

Two Million Years of Art in Human Evolution

AH 224 Paleolithic Art, Spring 2012

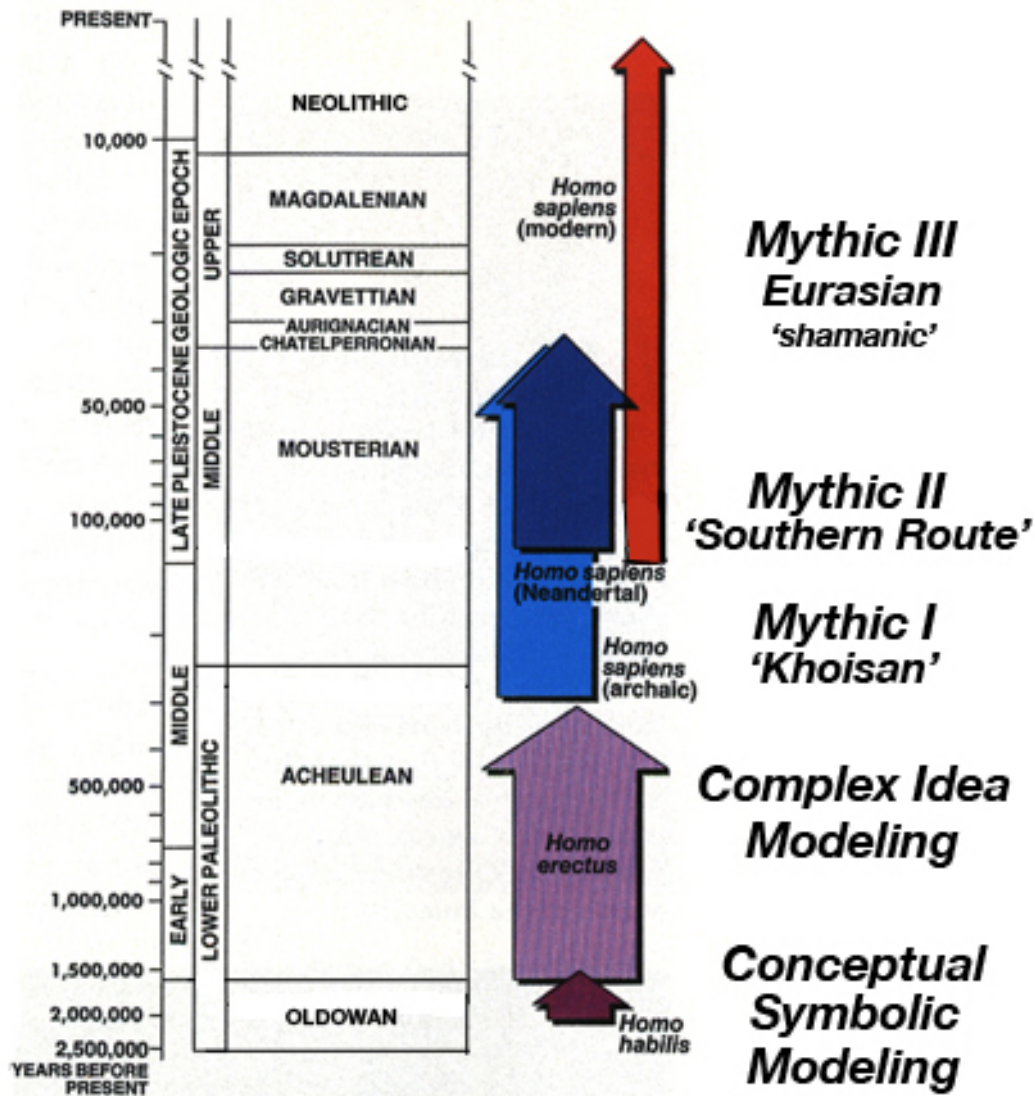
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originsnet.org (pleistocenecoalition.com)

MYTHO-STRATIGRAPHY



4 Meme Model: 2MY Evolution of Art, Symbol & Myth

<i>Era and Techné</i>	<i>Four Meme Model (James Harrod)</i>
<p>Oldowan EO ~2.6 to 2.0 Ma 'Classic' ~2.0 to 1.4 Ma Developed ~1.7 to 1.2 Ma</p>	<p>'Rudimentary Symbolic' = 2.0-3.5 yrs // human = great ape cognition (A. Russon 2004) = <i>Australopithecus</i> (similar cognitive level by triangulation to common great ape ancestor) First 'art object': 'animacy in stone'; 'animated spirit that inhabits the body'</p> <p>Conceptual-Symbolic Modeling = <i>Homo habilis/rudolfensis</i> (out-of-Africa) First Metaphor = 'core-seed-sustenance-essence in interpersonal interaction'; 'rhomboids of the mind' First Ethos = carnivore axis First Joke: 'hit the baboon head' anvil (drill cupules)</p>
<p>Acheulian <i>(sensu lato)</i> EA ~1.7 to 1.0 Ma MA ~1.0 Ma to 500 ka LA ~650 to 200 ka FA ~300 to 150 ka</p>	<p>Complex Idea Modeling = <i>Homo erectus/ergaster</i> (out-of-Africa) Biface pairing of complementary shapes (<i>contraria sunt complementa</i>, Niels Bohr; <i>coincidentia oppositorum</i>, C. G. Jung; 'co-poiesis', Bracha Ettinger) Sheath, the Womb Source of Animacy (Life-Giver) & Vehicle, Cutting Spirit, Energy of Initiative (Death-Giver) colorants, marking traditions, mortuary practice, adornments, anthropomorphs & zoomorphs</p>
<p>Middle Paleolithic / Middle Stone Age EMP ~300 to 40 ka MMP ~150 to 60(100) ka LMP ~60 to 30/35 ka</p>	<p>Mythic I & II EMP = <i>archaic Homo sapiens</i> / MMP = <i>Homo sapiens sapiens</i> (out-of-Africa) Beings of the Dreaming, Creatrix of Life-Forms, stone arrangements, landscape art, image representation, mortuary practices with grave goods; geometric 'signs'</p> <p>I. 'Gaia' (M. Witzel) = Khoisan II. 'Gondwana' (M. Witzel) = 'Southern Route' Africa to SE Asia & Australia</p>
<p>Upper Paleolithic / Later Stone Age EUP ~150 to 60 ka MUP ~40 to 20 ka LUP ~25 to 10 ka</p>	<p>Mythic III = <i>Homo sapiens sapiens</i> (out-of-SW-Central-Asia) 'Eurasian' (Y. Berezkin) 'Laurasian' (M. Witzel) = Shamanic 6 Worlds Shamanism; Soul Journey, Soul Retrieval; Mother-of-Animals, Master-of-Animals; Geometric Protolanguage, UP(E) array of 12 female and 12 male spiritual transformations (J. Harrod)</p>

Templeton (2010, 2002): genetics = 3 waves out-of-Africa – 1.9 Ma; 650 ka; 130 ka; 1 out-of-Asia (recent)

**Upper Paleolithic / Later Stone Age
Palaeoart**

4th Meme of the Evolution of Art, Symbol & Myth

<i>Era and Techné</i>	<i>4th Meme: Mythic III = Homo sapiens sapiens</i>
<p>Upper Paleolithic / Later Stone Age EUP ~60 to 150 ka MUP ~40 to 20 ka LUP ~25 to 10 ka</p>	<p>Mythic III: 'Laurasian' (M. Witzel) = 'Shamanic' mythologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 Worlds: Upper, Middle and Lower Worlds and central Axis Mundi (M. Eliade)• Soul Journey and Soul Retrieval; psychopomp• Mother-of-Animals, Master-of-Animals• Upper Paleolithic (European), UP(E), subset of geometric signs used under application of combinatory matrix to generate array of 6 female and 6 male spiritual transformation processes, their respective symbolization and mythologies (Harrod 2004 a,b online OriginsNet.org; Harrod 1997; Harrod 1987 Valcamonica Symposium paper)

