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At Copenhagen's Nordic Food Lab, researchers distilled gin from a plentiful resource: ants. The taste? Pleasantly lemony, they insist.

## 60 The Science of Delicious

Taste receptors, volatiles, gustatory cortex: There's more to yum than you might think.  
By David Owen Photographs by Brian Finke

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### The World's Most Powerful Woman

The Virgin Mary is both a personal intercessor and a global sensation.

By Maureen Orth  
Photographs by  
Diana Markosian

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### New New York

The bird's-eye views of the skyline make it clear: This city may never sleep, but it surely does change.

By Pete Hamill  
Photographs by  
George Steinmetz

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### Haiti on Its Own Terms

When young Haitians photograph their nation, determination shines through the hardship.

By Alexandra Fuller  
Photographs by  
students of FotoKonbit

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### Out of the Shadows

Leopards can adapt to living near humans—so well, in fact, that we may not know they're around.

By Richard Conniff  
Photographs by  
Steve Winter

### 140 Proof | Remnants of a Failed Utopia

In disused machines and abandoned buildings, a photographer sees the overreach of technology.

By Rena Silverman Photographs by Danila Tkachenko

**On the Cover** The Virgin Mary has been depicted by many renowned artists. This detail is from the circa-1480 painting "The Virgin and the Child," by Sandro Botticelli. Poldi Pezzoli Museum Collection, Milan; photo by Malcangi. Image composed of eight photographs

**Corrections and Clarifications** Go to [ngm.com/more](http://ngm.com/more).