

Unit #1 Art of the Paleolithic part 2

Announcements:

- Hand in initial questionnaire
- For Thursday
art materials will be needed.
- Next Tuesday – prehistoric cave panel project- participation points!!
- Emailed power point images

Lecture:

- Paleolithic caves and the art
- Theories

SRC group project research

Video write up :

- Lascaux Virtual tour



Unit 1 lecture concepts

Hunter/Gatherers:

characteristics of early hominid groups

Paleolithic Ice age:



Age of Innovation and adaptation

environmental conditions affecting humans

Paleolithic extinctions in the new world

3 European Caves:

description of caves and artwork they contain

Animal rarities:

Cave crisis:

What is affecting the cave sites today and what are we doing to save them.

Unit 1 assignments

- **Connections concept map** – Prehistoric era
- **Video write up** – *Ice Age Bay Area*
 - $\frac{3}{4}$ of a page describing the bay area region 10,000 years ago as presented in video.
- **Video write up** – *Lascaux Cave Virtual tour*
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ page on your impressions of the caves and what theory stated in the lecture you believe is most valid.
- **Prehistoric Animal Group work-** Group Art Session #1
 - SRC research notes
 - Your image on the cave painting panel
 - Group board work notes
- **Earth Map update**

Unit #1 : Art of the Paleolithic

Paleolithic

Cro-Magnon humans

totemism

shamanism

anthropomorphic

Przewalski horse

Connections Concept Map -- CCM

Time period	Primary Lifeway	description of art work and examples	attitude toward nature
1. <u>Prehistoric era</u> : 2 million - 10,000 years ago Lascaux, Altamira and Chauvet cave art	A.	B.	C.
2. <u>Neolithic age</u> -10,000 years ago	A.	B.	C.
3. <u>Classic Period</u> -5000 years ago= rise of Egyptian, Greek, Persian civilizations	A.	B.	C.

CCM #1. Paleolithic Ice Age

1.8 mya – 10,000 ya

- What were the environmental conditions that defined the era?
- How did species respond to these changes in the climate?
- What made humans so successful during this time?



Early Homo sapiens: Cro Magnon humans

- Subgroup of Homo sapiens
- 40,000 ya entered Europe
- 1st artists??

CCM1a.



- **Innovation and adaptation**
- social hunter/gatherer society
- shelter made from rocks, clay, bones, branches and hides
- Skilled communal hunters.
- Limited gathering of plant materials – less diversity
- Spirituality and sense of community and cooperation--Intentional burials
- complex language



