



San Diego
Rock Art
Association



San Diego Rock Art Association Meeting

Sunday, February 12, 2017

Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretive Center
13104 Ipai Waaypuk Trail (formerly Silver Lake Drive)
Poway, CA 92064

4:00 Potluck: Bring food of your choice to share • 5:00 Meeting and Presentations

Meetings are included in your SDRAA Membership. Suggested Donation for Guests is \$5.00

Parsing Anatomy



In European Paleolithic Cave Art

A Presentation by Roy Larick



European Paleolithic cave art has rich depictions of extinct large mammals. The imagery is often mined for anatomical details of, for example, social organs, seasonal coats, and evolutionary lineages. The more valuable observations appeal to independent corroborating evidence, such as fossilized soft tissue, image-specific dating and, currently, extinct genomes. Dr. Larick will examine interpretations of depicted anatomy and crucial independent evidence. In three historical cases, revolutionary new evidence served to corroborate disputed initial interpretations: 1) anal opercula and fingered trunks of mammoth (*Mammuthus primigenius*) at Pech-Merle and Rouffignac; 2) cave bear (*Ursus spelaeus*)

at Chauvet; 3) robust and gracile bison (*Bison priscus* and *B. bonasus*) alternating throughout the cave art period, 35,000–11,000 thousand years ago.

Roy Larick grew up on the Cleveland shore of Lake Erie, where the weave of nature and culture is deep and intense. Archaeology drew him in. In 1983, Dr. Larick's PhD dissertation traced the movement of flint across Upper Paleolithic France. He came to love the associated cave art. He then spent two years researching the exchange of traditional weapons among Samburu herders in northern Kenya. Current fieldwork addresses the dispersal of early hominins in Island Southeast Asia. Returning home in 2009, Dr. Larick founded bluestoneheights.org to advocate for Lake Erie's small watersheds. He also leads archaeological study tours to Europe's Paleolithic caves and Neolithic megaliths.



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