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Paleoart and Materiality Motifs in Art as Agents of Meaning Dinomania American Dinosaur Abroad The Evolution of Paleontological Art Who's who in France Robert G. Bednarik Arthur Crucq Boria Sax Ilja Nieuwland Renee M. Clary

Paleoart and Materiality Motifs in Art as Agents of Meaning Dinomania American Dinosaur Abroad The Evolution of Paleontological Art Who's who in France *Robert G. Bednarik Arthur Crucq Boria Sax Ilja Nieuwland Renee M. Clary*

this book addresses the presentation of scientific approaches to the materiality of rock art ranging from recording and sampling methods to data analyses the issue of the materiality of visual productions of the distant past is addressed through various scientific approaches including fieldwork laboratory techniques and data analysis protocols

departing from a metaphorical comparison by renaissance architect leon battista alberti between the underlying principles of drawing and weaving this book will show how seemingly abstract motifs in their realization already acquire the potential to refer to content this opens a new perspective on the so called distinction between abstract and representational and the extent to which various motifs in art can be regarded as representations based on recent insights from the fields of anthropology archaeology psychology and semiotics it will furthermore become clear how the essentially abstract elements of art motifs can set in motion processes of meaning making and as such function as agents which implicitly emphasize that abstraction exactly shows how representation works

from jurassic park to sue the t rex and barney our dino love affair is as real as astonishing and as incomprehensible as the gargantuan beasts themselves at once reptilian and avian

dinosaurs enable us to imagine a world far beyond the usual boundaries of time culture and physiology we envision them in diverse and contradictory ways from purple friends to toothy terrors reflecting in part our changing conceptions of ourselves not unlike humans today dinosaurs seem at once powerful almost godly and helpless in the face of cosmic forces even more powerful than themselves in dinomania boria sax a leading authority on human animal relations tells the story of our unlikely romance with the titanic saurians from the discovery of their enormous bones relics of an ancient world to the dinosaur theme parks of today that discovery around the start of the nineteenth century was intimately tied to our growing awareness of geological time and the dawn of the industrial era dinosaurs vast size and power called to mind railroads battleships and factories making them paradoxically emblems of modernity but at the same time their world was nature at its most pristine and unsullied the perfect symbol of childhood innocence and wonder sax concludes that in our imaginations dinosaurs essentially are and always have been dragons and as we enter a new era of environmental threats in which dinos provide us a way to confront indirectly the possibility of human extinction their representation is again blending with the myth and legend from which it emerged at the start of the modern age fun and ferocious and featuring many superb illustrations of dinosaurs from art popular culture film and advertising dinomania is a thought provoking homage to humanity s enduring dinosaur amour

in early july 1899 an excavation team of paleontologists sponsored by andrew carnegie discovered the fossil remains in wyoming of what was then the longest and largest dinosaur on record named after its benefactor the diplodocus carnegii or dippy as it s known today was shipped to pittsburgh and later mounted and unveiled at the carnegie museum of natural history in 1907 carnegie s pursuit of dinosaurs in the american west and the ensuing dinomania of the late nineteenth century coincided with his broader political ambitions to establish a lasting world peace and avoid further international conflict an ardent philanthropist and patriot carnegie gifted his first plaster cast of dippy to the british museum at the behest of king edward vii in 1902 an impulsive diplomatic gesture that would result in the donation of at least seven reproductions to museums across europe and latin america over the next decade in england germany france austria italy russia argentina and spain in this largely untold history ilja nieuwland

explores the influence of andrew carnegie s prized skeleton on european culture through the dissemination reception and agency of his plaster casts revealing much about the social political cultural and scientific context of the early twentieth century

this volume samples the history of art about fossils and the visual conceptualization of their significance starting with biblical and mythological depictions extending to renditions of ancient life in long vanished habitats and on to a modern understanding that paleoart conveys lessons for the betterment of the human condition twenty nine chapters illustrate how art about fossils has come to be a significant teaching tool not only about evolution of past life but also about conservation of our planet for the benefit of future generations

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