

Magical gem: Helios (A) Greek inscription with characteres (B-C)

Cbd-Number	CBd-1068
ID-Number	US-AA-SCL_Bonner 31
Collection	US Ann Arbor, University of Michigan, Special Collections Library
Inventory	SCL-Bonner 31
References	Smith-Hutton 1908, no. nr. 255; Bonner, SMA D. 223; Michel, DMG, no. 22.2.b_3
Former Collections	Bonner, Campbell (1876 Nashville - 1954 Ann Arbor); Cook, Wyndham Francis (1860-1905)
Material	chalcedony (colour unspecified)
Dimensions	16 x 11 x 3 mm
Iconography	clothing: tunic; clothing: mantle; gesture, greeting; Helios; rays (7); globus; scarab
Divine Names & Voces	Ἴάω; voces, unidentified; Ἀβλαναθαναλβα, variants; σεμσειλαμ and variants



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A: Helios standing with head to left and encircled with seven rays, wearing a long robe and a mantle thrown over the left shoulder and arm. Each ray originally ending in a vowel, some of them lost due to chipping. The lowered left hand of Helios is holding a globe, right hand raised in greeting. Below the figure, a scarab, with head to left.

B: Inscription in five lines: σεμσειλαμ (2 characteres)|(3 characteres)αβλανα|θαλνβαφ|ρηνηφ → σεμσειλαμ, variant of Ἀβλαναθαναλβα.

C: On the edge: θαιαω → vox, Ἴάω.

Bibliography

[Bonner, SMA on CBd-1068](#)

Images

[Image of A in the Amulet Collection of the Special Collections Library](#)

[Image of B in the Amulet Collection of the Special Collections Library](#)

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