

FX!

TIME

LIGHTING and SOUND

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In the Beginning

"All the world's a stage, And all the men and women merely players."

—Shakespeare's As You Like It, Act II Scene VII

Imagine this: You have been sent back in time some 15,000 years ago to southwestern France. It is a summer evening, but cool air moves over your skin. Darkness surrounds you, except for the flickering light of a nearby fire, around which a dozen people are gathered.

A deep voice resonates through the cavern. You realize the speaker is telling a story—a story of the hunt that has been captured in earthy tones on a wall of the cave. You glance around and see dozens of paintings: deer, bison, horses, and more. You realize these stories tell the tale of the people of Lascaux.

Could a moment such as this have been the origin of theater today? With the echoing voice and fire-lit speaker, were the elements of sound and lighting introduced in the **ritualistic** telling of the story of humankind? As you read on, imagine yourself on such a journey—where light and sound **illuminate** and amplify the stories of our lives.

Music to My Ears

Today, we can see the art on the cave walls, but we can't hear the Stone Age music that went with the paintings. In many caves, flutes crafted from bone have been found.



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