



PEABODY MUSEUM  
*of* ARCHAEOLOGY & ETHNOLOGY

**PRESS RELEASE**

**What:** HALLAM L. MOVIUS, JR. LECTURE The Shock of the Old: New Discoveries in Ice Age Art  
**Where:** Yenching Institute, 2 Divinity Ave., Cambridge  
**When:** Thursday, February 26, 2009, 5:30 PM  
**Contact:** 617-496-1027 (Public Information)  
**Speaker:** Paul G. Bahn, author and journalist

**(Cambridge, January 26, 2009)** The Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology presents “The Shock of the Old: New Discoveries in Ice Age Art,” on Thursday, February 26, 2009 at the Yenching Institute in Cambridge at 5:30 PM. The speaker, Paul G. Bahn, led the team that discovered the first Ice Age cave art in Britain in 2003 and 2004.



Engraved and bas-relief bison figure discovered in Church Hole, England, in 2003.

Ice Age art continues to be found every year in many parts of the world. In 2003, England was added to the select list of countries containing Ice Age cave art, while astounding discoveries continue to be made

in France, Spain, and even as far afield as Egypt and Mongolia. This fully illustrated talk will provide an overview of the most interesting and important finds of recent years, many of them still largely unpublished. The French finds include the Cave of Cussac, a huge site found in 2000 but still largely unstudied for a number of reasons. This cave contains a unique set of large engravings, all probably by the same artist, and also a number of skeletons of the period. The most important Spanish finds include La Garma, arguably the most important discovery since Lascaux, but still relatively unknown to the general public. In addition to a rich array of art, it also contains the first evidence for structures inside a decorated cave. The British caves at Creswell Crags contain both engravings and bas-reliefs, mostly concentrated inside the cave of Church Hole.

### **About the Speaker**

Speaker Paul G. Bahn was born and raised in Hull, England. He studied archaeology at the University of Cambridge and did his Ph.D. thesis (1979) on the prehistory of the French Pyrenees. He then held post-doctoral fellowships at Liverpool and London, in addition to a J. Paul Getty postdoctoral fellowship in the History of Art and the Humanities. He became a freelancer in the mid-80s, and since then has devoted himself to writing, editing, and translating books on archaeology. He continues to work as a journalist and travels as much as possible. His main research interest is prehistoric art, especially rock art of the world, and most notably Paleolithic art, as well as Easter Island.

### **About the Hallam L. Movius, Jr. Memorial Lecture**

Hallam L. Movius, Jr. was a distinguished scholar, archaeologist, and curator at Harvard University and an internationally recognized authority on the Paleolithic, best known for his work at Abri Pataud, a Stone Age rock shelter in Les Eyzies de Tayac, France. The Hallam L. Movius Fund was established in 1993 through the generosity of Prof. Movius's colleagues and friends.

### **About the Peabody Museum**

The Peabody Museum is among the oldest archaeological and ethnographic museums in the world with one of the finest collections of human cultural history found anywhere. It is home to superb materials from Africa, ancient Europe, North America, Mesoamerica, Oceania, and South America in particular. In addition to its archaeological and ethnographic holdings, the Museum's photographic archives, one of the largest of its kind, hold more than 500,000 historical photographs, dating from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century to the present and chronicling anthropology, archaeology, and world culture.

**Location:** The Peabody Museum is located at 11 Divinity Avenue in Cambridge. The Museum is a short walk from the Harvard Square MBTA station.

**Hours:** 9 A.M. to 5 P.M., seven days a week. The Museum is closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. Admission is \$9 for adults, \$7 for students and seniors, \$6 for children, 3–18. Free with Harvard ID or Museum membership. The Museum is free to Massachusetts residents Sundays, 9 A.M. to noon, year round, and Wednesdays from 3 P.M. to 5 P.M. (September to May). Admission includes admission to the Harvard Museum of Natural History. For more information call 617-496-1027 or go online to: [www.peabody.harvard.edu](http://www.peabody.harvard.edu).

Media Contact: Faith Sutter, Communications Coordinator  
Peabody Museum  
11 Divinity Ave.  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
Tel: (617)495-3397; Fax: (617)495-7535, [sutter@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:sutter@fas.harvard.edu)