I. "Prehistoric" Art

Art: the first mode of expression?

DU1701 Periods of Art History I

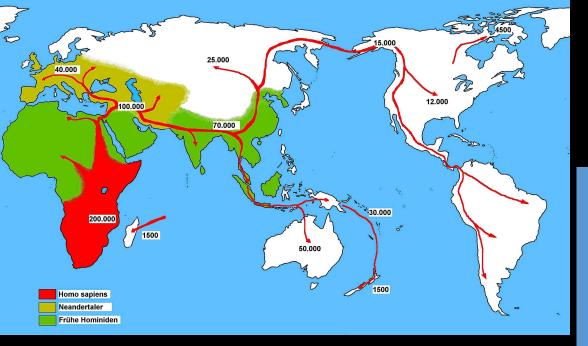
Prehistory

3 millions years to c. 3'300 BCE

History

c. 3'300 BCE to nowadays

Paleolithic	Neolithic	1 /	Middle Ages		Contemporary
3 millions to 10'000 BCE	10'000 to 3'300 BCE	3'300 BCE to 476 CE	476 to 1453 or 1492	1453–1789	1789–2020 etc





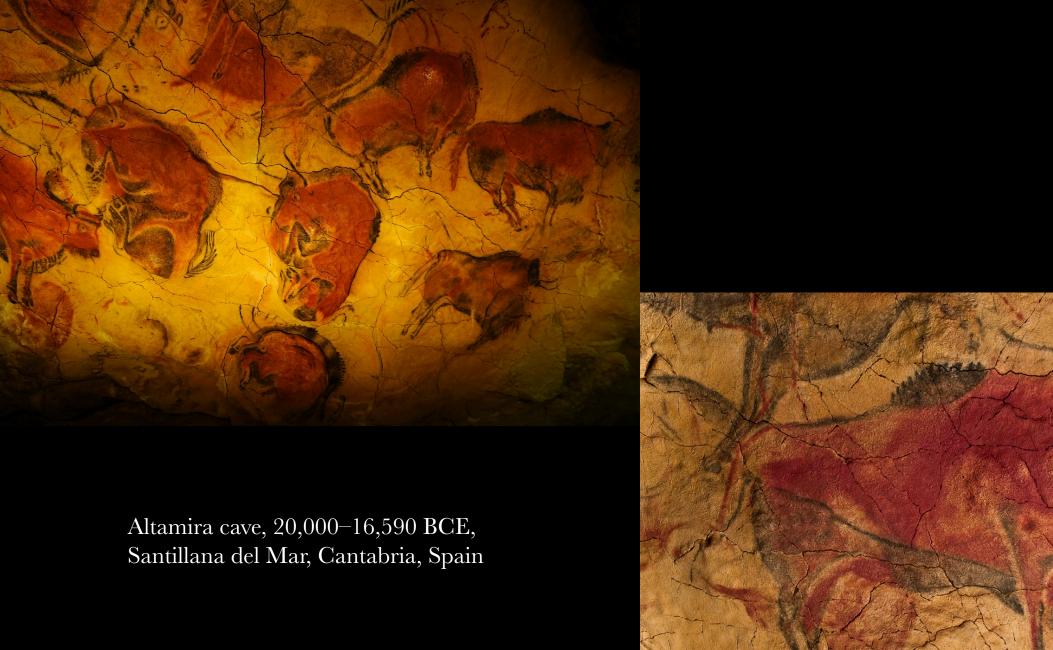




Blombos cave, South Africa, deposits with artifacts (engraved and cross-hatched ochre), dated between 103,000–73,000 BCE



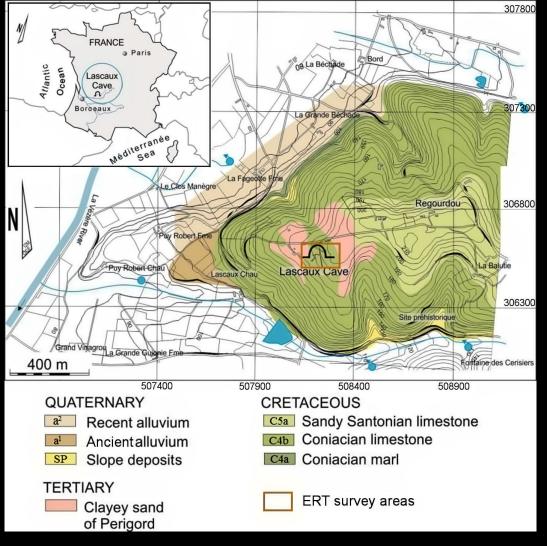




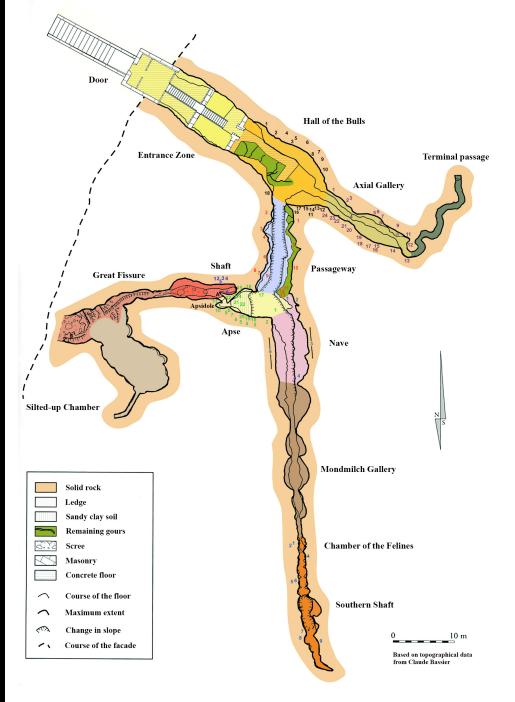




Discovery of Lascaux, 1940







Restoration of the plan after Norbert Aujoulat, 1946 - 2011, by DH. Source: https://web.archive.org/web/20130512213551/http://www.american-buddha.com/lascaux.3.htm