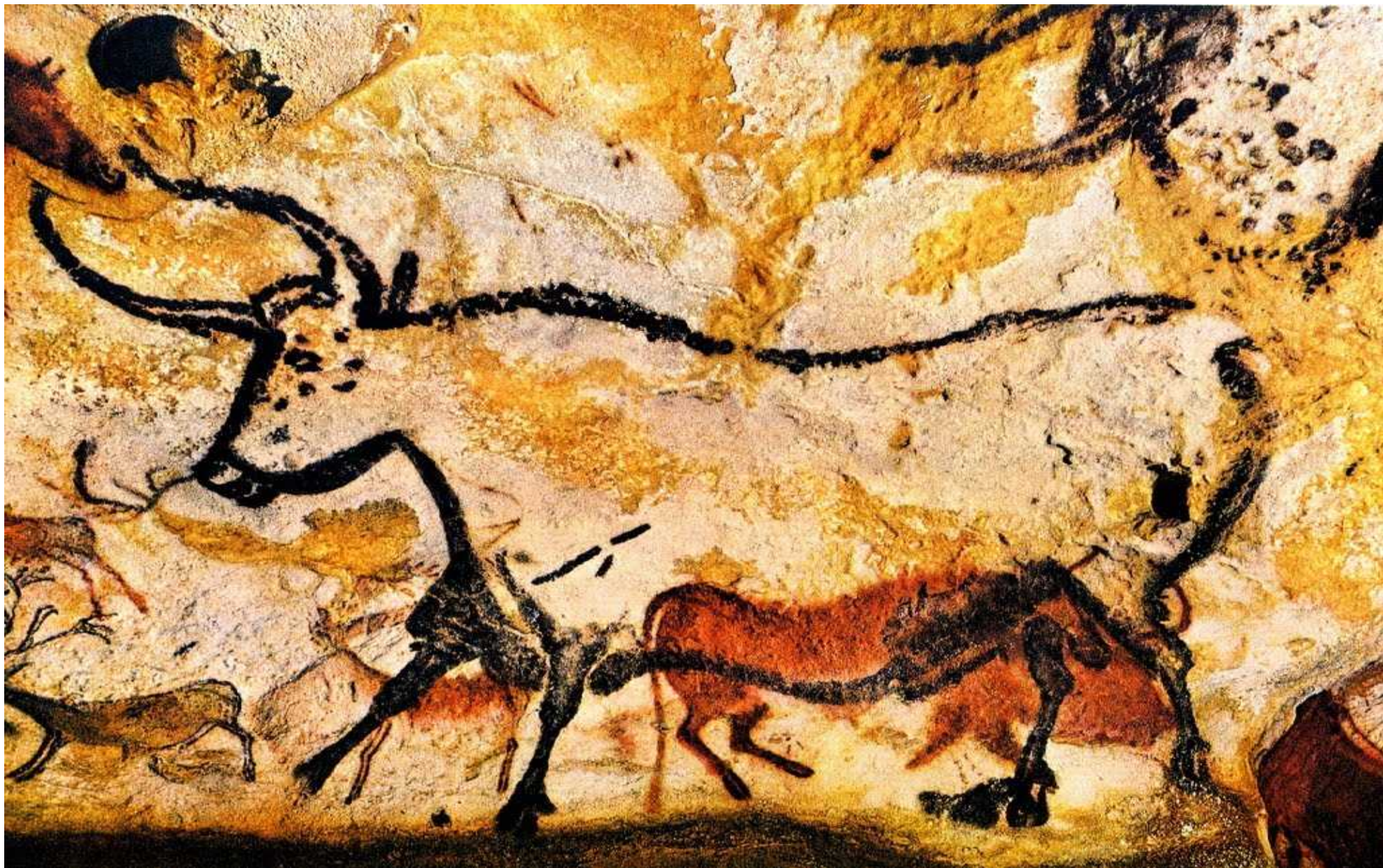
CCM.1b. Art of the Paleolithic

- Paintings, drawings, stencil, small 3D effigies, adornments of tools and personal items
- Subject matter:
 - Most herbivores although some predators
 - Humans rarely depicted in early cave art but were powerful
- Polychromatic vs monochromatic?
- Some sense of perspective.
- Simplistic but very accurate.
- All drawn from memory.
- Intimate knowledge of subjects



