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Features and additional Web content at ngm.nationalgeographic.com

Writers and photographers are available for interviews August 16-Sept. 14 (see specifics below).

Feature Stories:

TUT'S FAMILY SECRETS, by *Zahi Hawass*, photographed by *Kenneth Garrett* (Page 34) Archaeologist and National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence Zahi Hawass and a team of geneticists probe deeper into the birth, life and death of King Tutankhamun with a series of DNA and other tests on Tut's mummy and 10 other mummies of people suspected to be members of Tut's family. The evidence reveals extraordinary details about the king, including which bodies belonged to his parents, his probable link to the two mummified fetuses found in his tomb, and what may have contributed to Tut's untimely death. Photographer Kenneth Garrett shows us the mummies whose stories fill a void in the archaeological record.



SANDS OF TIME, by *Roff Smith*, photographed by *Peter Essick* (Page 62) Aboriginal spirit helper K'gari's body was transformed "into a long, slender island of crystalline sand, the largest such island in all the world." She was clothed "with the most luxuriant of rain forests," her soft, sandy skin "painted a rainbow of colors" and a chain of jewel-like lakes fashioned "to be her eyes into heaven." Such is the Aboriginal story of the creation of Australia's Fraser Island. Roff Smith writes that the island's storied landscapes have inspired many of Australia's greatest writers and artists, and its delicate ecosystems fueled one of Australia's first great grassroots environmental campaigns in the 1970s, halting mining of its mineral-rich sands and bringing an end to logging on the island. Peter Essick photographs the many worlds of Fraser Island: a place with giant red sand dunes, shimmering lakes and patterned peatland. **Smith is available for interviews.**

MADAGASCAR'S PIERCED HEART, by *Robert Draper*, photographed by *Pascal Maitre* (Page 80) Madagascar's geographic isolation has created a wonderland of carrot-shaped baobab trees, ghostly lemurs and forests of towering stone spikes. Roughly 90 percent of its flora and fauna is found nowhere else on Earth. But the collapse of Madagascar's government last year along with pressures caused by a rapidly growing population and the growing appetite of Chinese timber producers have led to the plunder of the island's gems, minerals and precious rosewood trees. Writer Robert Draper and photographer Pascal Maitre, whose story on the failed state of Somalia in the September 2009 issue of National Geographic won the National Magazine Award for photojournalism, pair once again to examine how Madagascar's rare biodiversity coexists with the desperation of its people. **Draper and Maitre are available for interviews.**



THE BEAUTY OF INSECT EGGS, by *Rob Dunn*, photographed by *Martin Oeggerli* (Page 110) They began simply, smooth and round, but over 300 million years insect eggs have evolved into complex masterpieces. Rob Dunn writes of the egg's special features that ensure survival, allowing insect parents to abandon their young nearly anywhere. Swiss photographer Martin Oeggerli uses a scanning electron microscope to showcase an owl butterfly egg whose mosaic pattern resembles a landing pad, a Julia heliconian butterfly egg perched on the tendril of a *Passiflora* plant for protection from hungry ants, and a zebra longwing butterfly egg whose orange hue warns predators of cyanide and other toxins inside. **Oeggerli is available for interviews.**

MYSTERY TRAVELERS, by *James Prosek*, photographed by *David Doubilet* (Page 122) Freshwater eels migrate thousands of miles from rivers across oceans, and on wet nights they've been known to cross land from a pond to a river by the thousands, using each other's bodies as a bridge. Writer James Prosek examines this mysterious, ancient fish that began evolving more than 50 million years ago, branching into 16 species and three subspecies. Unlike most migratory fish, they spawn in secret in the ocean and spend their adulthood in lakes, rivers and estuaries. Their migrations elicit unwelcome dangers, from hydroelectric dams, river diversions, pollution, disease, predation and fishing by humans. Photographer David Doubilet captures these fascinating creatures, whose ability to adapt and survive is under immense pressure. **Prosek and Doubilet are available for interviews.**



(OVER)

Departments:

September's Departments section looks at recovered Sept. 11 artifacts; the cilantro taste debate; the nutritional value of insects; the world's spending habits; and an explosive wager.

National Geographic magazine has a long tradition of combining on-the-ground reporting with award-winning photography to inform people about life on our planet. It has won 11 National Magazine Awards in the past four years: for General Excellence, Photojournalism and Essays and two inaugural Digital Media Awards for Best Photography and Best Community in 2010; for Photojournalism in 2009; for General Excellence, Photojournalism and Reporting in 2008; and for General Excellence and Photography in 2007.

The magazine is the official journal of the National Geographic Society, one of the world's largest nonprofit educational and scientific organizations. Published in English and 32 local-language editions, the magazine has a global circulation of around 8 million. It is sent each month to National Geographic members and is available on newsstands for \$5.99 a copy. Single copies can be ordered by calling (800) NGS-LINE, also the number to call for membership in the Society.

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