

	Object:	Helios in the Quadriga
	Museum:	Museum August Kestner Trammplatz 3 30159 Hannover (0511) 168-42730 museen- kulturgeschichte@hannover- stadt.de
	Collection:	Ancient Cultures, Vessel ceramics and vase painting
	Inventory number:	1966.34

Description

This simple lekythos shows a quadriga (four-horse carriage) in front view. Above the helmet of the charioteer appears the sun disk, which clearly identifies him as the sun god. The special feature of this vase is the depiction of Helios with a fully visible quadriga in front view. This is otherwise unknown on Greek vases.

Together with his sisters Selene (goddess of the moon) and Eos (goddess of the dawn), Helios is one of the cosmic gods who describe the course of the day and the night. In contrast to the Roman counterpart Sol, who only gained greater importance in the context of the ruler's cult during the Roman Empire, Helios played no role in the public cult of the Greeks. His cult always remained a private matter. (AVS)

Former Erhart Kästner Collection, Wolfenbüttel

Basic data

Material/Technique:	Clay / white-ground, black-figure
Measurements:	Height: 14.6 cm

Events

Created	When	480-460 BC
	Who	Beldam Painter
	Where	
Collected	When	
	Who	Erhart Kästner (1904-1974)

[Relation to person or institution]	Where	Wolfenbüttel
	When	
	Who	Helios
	Where	

Keywords

- Black-figure pottery
- Lekythos
- Quadriga

Literature

- Follmann, Anne Barbara (1971): Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum. Deutschland. Hannover, Kestner-Museum 1. München, Taf. 22,4-5