

Magical gem: Isis standing on crocodile (A) Griffin (B)

CBd-Number	CBd-684
ID-Number	GB-BM-MMEu_G 456, EA 56456
Collection	GB_London, The British Museum
Inventory	G 456 (EA 56456)
References	Bonner 1951, no. 71; Michel, BM, no. 298; Michel, DMG, no. 40.2_3
Material	jasper, green to black
Dimensions	37 x 24 mm
Dating	18th c. AD (Michel)
Iconography	animal: crocodile; solar disk; crown, Isis-; bird: ibis; tail, with Sarapis-head; figure, male; Isis; scepter, unspecified; clothing: mantle; gesture, lying; star; clothing: tunic; vessel: situla; snake; griffin; wheel; balance; modius; moon, crescent; figure, unidentified
Divine Names & Voces	voces, unidentified



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A: Isis in frontal view, head to left, standing on top of a crocodile, head also to left. Isis is crowned and wears tunic and mantle, right arm raised high and holding a bearded snake with the solar disk on its head, left hand leaning onto a tall scepter with floral ornament at the top, and holding a situla at the same time. In the free field around: characteres and letters. On the left, perhaps an intertwined monogram: $\eta\sigma$, on the right: $\mu\alpha\epsilon$ → unidentified vox?

B: Griffin standing to right over a lying figure, one forepaw resting on a wheel, holding a balance in its beak. On the right a long-footed bird (ibis?), also holding onto the balance. The griffin's tail ends in a Sarapis-head in profile to left, adorned with a modius. In the free field above, a lying crescent with an eight-pointed star above it.

Post-antique gem set in a post-antique mount.

Bibliography

[Bonner 1951 on CBd-684](#)

[Michel, BM on CBd-684](#)

[The British Museum Collection database on CBd-684](#)