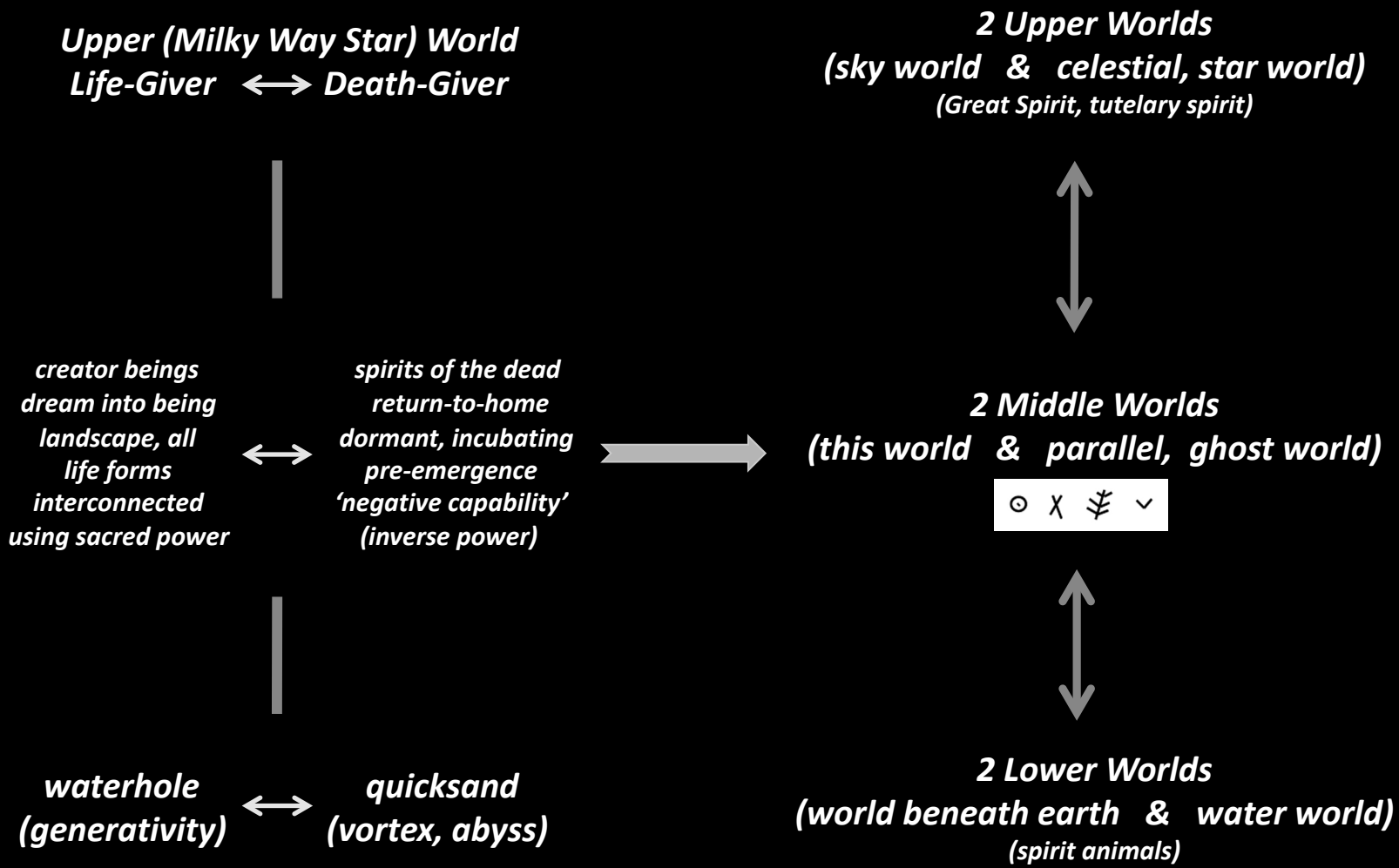
European Upper Paleolithic Age

Period	From (years ago)	To (years ago)
Initial UP (Bohunician and Bachokirian)	50,000	40,000
Proto-Aurignacian CI tephra/HE IV ~39-40 kya	45,000	40,000
Aurignacian	40,000	28,000
Gravettian	28,000	22,000
Solutrean	22,000	17,000
Magdalenian	17,000	13,000
Late Magdalenian Younger Dryas 12.8-11.5 kya; impact ~12.9 kya	13,000	10,000
Mesolithic Age	10,000	5,000
Neolithic Age	9,000	5,000
Chalcolithic / Megalithic Age	5,500	3,700
Bronze Age	5,000	3,000



Ice Age Europe

(Marshack A. *The Roots of Civilization* fig.)



Meme #4 Upper Paleolithic / LSA: Mythic III

Shamanic, 'Laurasian' (M. Witzel)

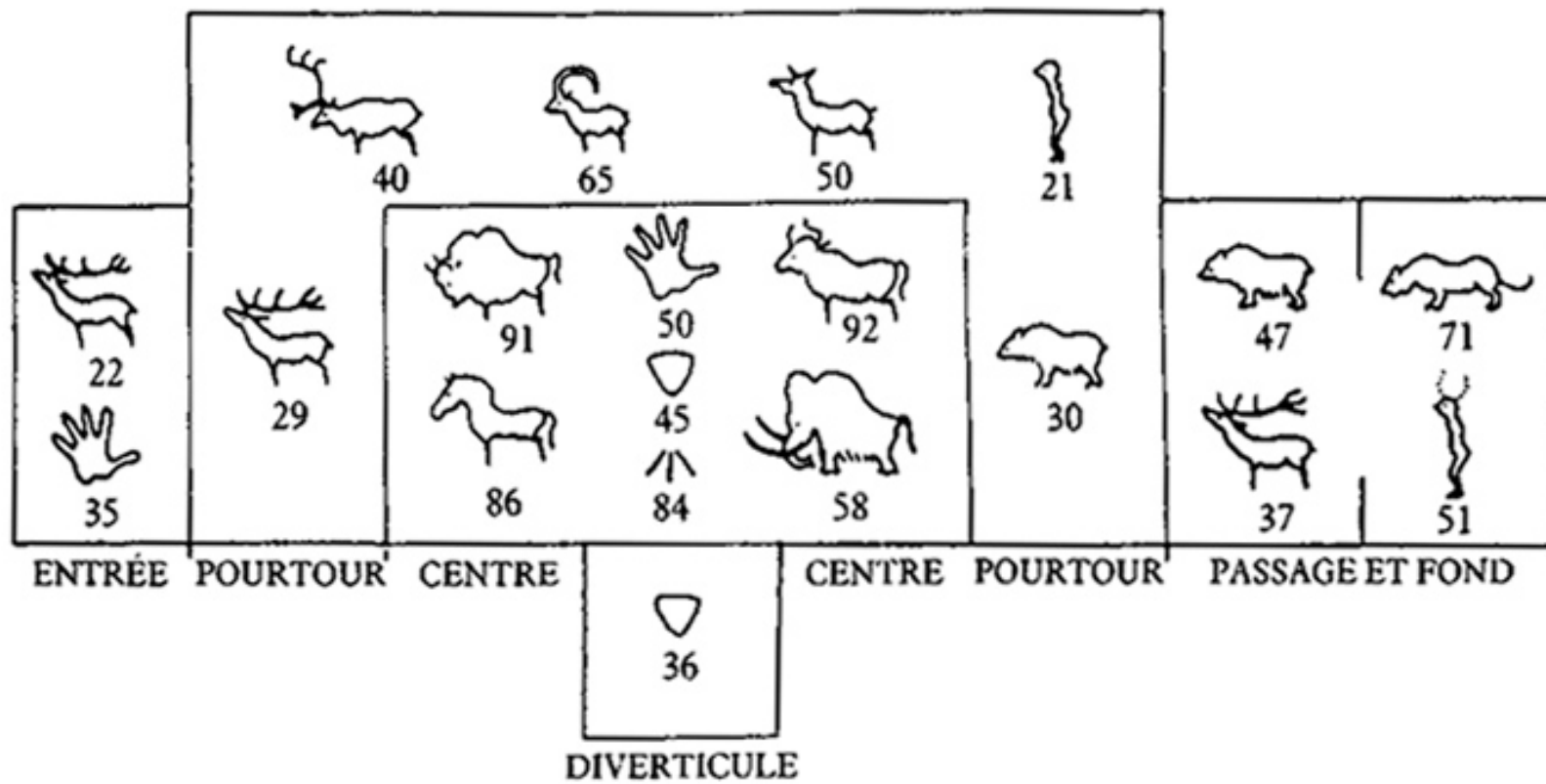
6-Worlds Shamanism (Soul Journey, Soul Retrieval), Mother-of-Animals, Master-of-Animals