The Hall of the Bulls

1. Black horse's head

3. Frieze of the black horses

6. Second bull

7. Brown horse

10. Red cow

14. Polychrome headless horse

17. Red cow followed by her calf

2. Unicorn

4. Head of the first bull

5. Great red and black horse

8. Frieze of the Small Stags

9. Third bull

11. Fourth bull

12. Black horse in the forequarters

of the fourth bull

13. Small black stag

15. Bear

16. Fifth bull

18. Head of a bull

The Axial Gallery

1. The Red Cow with the Black Collar

2. Frieze of the yellow small horses

3. The Cow with the Drooping Horn

4. Red cow painted on the ceiling

5. Great Black Bull

6. Frieze of the heads of vellow cattle

7. Red cows covered

by the Great Black Bull

8. Panel of the Hemione 9. Galloping Horse

10. Feline

11. Yellow horse and polychrome horse

12. Upside-down Horse

13. Red Panel

14. Confronted Ibexes

15. Superposed horses

16. Large red quadrangular symbol

17. Falling Cow

18. Solitary head of a bull

19. Frieze of the Small Horses

The Passageway

1. Traces of a painted equid

2. Hindquarters and beginning of the

belly line of a painted equid 3. Head of a bison

4. Procession of engraved horses

5. Horse rolling on the ground

6. Engraved ibex and painted hooves of an equid

7. Engraved and black painted horse

8. Horse with the turned-back foot

9. Heads and horns of cows

10. Red drawing of a headless equid

11. Engraved ibexes and horses 12. Two horses engraved one above

the other 13. Bearded Horse

The Apse

1. Stag with Thirteen Arrows

2. Fallen Stag

3. Third great stag

4. Horse and aurochs 5. Confronted stags

6. Confronted ibexes

7. Upward-turned Horse

8. Panel of the Musk Ox

9. Horse with Claviforms

10. Frieze of the painted and engraved stags

11. 'Chimney' sign

12. Small Sorcerer

13. Great Reindeer

14. The two bison

15 'fend-la-bise' Stag

16. Major Stag 17. Great stag and horse with merged outlines

18. The Hut

19. Engraved stag on black background

20. Great Sorcerer

21. Red horse 22. Yellow horse

The Nave

1. Panel of the Ibexes

2. Panel of the Imprint

3. Panel of the Great Black Cow

4. Crossed Bison

5. Frieze of the Swimming Stags

The Shaft

1. Rhinoceros

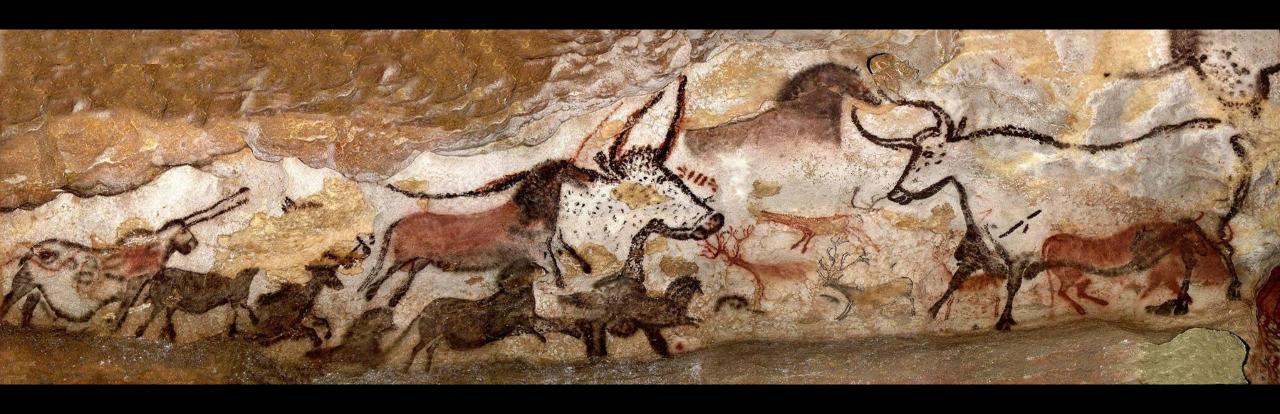
2. Six black dots 3. Man

4. Bison 5. Bird

6. Black horse

The Chamber of the Felines

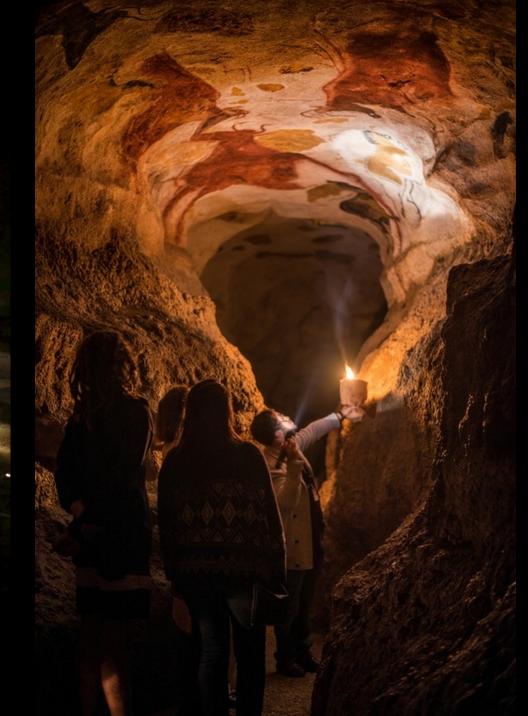
- 1. Niche of the felines
- 2. Horse in frontal view
- 3. Quadrangular signs 4. Crossed bison
- 5. Panel of the horse
- 6. Tree house
- 7. Sign XIII
- 8. Head and horns of a bison
- 9. Six red dots

