

# NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

## CONTENIDO

### VOLUME 221 No. 5, MAY 2012

- 38 **Bringing the Civil War to Life.**  
In the 1860s combat artists captured battlefield drama. Today reenactors reimagine the conflict.  
*Harry Katz.*  
*Photographs by Richard Barnes.*
- 62 **A Showboating Bird.**  
To woo a mate, a male manakin might make music with its wings...or do the moonwalk.  
*Dan Koeppel.*  
*Photographs by Tim Laman.*
- 70 **Egypt in the Moment.**  
A Nile journey reveals how the revolution is playing out far from its epicenter in Tahrir Square.  
*Jeffrey Bartholet.*  
*Photographs by Alex Majoli.*
- 98 **A Show of Hands.**  
Humans, of course, have them. So do bats, cats, dolphins, elephants, and frogs. Our artwork takes you inside these useful appendages.  
*Carl Zimmer.*  
*Illustrations by Bryan Christie.*
- 106 **Iceland's Resilient Beauty.**  
Icelanders and sheep have taken a toll, but the volcanic-glacial landscape is still astonishing.  
*Robert Kunzig.*  
*Photographs by Orsolya and Erlend Haarberg.*
- 126 **The Race to rescue Koalas.**  
Megan Aitken drives Australian streets, saving marsupials that face urban hazards and disease.  
*Mark Jenkins.*  
*Photographs by Joel Sartore.*

## **DEPARTMENTS**

4 **Editor's Note.**

6 **Letters.**

8 **National Geographic on TV.**

12 **VISIONS**

18 **Your Shot.**

20 **Photo Journal.**

25 **NOW**

### **Nails on a Blackboard.**

Skree-ee-ee-eechchch! Let us tell you why people hate that sound.

### **Risky Park Business.**

Which national parks see the most accidental deaths — and why?

### **Birth of Brinicles.**

The briny ice tubes start at the sea's surface and sometimes hit its floor.

33 **NEXT**

### **Venus Crosses the Sun.**

It'll happen in June. And it won't happen again until 2117.

### **A Who's Who of Space.**

The roster of travelers includes many men, relatively few women, one clown.

### **Miner Lifeline.**

A new wireless system will enable trapped miners to talk to rescuers.

### **Doorway to Forgetting.**

Um, why did I walk from the kitchen to the den? Science now has an explanation for your forgetfulness.

144 **NG Connect.**

145 **The Moment.**

**Flashback.**

## **ON THE COVER**

Portraits produced on glass, like this one of a Union soldier, were sent to loved ones during the Civil War.

Photo by *Rebecca Hale, NGM.*

*Staff: Liljenquist Family.*

*Collection, Library of Congress.*

*Prints and Photographs Division.*