

AP Art History



Unit 1A: Global Pre-History

Image Set

Paleolithic

- Difficult to date rock paintings
- Indirect methods

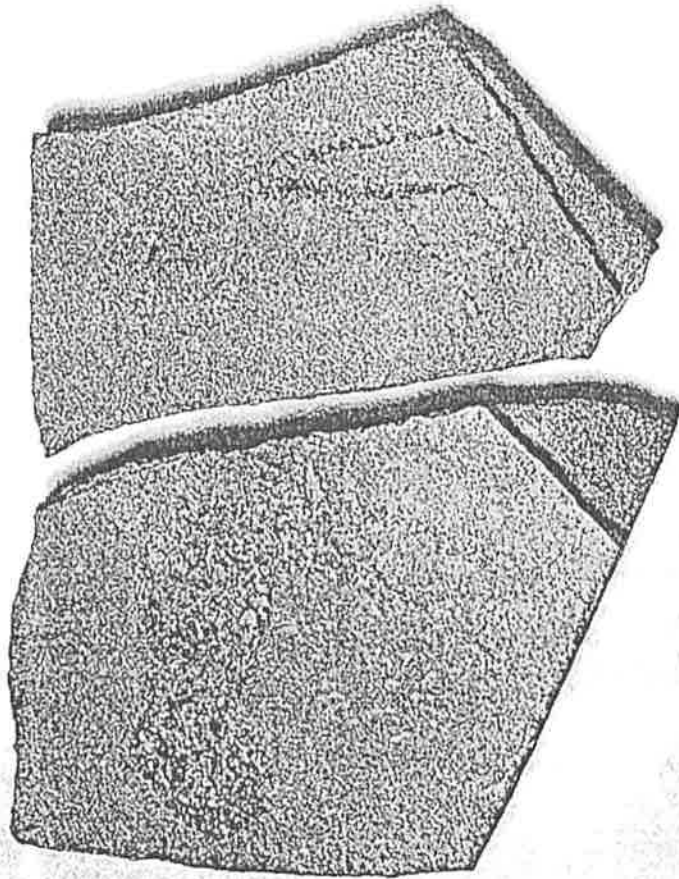
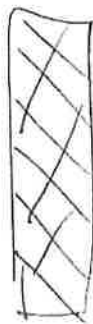
- Therianthrope
 - complex belief system?

- ~~what does~~ how/why does early art help us understand human development?

- Animals = main subject of Paleolithic art.

- profile view - why?

Earlier art - I incised stone
cross-hatching



Upper Palaeolithic Europe

Ceremonial

- Caves were not likely shelter, but ceremonial
- Why a large step in intellectual development
- Lascaux shows abstraction & creativity

- Magical properties

- Twisted profile rather than strict profile

- Multiple generations of images
- overlapping images

- Not easily accessible - What does this suggest?
- Sacred? Ceremonial space.

Hall of Bulls

- Frieze
- 3 Animal themes
- horses, cattle, deer, 1 Bear
- A Unicorn?