Earth diver emergence; UP(E) arrays of female and male spiritual transformations

EURASIAN—SOLUTREAN ~22-16 kya

TYPICAL SYMBOLIC ART AND RITUAL TRANSFORMATION SITES

Macrolanguage Family: (J*-mtDNA) Pre-Semitic-Egyptian? & (H-mtDNA) Pre-Basque?



Leroi-Gourhan, Ideal Arrangement of a Paleolithic Sanctuary

Illustration: Paul Bahn, after Leroi-Gourhan; Bahn PG. 1997. *Journey Through the Ice Age*: fig 11.18;
compare Leroi-Gourhan A. 1967, *Treasures of Prehistoric Art*: Chart XV

EURASIAN—MAGDALENIAN ~18-11 kya

TYPICAL SYMBOLIC ART AND RITUAL TRANSFORMATION SITES

Macrolanguage Family: (U4-mtDNA?) Kartvelian? & (H-subclades) Basque?



Lascaux pigments

(Ruspoli M. 1986. *The Cave of Lascaux: The Final Photographs*, p.97)



Bison, Altamira, 14.8 kya



L: bison, Chauvet, 32 kya
R: two bison, Lascaux Nave, 17 kya



Bison, clay, Le Tuc d'Audobert



Horse, Le Portel, 12 kya



L: horse with 'wound' signs, Niaux, 13.8-12.9 kya



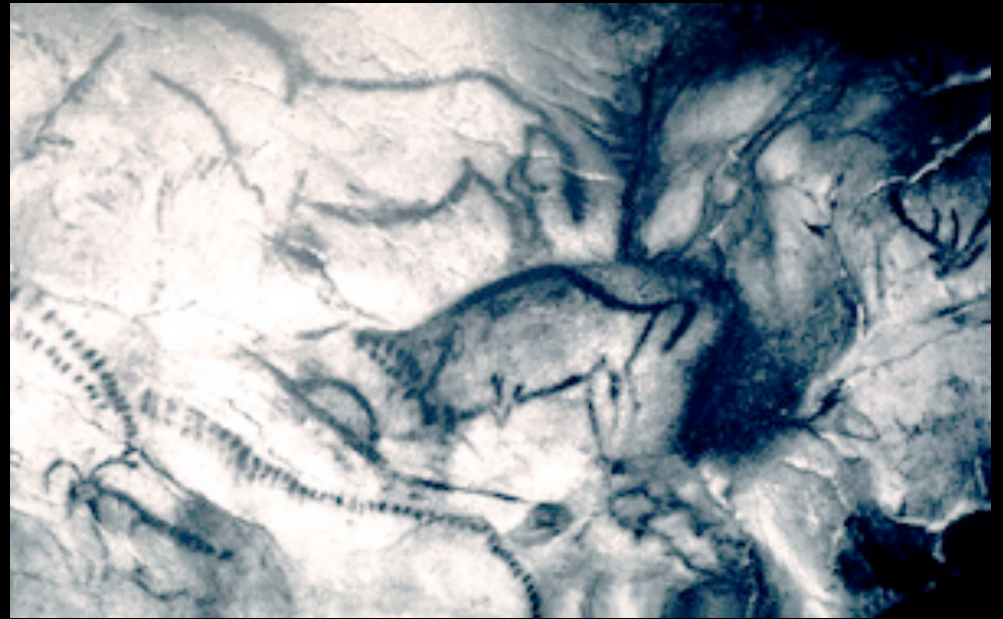
Stag, quadrangular sign, 13 dots, Lascaux, Axial Gallery, South wall. 17 kya



L: Stag, Chimeneas, 15.1-13.9 kya
R: 3 Doe, Covalanas
(print, Douglas Mazonowicz)



Facing Ibex with 'quadrangular sign', Lascaux Axial Gallery, Right Wall. 17 kya



L: bison, horse, ibex, deer, 'darts', Niaux, 'Black Salon', 13.8-12.9 kya
R: bison (twisted profile), horse, ibex, stag (antler), 'claviform', dots. Le Portel, 12.2-11.6 kya



Lascaux, Axial Gallery, Right Wall Right and Left Sides
Panel Composition of 4 Species: Horse, Aurochs, Ibex, Deer. Quaternion Symbolism.
(Photo: Leroi Gourhan, Treasures of Prehistoric Art, fig. 73)



Baton with horse, bison, deer and salmon in spawn, Gourdan, France
(Chollot-Varagnac M. 1980. *Les Origines du Graphisme Symbolique* 47.079)



Wolf, Font de Gaume
painting: Breuil



Bear, Santamamini



Lascaux Rotunda
(online)



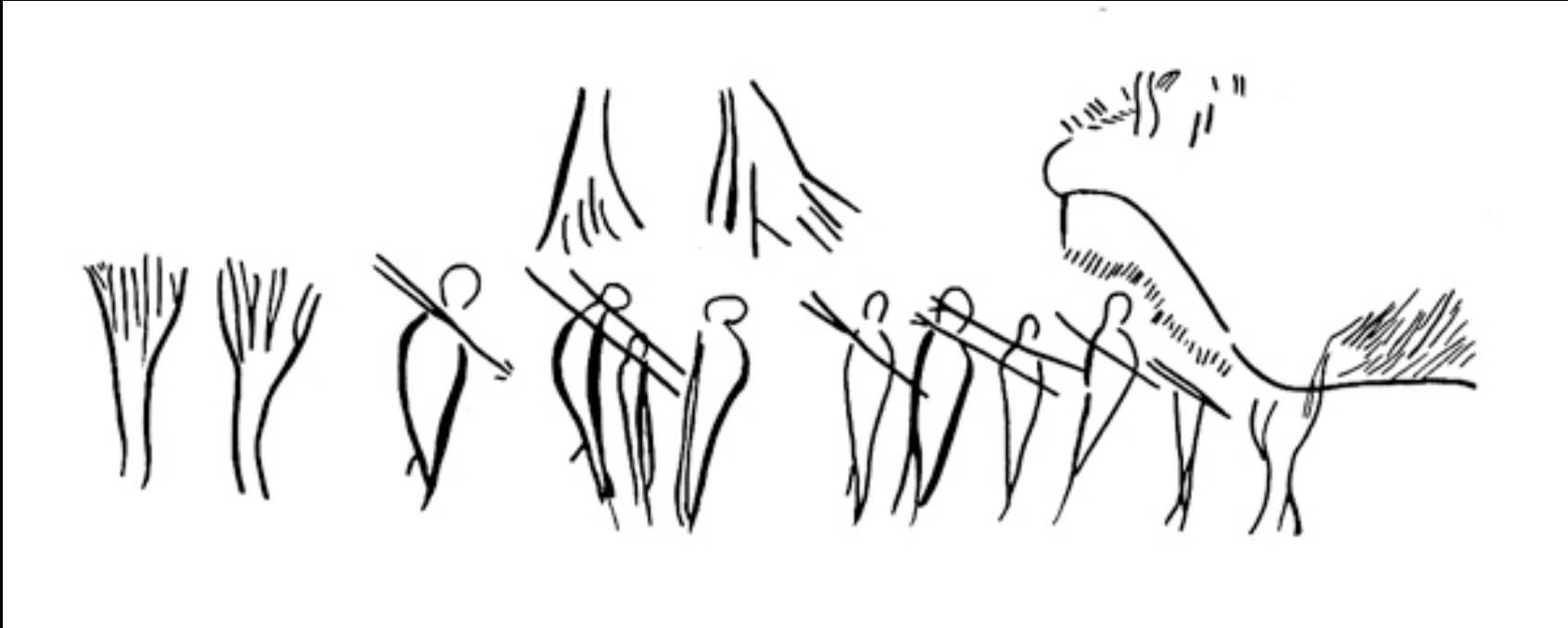
Lascaux, Rotunda, 'Unicorn', 17 kya
(Gourhan L. Treasures of Preshitoric Art fig 72.)



