

Lecture 12

Primitive Art: Visual & objects as Evidence

• Tentative record/evidence

eg. Chauvet Caves in France

- places of refuge for people?
- people made these drawings while they took refuge here...
- drawings of minute observations of everyday life, eg. hunting of animals around them
- did these animals mean something important to these people?

• Object? Tool? Artwork? Evidence of what?

- Specific way of making stones - must have been used as tools.
- to cut something maybe?

do we consider them as objects

- how does something become an art object?

open.
or took
or some
kind of
artwork?

Remember we are looking
at a time from which we
do not have any other
textual references/ records to
support our analysis!

Eg. of the Venus figurine

- very small figurine
- maybe child birth? child death?
- anatomy of woman
- social content?
- evidence that- people at that-
time could carve a figurine
like that-

Imp. Why was this figure named
"Venus"?

• Characteristics of Ancient Art:-

- formation of language: visual
& textual
(because some kind of
texts were available during
that time)



... ..

∴ cartonnage had more extensive
textual evidence also to
support it

— hieroglyphics: image associated
with symbols
eg of Khw, coffins etc.