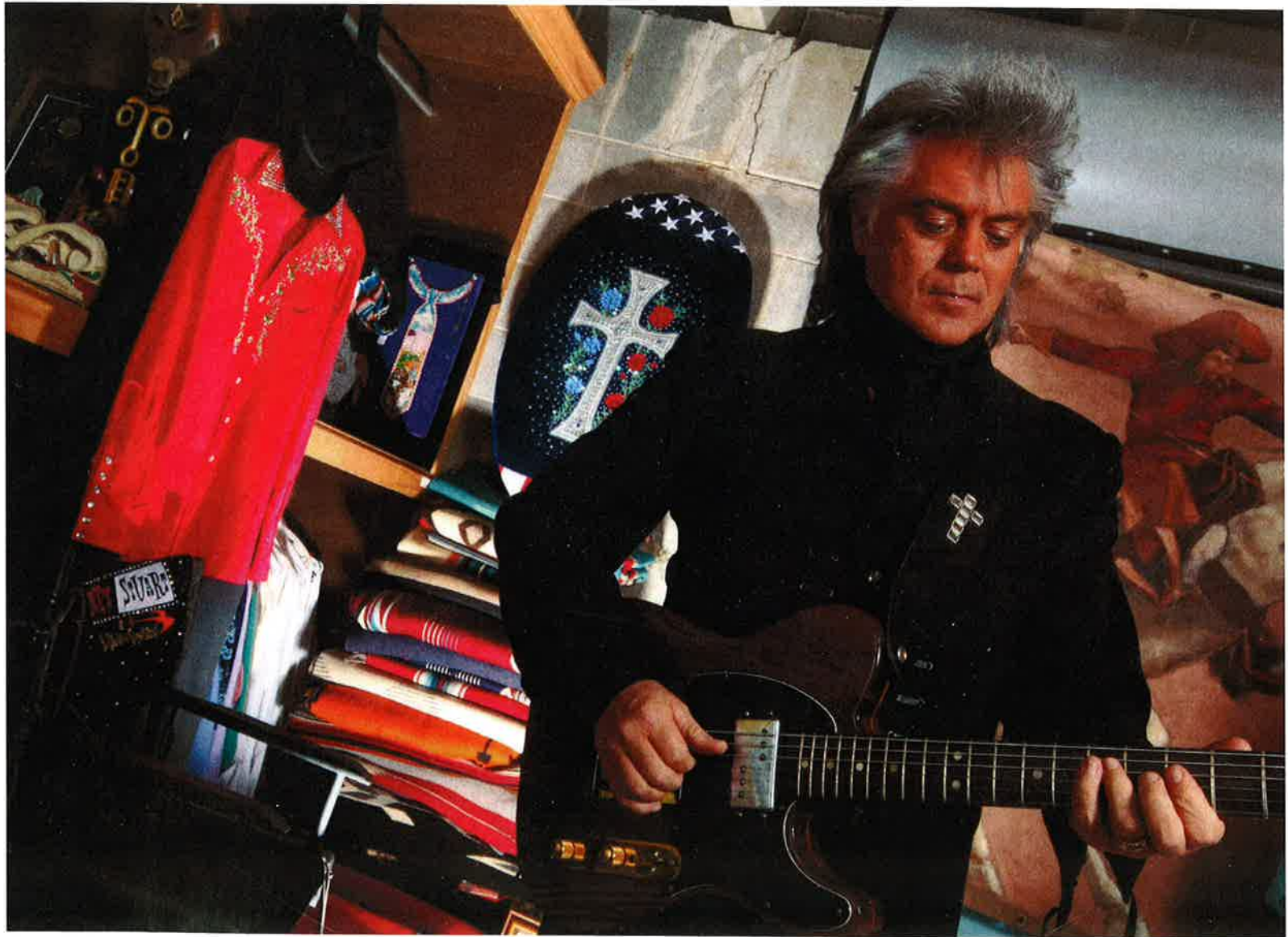
MARTY STUART · PAUL LANGUEDOC · THE NATIONAL

