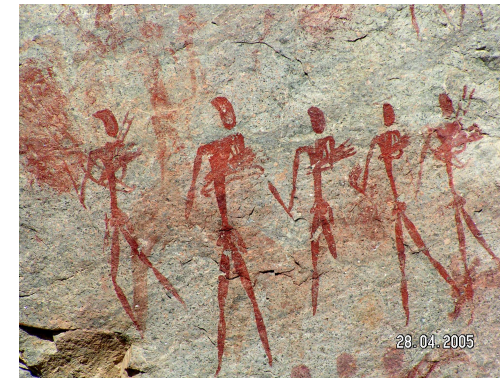


How palaeolithic art influenced later artists



Paul Klee, Death & Fire 1940

The German word for death is Tod, which can be seen throughout the work. It was one of the last paintings he did before he died.



Palaeolithic cave art from Lascaux cave France, Altamira Spain, Namibia Africa dated from 20,000 years ago. Can you see how Klee has used the strong, bold, black outlines of the cave artists, their same hues of umber, ochre, sienna and black? The stick figures are similar too. What is different is the hard, angular, geometric lines and the depiction of a face. Palaeolithic artists never painted faces and no one knows why!