

PREHISTORIC ROCK PICTURES
IN EUROPE AND AFRICA

FROM MATERIAL IN THE ARCHIVES OF THE RESEARCH INSTITUTE
FOR THE MORPHOLOGY OF CIVILIZATION • FRANKFORT-ON-MAIN

BY PROFESSOR LEO FROBENIUS AND DOUGLAS C. FOX

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART • NEW YORK

CATALOG OF FACSIMILES

- SCANDINAVIA
- 1 Polished rock drawing, Glamfjord, Norway. Elk and reindeer.
 - *2 Polished rock drawing, Valle, Norway. Brown bear.
 - 3 Polished rock drawing, Valle, Norway. Whale and seal.
 - *4 Polished rock drawing, Leikness, Norway. Two elk, two reindeer, two bears. *Site illustrated.*
 - 5 Rock engraving, Drammen, Norway. Fish.
 - 6 Rock engraving, Drammen, Norway. Whale.
 - 7 Rock engraving, Rödöy, Norway. Hare on skis, a fable figure.
 - 8 Rock engraving, Vingen, Norway. Deer-like animals with symbolic signs and schematized human figures.
 - *9 Rock engraving, Vingen, Norway. Animal and what are probably sacrificial axes.
 - 10 Rock engraving, Tennes, Norway. Schematized human figure.
 - 11 Finger painting, Trontveit, Telemark, Norway. Human figures.
 - 12 Finger painting, Sandhalsan, Norway. Elk.
- ITALY
- 13 Rock engraving, Cimbergo, Camonica Valley. Semi-geometric figure.
 - 14 Rock engraving, Cimbergo, Camonica Valley. Bulls' heads.
 - 15 Rock engraving, Cimbergo, Camonica Valley. Above, ibex with exaggerated horns; below, probably chamois, degenerate style.

Unless size is given, all facsimiles have been made in the size of the original.

ITALY

- 16 Rock engraving, Nacquane, Camonica Valley. Man with sword and shield spearing a fox.
- 17 Rock engraving, Nacquane, Camonica Valley. Men, deer and pile dwelling.
- 18 Rock engraving, Nacquane, Camonica Valley. Probably mountain goats.
- 19 Rock engraving, Nacquane, Camonica Valley. Runner.
- 20 Examples of the runner motif (swastika) found in various parts of the world.
- *21 Rock engraving, Nacquane, Camonica Valley. Pile dwellings, men and animals.

FRANCE
Francocanta-
brian style

- *22 Rock engraving, Les Combarelles, Les Eyzies, Dordogne. Cave bear.
- 23 Rock engraving, Les Combarelles, Les Eyzies, Dordogne. Mammoth.
- 24 Rock engraving, Les Combarelles, Les Eyzies, Dordogne. Anthropomorphic figure.
- 25 Polychrome painting, Font de Gaume, Les Eyzies, Dordogne. Bison.
- 26 Sculptured frieze of horses in Cap Blanc, a small open cave near Les Eyzies. This is the only sculptured frieze we know of in prehistoric art.

NORTHERN
SPAIN
Francocanta-
brian style

- 27 Contour painting, Castillo, Puente Viesgo. Fragment of a bison.
- 28 Painting, Castillo, Puente Viesgo. Tectiform.
- 29 Painting, Castillo, Puente Viesgo. Scutiform signs.
- 30 Painting, Castillo, Puente Viesgo. Lying bison painted over the faintly visible silhouettes (from an earlier period) of hands and animals.