# THE Fretboard

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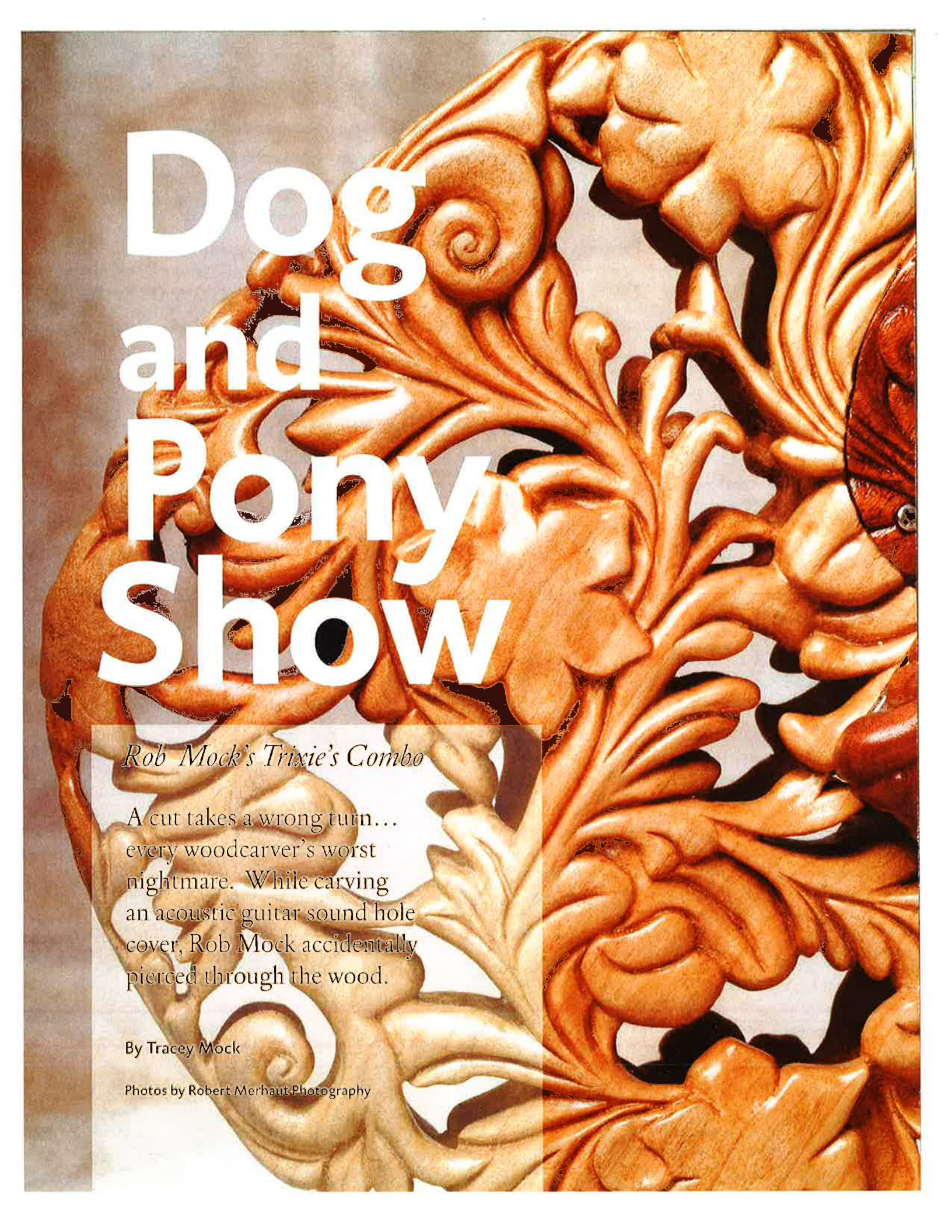




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# Dog and Pony Show

## *Rob Mock's Trixie's Combo*

A cut takes a wrong turn... every woodcarver's worst nightmare. While carving an acoustic guitar sound hole cover, Rob Mock accidentally pierced through the wood.

By Tracey Mock

Photos by Robert Merhaut Photography



And you were proud of the time you put Fralin pickups in your Strat without any help. Rob Mock's Strat actually started as an off the shelf Fender. He's since done some, um, tinkering with it, and installed Fender Sumarion Cobalt Noiseless pickups underneath the pickguard.







The Strat with its matching  
Valvetrain Po' Boy amp.





However, the result was actually quite intriguing. Could this effect be replicated for an entire guitar? It was a perfect palette for the Northern Virginia music store manager with a passion for woodcarving... and a matching amplifier would complete the package. Approximately 1,200 hours and 18 months later, "Trixie's Combo" was completed using only hand tools and perseverance.

"Trixie's Combo," named after, Trixie, one of Rob's many canine rescues, is a factory-made Fender American Stratocaster and Valvetrain Po' Boy amplifier. The body of the guitar is alder, with a mahogany pickguard, backplate and output jack. The guitar pickups are mounted under the pickguard and are adorned with cherry knobs and maple overlaid ebony tuner buttons. The amplifier cabinet is made of solid pine. "I always wanted to carve an amplifier," Mock says. "When this plain, brown box appeared, I knew this was the one."

"Trixie's Combo" was truly a rewarding experience, affording Rob the opportunity to pursue additional innovative projects. For the past three years, Rob has collaborated on the creation of handmade acoustic guitars with Jim Warwick, an accomplished luthier. "When Jim and I engage in our brainstorming sessions, the possibilities are endless," Mock says.

In 2010, Rob started a business, Triple C Woodworking, where "Trixie's Combo" and his other woodworking projects illustrate the range of his talent. Rob is often asked what "Triple C" stands for. It's Crazy Canine Creations, reflecting the convergence of his woodworking skills and dedication to saving animals. A portion of all Triple C proceeds are donated to animal rescue. 