

# Magical gem: Hermes and Anubis (A) characteres and symbols (B)

<b>CBd-Number</b>	CBd-2191
<b>ID-Number</b>	AT-Wien-KM_IXB 1260
<b>Collection</b>	AT_Wien, Kunsthistorisches Museum
<b>Inventory</b>	IXB 1260
<b>References</b>	Chifletius-Macarius, no. XII 46; Zwierlein-Diehl, AGWien III, 2697; Michel, DMG, no. 24.1.a_6
<b>Former Collections</b>	Hörwarth / Herwart von Hohenburg, Hans Georg (Ioannes Georgius Herwartius, 1553-1622)
<b>Material</b>	chalcedony-agate
<b>Dimensions</b>	61 x 47.7 x 14.8 mm
<b>Dating</b>	16th c. AD (Zwierlein-Diehl)
<b>Iconography</b>	Hermes; zodiac cycle-05, Leo; zodiac cycle-02, Taurus; Anubis; torch, burning; vessels, unspecified; plant: stalks of grain; scepter, with falcon on the top; clothing: cap; clothing: kilt; zodiac cycle-09, Sagittarius
<b>Divine Names &amp; Voces</b>	Ἑρμῆς



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**Description:** Transverse oval, side A lightly, side B more strongly convex. Shape 12c. Light gray, translucent chalcedony with a light brown, translucent layer. Strongly damaged at the edges, bored through at the upper edge and filled with a metal (copper - bronze?) pin.

**A:** Ouroboros frame. Hermes and Anubis standing opposite each other, both in kilts. Between them, a stud consisting of two metals (copper and bronze?). Hermes wears a cap with small wings, he is holding stalks of grain in his right hand, and a falcon-sceptre in his left hand. The jackal-headed Anubis is holding a jug in his right hand and a burning torch in his left hand. Between the gods, at the height of the legs:  $\iota\alpha\omega|\phi\epsilon\rho\epsilon\nu|\phi\epsilon\rho\omega \rightarrow \text{'}\iota\acute{\alpha}\omega \phi\acute{\epsilon}\rho\text{' } \acute{\epsilon}\nu \phi\acute{\epsilon}\rho\omega$ . 'Iáω fetch one, I am fetching it.'

**B:** Three lines of characteres as well as planetary and zodiacal symbols (Taurus, Saturnus, Sagittarius, Sol and Leo).

The gem may have been carved after the drawing of a cast in Chifletius-Macarius, Abrasax, see [CBd-2819](#). For a similar gem in Staatliches Museum Ägyptischer Kunst in Munich, see [CBd-323](#). Another copy: [Devoto-Molayem 1990](#), 204 fig. 122 (Michel).

/Description: Erika Zwierlein-Diehl - CBd/

### Bibliography

[Chifletius-Macarius, Abraxas](#), XII 46.

[Michel, DMG](#), 282, 24.1.a\_6

[Zwierlein-Diehl 1989](#), figs. 22, 23.

[Zwierlein-Diehl, AGWien III on CBd-2191](#)

[Zwierlein-Diehl 2014](#), figs. 15, 16.

Last modified: 2017-10-12 10:07:51