NORTHERN
SPAINFrancocanta-
brian style

- 31 Animal head, Castillo, Puente Viesgo. A natural stag-
lagmite touched up here and there with black so as to
represent a bison standing on its hind legs.
- 32 Rock engraving, Castillo, Puente Viesgo. Ibex.
- 33 Contour painting, La Pasiega, Puente Viesgo. Stag.
- 34 Contour painting, La Pasiega, Puente Viesgo. Horse.
- 35 Contour painting, La Pasiega, Puente Viesgo. Horse.
- 36 Contour painting, La Pasiega, Puente Viesgo. Horse,
bison, signs.
- 37 Painting, La Pasiega, Puente Viesgo. Bison and horse.
- 38 Contour painting, La Pasiega, Puente Viesgo. Bison
with a spear (?) in its back.
- 39 Rock engraving, La Pasiega, Puente Viesgo. Two
small horses and fragment of a third.
- 40 Rock engraving, La Pasiega, Puente Viesgo. Bison.
- 41 Animal head, Altamira. A natural projection in the
rock has been used and only the eyes and nostrils have
been painted.
- 42 Palimpsest, Altamira. Top layer shows painting of a
leaping horse; beneath it are engravings of a hind and
part of a horse, and below them a black contour frag-
ment of a bison's head.
- 43 Polychrome painting, Altamira. Wild boar ($\frac{2}{3}$ actual
size).
- *44 Polychrome painting, Altamira. Bison cow ($\frac{1}{2}$ actual
size). Eye, ear, beard and part of the contour are
engraved as well as painted.
- 45 Polychrome painting, Altamira. Bison horns engraved
($\frac{1}{2}$ actual size).
- 46 Rock engraving, Altamira. Stag and fragment of a
hind.
- 47 Finger drawing in clay, Altamira. Head of bull or
bison.
- 48 Painting, Altamira. Tectiform.

EASTERN
SPAIN
Levant style

- 49 Painting, Cueva de Civil, Albocacer. Bowman.
- 50 Painting, Cueva de Civil, Albocacer. Bowman.
- 51 Painting, Cueva de Civil, Albocacer. Two running bowmen.
- 52 Painting, Caballos, Albocacer. Two bowmen running at high speed. The lower figure is badly weathered.
- 53 Painting, Mars del Josep, Albocacer. Stag hunt. *See page 35.*
- 54 Painting, Saltadora, Albocacer. Four running bowmen.
- 55 Painting, Saltadora, Albocacer. Deer.
- 56 Painting, Morello. Bow fight. This picture is in the same miniature style which we find in parts of the Libyan Desert.
- 57 Examples of East Spanish and Libyan art showing similarity in style.

NORTH-
WESTERN
SPAIN

- 58 Rock engraving, Pedra das Ferraduras, Fentans. Stag, smaller animals, swords or daggers and phalli.
- 59 Rock engraving, Laxe dos Homos, near Campo le Nero. Anthropomorphic figures ($\frac{1}{2}$ actual size).
- 60 Rock engraving, San Jorge de Mogor. Labyrinth.
- 61 Rock engraving, Laxe das Lebras, Montecello. Male and female quadrupeds, probably deer.
- 62 Rock engraving, near Pontevedra. Stag, cups and rings.
- 63 Rock engraving, near Pontevedra. Cups and rings.

LIBYAN
DESERT

- 64 Painting, Wadi Sora. Acrobats. It may be seen here that the "dotted line" was not invented by the picture editor of a modern tabloid newspaper.
- 65 Painting, Wadi Sora. Dancers. Note the swing and movement. The white flecks are not skirts but spots where the stone has crumbled away.
- 66 Painting, Wadi Sora. Running figure with headgear similar to that of the Egyptian Pharaohs.
- 67 Painting, Wadi Sora. Hand and three figures. Probably the symbolic representation of a religious belief. *See frontispiece.*
- 68 Painting, Wadi Sora. Four running figures, badly weathered.
- 69 Painting, Wadi Sora. A prehistoric St. Sebastian, probably the symbolic representation of a rite connected with the Libyan predecessor of the Egyptian god, Set. *See page 44.*
- 70 Painting, Wadi Sora. Worshippers behind a bull.
- 71 Examples of animal worship motif in prehistoric art.
- 72 Painting, Ain Dua. Cattle of a graceful stag-like species now extinct. Note exaggeration of the udder showing that these are not wild but domestic animals. Cattle could not exist in this region today. *See page 41.*
- 73 Painting, Khargur Tahl. Domestic scene, man, two women and child.
- 74 Painting, Khargur Tahl. Man and woman.
- 75 Painting, Khargur Tahl. Fragment of a giraffe.
- 76 Painting, Khargur Tahl. Human figure with animal mask.

Many of the paintings (not the engravings) of the Libyan Desert are similar in style to those of Eastern Spain, and it is thought that either the same or very closely related cultures were responsible for both.

