

Magical gem: Ouroboros enclosing characteres, voces (A) vocales, voces (B)

Cbd-Number	CBd-2188
ID-Number	AT-Wien-KM_IXB1230
Collection	AT_Wien, Kunsthistorisches Museum
Inventory	IXB 1230
References	Chifletius-Macarius, no. XVII 69; Bonner 1951, no. 63; Zwierlein-Diehl, AGWien III, 2264
Former Collections	Leopold Wilhelm of Austria, Archduke (1614-1662)
Material	chalcedony, white to brown/grey
Dimensions	22 x 19 x 6.5 mm
Dating	2nd century AD (Zwierlein- Diehl)
Iconography	Ouroboros; stars (4) Ἀβρασάξ; ὠρθμενχινιαμβων and variants; ἀμουραχθη and variants; ἀρουαντα; Ἄδωναί, variants; Σαβᾶώθ, variants; σεμεσειλαμ and variants; Ἰάω, variants; Ἀκραμμαχαμαρεί and variants; vocales; Ἰάω; σεσεγγενβαρφαραγγης and variants; Μιχαήλ
Divine Names & Voces	



Credits:

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Description: Both sides upright oval, convex, lentoid. Shape 1. Light gray chalcedony, intact. The gem is placed in a gilded modern ring.
Already at the Kunsthistorisches Museum in 1806.

A: At top: seven characteres enclosed by a small Ouroboros, head at top to right. Two eight-pointed stars on both sides of the Ouroboros. Inscription in eleven lines:

αγωσασαωαωνε|σεμεσειλαμαβρασ|σξζυρτατηακραμμα|κραμμακαμαρισεσε|γγενβαλφαρανγησ||
εμεσειλαμωβλημ|λενιαμβωναρου|ανταμιχαηλα|μοραραχθιφυ|λαξετεμαι||ανω → variant of Ἰάω,
variant of Σαβαώ, variant of Ἀδωναΐ, σεμεσειλαμ, Ἄβρασάξ, variant of Ἄκραμμαχαμαρεί, variant of
σεσεγγενβαρφαργης, variant of ωρθμενχινιαμβων, αρουαντα, Μιχαήλ, variant of αμουραχθη.
Φυλάξετε Μαιανω.

B: The first line written continuously: οπιεσωτουαρ → unidentified voces. Then three columns,
beginning with ιαω → Ἰάω as akrostichon, then vowels:

col 1, twelve lines: ιαω|αιω|ωαι|ιωα|ωαι||αηε|ηαω|γωε|ωηα|ηαω||εωη|αιη

col 2, thirteen lines: ρεωη|αιη|ηαω|ουω|σηα||ξει|αεω|εωι|ωηη|σηα||αια|ηωω|εωω

col. 3, thirteen lines: αφον|τοσ|ηαο|ουη|ηιο||σωω|εωε|αεε|ιηι|αευ||οαυ|ωση|ιηη|ειη → voces including
vocales.

See also:

1) Carnelian: [CBd-981](#)

2) Haematite: [CBd-982](#)

3) Garnet: [CBd-2326 King, Gnostics](#), 289; [Smith-Hutton 1908](#), No. 264.

4) Dark red agate, once Whelan collection: [King, Gnostics](#), 290.

/Description: Erika Zwierlein-Diehl, CBd/

Bibliography

[Chifletius-Macarius, Abraxas](#), XVII 69.

[Bonner 1951 on CBd-2188](#)

[Zwierlein-Diehl, AGWien III on CBd-2188](#)

[Zwierlein-Diehl 2014](#)

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