'Underwater Panther', Anishinabe, Agawa Site, NE Lake Superior
(photo: unknown)

Community (Public) Religious Ritual Depictions

Ritual Process Depiction – Les Eyzies, France



'Stroke' or 'Y'-sign + possibly 'Branch'-signs'

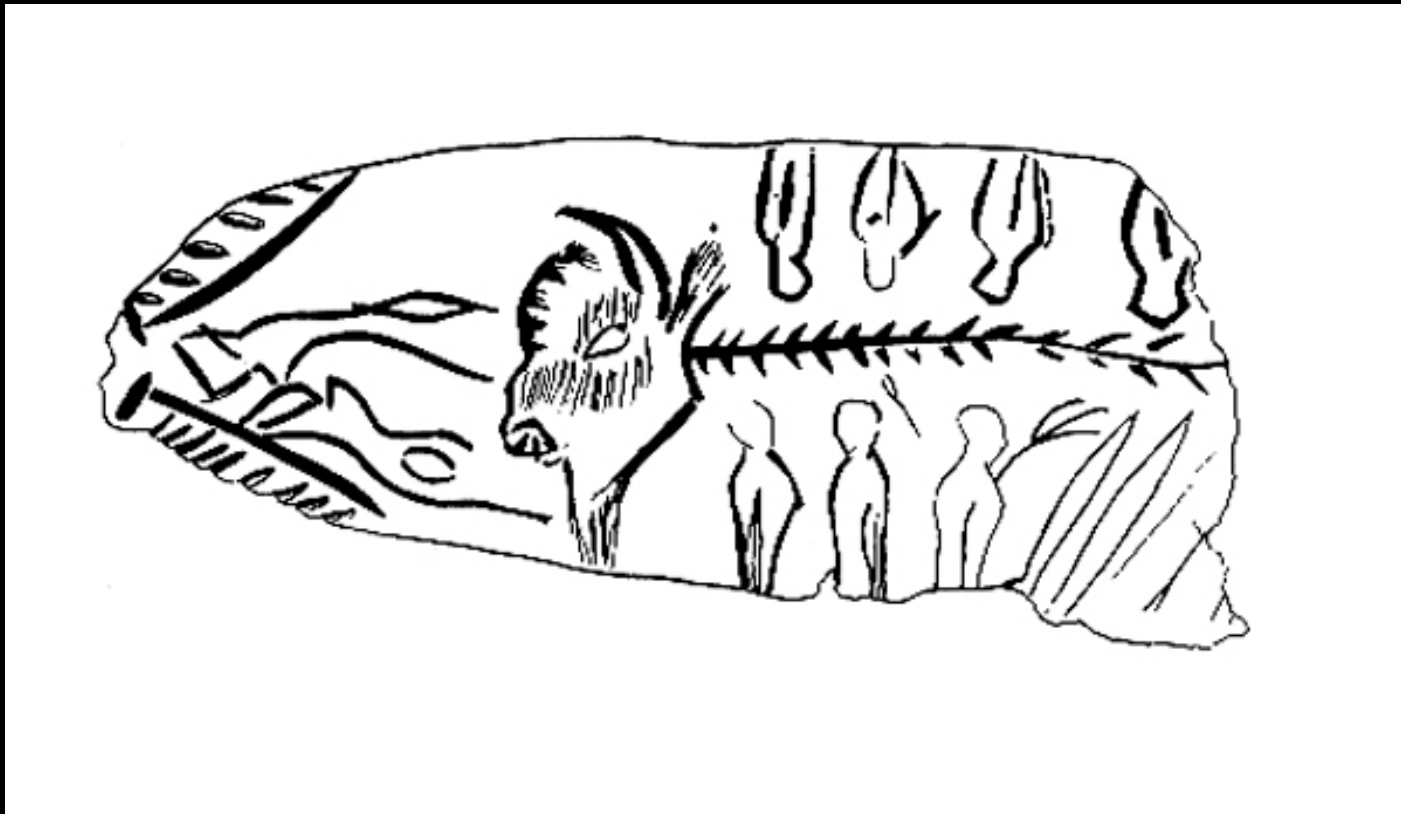
'4 trees and 9 humanoid figures with spears or sticks over shoulder (or struck through)

in procession toward oversize bison; 4 sets made with 4 different points as though at four different times'

Engraved bone. Les Eyzies, Dordogne, France, Upper Magdalenian

(Microscopic analysis and line rendition by Marshack. Marshack A. 1991. *The Roots of Civilization*: fig 94b)

Ritual Process Depiction – Raymonden, France



'Stroke' or 'Y'-sign + possibly 'Branch'-signs

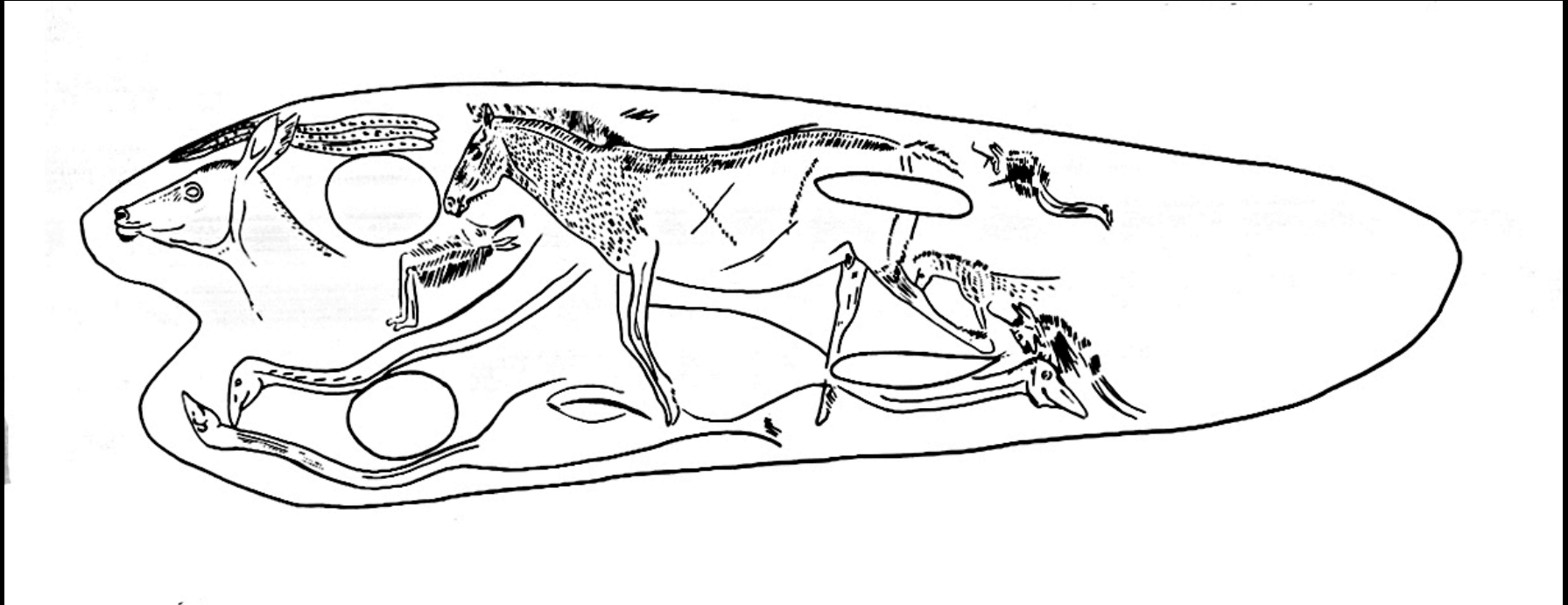
'Bison head and spine, 2 detached front legs, 7 humanoid figures,

fork and branch signs, blade-like shapes and 2 sets of enclosed notches'