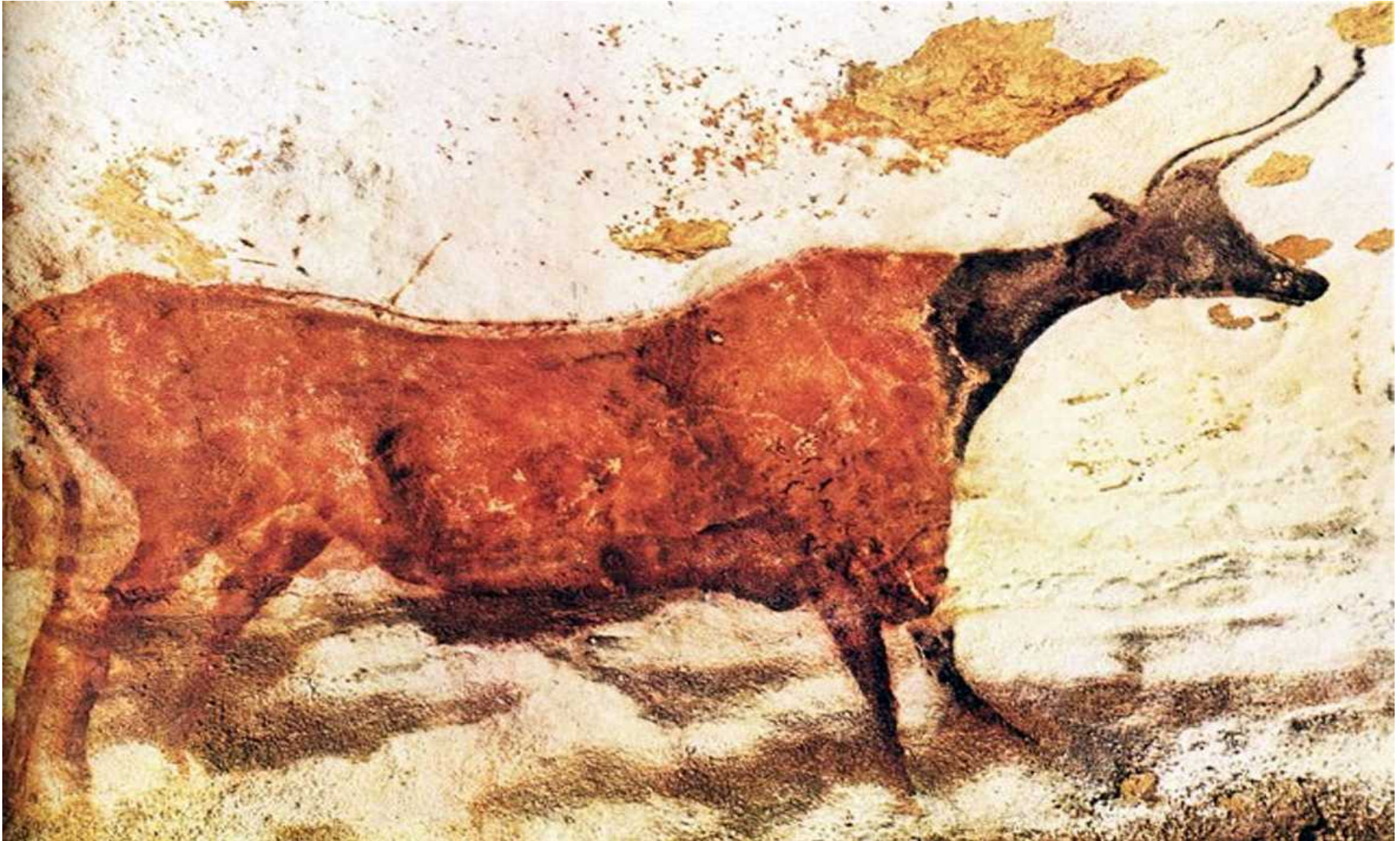
The illusion of perspective in cave art







Shading and modeling





3 – D Cave Art



CCM. 1c. Attitude towards Nature

- Nature was respected and revered
- Complete dependence on the abundance in their local environment.
- Elements controlled their survival.
- Nature-based spirituality
- Earth wisdom- knowledge of natural systems, seasons, processing resources and prey behavior
- Humans were a part of the ecosystem
- Sense of community



