

Magical gem: Horus as child sitting on lotus (A) Hermanubis? (B)

CBd-Number	CBd-516
ID-Number	GB-BM-MMEu_G 1986,5-1,104
Collection	GB_London, The British Museum
Inventory	G 1986,5-1,104
References	Michel, BM, no. 116; Michel, DMG, no. 19.1.a_18
Former Collections	Ogden Collection
Material	jasper, yellow
Dimensions	22 x 14 x 4.5 mm
Dating	3rd c. AD (Michel)
Iconography	gesture, hand raised to mouth; Hermanubis?; crown, unspecified; flail; vessel: situla; plant: palm branch; clothing: kilt; Harpocrates sitting on lotus flower; Harpocrates seated with knees drawn up; plant: lotus buds (4)
Divine Names & Voces	αμωαθαμωθιαι



Credits: Photo: Christopher A. Faraone
Rights: © Trustees of the British Museum

A: Horus-Harpocrates sitting to left on a lotus with knees drawn up; the stalk of the flower is built of four smaller stalks with buds. His right hand raised to his mouth, his left holds a flail; he is wearing a crown on his head.

On the left side of the figure a vertical inscription beginning at the top: αμωαθω. On the right side of the figure a vertical inscription beginning at the bottom: αμωθιαι → αμωαθαμωθιαι.

B: Standing man-like figure with mammal-head (cynocephalus?). He is wearing a kilt; his right hand holds a palm branch, his left holds a situla (Hermanubis?). Around the figure: by now unintelligible inscription.

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-516](#)

[The British Museum Collection database on CBd-516](#)