Engraved bone. Raymonden, Dordogne, France, Upper Magdalenian

(Microscopic analysis and line rendition by Marshack. Marshack A. 1991. *The Roots of Civilization*: fig 96b)

Ritual Process Depiction – Abri Mège, France



X-sign + implicit 'tri-line', undulating 'flow' lines

'1 stallion and 1 small horse (colt?), 1 doe deer, 3 serpentine shapes, 3 swans,
3 shamanistic chamois-men, wearing chamois robe and mask, 1 for each set of images, each successively more schematized
probably indicating sequence of making'

Engraved baton (unrolled). Abri Mège , Dordogne, France, Magdalenian

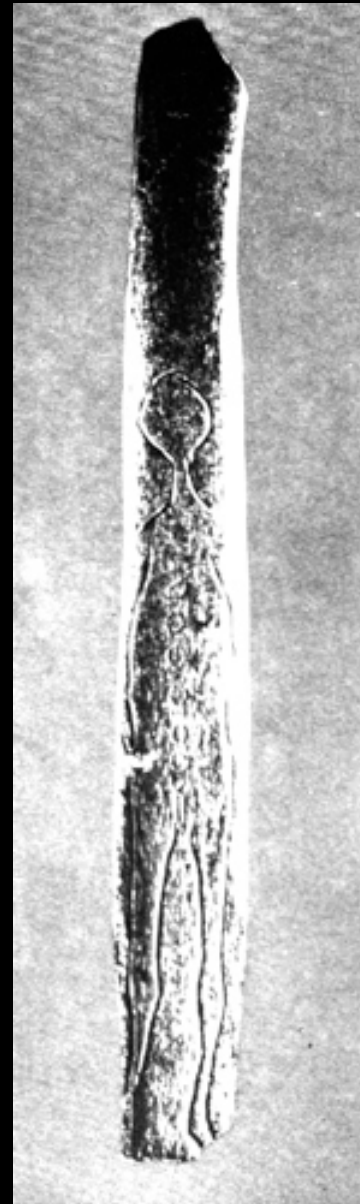
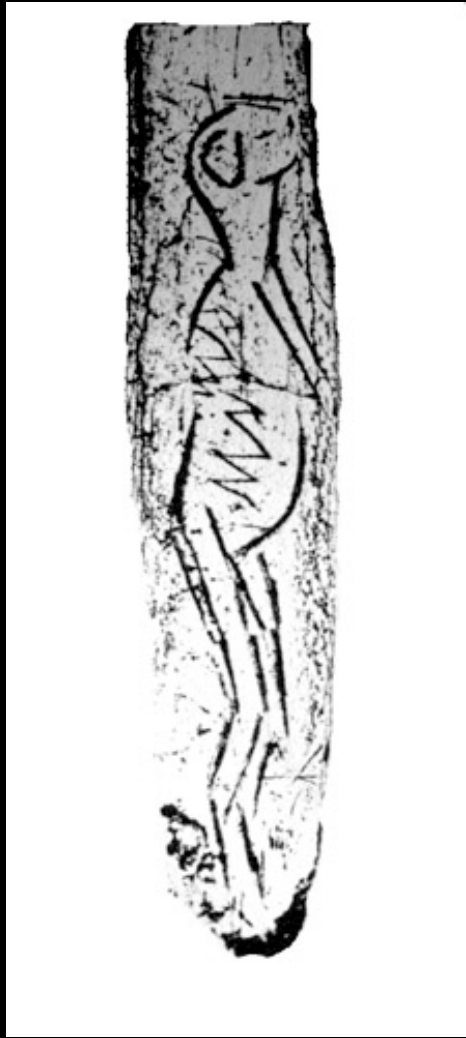
(Microscopic analysis and line rendition by Marshack. Marshack A. 1991. *The Roots of Civilization*: fig 138 (after Breuil))

Trance Process Depictions



'Insect' Geometric, Red Panels Gallery, Chauvet, France, Aurignacian ~32.5-30 kya (& 27-26 kya)

Clottes J and (transl.) Bahn P. 2003. *Chauvet Cave: The art of earliest times*: fig. III.74.



L: 'Lightning Man', Cro-Magnon
R: 'Man with Buttons', Bruniquel



'Geometric Signs', El Castillo, Spain. Middle Magdalenian II-IV (13,500-14,000 BP)

Anthropomorphic Figure Progressively Geometrized = 'Shamanic Trance'

Interpretation: James Harrod; after Leroi-Gourhan. 1967. *Treasures of Prehistoric Art* fig 61

Ritual Spaces



Font de Gaume (Dordogne). Paired tectiforms.

Leroi-Gourhan A. 1967. *Treasures of Prehistoric Art*: Examples of Paired Signs chart XXXIVc1

Upper Paleolithic (Europe): Ritual Art Space
Female Spiritual Transformation #1: 'Profile Type'
Gönnersdorf, Germany, Magdalenian, 14 to 18 kya cal. (Stevens 2009)



Hut #1
(diam. 2.5m)

Paved Pathway

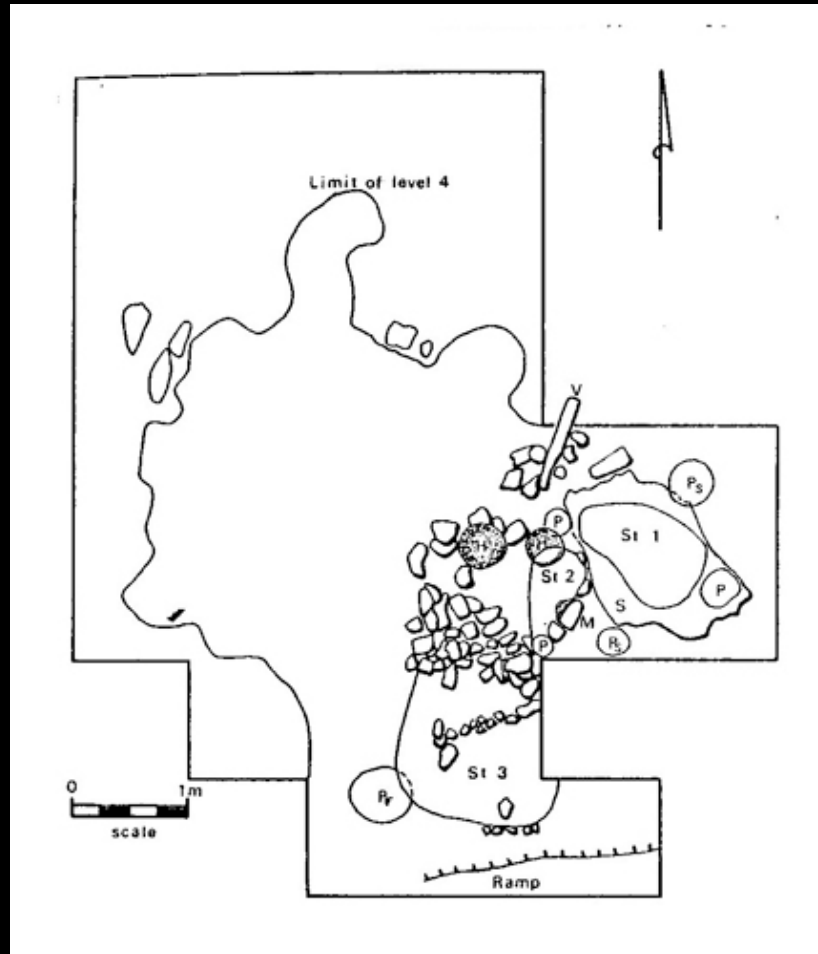
Hut #2
(diam. 5.4x6.0m)

500 engraved slate plaquettes scattered along walkway and also around and inside the larger hut, often face down, appear intentionally broken. Many are engraved several times, some re-engraved after being broken. 200 human figures, almost all stylized females; zoomorphs – mammoth, horse, and rare rhino, bovid, reindeer(?), fox, fish, seals.