ART of the EUROPEAN PALEOLITHIC

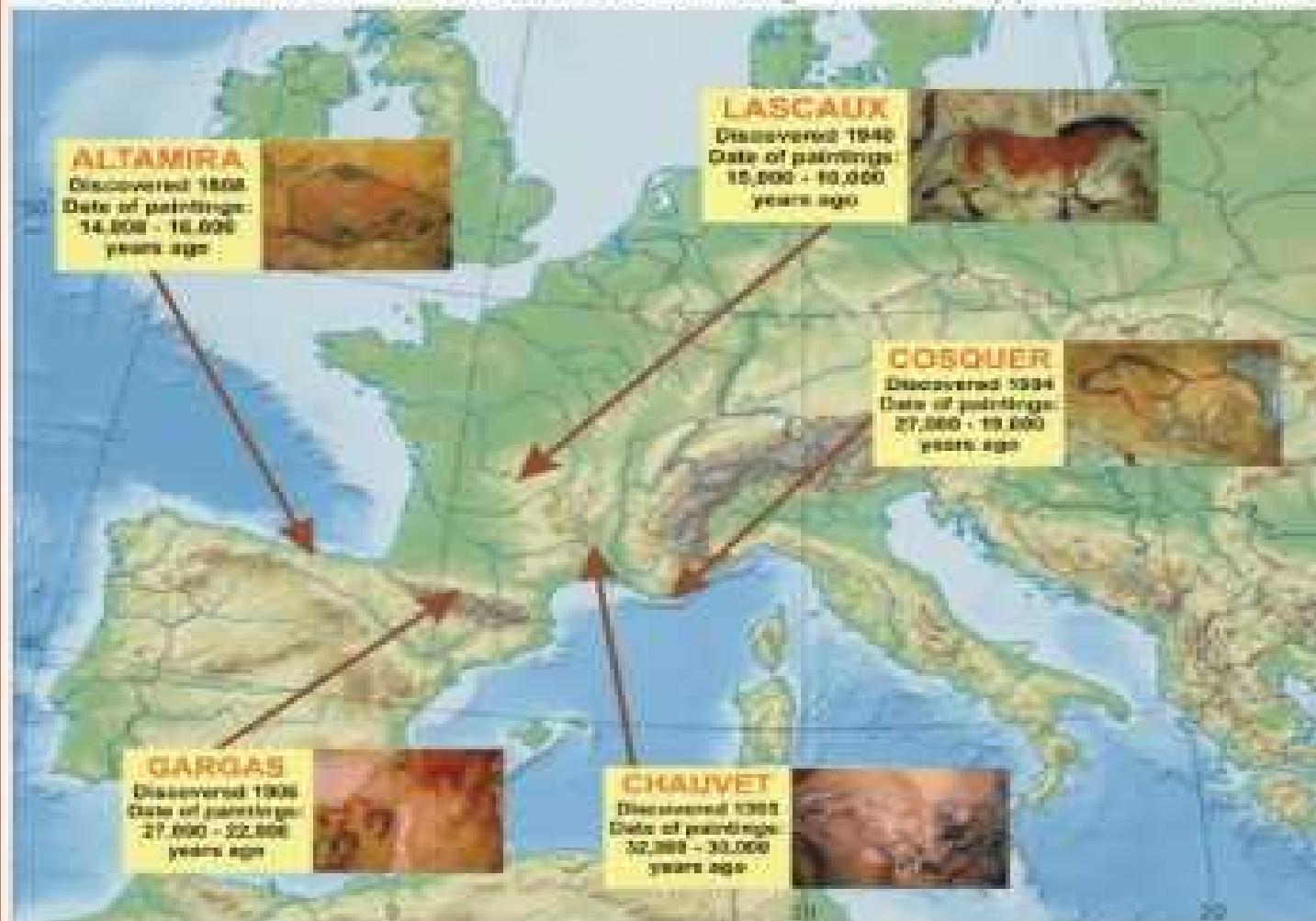
- There are 350 cave art sites in France and Spain alone.
- Known cave art sites are those that were most protected from the elements therefore survived