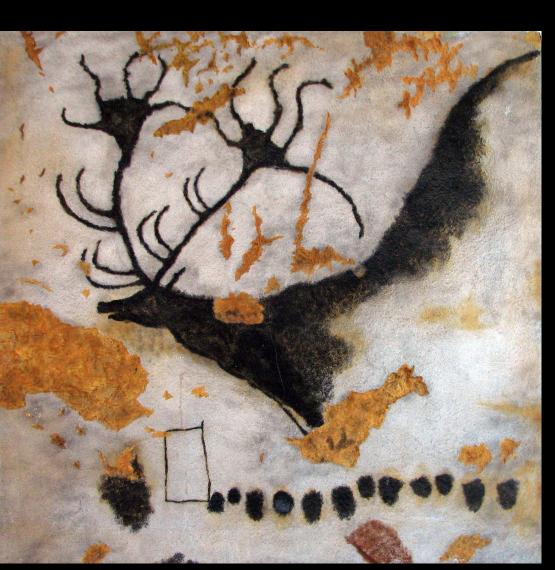




"Hall of the Bulls", or "Rotunda", Lascaux, 18,000– 17,000 BCE, Montignac, France



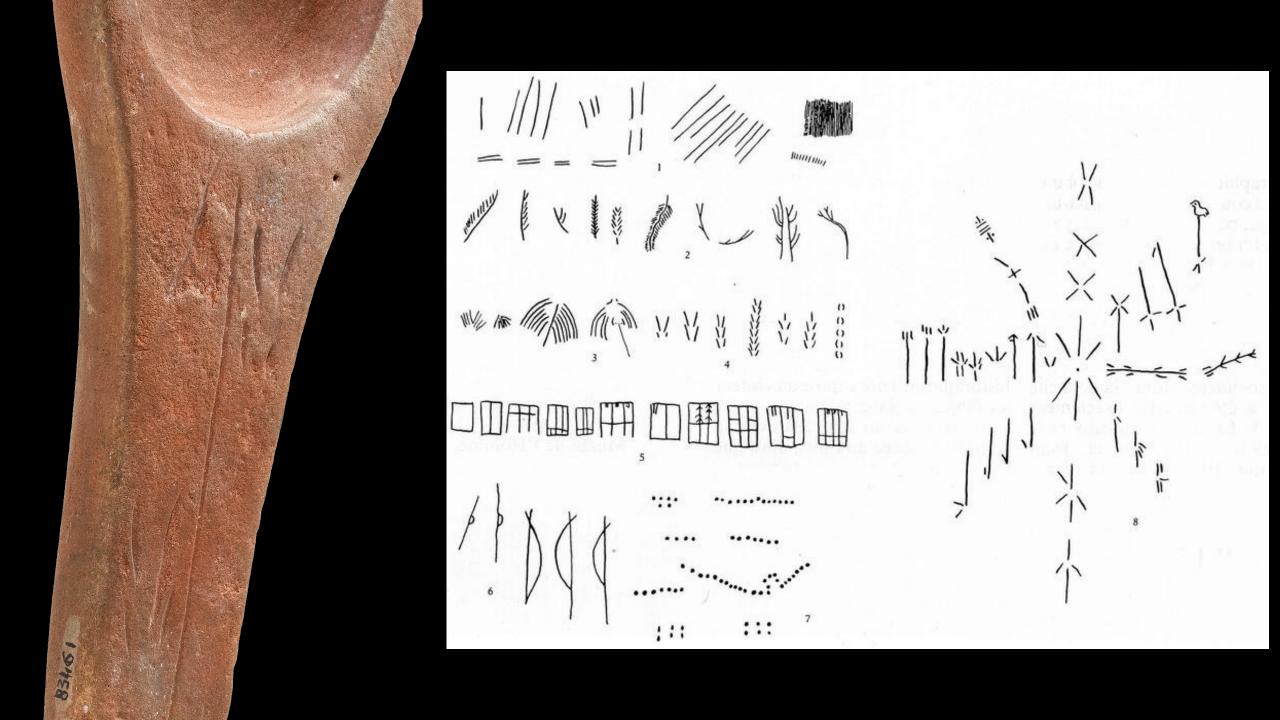


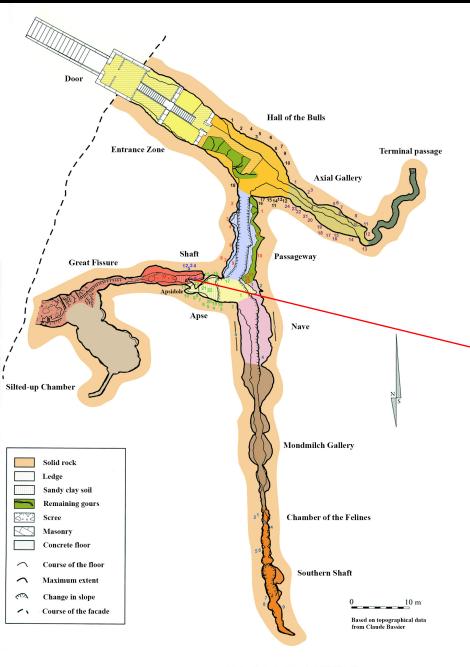






Lamp, found in the Lascaux grotto, 11 x 22,5 x 3 cm, 17,000 BCE / Musée national de préhistoire, Eyzies-de-Tayac-Sireuil





The Hall of the Bulls

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3. Panel of the Great Black Cow

