

	<p>Object: Birth of Helena</p> <p>Museum: Museum August Kestner Trammplatz 3 30159 Hannover (0511) 168-42730 museen- kulturgeschichte@hannover- stadt.de</p> <p>Collection: Gemmen, Kameen und Glaspasten. Die Sammlung geschnittener Steine, Ancient Cultures</p> <p>Inventory number: K 50</p>
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Description

In some narrative versions, only Helen hatches from the egg. The depiction on this gem seems to refer to this. It is apparently the Kyprian version, according to which Nemesis - pregnant by Zeus - laid the egg in the marshes of Rhamnous. Leda found it there and hatched the egg on an ash altar. A comparable motif can be found on a mural in the Aula Isiaca on the Palatine in Rome. (AVS)

Former August Kestner Collection, Rome

Basic data

Material/Technique: Carnelian / carved
Measurements: Height: 1.24 cm, width: 1.46 cm

Events

Created	When	50 v. Chr. - 50 n. Chr.
	Who	
	Where	Mediterranean Basin
Collected	When	
	Who	August Kestner (1777-1853)
	Where	Rome

[Relation to
person or
institution]

When

Who Helen of Troy

Where

[Relation to
person or
institution]

When

Who Leda

Where

Keywords

- Birth
- Eagle
- Engraved gem

Literature

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