- Spray technique

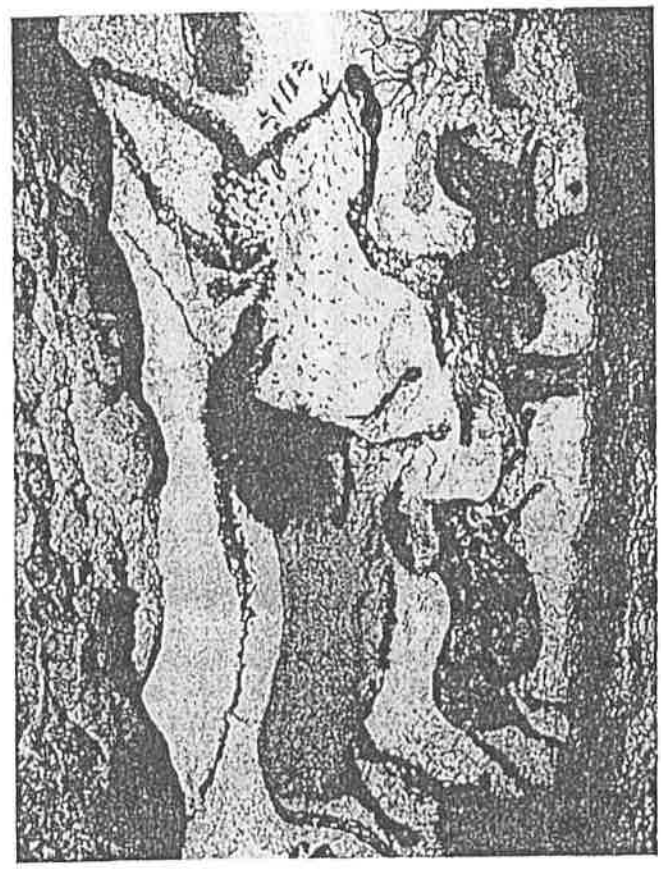


Figure 1: Global Prehistory. Great Hall of the Bulls. Lascaux, France. Paleolithic Europe. 15,000-13,000 B.C.E. Rock painting.

Algeria



Danae?
Goddess?

Dots = scarification
twisted perspective



Content Area 1: Global Prehistory. Running horned woman. Tassili n'Ajjer, Algeria. 6000-4000 B.C.E. Pigment on rock.

Mexico

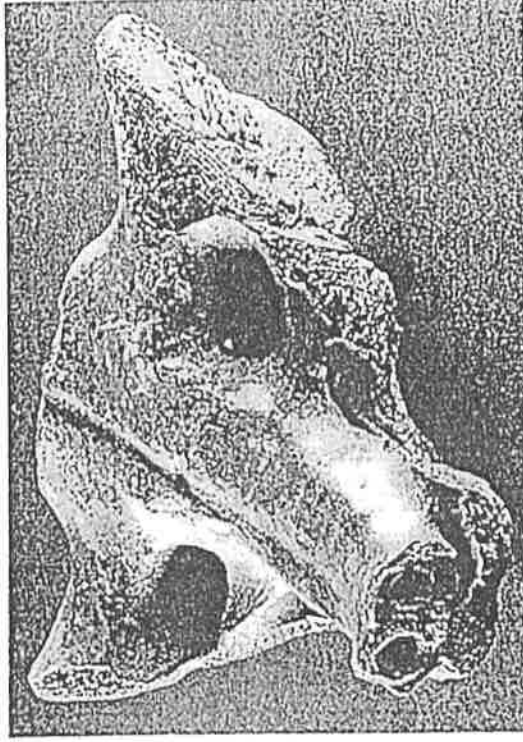
Sculpture, dog-like

Mesoamerican

- Importation of the
Sacrum bone

Spiritual/Religious significance →

- Continued use of ceremonial masks
(Mesoamerican to many other cultures)



Content Area 1: Global Prehistory. Camelid sacrum in the shape of a canine. Tequixquiac, central Mexico. 14,000–7000 B.C.E. Bone.

Neolithic Period - No longer nomadic

Ceramic Art

Funerary object - secondary burial

Terra cotta - Baked clay

Upper Frieze - Aquatic Birds

lots of them in Susa = wealth!

