

Magical gem: Horus as child sitting on lotus, Ouroboros (A) voces (B)

CBd-Number	CBd-505
ID-Number	GB-BM-MMEu_G 438, EA 56438
Collection	GB_London, The British Museum
Inventory	G 438 (EA 56438)
References	Michel, BM, no. 105; Michel, DMG, no. 19.1.a_28
Former Collections	Castellani Collection
Material	lapis lazuli (blue)
Dimensions	13 x 10 x 3 mm
Dating	2nd c. AD (Michel)
Iconography	Harpocrates sitting on lotus flower; gesture, hand raised to mouth; jewellery: bracelet?; Harpocrates seated with knees drawn up; plant: lotus buds (2); flail; crown?
Divine Names & Voces	Ἀβλαναθανάλβα, palindrome; voces, unidentified; vocales; χαρ



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A: Ouroboros enclosing Horus-Harpocrates seated to left on lotus with one leg bent in knee. His right hand raised to his mouth, his left holds a flail. Baseline indicating primeval mound? On the flower, two buds.

B: Inscribed in five lines: ἀοχωιφριξαηωιαηουλχρχαρισλαβλαναθηανάλβα → voces including vocales, χαρ, Ἀβλαναθανάλβα-palindrome.

A praxis known from a papyrus (PGM LXI 1-38) specifies that love charms had to be incised with the image of Horus on a lotus flower and the magical name Abraxas. Pieces with the Horus-scheme used as love charms: [CBd-533](#), [CBd-534](#).

Bibliography

[Michel, BM on CBd-505](#)

[The British Museum Collection database on CBd-505](#)