

	<p>Object: Drunken Skeleton</p> <p>Museum: Museum August Kestner Trammplatz 3 30159 Hannover (0511) 168-42730 museen- kulturgeschichte@hannover- stadt.de</p> <p>Collection: Ancient Cultures, Gemmen, Kameen und Glaspasten. Die Sammlung geschnittener Steine</p> <p>Inventory number: K 1038</p>
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Description

Sensual enjoyment played a major role at the time around the birth of Christ and in the early Roman Republic. According to Epicurean thinking, one should enjoy the time that remains and which is constantly slipping away to the full. Thus, in the art of the first century AD, more and more representations of skeletons appear that refer to and follow this guiding principle of "carpe diem" (Ode I 11,8) formulated poetically by Horace. Thus the skeletons admonished that enjoyment was the only goal worth striving for in a life that ends irrevocably with death. Derived from this, skeletal representations are found in many genres of Roman art, such as on gems. (AVS)

Former August Kestner Collection, Rome

Detailed description

Ein menschliches Skelett steht frontal mit überkreuztem Spielbein und lehnt einen Ellenbogen lässig auf eine Spitzamphora, in der gesenkten Hand ein Krug. Der Kopf ist leicht geneigt. – Grundlinie. Anwendung von Rundperl.

Basic data

Material/Technique:	Chalcedon / carved
Measurements:	Height: 1.22 cm, width: 0.96 cm

Events

Created	When	100 v. Chr.-1 v. Chr.
	Who	
	Where	Ancient Rome
Collected	When	
	Who	August Kestner (1777-1853)
	Where	Rome
[Relation to person or institution]	When	
	Who	Horace (-65--8)
	Where	

Keywords

- Skeleton

Literature

- Schlüter, Margildis - Platz-Horster, Gertrud (1975): Antike Gemmen in deutschen Sammlungen IV. Hannover, Kestner Museum, Hamburg, Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe. Wiesbaden, 111 Taf. 64 Kat.-Nr. 468