

Magical gem: Pantheos on Ἴάω (A) bird on cornucopia (B)

CBd-Number	CBd-985
ID-Number	GB-BM-MMEu_G 14, EA 56014
Collection	GB_London, The British Museum
Inventory	G 14 (EA 56014) Chifletius-Macarius, no. V 21; Chifletius-Macarius, no. VI 26; Michel, BM, no. 626; Michel, DMG, no. 41.2_5
References	
Former Collections	Towneley Collection
Material	carnelian (colour unspecified)
Dimensions	26 x 18 x 4 mm
Dating	17th c. AD (Michel) Pantheos; tail of bird; bird, unspecified; cornucopia; scepter, unspecified; headband?; gesture, ithyphallic; scepters (4)
Divine Names & Voces	Ἴάω; voces, unidentified



Credits: Photo: Christopher A. Faraone
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A: Ithyphallic Pantheos standing nude in three-quarter view to right upon a wide baseline. Both arms bent in elbow and stretched to the sides, holding tall scepters, two further scepters piercing through the wings. A long bird's tail projects from the back to left, only one pair of wings is attached at the shoulders. The Pantheos has long hair and a headband (?). Letters scattered in the free field: $\mu\sigma|\tau|\eta\alpha|\nu\eta$. Below the baseline: $\iota\omega \rightarrow \text{Ἴάω}$.

B: Bird in profile to left, perching on a cornucopia. Inscription in mirror writing above the bird: $\rho\upsilon\nu$.

The gem may have been designed after two drawings in [Chifletius-Macarius, Abrasax](#), see [CBd-2796](#) and [CBd-2792](#).

Bibliography

[Michel, BM on CBd-985](#)

[Michel, DMG](#), 318, 41.2_5, pl. VIII, 8

[The British Museum Collection database on CBd-985](#)

Images

Cast of CBd-985 obverse and [reverse](#) in the Gems Database of the Beazley Archive, Oxford.