El Castillo , Spain –
41,000 years old
Discovered in 1903

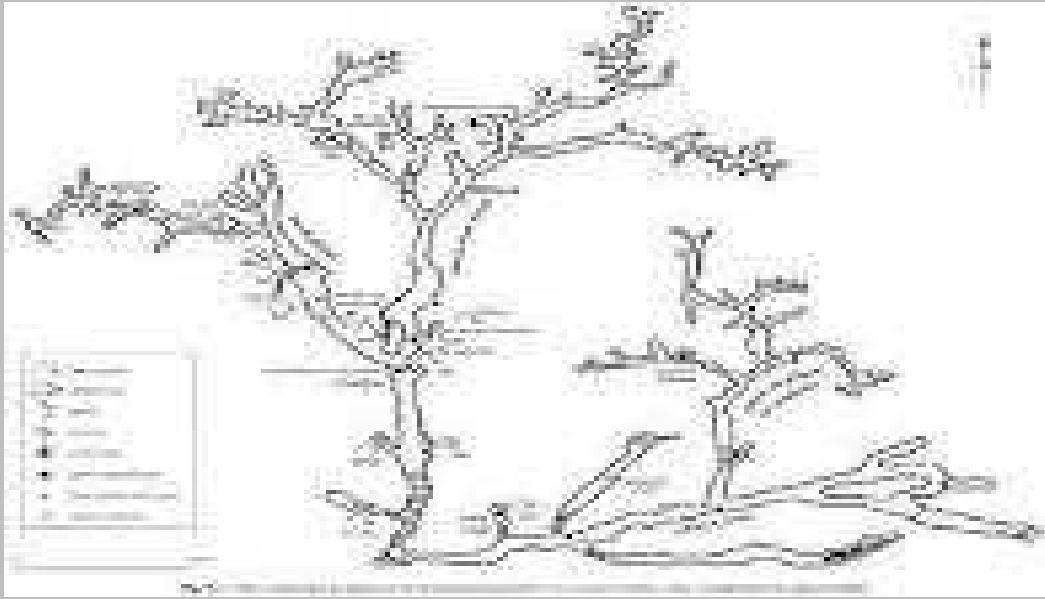


The Art of Paleolithic Europe

5 Well-Known Caves that Contain Cave Paintings from the Upper Paleolithic Era



ART of the EUROPEAN PALEOLITHIC



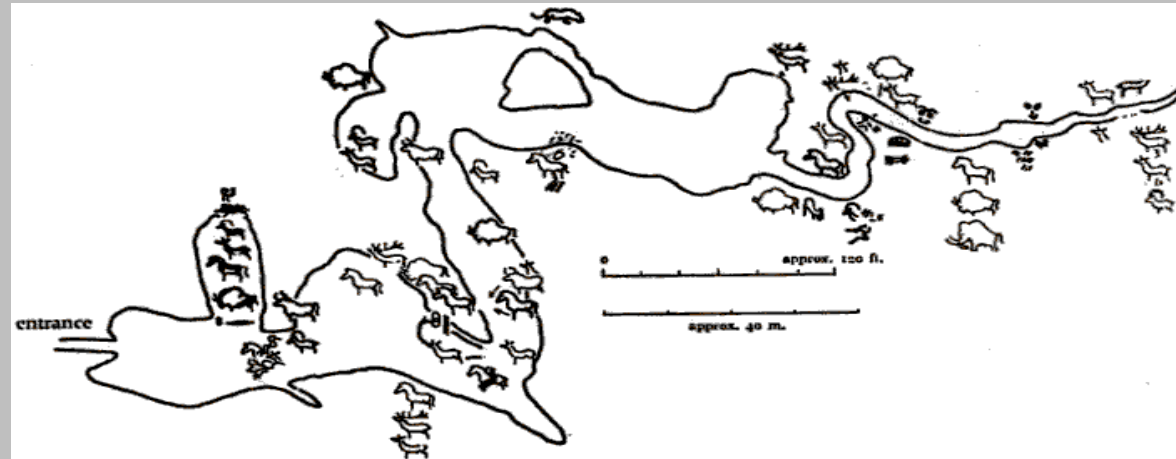
Alta Mira Cave , Northern Spain

- First of the caves to be discovered 1880
- 18,000 years old
- Abundance of artifacts fossil remains on cave floor discovered.
- Sparked controversy
- Changed our view of prehistoric man forever.

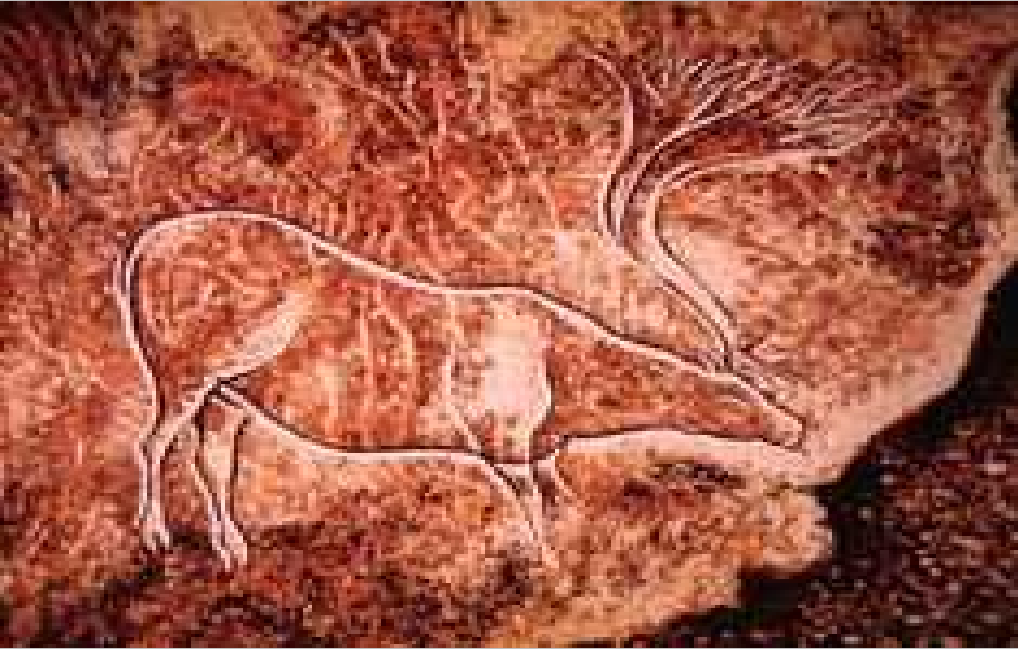


Alta Mira Cave , Spain

- The cave itself is 900 feet of twisting complicated passages and chambers.
- 13,000 years ago a land slide blocked the main entrance and the art work was preserved and protected until it's discovery at the end of the 19th century



