


Magical gem: Inscribed figure (Hermes?) (A) Greek inscription (B)

CBd-Number	CBd-2140	
ID-Number	DE-Berlin-Aeg_9884	
Collection	DE_Berlin, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Ägyptisches Museum	
Inventory	9884	
References	Philipp, <i>Mira et Magica</i> , no. 187; Michel, <i>DMG</i> , no. 29.1.c_3	
Former Collections	Stosch, Philipp von, Collection	
Material	jasper, yellow	
Dimensions	25 x 20 x 6.5 mm	
Dating	turn of the 2nd-3rd c. AD (H. Philipp)	
Iconography	figure, inscribed (Inschriftenfigur); scepter, unspecified; wreath; money bag; plant: lotus buds	
Divine Names & Voces	Ἀβρασάξ; Ἀβλαναθαναλβα, palindrome; Ἰάω; voces, unidentified; vocales	

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A: Inscribed nude figure standing to left (Hermes?), with a lotus bud(?) on his head. Right hand holding a tall scepter, left hand lowered beside the body and holding a wreath(?) or a money-bag(?). Inscription covers the entire body. On the trunk, in six lines: ιεωι|υαιω|ουθ|ωου|εαο||ε. On the right arm, in two lines: η|τοικα; above the right arm, in two lines: ι|αιθα; under the right arm, in two lines: υεα|ιω. On the left arm (vertically): λεουσ[?]; beside the left arm (vertically): ωηι. On the right leg, in two lines (vertically): κειουωου|ι; beside the right leg (vertically): εαωι. On the left leg (vertically): ωιωιαυω; beside the left leg (vertically): ηωθ. Above the figure, in two lines: ιαω|ιου → Ἰάω, vox. In front of the head: ιαη; behind the head: ιασ[?]. Beside the scepter, in two lines (vertically): κρομοζαμο[?]|υλαξ → ὕλη? (H. Philipp). Behind the figure, in two lines (vertically): ριωγονκ|ουσιαεο → ωογον ούσία? (H. Philipp).
B: Inscribed in six lines: α[?]βλ|α[?]ναθ|αναλ|βααβ|ρασασξ||ιαω → Ἀβλαναθαναλβα-palindrome, Ἀβρασάξ, Ἰάω.

Bibliography

[Philipp, *Mira et Magica* on CBd-2140](#)

[Michel, *DMG*, 29.1.c_3.](#)

Images

Cast of CBd-2140 obverse in the [Gem Impressions Collection of Cornell University Library](#)