

Contemporary Witness



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Whilst the French photographer Jean Vertut today is regarded as one of the best-known photographers of Ice Age art, Heinrich Wendel, whose work is of an equally high standard, is completely unknown. Both photographers worked in the caves in France and Spain at approximately the same time and knew of one-another without ever having met. While Jean Vertut was working for the most well-known cave researchers of the time, Heinrich Wendel almost exclusively took the photos for his own archive. He was not pursuing any scientific, let alone commercial goals. One of the few archaeologists who accompanied Wendel during his work and can today still report on it was Robert Bégouën. The Bégouën family is taking care of and exploring the famous caves Les Trois-Frères and Tuc d'Audoubert, which are family property, in the third generation already. [Back to The Wendel Collection](#)