Alta Mira Cave , Spain



- Created over a period of 5,000+ years
- Polychrome paintings-
- Engravings ,drawings and paintings
- Use of natural rock formations
- abundance of fossil remains and artifacts on the cave floor

Alta Mira ceiling of bison



Alta Mira, Spain



Alta Mira, Spain



Alta Mira, Spain Wounded Auroch?



Lascaux Cave, France

- Lascaux Valley of France
- discovered in 1940 by 4 teenagers
- 17,500 years old
- depicting mainly large herbivores



Lascaux Cave, France

- Mix of polychromatic and monochromatic
- More than 2000 images dominated by large mammals-herbivores
- 1 human figure and some abstract symbols
- Spraying and drawing— technique
- Brushes were not used
- No effigies found
- Highest density of art in deepest recesses of the cave.
- Reindeer their primary food was not depicted



Hall of Bulls





Lascaux Cave, Hall of Bulls





The falling bull

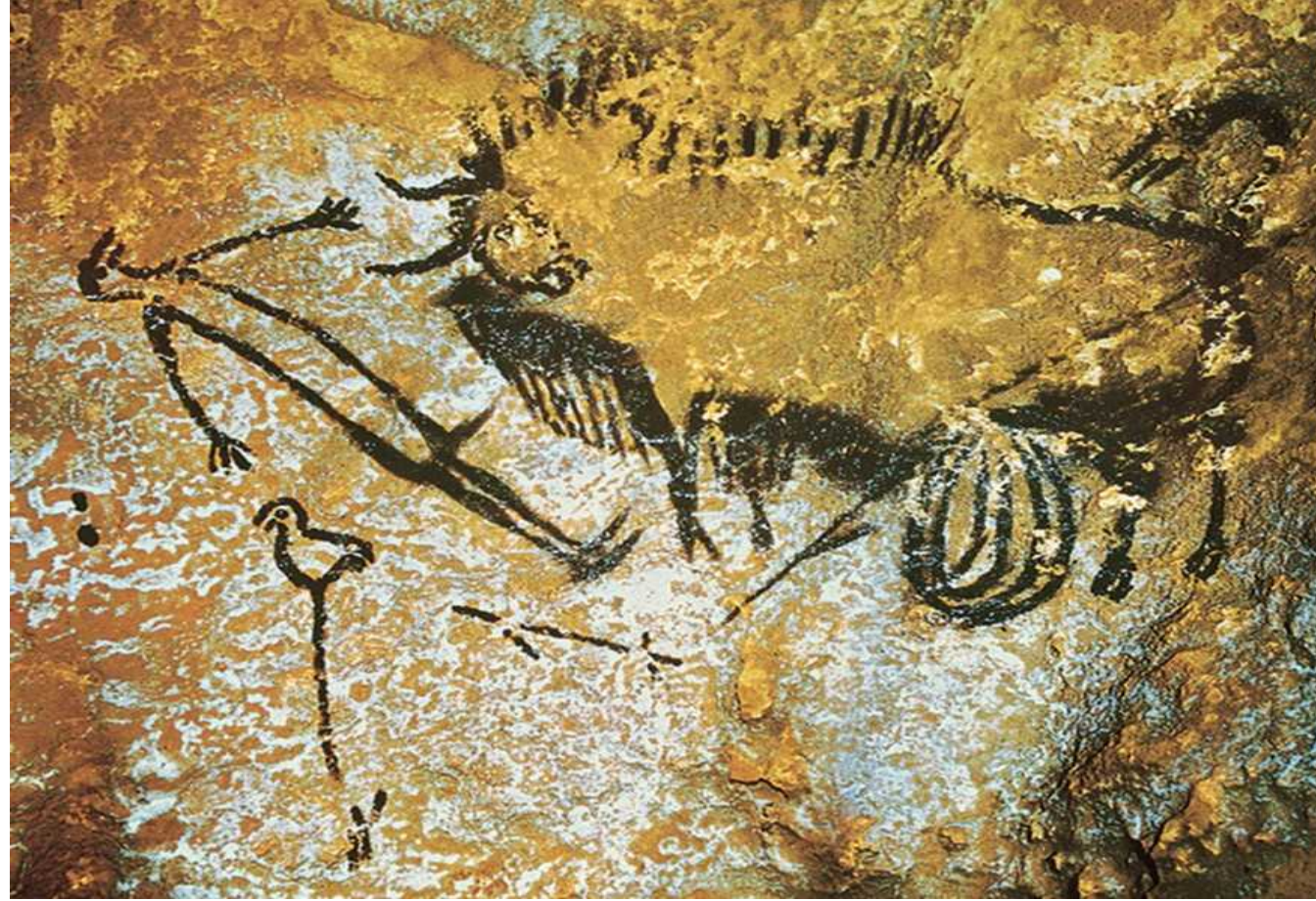


Lascaux Cave, France



Bird man of Lascaux Cave

Humans were rarely depicted but when they were, they exhibited spiritual significance - anthropomorphic



