

Magical gem in a modern gold mount: Bes-Pantheos (A) Greek inscription (B)

Cbd-Number	Cbd-2462
ID-Number	AT-Wien-KM_IX 2000
Collection	AT_Wien, Kunsthistorisches Museum
Inventory	IX 2000
References	Zwierlein-Diehl, AGWien III, 2218; Michel, DMG, no. 41.1_29
Former Collections	Kenner, Friedrich von (Linz 1834- Vienna 1922)
Material	carnelian, yellow to orange
Dimensions	18 x 11.8 (si.O.) x 3.4 mm
Dating	2nd half of 2nd-1st half of 3rd c. AD (Zwierlein-Diehl)
Iconography	Bes, face of; tail of crocodile; tail of bird; scepters (2); scepter, was; protomes of animals (4-4); tufts on the knees (animal protomes); Pantheos; Ouroboros; feet, in the shape of jackal's heads; crown, atef; weapon: knives (2)
Divine Names & Voces	voces, unidentified



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Description: Side A upright oval, side B transverse oval. Shape 7. Light orange translucent carnelian. Intact, set in a modern gold ring with a revolving bezel. Purchased in 1897 through F. Kenner.

A: Four-winged Bes-Pantheos standing atop a stylized Ouroboros-cartouche enclosing notches indicating animals. The figure is crowned with the atef-crown, complete with ram's horns, uraei and the solar disk; eight animal protomes frame the head. A bird's tail and a crocodile's tail project to the left of the body, feet, to right, are in the shape of jackal's heads, knees are decorated with tufts, also indicating animal protomes. Behind the wings and in the arms two tall was-scepters and two short knives, right hand lowered beside the body.

B: Greek inscription in two lines: $\nu\upsilon\nu\nu\alpha\epsilon\iota\kappa\omega|\kappa\iota\kappa\omicron\kappa\iota$ → unidentified voces.

Bibliography

[Zwierlein-Diehl, AGWien III on Cbd-2462](#)

[Michel, DMG, 41.1_29.](#)