

Magical gem in a modern gold mount: Snake-headed figure enthroned, holding a baboon (A) Ἀβρασάξ (B)

Cbd-Number	Cbd-2485
ID-Number	AT-Wien-KM_Inv. IX 2024
Collection	AT_Wien, Kunsthistorisches Museum
Inventory	Inv. IX 2024
References	Zwierlein-Diehl, AGWien III, 2241; Michel, DMG, no. 46.4_8
Former Collections	Graf, W. (Vienna)
Material	haematite (black)
Dimensions	14.4 x 12 (si.O.) x 2.5 mm
Dating	2nd c. AD (Zwierlein-Diehl)
Iconography	figure, snake-headed; throne; clothing: tunic; solar disk; scepter, unspecified; animal: cynocephalus; gesture, ithyphallic; gesture, greeting
Divine Names & Voces	Ἀβρασάξ
Place of discovery	Fayum



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Description: Upright oval, both faces flat. Shape 8-9. Haematite. Damaged at the upper register of side A. Set in a modern gold ring with a revolving bezel. From the Fayum, Egypt. Bought from W. Graf in Vienna in 1907.

A: Snake-headed figure sitting on a throne, to left. The figure is wearing a chiton, head adorned with the solar disk. Left hand holding a scepter, right hand holding an ithyphallic baboon with both paws raised in greeting.

B: Greek inscription in two lines: αβρα|σαξ → Ἀβρασάξ.

Bibliography

[Zwierlein-Diehl, AGWien III on Cbd-2485](#)

[Michel, DMG, 46.4_8.](#)