5. Frieze of the Swimming Stags

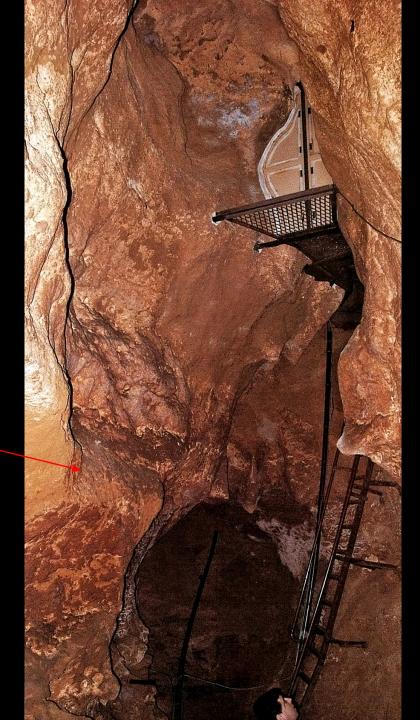
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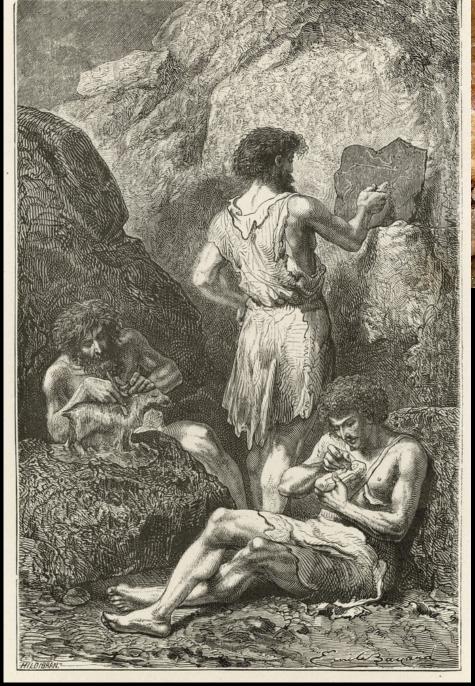




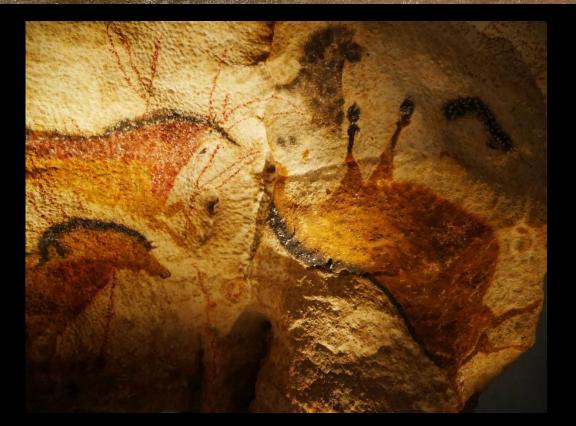
Scene from the shaft Lascaux



Functions?









LASCAUX OU LA NAISSANCE DE L'ART

"I am struck by the fact that new light is shed on our birth at the very moment when the perspective of death is appearing"