Practical item elevated to a more important function

Thin walls
Not intended for conventional use

Register
- Figures are located in specific space

Exaggerated horns
reflected overall form of the vessel

meander pattern

Simple shapes
make complex design



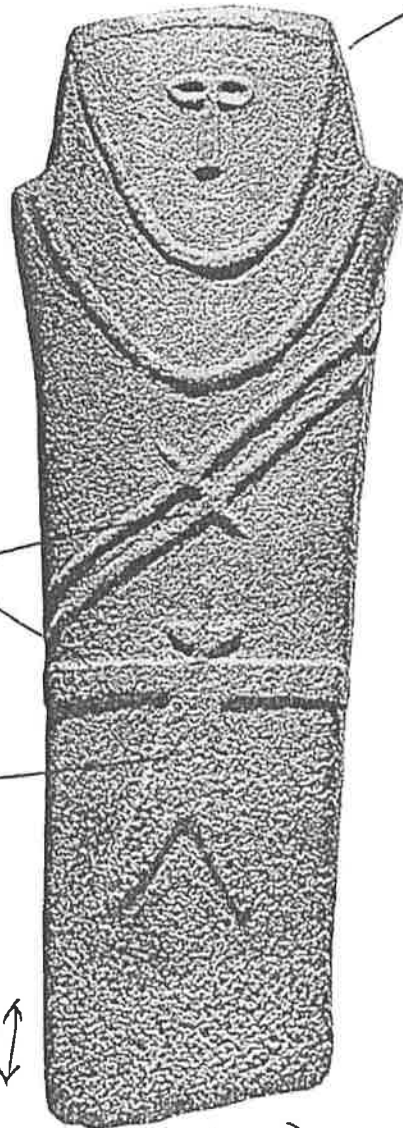
Ritual Object

Stele?
- where do we still use engraved slabs of stone?
Why important that it is in Saudi Arabia? (Islam)
- Rare because sculptures with human figures would have been destroyed

Mesopotamian Influence

Funerary object
- Grave marker

Abstract features



36 inches

Belted Robe

Double bladed sword

- still appears in some parts of S.A

Represents human form - Does
Not copy human form
- Abstract

36" ↑

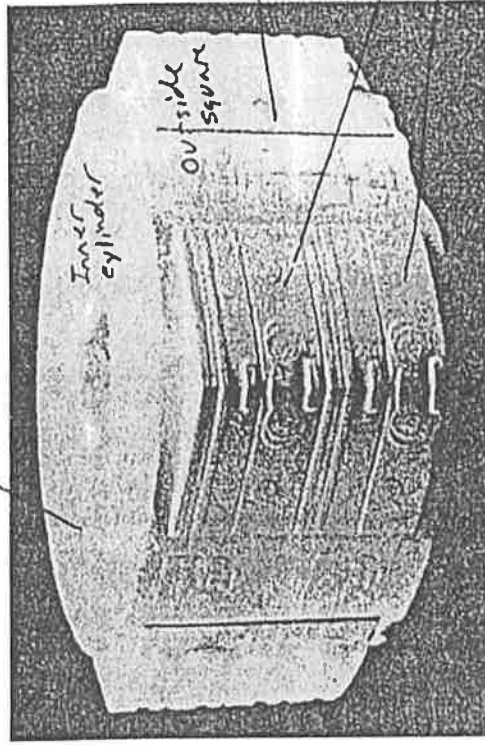
← 8" →

Funerary Art - In tombs of high-ranking people

Jade - Most valued mineral in China

- Cannot be cut
- Shaped through abrasion with sand and water

Represents the heavens
← 5" →



Content Area 1: Global Prehistory. Jade cong. Liangzhu, China. 3300-2200 B.C.E. Carved jade.

Zoomorphic Figure
Mortar & pestle

Difficult to
construct

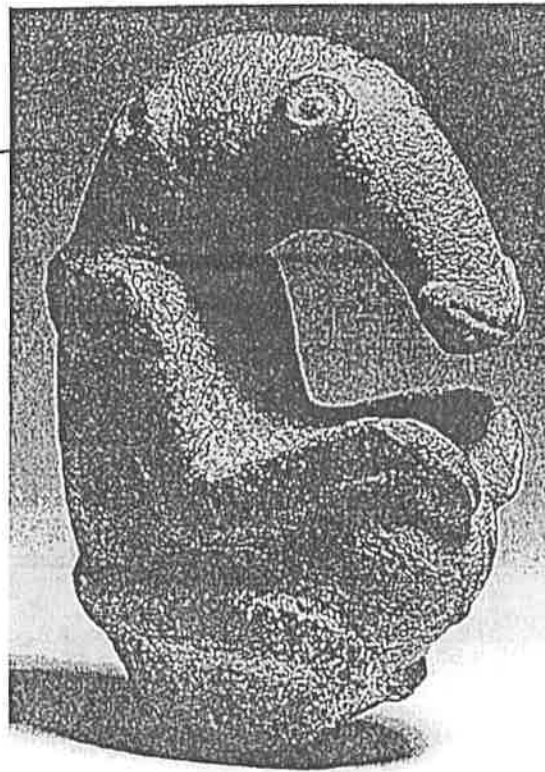
Greywacke very
tough rock - hard
to work with.

