

Magical gem: Anguipes (A) Harpocrates sitting on lotus flower (B)

CBd-Number	CBd-619
ID-Number	GB-BM-MMEu_G 153, EA 56153
Collection	GB_London, The British Museum
Inventory	G 153 (EA 56153)
References	Goodenough, JS, III, no. 1100; Michel, BM, no. 221; Michel, DMG, no. 3.A.3.c_1
Former Collections	Praun and Mertens Collection; Eastwood, George
Material	jasper, green to black
Dimensions	14 x 10 x 3 mm
Dating	3rd c. AD (Michel)
Iconography	Anguipes, cock-headed; plant: lotus buds (2); Harpocrates sitting on lotus flower; modius; flail; Harpocrates seated with knees drawn up; gesture, hand raised to mouth; whip; weapon: shield; weapon: armour; primeval mound?
Divine Names & Voces	Ἀβρασάξ; Ἰάω; σεμεσειλαμ and variants



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A: Frontal view of cock-headed Anguipes in armour, head to right. Right hand raised high and holding a whip, left hand holding a round shield, half hid behind the figure. Inscription above the head: ιαω → Ἰάω, under the snake-legs: αβρασαξ → Ἀβρασάξ.

B: Harpocrates sitting to left on a lotus flower, nude, with knees drawn up. Right hand holding a flail, left hand raised to mouth. On the head: a modius, side-lock of youth not indicated. The stem of the lotus rests on a baseline probably standing for the primeval mound.

C: Inscription around the edge: σεμεσειλαμ → variant of σεμεσειλαμ.

Bibliography

[Michel, BM on CBd-619](#)

[The British Museum Collection database on CBd-619](#)