Georges Bataille, Lascaux ou la naissance de l'art, 1955



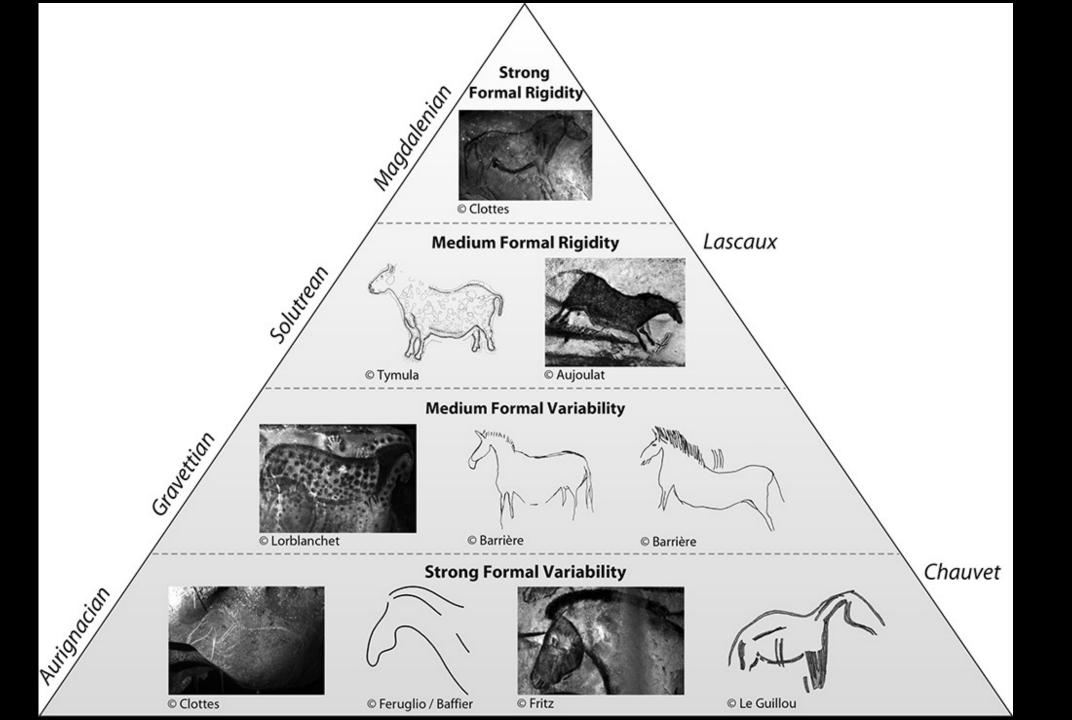


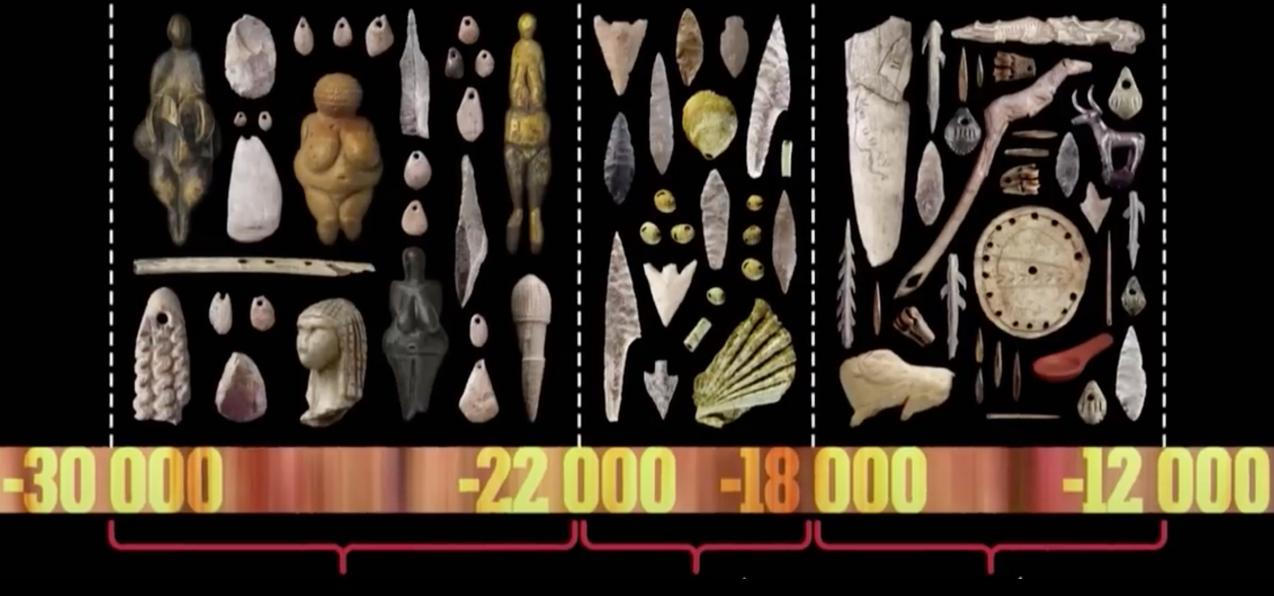
Apotropaic function?

Grotto of Chauvet-Pont-d'Arc (Ardèche, France), 38,000–32,000 BCE







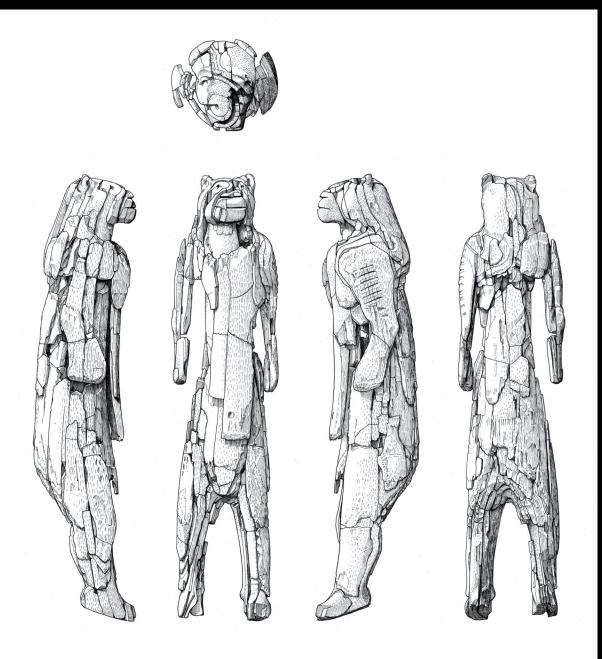


Gravettian Solutrean Magdalenian





Löwenmensch figurine, discovered in 1939 Hohlenstein-Stadel (Germany), mammoth ivory, 31,1 x 5,6 x 5,9 cm, c. 35,000-40'000 BCE / Museum Ulm





Restoration of the *Löwenmensch* in 2013 © State Office for Cultural Heritage Baden-Württemberg and Ulmer Museum; Drawing by Christina von Elm.







Venus of Willendorf, limestone, c. 28,000–25,000 BCE / Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna

Venus of Lespugue, ivory, c. 26,000–24,000 BCE / Musée de l'Homme, Paris

Venus of Dolní Věstonice, ceramic, c. 29,000–25,000 BCE / Moravské zemské muzeum, Brno





11,1 cm

Venus of Willendorf, limestone, c. 28,000–25,000 BCE / Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna





Dame de Brassempouy (France) 3,6 x 1,9 x 2,2 cm, mammoth ivory, c. 26,000 – 24,000 BCE / Musée d'archéologie nationale, Saint-Germain-en-Laye, discovered in 1894







Fragment of a female figure (with a belt?), from the site of Brassempouy, c. 26,000 – 24,000 BCE / Musée d'archéologie nationale, Saint-Germain-en-Laye

Nude figure, Egypt (?), 11 x 4,8 cm, 5th century CE / Walters Art Museum, Baltimore



British Museum, London



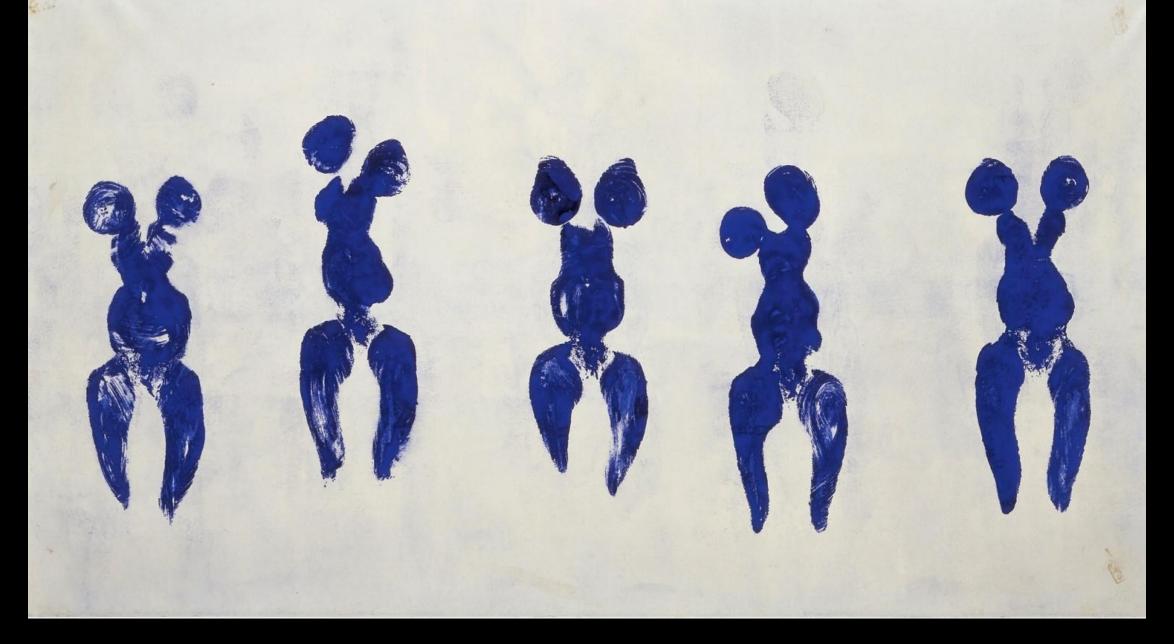
Louise Bourgeois.

