

	<p>Object: Hecate, so called magical gem</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 448</p>
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## Description

Hecate, who is of importance for the magical gems, is usually depicted in this object genre in the three-figure type. The red jasper of the Hecate gem found particular use in the treatment of haemorrhages or women's ailments - here the colour reminiscent of blood is in the foreground.

The type of stone underlines Hecate's nature as a moon goddess. In this function, she was responsible as a protective deity for women's concerns (menstruation, pregnancy, birth). The cosmological aspect of the phases of the moon, which can be put in relation to the female cycle, is also underlined by the combination of stone type and sphere of action. (AVS)

Former August Kestner Collection, Rome

## Detailed description

Vs: Dreigestaltige Hecate in langem hochgürtetem Gewand mit Überfall, auf jedem ihrer Köpfe ein Modius. In ihren Händen Dolche, Peitschen und Fackeln. Unten beiderseits ein Hund (?) mit zurückgewendetem Kopf. Grundlinie. - Rs: Einzeilige Beschriftung. - Beiderseits flach, Kante zur Rs. abgeschrägt.

## Basic data

Material/Technique:	Jasper / carved
Measurements:	Height: 0.82 cm, width: 0.7 cm

## Events

Created	When	2.-3. century CE
	Who	
	Where	Mediterranean Basin
Collected	When	
	Who	August Kestner (1777-1853)
	Where	Rome
[Relation to person or institution]	When	
	Who	Hecate
	Where	

## Keywords

- Birth
- Blood
- Phase of the moon

## Literature

- Schlüter, Margildis - Platz-Horster, Gertrud (1975): Antike Gemmen in deutschen Sammlungen IV. Hannover, Kestner Museum, Hamburg, Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe. Wiesbaden, 310 Nr. 1708 Taf. 225
- Siebert, Anne Viola (2007): Das Übel mit Steinen bekämpfen. Seybold, Silke (Hrsg.), All about Evil. Das Böse. Katalog der Ausstellung in Bremen 2007/08 (Mainz 2007), 158