Hut #1: amorphous bowl shaped conglomerate rock with colored pebbles. Hut #2: floor covered with pulverized hematite and covered with small stone slabs. H = 2 hearths. 3 pits lined with fox skins with jaw and foot bones. (3) = pit with three female statuettes carved, one each, ivory, bone and antler. (0) = necklace of ~40 wooden pearls + teeth of fox and deer. (1) = 1 female statuette (Bosinski 1970)

El Juyo, Santander, Spain

Upper Paleolithic (Europe): Ritual Art Space – Creation of the Deer El Juyo, Santander, Spain, Magdalenian, 14 kya



El Juyo Level 4 Floor Plan. St 1 = Structure 1; St 2 = Structure 2; St 3 = Structure 3;
P = pit; M = stone sculpture head (lion/leopard + bearded man)

(Freeman LG, Echegaray JG. 1981. El Juyo: A 14,000-Year-Old Sanctuary from Northern Spain.
History of Religions 21,1:1-16: fig. 1)

Upper Paleolithic (Europe): Ritual Art Space – Creation of the Deer
El Juyo, Santander, Spain, Magdalenian, 14 kya

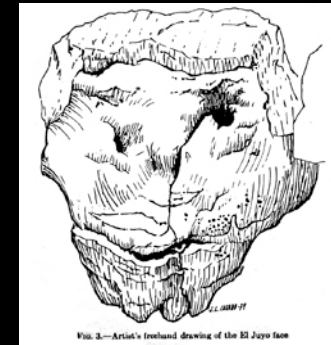
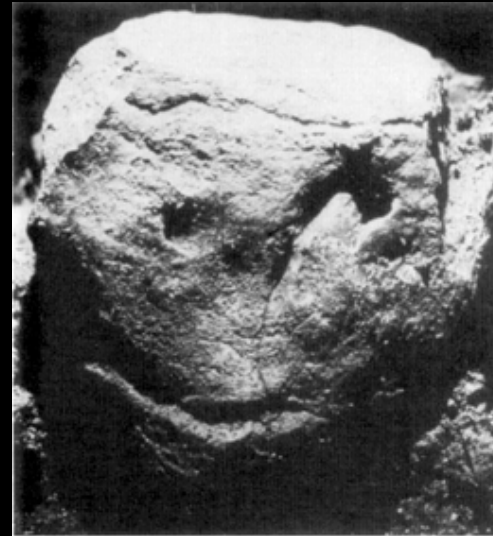
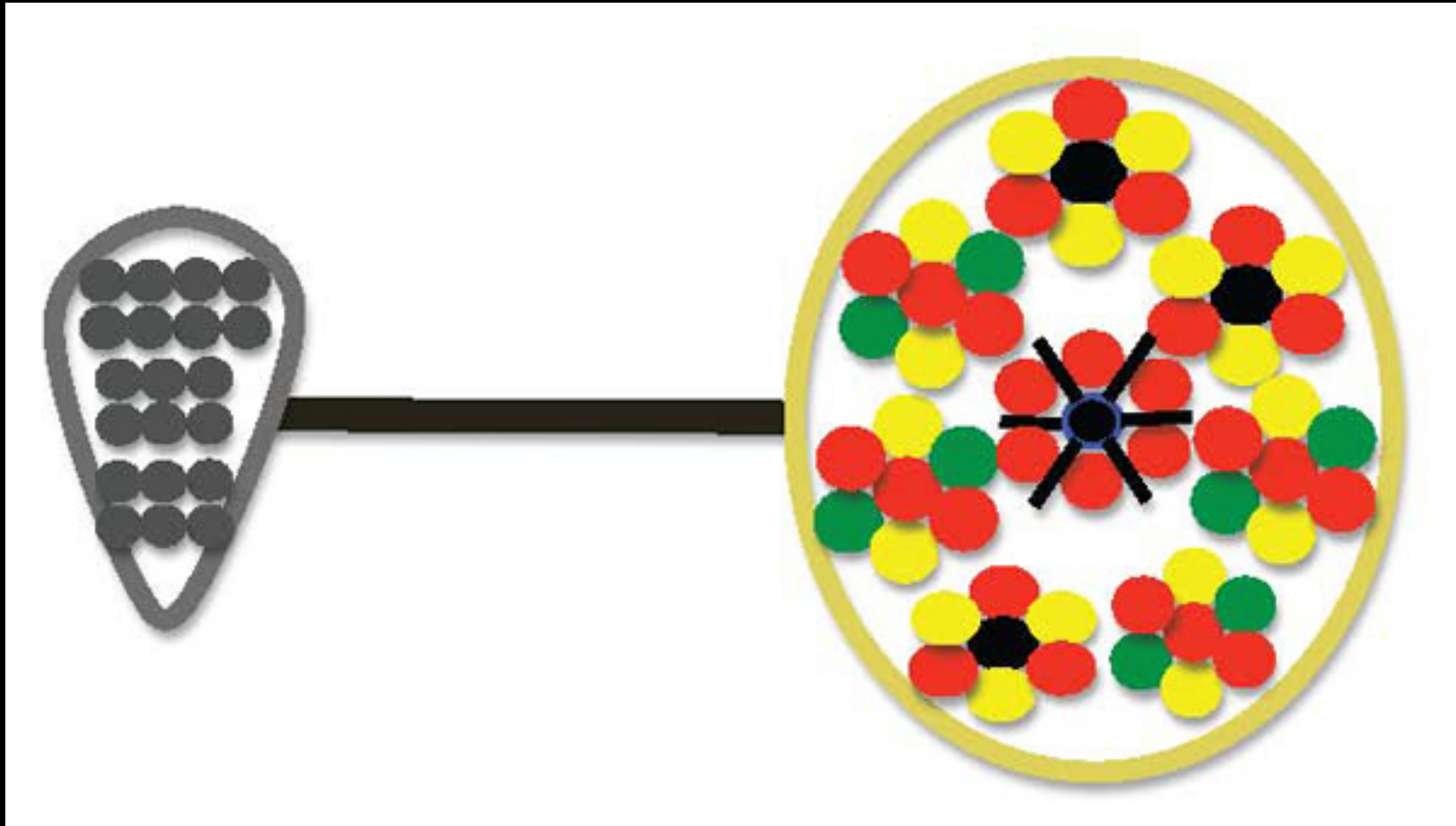


FIG. 2.—Artist's freehand drawing of the El Juyo face



El Juyo Level 4 : L: doe head, engraved bone; C: stone sculpture head (lion/leopard + bearded man); R: artist rendition
(Freeman LG, Echeagaray JG. 1981. El Juyo: A 14,000-Year-Old: Sanctuary from Northern Spain. *History of Religions* 21,1:1-16: fig. 1)