LIBYAN
DESERT

- 77 Painting, Yerhauda. A row of men dancing behind a cow. In the background the fragments of three large giraffes.
- 78 Painting, Khargur Tahl. Two cows and two small bowmen.
- *79 Painting, Khargur Tahl. A fight, apparently for possession of a bull. Note action and grouping.
- 80 Painting, Wadi Sora. The large figures are apparently dancing, the small ones swimming. This is the only known picture of swimmers in prehistoric art.
- 81 Rock engraving, Wadi Hamra. Giraffes and antelope.
- 82 Rock engraving, Wadi Hamra. Bull.

SAHARA
ATLAS

- *83 Rock engraving, Jaschu Plateau. Lion, *en face*.
- 84 Rock engraving, Jaschu Plateau. Five elephants. This picture is directly below that of the lion (No. 83). The lion seems to be represented as the ruler of the other beasts, a parallel for which exists in the cave of Trois Frères in Southern France.
- 85 Rock engraving, El Korema. Row of wild horses.
- 86 Rock engraving, Bou Alem. Ram with winged sun between his horns. Traces of color were found on this picture, leading to the assumption that the inner surfaces of most of the large Sahara rock pictures were originally painted. Since they stand in the open and are exposed to wind and driving sand, it is natural that the colors have disappeared.
- 87 Rock engraving, Enfouss. Two fighting buffaloes (*bubali antiqui*). *See page 37.*
- 88 Rock engraving, Enfouss. Two lions, small game and an elephant.
- 89 Rock engraving, Ain Safsaf. Elephant protecting its young from the attack of a panther or lioness.

SAHARA
ATLAS

- 90 Rock engraving, Wadi Itel. Actually a palimpsest. In the lower (older) layer are human figures and animals finely drawn; in the upper layer are crudely drawn gnus and a red buffalo.
- 91 Rock engraving, Tiout. Woman holding up her hands, man shooting at an ostrich. It is still a custom among certain peoples for the wife at home to hold up her arms while her husband is out hunting to bring him luck.
- 92 Rock engraving, Djebel Bes-Seba. Man worshipping a sun-ram. On the right animal-like Siamese twins.
- 93 Rock engraving, Oued Cheria. Animals, spirals and other signs probably having to do with hunting magic.
- 94 Rock engraving, Oued Cheria. Much the same subject as No. 93.

FEZZAN

- 95 Rock engraving, Tel Issaghen. Buffalo (*bubalus antiquus*).
- 96 Rock engraving, Tel Issaghen. The Barth Group (see page 38). Bull, men with animal masks.
- 97 Rock engraving, Tel Issaghen. Ram's head and antelopes. The stone on which the ram was engraved weathered badly and part of it broke away, leaving only the ram's head. In a later period some one came along and engraved the antelopes *in the break*. Note the difference in style between the younger and the older work.
- 98 Rock engraving, Tel Issaghen. Probably a ceremony in connection with the launching of a boat. There is no water there now.
- 99 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Two elephants apparently about to attack. Note articulated ears. *See page 13.*

FEZZAN

- 100 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Domestic cattle and what is probably a sun symbol. Herodotus relates that in the land of the Garamantae (Fezzan) the horns of the cattle curved so far forward that the beasts had to graze backwards, something which we can take with a grain of salt. The cattle in this engraving, however, are probably of the type he meant to describe.
- 101 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Ostriches and four figures similar to the Egyptian god, Bes.
- 102 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Wart hog.
- 103 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Herd of cattle.
- 104 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Bowman.
- 105 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Elephant with man on trunk. Stone face badly weathered.
- *106 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Six ostriches in what is possibly the hunter's magic circle.
- *107 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Two men with animal masks dragging home a slain rhinoceros. The men are probably magicians. *Site illustrated.*
- *108 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Giraffe, symbolic circle and a fragment of two ostriches. *Site illustrated.*
- 109 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Crouching lion.
- 110 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Man with a donkey's mask driving what looks like a water buffalo.
- 111 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Four ostriches.
- 112 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Rhinoceros.
- 113 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Animal mask.
- 114 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Long-legged elephant. Mouth and tusks drawn incorrectly.
- *115 Rock engraving, In Habeter. Elephant and two giraffes. *Site illustrated.*