Sacred ~~obj~~
object?

Only the
pestle

Echidna?

Fetal echidna?
- Fertility
object



Found on Lake Texcoco - 2-3 thousand years before Aztecs

Mesoamerica
olmec influence?

Fertility object ?
Funerary object

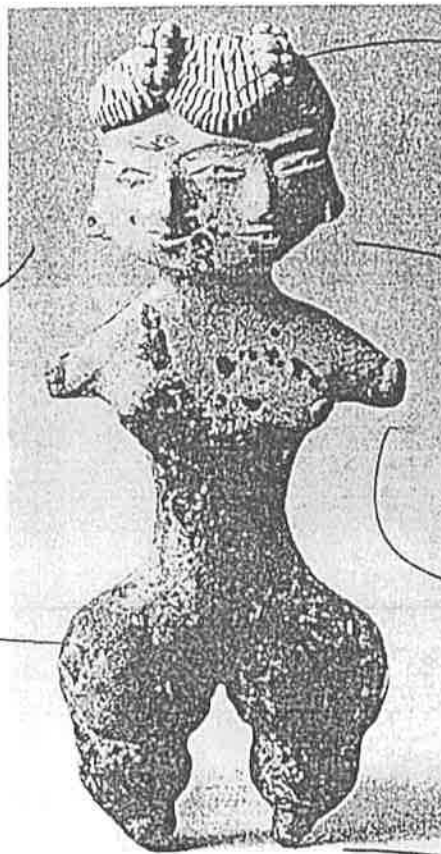
Dead buried under
homes

Connected heads
on 1 body

Duality?
mythical being?
- Shamanism?

Wide hips

Supernatural figure



stylized hair

~~Diprosopus~~

Diprosopus --
Rare birth defect
Results in facial
duplication
Early medical
image?

Flipper Arms

No feet

Male figures are
Very Rare.

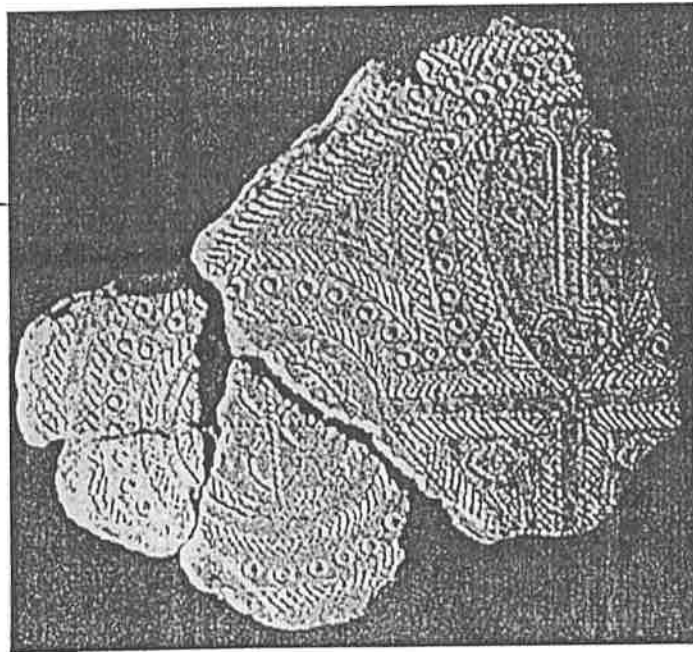
Found with 500 burials
and hundreds of female figures

Lapita culture - First Tattoos!
- Reflect pottery designs
Agricultural
- Established communities

Decorative pottery - Terra cotta (incised)

Repeating geometric
Patterns

Pottery often as funerary
art.



Stylized
Faces