

Magical gem: Lion-headed figure (A) Greek text (B)

CBd-Number	CBd-1417
ID-Number	US-Boston, MFA_01.7556
Collection	US_Boston, Museum of Fine Arts
Inventory	01.7556
References	Bonner, SMA D. 234; Michel, DMG, no. 37.B.1.b_1
Former Collections	Warren, Edward Perry, Collection
Material	rock crystal
Dimensions	35.5 x 25 mm (MFA)
Dating	middle of the 2nd-3rd c. AD (MFA)
Iconography	figure, lion-headed; clothing: mantle; rays (7); whip; globus
Divine Names & Voces	voces, unidentified



Credits: Museum purchase with funds donated by contribution

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A: Lion-headed figure in three-quarter view, head to left and surrounded with seven rays, wearing a chlamys thrown over the right shoulder. Right hand raised and bent in elbow, holding a whip, left hand stretched forward and holding a globe.

B: Inscription in six lines:

ζεθᾶφοβε|τωρθροψμεω|μιθορονφαωχι|ειλεοςτημε|ψυχηκαιτυς||εμουςτεκνυς → Ζεθ ἄφοβε, τωρθροψμεωμιθορονφαωχι ἴλεως τῇ ἐμῇ ψυχῇ καὶ τοῖς ἐμοῖς τέκνοις. 'Fearless Seth', unknown voces, 'be graceful to me and my children!'

Bibliography

[Bonner, SMA on CBd-1417](#)

[The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston website on CBd-1417](#)

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