

# The Cave of Lascaux

*The final photographs*

By Mario Ruspoli

**W**hile the glaciers made their last advance and retreat thousands of years ago, cavemen were painting in the underground galleries and tortuous chambers of Lascaux; it was a sanctuary filled with evidence of the human spirit that we are only now beginning to discern. The unprecedented skill and patience of Mario Ruspoli's imaginative yet scrupulously scientific approach have opened up new, previously unexplored paths of research. The content and meaning of the frescoes are discussed by Ruspoli and by other experts and scholars in prehistoric art.

Lascaux was sealed in 1963 by order of the Ministry of Culture, its atmosphere monitored to restore the ancient conditions. Ruspoli was chosen to permanently record Lascaux's wonders in 1981. After three years of filming and photographing the inaccessible wonders of the cave, Ruspoli presents here a thrilling account of the cave and the process of recording the cave's contents. In our lifetimes, this will be the broadest, richest and last view of the Stone Age life and world that is Lascaux.

— from the publisher

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RB959



Abrams, 1987, 208 pages, 12½" x 9¾",  
hardcover, \$49.50 ISBN 0-8109-1267-8

*Approximately 150 illustrations,  
including 100 plates in full color and  
1 fold-out.*