

Magical gem: Lion striding left, Greek inscription with archangel names (A) voces (B) characteres and letters (C)

CBd-Number	CBd-1319
ID-Number	US-Boston, MFA_12.174
Collection	US_Boston, Museum of Fine Arts
Inventory	12.174
References	Bonner, SMA D. 73; Michel, DMG, no. 37.A.1.a_2
Former Collections	Hall, Edward H.
Material	haematite (black)
Dimensions	18 mm (MFA) x 10 mm (Bonner)
Dating	2nd-3rd c. AD (MFA)
Iconography	animal: lion σεμεσειλαμ and variants; βαϊνωωωχ, variants;
Divine Names & Voces	νιχαρωπληξ and variants; νααβις βιενουθ and variants; Μιχαήλ; Γαβριήλ and variants; αβωχωνωχ



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A: Lion striding in profile to left, inscription in three lines above: μιχα|ηλβισ|νουθ, and below: βριμω|χαβρι|ηλ. → Μιχαήλ, βισνουθ (variant of βιενουθ); below: Βριμώ Χαβριήλ (variant of Γαβριήλ).

B: Greek inscription in eight lines: [νιχ]αρ|οπληξ|αβωχω|νωχβα|νωωω|χωσεμ|εσιλα|μψ → variant of νιχαρωπληξ; αβωχωνωχ, βαινωωωω: variants of Βαϊνωωωωχ (anagrams); σεμεσιλαμψ: variant of σεμεσειλαμ.

C: Characteres and Greek letters around the edge.

Bibliography

[Bonner, SMA on CBd-1319](#)

[The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston website on CBd-1319](#)

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