



The wedding of Gbenga Adeoti and his bride, Funmi Olojede, featured traditional customs and attire of the Yoruba, Lagos's main ethnic group.

78 Africa's First City

In Lagos, Nigeria, a boom economy widens the rift between the wealthy and the poor.

By Robert Draper Photographs by Robin Hammond

32

The First Artists

Credit them with a pivotal innovation in human history: the invention of symbolic expression.

By Chip Walter
Photographs by Stephen Alvarez

58

The First Year

In the incredible learning machine that is a baby's brain, development depends on loving caretakers.

By Yudhijit Bhattacharjee
Photographs by Lynn Johnson

108

A First Glimpse of the Hidden Cosmos

As scientists map the universe, what they can't see—dark energy and dark matter—is key.

By Timothy Ferris
Photographs by Robert Clark

124

Tracking the First Americans

Genetic data and new archaeological discoveries offer clues to the mystery of early Americans' origin.

By Glenn Hodges

138 Proof | First Bird

The bald eagle may be a majestic national symbol—but it's also one tough bird.

By Klaus Nigge

On the Cover The Horse Panel at France's Cave of Chauvet-Pont-d'Arc was created some 36,000 years ago.
Photograph by Stephen Alvarez

Corrections and Clarifications Go to ngm.com/more.