- FEZZAN
- 116 Painting, Tadjem, Tassili Mountains. Sign.
 - 117 Painting, Ersach, Tassili Mountains. Sign.
 - 118 Painting, Ersach, Tassili Mountains. Hunting scene.
- SOUTH AFRICA
Southern Rhodesia
- 119 Painting, Inoro Cave. Antelopes and human figures.
 - 120 Painting, Gutu District. Burial scene. *See page 46.*
 - 121 Painting, Matopo Hills. Landscape with figures.
 - 122 Painting, Rusapi. Rain ceremony ($\frac{1}{2}$ actual size). *See page 47.*
 - 123 Painting, Mandarellas, Rusawi Valley. Rain ceremony ($\frac{1}{3}$ actual size).
 - 124 Painting, Mandarellas District. Landscape with figures.
 - 125 Painting, Mandarellas District. Seated figure.
 - 126 Painting, Mandarellas District. Seated figure, birds.
 - 127 Painting, Rusape. Burial scene. *See page 47.*
 - 128 Painting, Lionshead, north of Salisbury. Slain animal (compare with No. 127).
 - 129 Painting, Rusape. Burial scene ($\frac{1}{2}$ actual size). *See page 48.*
 - *130 Painting, Makumba Cave, Chinamora Reserve. Group of large formlings.
 - 131 Painting, Mrewa. Formlings and figure.
 - 132 Painting, Bindura. Bulbous growths, armed figure, buck and apes.
 - *133 Painting, Mtoko Cave. Large elephants, quagga, antelopes, formlings and figures.
 - 134 Painting, Macheke. Three crouching figures.
 - 135 Painting, Matopo Hills. Ape-like figure.

SOUTH
AFRICA
Southern
Rhodesia

- 136 Painting, Mrewa. Fabulous animal ($\frac{1}{2}$ actual size).
 137 Painting, Macheke. Legless figures, animal heads.
 138 Painting, Salisbury. Long-legged figures, some with tails and animal heads.
 139 Painting, Makowe Cave. Two men, baboon, small buck, plants and flowers. Black and white figures like these are extremely rare.
 140 Painting, Massimbura, Chinamora Reserve. Long-legged dancers.

South African
Union

- 141 Painting, Witzieshoek, Orange Free State. White figures with bird heads.
 142 Painting, Wepener Farm, Orange Free State (near Basutoland border). Snake and antelopes.
 143 Painting, Wepener Farm, Orange Free State (near Basutoland border). Running eland.
 144 Painting, Teyateyaneng, Basutoland. Rain ceremony.
 *145 Painting, Khotsa Cave, Basutoland. Large eland and human figures.
 146 Painting, Cinyati Cave, Natal. Man with elephant head. *See page 49.*
 147 Painting, Sunday Falls River, Natal. Men in costumes, antelope.
 148 Painting, Tembuland, Cape Province. Four figures in masks and gowns.
 149 Plaster cast of an engraving, Clerksdorp, West Transvaal. Eland. (Original in Capetown Museum.)
 150 Plaster cast of an engraving, Schweizer Reneke, West Transvaal. Buffalo. (Original in Capetown Museum.)

- | | | |
|---------------------|------|--|
| SOUTH AFRICA | 151 | Plaster cast of an engraving, Vryburg, Bechuanaland. Elephant. (Original in Capetown Museum.) |
| South African Union | 152 | Plaster cast of engraving, Vryburg, Bechuanaland. Young kudu. (Original in Capetown Museum.) |
| Southwest Africa | 153 | Painting, Great Spitzkopjes. Stylized praying mantes. <i>See page 52.</i> |
| | 154 | Painting, Small Spitzkopjes. Lying figure on which four smaller figures are superimposed. |
| | 155 | Painting, Jochman Cave. Running figure. Compare with running figures from Eastern Spain, particularly No. 52. |
| | 156 | Painting, Zisab Ravine, Brandberg. Men and animals. Note the richly decorated bowman on the right. <i>See page 51.</i> |
| | *157 | Painting, Naukluft. Hunting scene. The hunters were apparently after the small buck in the center of the picture when they were rudely disturbed by the rhinoceros. <i>Illustrated by photograph of actual site.</i> |