

Magical gem: Ares, Tantalos-historiola (A) womb, voces (B)

CBd-Number	CBd-755
ID-Number	GB-BM-MMEu_G 1986,5-1,84
Collection	GB_London, The British Museum
Inventory	G 1986,5-1,84
References	Michel, BM, no. 384; Michel, DMG, no. 28.12.a_5
Former Collections	Ogden Collection
Material	haematite (black)
Dimensions	46 x 10.5 x 3 mm
Dating	3rd c. AD (Michel)
Iconography	Ares, Mars ultor-type; weapon: armour; weapon: shield; weapon: spear; shoes: boots; uterus, in the form of an amphora; clothing: mantle
Divine Names & Voces	voces, unidentified; vocales; Ἀδωναί?; Τάνταλος



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A: Fragment. In the free field at bottom left, frontal view of Ares, head to left, right hand raised and leaning on a spear, left hand lowered beside the body and originally probably holding a shield (now lost). The figure wears armour, helmet, boots and chlamys. Above the helmet, a geometric construction. To the right of the image, rest of an inscription in nine lines arranged in pterygoma form: τανταλ|ανταλ|νταλδ|ταλδι|αλδι|λδ|[. . .][|. . .] → Τάνταλε, διψᾷς, αἶμα πίε. 'Tantalos, if you are thirsty, drink blood'.

B: Rest of a geometric construction. On the right, remains of an inscription running around the edge: ωνοειθαδωα. At the bottom: ουω → unidentified voces including variant of Ἀδωναί?

Bibliography

[Michel, BM on CBd-755](#)

[The British Museum Collection database on CBd-755](#)

[Faraone 2009](#), 254, No. 5.

[Faraone 2012](#), 39-40, fig. 3.3.

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