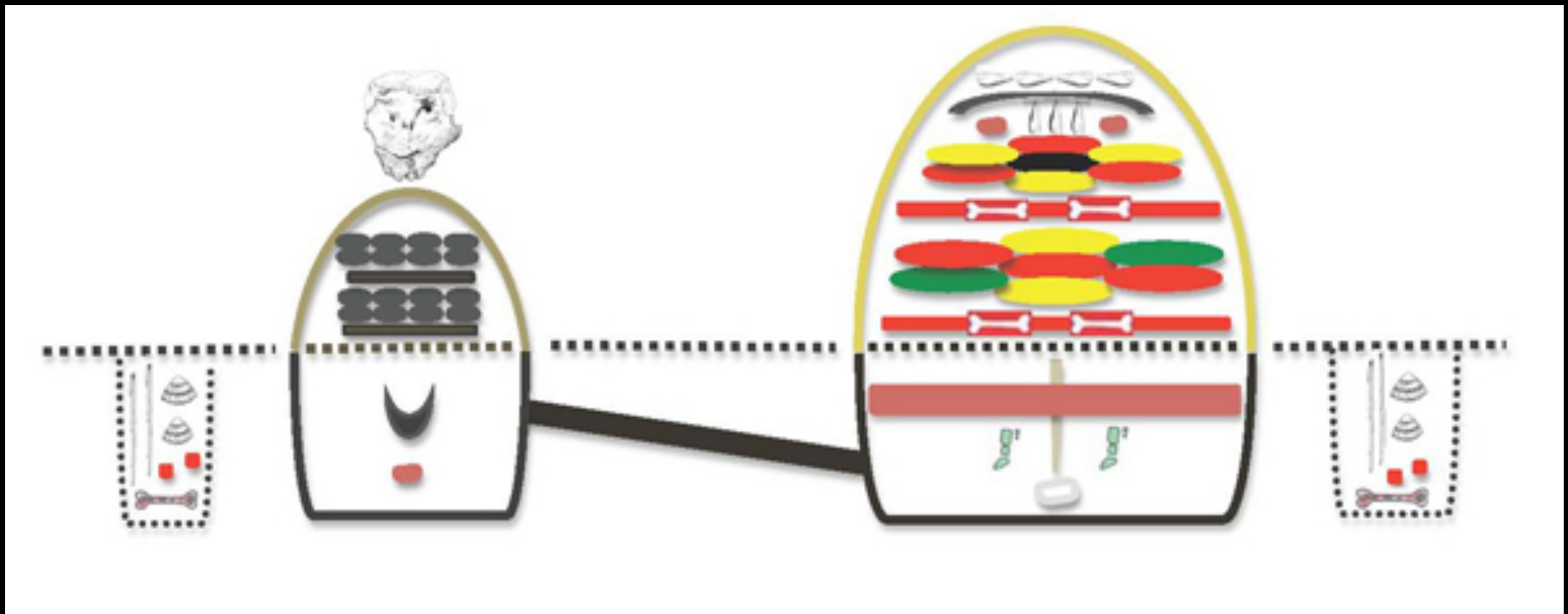
Upper Paleolithic (Europe): Ritual Art Space – Creation of the Deer
El Juyo, Santander, Spain, Magdalenian, 14 kya



El Juyo Level 4 Structure 1 and Structure 2 Schematic (top view)

Schematic reconstruction J. B. Harrod (after Freeman LG, Echegaray JG. 1981. El Juyo: A 14,000-Year-Old: Sanctuary from Northern Spain. *History of Religions* 21,1:1-16) and Freeman LG, Klein RG, Echegaray JG. 1983. A Stone Age Sanctuary. *Natural History* 8:46-53; Freeman LG, Echegaray JG, Klein RG, Crowe WT. 1988. The Paleolithic of the Upper Pleistocene in Western Eurasia. In: H L. Dibble and A. Monte-White (ed.) *Upper Pleistocene Prehistory in Western Eurasia*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.)

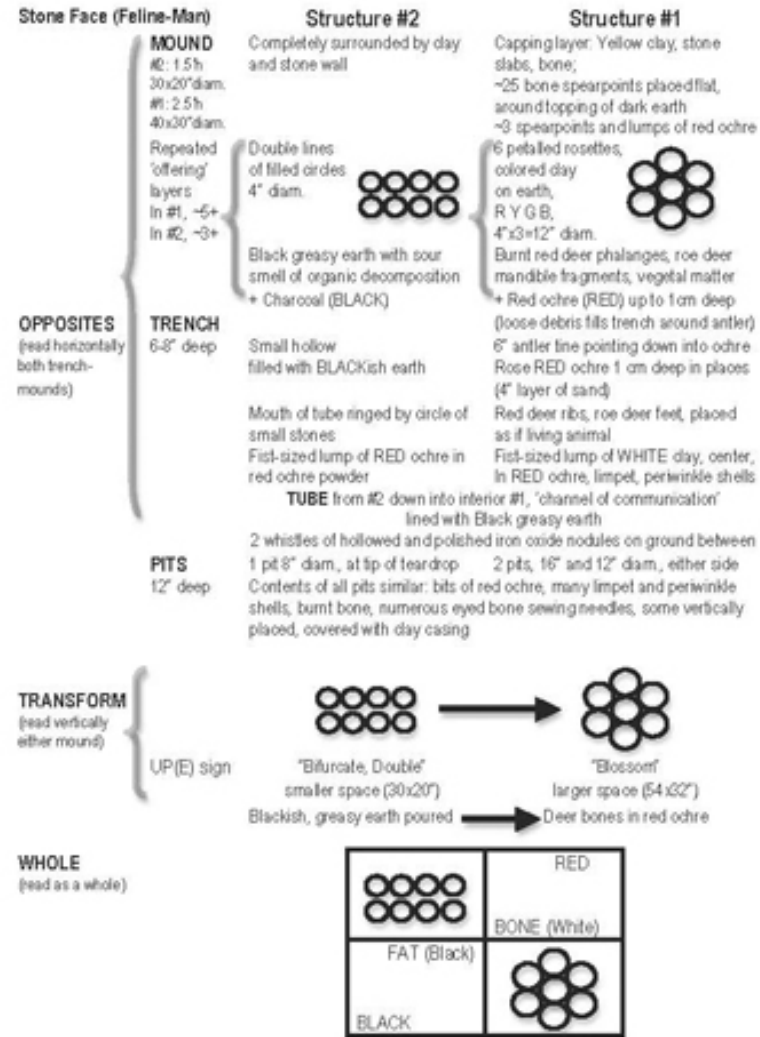
Upper Paleolithic (Europe): Ritual Art Space – Creation of the Deer El Juyo, Santander, Spain, Magdalenian, 14 kya



El Juyo Level 4 Structure 1 and Structure 2 Schematic (side view)

