

## Magical gem: Harpocrates sitting on lotus (A) voces (B)

<b>CBd-Number</b>	CBd-515
<b>ID-Number</b>	GB-BM-MMEu_G 72, EA 56072
<b>Collection</b>	GB_London, The British Museum
<b>Inventory</b>	G 72 (EA 56072)
<b>References</b>	Michel, BM, no. 115; Michel, DMG, no. 19.1.b_26
<b>Former Collections</b>	Sloane, Sir Hans
<b>Material</b>	haematite (black)
<b>Dimensions</b>	17 x 12 x 3 mm
<b>Dating</b>	3rd c. AD (Michel)
<b>Iconography</b>	gesture, hand raised to mouth; Harpocrates seated with knees drawn up; Harpocrates sitting on lotus flower; cornucopia; side-lock of youth; crown, unspecified; headband?
<b>Divine Names &amp; Voces</b>	Ίάω; Σαβαώθ; voces, unidentified; vocales



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A: Harpocrates sitting to right on a lotus with knees drawn up; the lotus flower resembles an Egyptian head-rest. His left hand raised to his mouth, his right holds a cornucopia. A side-lock of youth is falling to his neck; he is wearing a headband and a crown on the top of his head.

B: Inscribed in four lines: [- -]υθαιουσαβα[- -]αηωηωιαα[- -]αηυιαηιαω[- -]αταιπταη.

C: Belonging to the inscription on the reverse: ωζα → voces including Σαβαώθ, Ίάω, vocales and unidentified voces.

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-515](#)

[The British Museum Collection database on CBd-515](#)

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