

# Cave art and early cognitive evolution (Kristian Tylén and Isobel Wisher)

## Topics and Resources mentioned in this episode:

- [00:01:40]      **Kristian Tylén's PhD Thesis**  
Tylén, K. (2009). *Roses, Icebergs, Hoovers and all that language: An investigations of the cognitive foundations of our comprehension of object mediated communication.*
- [00:03:16]      **Isobel Wisher's PhD Thesis**  
Wisher, I. (2022). *The Origin of Visual Culture? Psychological Foundations of Upper Palaeolithic Figurative Cave Art in Northern Spain.*
- [00:08:12]      **[Paper Published in 2020](#)**  
Tylén, K., Fusaroli, R., Rojo, S., Heimann, K., Fay, N., Johannsen, N. N., Riede, F., & Lombard, M. (2020). The evolution of early symbolic behavior in Homo sapiens. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 117(9), 4578-4584.
- [00:15:33]      **Cave of Altamira**  
Cave system which is part of UNESCO's World Heritage under the name "The Cave of Altamira and Palaeolithic Cave Art of Northern Spain". - [UNESCO](#)
- [00:17:21]      **Lascaux**  
"Lascaux is a network of caves near the village of Montignac, in the department of Dordogne in southwestern France." - [Wikipedia](#)

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### Las Chimeneas

Also part of “The Cave of Altamira and Palaeolithic Cave Art of Northern Spain” UNESCO property.

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### [The Cave Art Animal Study](#)

A three-part study to investigate the intentions of the artists behind Paleolithic cave paintings.

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### [Paper on the Role of Pareidolia](#)

Wisher, I., Pettitt, P., & Kentridge, R. (2024). Conversations with Caves: The Role of Pareidolia in the Upper Palaeolithic Figurative Art of Las Monedas and La Pasiega (Cantabria, Spain). *Cambridge Archaeological Journal*, 34(2), 315-338.

## Learn more about the eSYMb team and their research:

- [The Evolution of Early Symbolic Behavior \(eSYMb\) Webpage](#)
- [Twitter Profile for the eSYMb Project](#)
- [Kristian Tylén's Research Page at Aarhus University](#)
- [Isobel Wisner's Research Page at Aarhus University](#)