SPODEK NOTES

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**Cave Art and Portable Art**

•suggest both individual creativity and group process

•may represent hope, and feelings, and serve as a means of transmitting them to following generations

•artwork before 35,000 B.P. such as beads, pendants, and incised animal bones, are rare and disputed

•at Kakadu, in northern Australia, a series of rock paintings began about 20,000 B.P.

•the first of the cave art was rediscovered only in 1868, at Altamira, Spain

•painters used natural pigments [like ocher and manganese oxides]

•answers as to how the pigment was applied is controversial

•some scholars of prehistoric art have suggested that the paintings were not just decorative, they were links to ancient spirits

•they were remembered and invoked through shamanistic rituals

•shamans are thought to communicate with spirits through trances that included the use of drugs, breathing exercises, singing, dancing, and rhythmic clapping