Harmless Woman, 1969

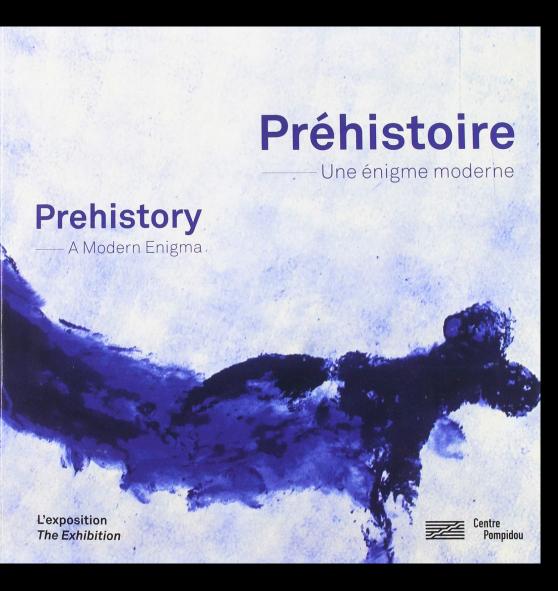
(private collection)

Venus of Lespugue, ivory, c. 26,000–24,000 BCE / Musée de l'Homme, Paris





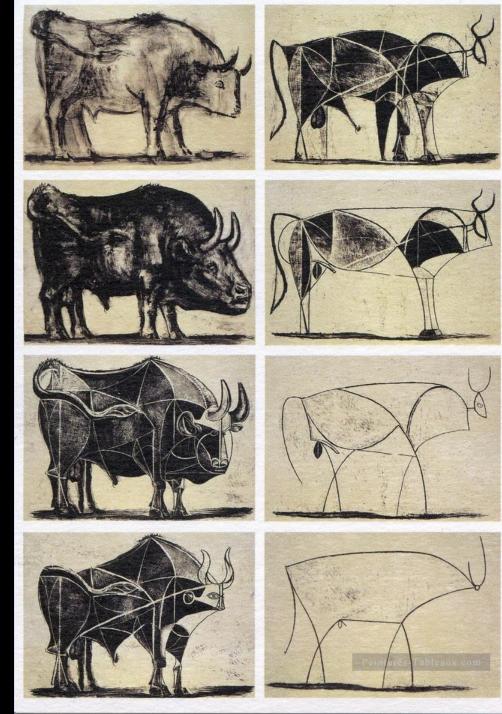
Yves Klein, Anthropométrie de l'époque Bleue (ANT 82), 1960 Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris







Bull, Lascaux cave paintings, 18,000–17,000 BCE, Montignac, France

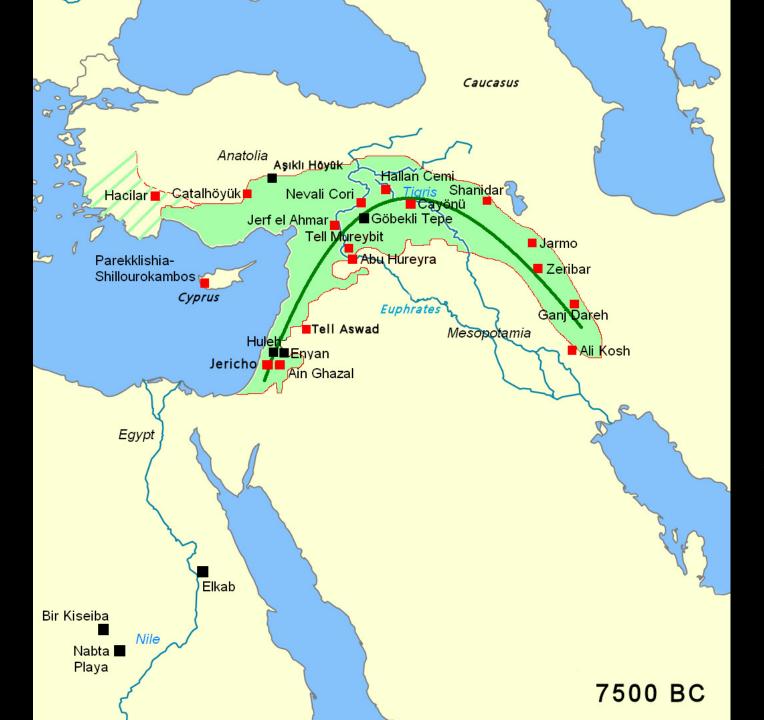






Bull, Lascaux cave paintings, 18,000–17,000 BCE, Montignac, France

Pablo Picasso, *Le taureau* (The Bull), state VII, 1945 Museum of Modern Art, New York



"This borderland between the desert and the mountains is a kind of cultivable fringe of the desert, — **a Fertile Crescent** [...]. It forms roughly a semicircle with the open side toward the south. Its western end is at the southeastern corner of the Mediterranean, the center lies directly north of Arabia, and the eastern end is at the northern end of the Persian Gulf".

James Henry Breasted, Ancient Times: A History of the Early World. An Introduction to the Study and the Career of Early Man, Boston 1916.

