

BRITISH MUSEUM BYZANTINE SEMINAR

RECENT RESEARCH ON ENGRAVED GEMSTONES IN LATE ANTIQUITY, AD 200-600

A three and a half day conference on Thursday 28th May, Friday 29th May, Saturday 30th May and the morning of Sunday 31st May 2009 to be held in the Stevenson Lecture Theatre, the Great Court, British Museum

Thursday 28th May

- 9.00-9.45 Registration
- Morning session** Chair: Dr Helen Molesworth (Christie's, Geneva)
- 9.45-10.00 *Introduction*
Professor Sir John Boardman (University of Oxford)
- 10.00-10.30 *'The origins of gemstones in the ancient world'*
Lisbet Thoresen (Los Angeles, USA)
- 10.30-11.00 *'Non-destructive gemmological tests on ancient gems'*
Dr Cigdem Yule (London)
- 11.00-11.30 Coffee
- 11.30-12.00 *tba*
Dr Noël Adams (London)
- 12.00-12.30 *'The use of diamond in ancient and medieval gem engraving'*
Dr Jack Ogden (Gemmological Association of Great Britain)
- 12.30-14.00 Lunch
- Afternoon session** Chair: Dr Ken Lapatin (Getty Museum, Los Angeles)
- 14.00-14.30 *'Are there reliable criteria for dating magical gems? A sceptical view'*
Dr Richard Gordon (Munich)
- 14.30-15.00 *'Text, image and medium: the evolution of Greco-Roman magical gemstones'*
Professor Chris Faraone (University of Chicago)
- 15.00-15.30 Tea
- 15.30-16.00 *'The colours of magical gems'*
Professor Attilio Mastrocinque (Venice)
- 16.00-16.30 *'Magic and medicine: gems and the power of images'*
Professor Véronique Dasen (University of Fribourg)
- 16.30-17.00 *'Phyge Podagra, Perseus se diochi' – Greek myths on magical gems'*
Dr Árpád Nagy (Dept. of Classical Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Budapest)

18.30 Reception

Friday 29th May

Morning session Chair: Professor Chris Faraone (University of Chicago)

9.30-10.00 *'Studies on magical gems in the British Museum'*
Dr Simone Michel (Germany)

10.00-10.30 *'Grylloi'*
Dr Ken Lapatin (Getty Museum)

10.30-11.00 *'Love and passion: personal cameos in Late Antiquity'*
Dr Martin Henig (Institute of Archaeology, Oxford) and Dr Helen Molesworth (Christie's, Geneva)

11.00-11.30 Coffee

11.30-12.00 *'The Belgrade Cameo'*
Dr Antje Krug (Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Berlin)

12.00-12.30 *'A cameo portrait of Numerianus (AD 283-84) and related gems'*
Professor Dr Erika Zwierlein-Diehl (Institut für Kunstgeschichte und Archäologie, University of Bonn)

12.25-14.00 Lunch

Afternoon session Chair: Dr Gertrud Platz (Staatliche Museen, Berlin)

14.00-14.30 *'Three degrees of separation: detail reworking, type updating and identity transformation in glyptic Roman imperial portraits in the round'*
Dr Elisabetta Galletti (University of Milan)

14.30-15.00 *'Gods or mortals?' – Images on imperial portrait gems, medallions and coins in the 3rd century AD'*
Dr Adrian Marsden (Norfolk)

15.00-15.30 Tea

15.30-16.00 *'Intaglios in military contexts in 2nd-4th century AD Palestine: the case of Legio and Aelia Capitolina'*
Dr Orit Peleg (The Institute of Archaeology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
And Dr Yotam Tepper (Israel Antiquities Authority)

16.00-16.30 *'Selected antique gems from Israel'*
Professor Shua Amorai-Stark (Beer-Sheba) and Malka HersHKovitz (The Institute of Archaeology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

16.30-17.00 *'Late Roman gems from Tilurium in Dalmatia'*
Dr Bruna Nardelli (Venice)

Saturday 30th May

- Morning session** Chair: Professor Corby Finney (Princeton)
- 10.00-10.30 *'The Christian gems from Portugal in context'*
Dr Graca Cravinho (Lisbon) and Professor Shua Amorai-Stark (Kaye
Academic College of Education, Beer-Sheba)
- 10.30-11.00 *'Recent excavated finds of gems from Gaul (3rd-4th century)*
Professor Hélène Guiraud (University of Toulouse)
- 11.00-11.30 Coffee
- 11.30-12.00 *'Late Antique gems: some unpublished examples'*
Dr Jeffrey Spier (University of Arizona)
- 12.00-12.30 *'The argument from silence – iconographical statements of 1981 on
faked gems reconsidered'*
Professor Dr Josef Engemann (Vienna)
- 12.25-14.00 Lunch

Afternoon session Chair: Dr Jeffrey Spier (University of Arizona)

- 14.00-14.30 *'The Constanza crucifixion gem and early Christian iconography'*
Dr Felicity Marley McGowan (University of Melbourne)
- 14.30-15.00 *'Contexts in the study of Early Christian glyptics'*
Professor Corby Finney (Princeton)
- 15.00-15.30 Tea
- 15.30-16.00 *'Seals in transition: their change of function and value in Late Antiquity'*
Dr Gertrud Platz (Antikensammlung Staatliche Museen zu Berlin)
- 16.00-16.30 *'On some Sasanian seals with 'classical' motifs'*
Dr Rika Gyselen (CNRS, Ivry)
- 16.30-17.00 *'Transformations of the Roman gem'*
Dr Genevra Kornbluth (Maryland, USA)

Sunday 31st May

Morning session Chair: tba

- 10.00-10.30 *'The fight of Athena and Poseidon' and its depiction on glyptics across the centuries'*
Hadrien Rambach (London)
- 10.30-11.00 *'Myth revisited. The re-use of mythological cameos and intaglios in Late Antiquity
and the Early Middle Ages'*
Professor Sena Chiesa (University of Milan)

- 11.00-11.30 Coffee
- 11.30-12.00 *'The re-use and re-interpretation of gemstones in medieval Hungary'*
Dr Tamás Gesztelyi (Debrecen, Hungary)
- 12.00-12.30 *'Late Antique cameos and intaglios in 18th-century cast collections'*
Dr Lucia Pirzio Biroli (Rome)

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Conference fee: £60. Cheques payable to the British Museum