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Middle Stone Age engravings and their significance to the debate on the emergence of symbolic material culture; 1. Introduction; 2. Howiesons Poort techno-tradition; 2.1 Diepkloof Rock Shelter; 2.1.1 Archaeological context and dating; 3. Diepkloof engraved ostrich eggshells; 4. Still Bay techno-tradition; 4.1 Blombos Cave 4.1.1 Archaeological context and dating 5. Blombos engraved ochre; 6. Contrasting the significance of early engravings; Acknowledgements; References; 5. Complex cognition required for compound adhesive manufacture in the Middle Stone Age implies symbolic capacity; 1. Introduction; 2. What is complex cognition?; 3. What gave rise to complex cognition?; 4. The archaeological evidence; 5. Replicated compound adhesive manufacture: Methods; 6. Compound adhesive manufacture as a proxy for modern cognition; Reference; 6. The emergence of language, art and symbolic thinking; 1. Introduction 2. Neandertal-ness 3. Paradigm lost; 4. Paradigm found; 5. Conclusion; References; 7. The human major transition in relation to symbolic behaviour, including language, imagination, and spirituality; 1. What is a major evolutionary transition?; 2. Human evolution as a major transition; 3. Cognitive teamwork and simple forms that preceded more advanced forms; 4. Language, imagination, and spirituality; 5. Testable predictions; References; 8. The living as symbols, the dead as symbols; 1. Introduction: Living symbols, dead symbols 2. Problematising the archaeological debate: Symbolic revolutions that were or were not 3. Material culture symbols among the living; 4. The dead as symbols; 5. The evolution of Homo symbolicus: Gradual, abrupt, or fragmentary?; 6. Conclusion; Acknowledgements; References; 9. Biology and mechanisms related to the dawn of language; 1. The Functional and Structural Context; 2. The Nature of Language: Crucial Features; 2.1 An embodied symbolic system; 2.2 Equivalence class of representations and embodiment; 2.3 Key features of language; 3. Hierarchical Structuring; 3.1 Functional structure 3.2 Bottom-up and top-down causation

Sommario/riassunto

The emergence of symbolic culture, classically identified with the European cave paintings of the Ice Age, is now seen, in the light of recent groundbreaking discoveries, as a complex nonlinear process taking root in a remote past and in different regions of the planet. In this book the archaeologists responsible for some of these new discoveries, flanked by ethologists interested in primate cognition and cultural transmission, evolutionary psychologists modelling the emergence of metarepresentations, as well as biologists, philosophers, neuro-scientists and an astronomer combine their research