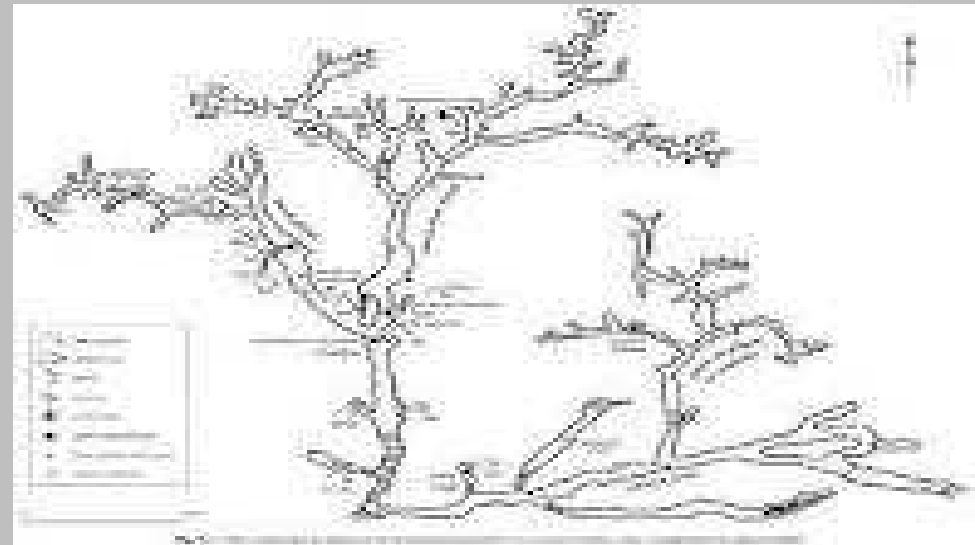
Chauvet Cave, France

Oldest dated cave art of the
three 37,000 to 30,000 years
ago

Discovered in 1994 being
latest cave discovered

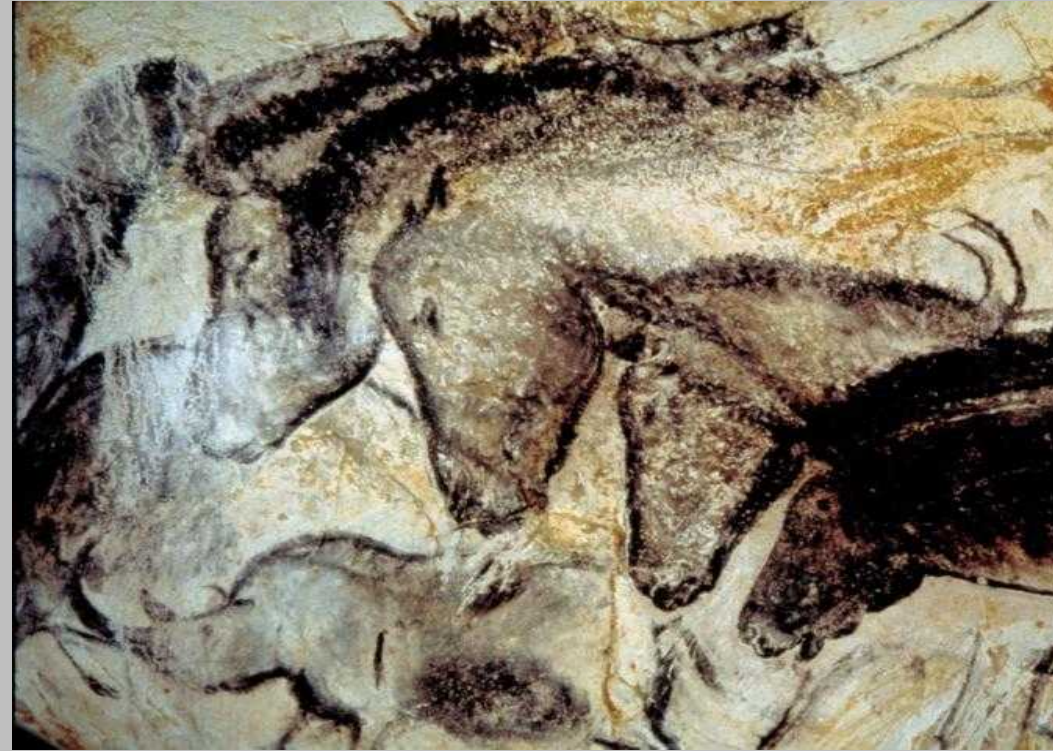
Discovered by Jean Marie
Chauvet.

Complex system of lava tubes
5x's larger than Lascaux cave
Entrance submerged in
water



Chauvet Cave, France

- Drawings, paintings and engravings (scratching surface)
- Yellows (ochre) black (charcoal) and red (iron oxides)
- Chambers included only one color.
- Predators depicted
- Mainly monochromatic
- Rock surface prepared ahead of time.
- 13 different species of animal, some rarely found in other caves ie hyena, a leopard, lions, an owl and cave bear.
- Numerous artifacts and fossil evidence were found on the cave floor.



Lion panel



Lion panel with bison



Lion panel



Chauvet Cave, France





Chauvet Cave, France







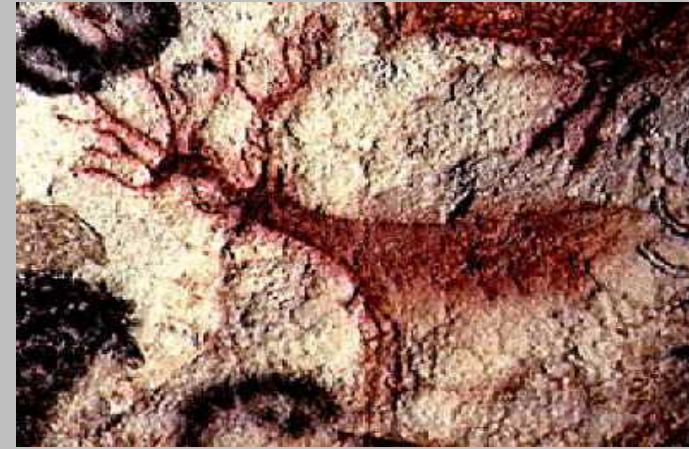
Motivation for creating the images

- Hunting magic
- Art for Art's sake
- Shamanism
- Totemism



Most theories have been discounted and abandon---no one can really know the reasoning behind their creations.

Animals of Paleolithic Art project



Animals of Paleolithic Art project

part 1 research

- **Natural history-** range, behavior, diet etc.
- **Status-** extinct? How? Related contemporary species if extinct.
- **Art work** depicting your animal describe, what colors were generally used, what caves were they located, realistic? Accurate? Herbivore? Prey?
- View power point as a group and decide which image you will draw on panel.

Take notes on each



Animals of Paleolithic Art project

part 2 : cave drawing panel

- Review the power point images of your animal, familiarize yourself with the animal and how it was depicted in the cave art.
- Each group will create a panel of drawings of your chosen animal in the style of the Paleolithic artists
- Bring your drawing materials next Thurs. We will begin the project then.
- We will present both the research information and the art panel to the class on Thurs. April 25th.



Lascaux Cave virtual tour

Video write up :

Write half a page about your impressions of what it must have been like to enter these deep, dark caves and the motivation it must have taken to create the art that we see today.

Also write **your** ideas about their possible motivation for creating this art work. Which of the theories presented in lecture do you agree with?

- <http://vimeo.com/40849516>