I've Got You Under My Skin
The Figure in Figure Motif in Northern Colorado Plateau Rock Art

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BCS PROJECT

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Figure in Figure Motif

Barrier Canyon style
Basketmaker style
Mixed style
Motif locations
Fremont style
Ute and Inuit styles
Comments
The Great Gallery, lower wall, Canyonlands National Park.
The Great Gallery, center section, lower wall, Canyonlands National Park.
Three spirit figures with interior figures.
The Great Gallery, right section, lower wall, Canyonlands National Park.
The Great Gallery, right section, lower wall, Canyonlands National Park.
The Great Gallery, multiple interior figures in figure. Quads on shoulder.
Finger-smear Parallel Line Motif figures. Left figure: Figure in Figure.
Finger-smear Parallel Line Motif figure in figure: Canyonlands Study Area.
Thompson Canyon South Panel, figure in figure. Northern Study Area.
Figure in Figure motif in (mostly) Basketmaker rock art.
Figure in (bird?) figure, Basketmaker. Screen grab.
San Rafael Reef, San Rafael Study Area.
Figure in the BC style in mostly BC style figure. Northern Study Area.
Condor Canyon, figure in figure. Western Study Area.
Condor Canyon, figure in figure. Western Study Area.
Figure in Figure Motif Locations
Craig Law, Coyote Canyon, Escalante Study Area.
Selected sites with the Figure in Figure Motif.
Colorado Plateau (grey)

130,000 square miles
Sites with the figures in the Barrier Canyon style.
Jim Farmer. Dirty Devil River, Dirty Devil Study Area.
Historic Ute and Inuit Figure in Figure Motifs

Horse and rider, Nine Mile Canyon, Northern Study Area.
San Rafael Variant figure in Ute style figure.
Ute boulder panel, Canyonlands Study Area.
Ute Horse Boulder, with composite figure above a bison, copulating horses. Canyonlands Study Area.
Vulva motif?
Left: Figure with interior figures and quadrupeds on its shoulder. Right: Ute figure with figure in the Barrier Canyon style in its chest area.
Left: Figure with interior figures and quadrupeds on its shoulder. Right: *Inuit* shaman with human figure standing on its head. Animal and bird familiars inside and outside of his body.
Inuit Flying Shaman with spirit helpers/familiars.
Figure in Figure: A Shamanistic Motif?
They began to draw on the dirt...all the men's bodies were depicted with tiny figures in the chest.

Florinda Donner, *Shabono*
They began to draw on the dirt... all the men's bodies were depicted with tiny figures in the chest.

I thought that these must be the spirits that I had heard Arasuwe summon with his chant before he began the curing session...

Florinda Donner, *Shabono*
They began to draw on the dirt...all the men's bodies were depicted with tiny figures in the chest. I thought that these must be the spirits that I had heard Arasuwe summon with his chant before he began the curing Session..."(they) are the hekuras of the forest who live in a man's chest," one of the men said...

All men have hekuras in their chests," the man said. "But only a real shapori can make use of them."

Florinda Donner, *Shabono*
The striking similarities between the basic premises and motifs of shamanism the world over suggests great antiquity as well as the universality of the creative unconscious of the human psyche.

Peter Furst
...the problem of the mystical experience

The shaman represents this principle on the primitive level, as do the mystic, the poet, and the artist in the higher reaches of the culture scale.

Joseph Campbell, Primitive Mythology (The Masks of God)