

Magical gem: Phoenix surrounded by animals (A) πέπτε (B)

CBd-Number	CBd-772
ID-Number	GB-BM-MMEu_G 561, EA 55008
Collection	GB_London, The British Museum
Inventory	G 561 (EA 55008)
References	Michel, BM, no. 401; Michel, DMG, no. 43.1_1
Former Collections	Hornblower Collection
Material	haematite (black)
Dimensions	22 x 14 x 4 mm
Dating	4th c. AD (Michel). T.p.q.: 121/122 AD (Nagy)
Iconography	phoenix; gesture, protective; bird: swallows (2); rays (6); nimbus; snakes (2); scorpions (2); scarab; animal: crocodile; globus; Chnoubis-sign



Credits: Photo: Christopher A. Faraone
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A: Phoenix standing on a globe with nimbus and six rays around the head, to left. Above, a scarab with outstretched wings; below, a crocodile, to right. On the two sides, pairs of animals: swallows facing inwards, scorpions crawling to top and snakes with 'hands' raised protectively. (For an interpretation, cf. [CBd-2](#).)

B: Inscription in two lines: ΠΕΠΤΕ → ΠΕΠΤΕ. 'Digest!'. Beneath: Chnoubis-sign.

Bibliography

[Michel, BM on CBd-772](#)

[Nagy 2012, comm. ad Bonner IV 60-61](#)

[The British Museum Collection database on CBd-772](#)

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