

Magical gem in a modern gold ring: Harpocrates in a papyrus boat (A) Greek inscription (B)

CBd-Number	CBd-2427
ID-Number	AT-Wien-KM_IX B 1192
Collection	AT_Wien, Kunsthistorisches Museum
Inventory	IX B 1192
References	Zwierlein-Diehl, AGWien III, 2184; Michel, DMG, no. 19.3.e_6
Material	lapis lazuli (blue)
Dimensions	17.7 x 13 (si.O.) x 2.8 mm
Dating	2nd c. AD (Zwierlein-Diehl)
Iconography	bird: falcons (2); Thoth; plant: lotus buds; scepter, was?; crown, hemhem; moon, crescent; star; side-lock of youth; Harpocrates seated with knees drawn up; gesture, hand raised to mouth; flail; solar disk; boat, papyrus; crown, atef
Divine Names & Voces	Ἀβλαναθαναλβα, palindrome; vocales



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Description: Transverse oval, both faces flat. Shape 8. Light blue, spotted lapis lazuli, intact. Set in a modern gold ring with revolving bezel.

Already at the Kunsthistorisches Museum in 1806.

A: The young Horus sitting nude, with knees drawn up inside a papyrus boat. Head crowned with the solar disk and two uraei (?), side-lock of youth visible. Right hand bent in elbow and holding a flail, left hand raised to mouth. Two small falcons perch at the prow and stern of the boat. In front the head of Harpocrates an eight-pointed star, behind it a crescent. To the left of Harpocrates, falcon-headed Horus wearing the hemhem-crown, standing to right, left hand holding a was-scepter, right hand holding a lotus bud (?). To the right of Harpocrates the ibis-headed Thoth, to left, wearing an atef-crown, left hand holding a flail, right hand holding a sceptre (was?).

B: Greek inscription in two lines: ἄβλαναθ|αναλβα → Ἀβλαναθαναλβα-palindrome.

C: Greek inscription: ιευω?]ωαεηιληηληλιευηιω|ωωωεω?].αωαι → vocales.

Bibliography

[Zwierlein-Diehl, AGWien III on CBd-2427](#)

[Michel, DMG, 19.3.e_6.](#)