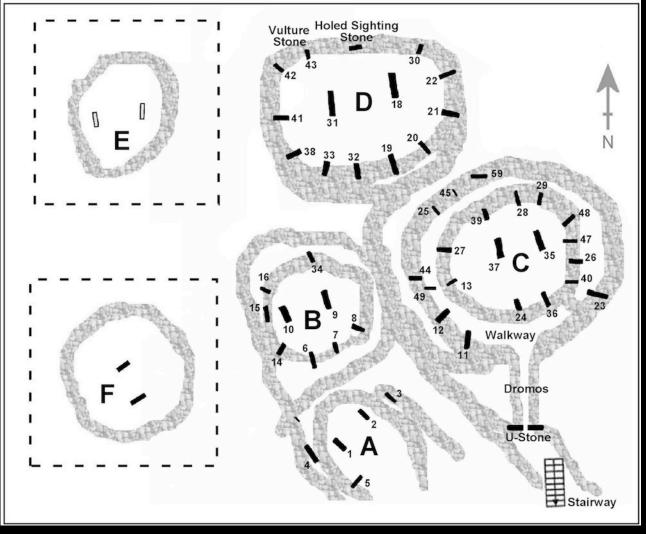


Çatalhöyük, c. 7,100 BCE

Göbekli Tepe, c. 9,900 BCE

Jericho, c. 9,600 BCE



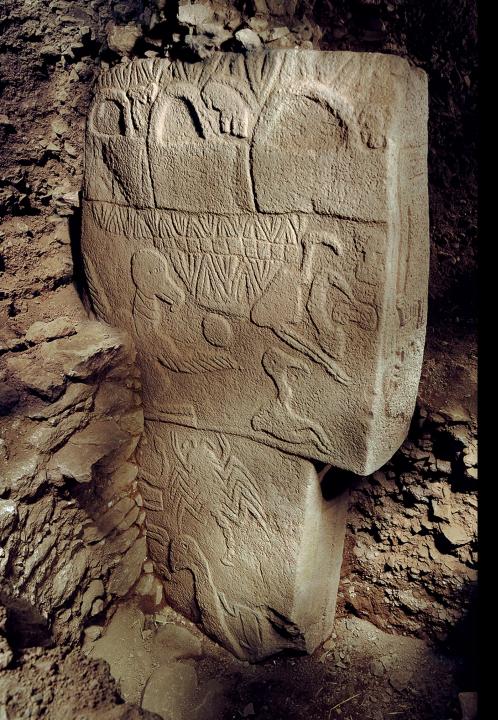


Göbekli Tepe, overhead view and groundplan of the main excavation area / Deutsches Archäologisches Institut











Göbekli Tepe, pillar D43



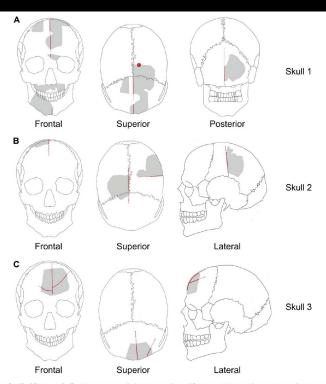


Fig. 2. Schematic drawings of Göbekli Tepe skulls. Gray, preserved elements; red, modifications. (A) Frontal, superior, and posterior view of skull 1. (B) Frontal, superior, and lateral view of skull 2. (C) Frontal, superior, and lateral view of skull 3.



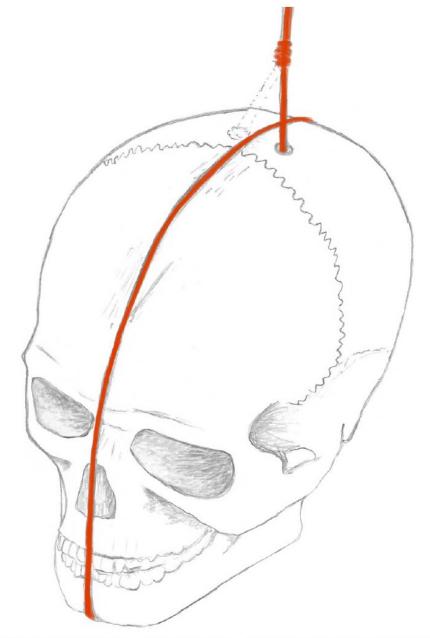


Fig. 5. Skull 1: Tentative reconstruction. Drilled perforation at the top of the cranium is used to suspend the skull with a cord (red). Carvings were used for stabilization purposes, preventing the cord from slipping. Credit: Juliane Haelm, DAI.



Çatalhöyük archeological site, c. 7,100 BCE



Seated woman of Çatalhöyük, clay and ceramic, c. 6,000 BCE / Museum of Anatolian Civilizations, Ankara, Turkey



Woman figure from Çatalhöyük, clay and ceramic, c. 6,000 BCE / Museum of Anatolian Civilizations, Ankara, Turkey

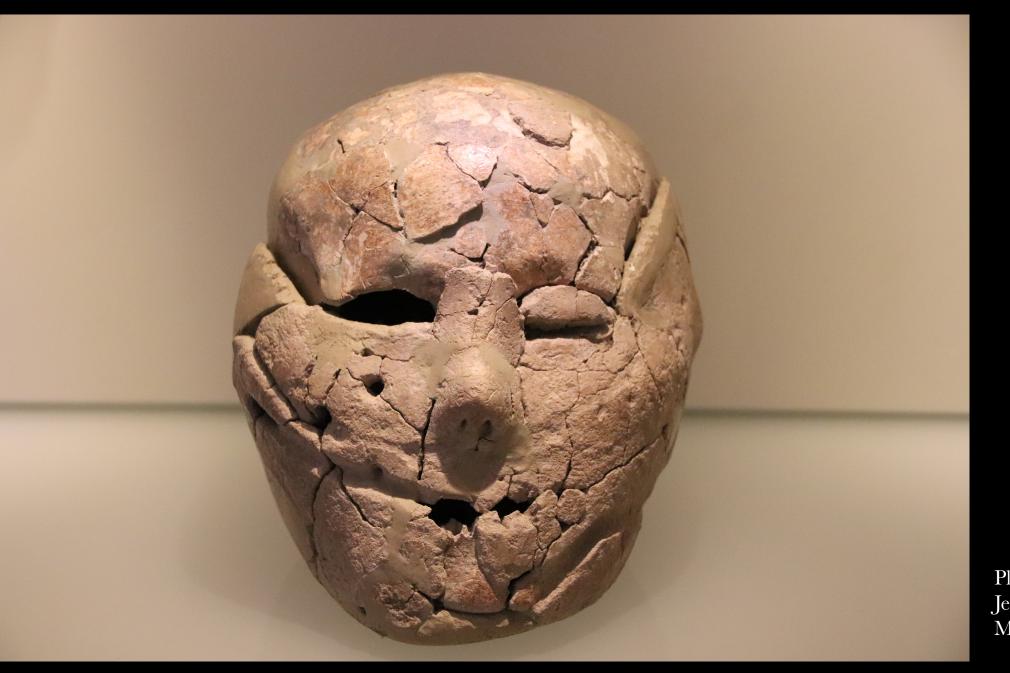




Deer hunt, detail of a wall painting from level III, Çatalhöyük, Turkey, c. 5750 BCE