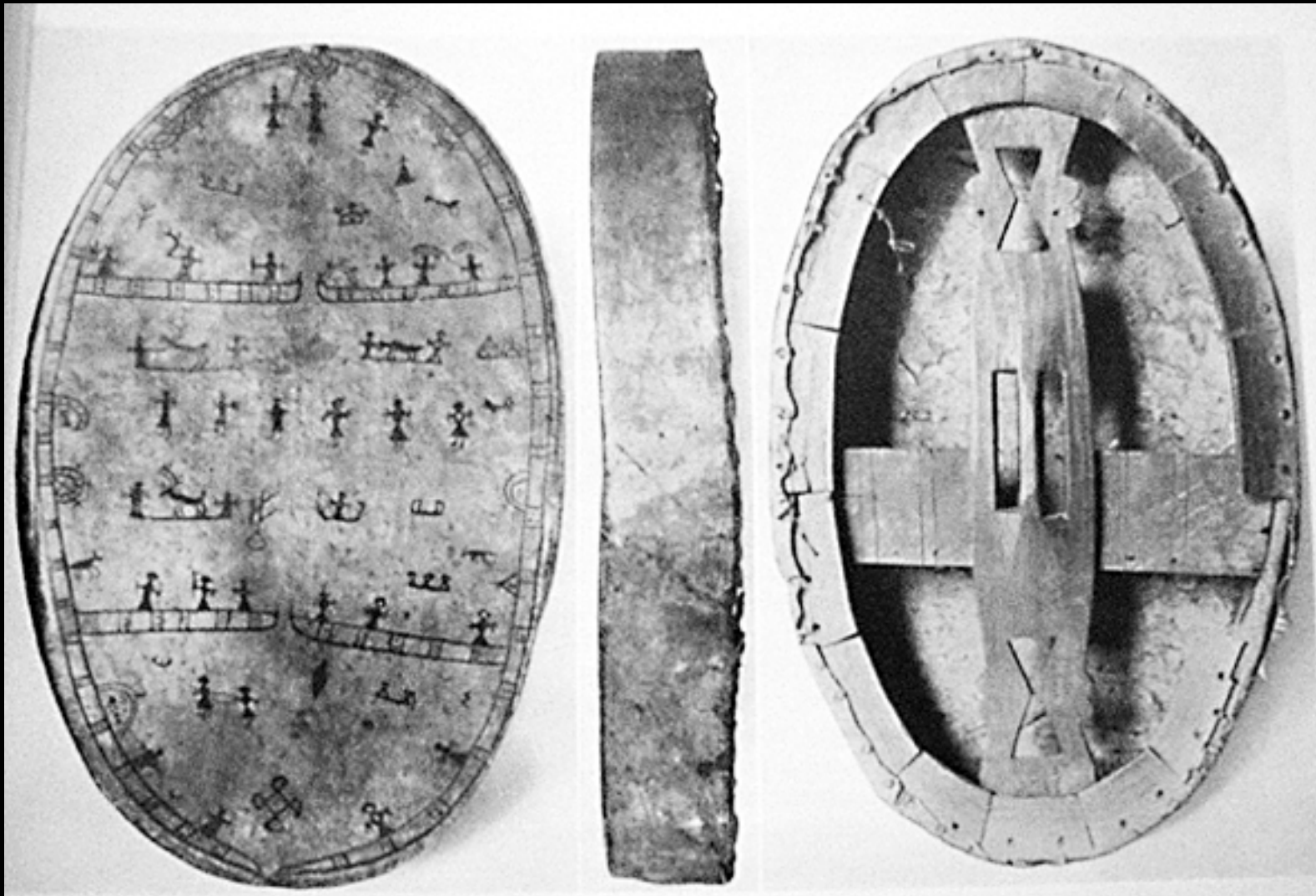
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Ritual Space of Spiritual Transformation at El Juyo, Level 4



El Juyo, Santander, Spain, Magdalenian, 14 kya

Schematic J. B. Harrod (after Freeman LG, Echegaray JG. 1981. El Juyo: A 14,000-Year-Old: Sanctuary from Northern Spain. *History of Religions* 21,1:1-16) and Freeman LG, Klein RG, Echegaray JG. 1983. A Stone Age Sanctuary. *Natural History* 8:46-53; Freeman LG, Echegaray JG, Klein RG, Crowe WT. 1988. The Paleolithic of the Upper Pleistocene in Western Eurasia. In: H L. Dibble and A. Monte-White (ed.) *Upper Pleistocene Prehistory in Western Eurasia*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.)



Finnish Drum: World with Three Layers

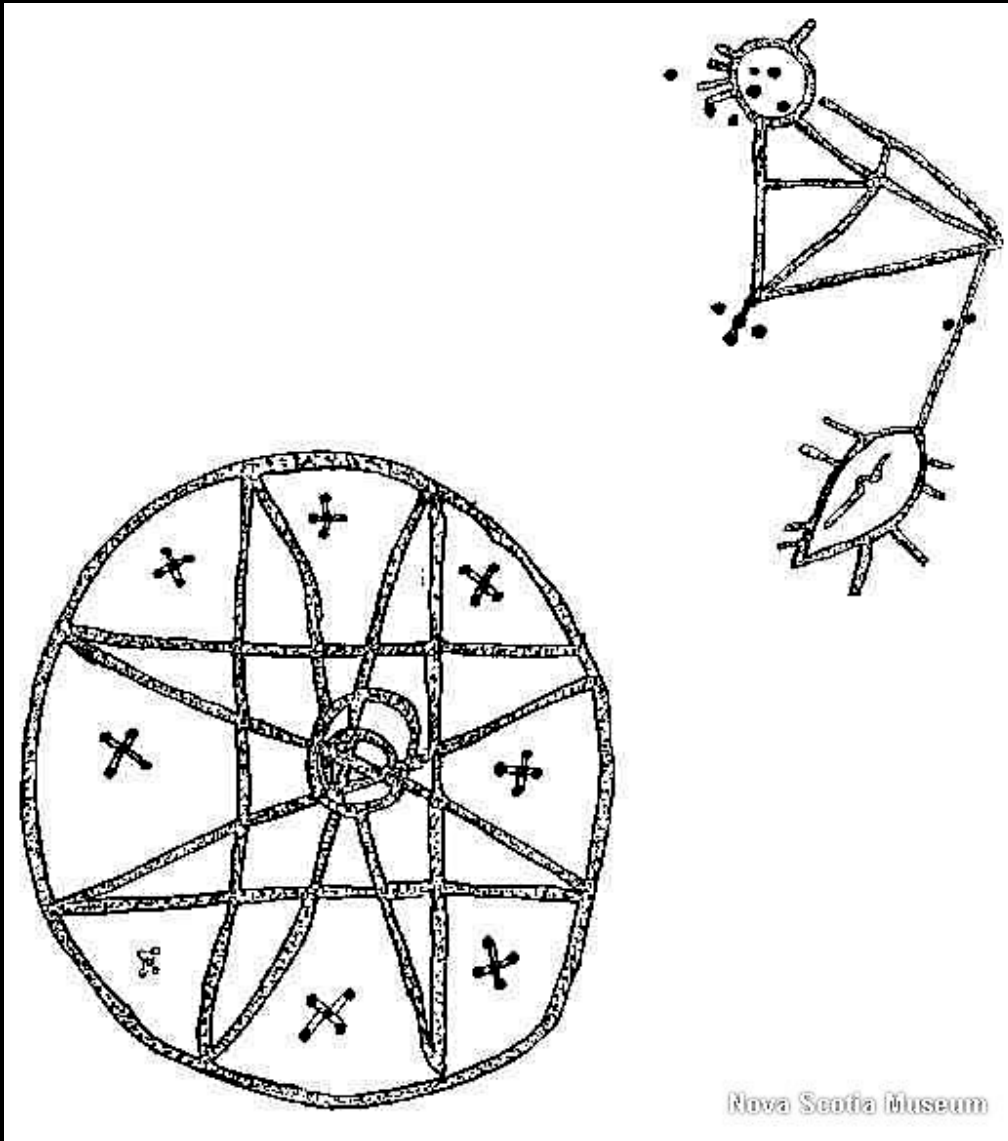
'every Finnish drum represents three layers; reddish color is from alder tree'

Shaman's drum symbols in Scandinavia. ww.thuleia.com/shamandrum.html (accessed March 2010)



Finnish Segment Drum with World in Three Layers

Shaman's drum symbols in Scandinavia. www.thuleia.com/shamandrum.html (accessed March 2010)



Bedford Barrens and Kejimikujik Petroglyphs, Mi'kmaq, pre-1500 AD

Left: 'eight-pointed star, icon for sun; knobbed crosses elsewhere iconic for star' cut with stone tools; probably pre-Contact.

Mylar tracing: R. H. Whitehead 1983. Nova Scotia Museum, Halifax

Right: By Maqtewépaqtism, proposed Mi'kmaq national flag drawn from Kejimikujik petroglyph at nation-forming (2001 but:) [and 7 stars = Pleiades; 3 concentric circles = 3 levels