Tell es-Sultan, archeological site of ancient Jericho

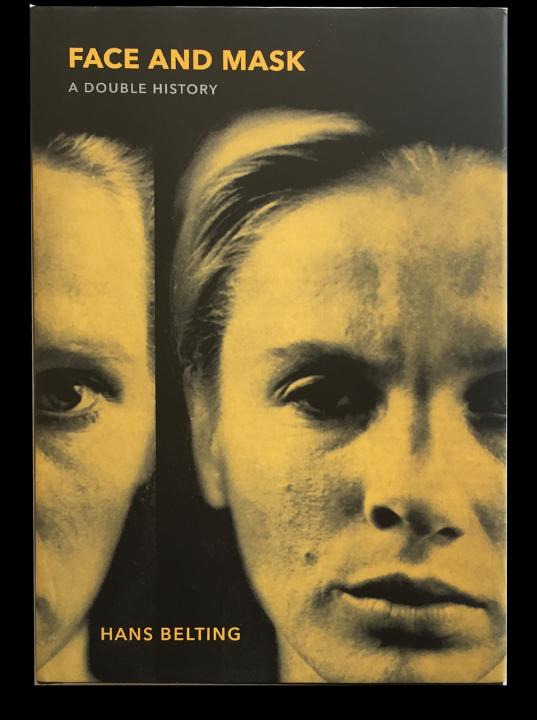


Plastered Skull, Tell es-Sultan, Jericho, c. 9000 BCE / Israel Museum, Jerusalem

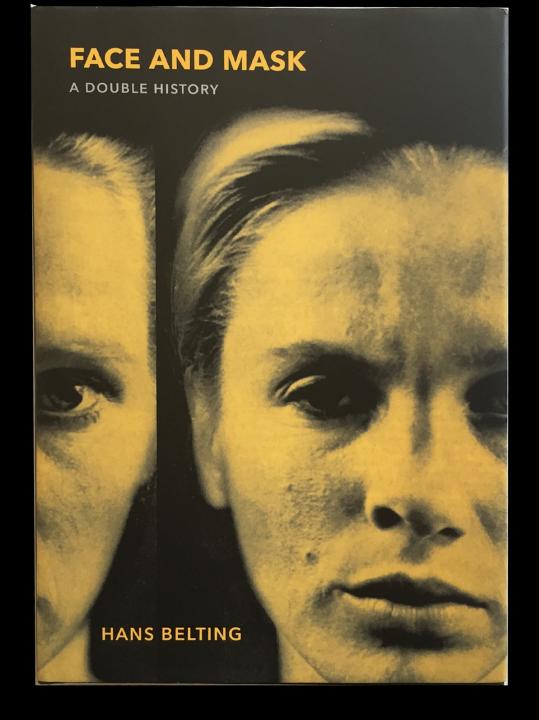




Jericho skulls, human skulls decorated with plaster and shells, found near Jericho (Palestine), c. 8,200–7,500 BCE / British Museum, London, and National Museum, Damascus









Stone mask, from Hebron (Israel), c. 7000 BCE Israel Museum, Jerusalem



Stone mask, from Hebron (Israel), c. 7000 BCE / Israel Museum, Jerusalem



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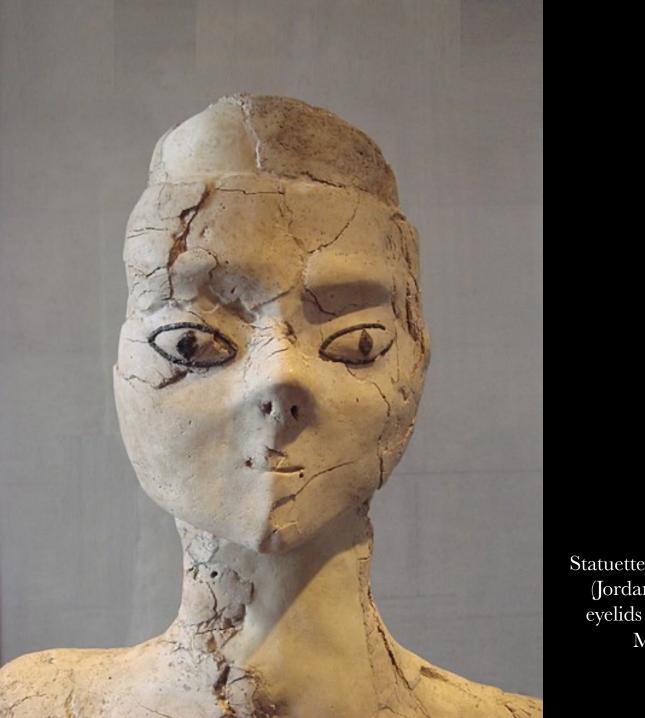


Plumbed cover of human skull, 5th - 6th dynasty, ca. 2514– 2191 BCE, Giza, Egypt





Mummy with an Inserted Panel Portrait of a Youth, 80–100 CE, Fayum, Egypt Metropolitan Museum, New York



Statuette of human shape, Ain Ghazal (Jordan), gypsum plaster, bitumen eyelids and pupils, c. 7,000 BCE / Musée du Louvre, Paris

