

 Museum August Kestner / Christian Tepper [CC BY-NC-SA]	<table><tr><td>Object:</td><td>Theseus slays the Minotaur</td></tr><tr><td>Museum:</td><td>Museum August Kestner Trammplatz 3 30159 Hannover (0511) 168-42730 museen- kulturgeschichte@hannover- stadt.de</td></tr><tr><td>Collection:</td><td>Ancient Cultures, Gemmen, Kameen und Glaspasten. Die Sammlung geschnittener Steine</td></tr><tr><td>Inventory number:</td><td>K633</td></tr></table>	Object:	Theseus slays the Minotaur	Museum:	Museum August Kestner Trammplatz 3 30159 Hannover (0511) 168-42730 museen- kulturgeschichte@hannover- stadt.de	Collection:	Ancient Cultures, Gemmen, Kameen und Glaspasten. Die Sammlung geschnittener Steine	Inventory number:	K633
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Description

The physiognomy of the Minotaur, consisting of a human body and a bull's head, stems from the fact that Zeus, in the form of a bull, fathered this son with Europa. Because of his ugly appearance, Minotaur lived exiled in the labyrinth on Crete.

When King Minos of Crete learned that his son Androgeos had been killed by order of King Aigeus of Athens, he set out against Athens to take revenge. The Athenians were defeated and every nine years since then they had to send seven young boys and seven young girls to Crete, where they were sent into the labyrinth and thus sacrificed to the Minotaur. Theseus, the son of Aigeus, freed Athens from this harsh tribute. With the third tribute journey, he himself went to Crete to kill the monster. This moment is depicted on the gem. (AVS)

Former collection August Kestner, Rome

Detailed description

Der jugendliche Held, in Seitenansicht, ist nackt bis auf eine im Rücken herabfallende Chlamys. Über dem Kopf schwingt er die Keule und reißt mit der anderen Hand den zu Boden gesunkenen Minotaurus, dem er in Ausfallstellung steht, am Horn zurück. Der stierköpfige Mann hebt abwehrend einen Arm. - Grundlinie.

Basic data

Material/Technique:	Glass paste / carved
Measurements:	Height: 1.39 cm, width: 1.06 cm

Events

Created	When	10 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	Theseus
	Where	
[Relation to person or institution]	When	
	Who	Minotaur
	Where	
[Relation to person or institution]	When	
	Who	Europa
	Where	

Keywords

- Labyrinth
- Monster
- Stier

Literature

- Schlüter, Margildis - Platz-Horster, Gertrud (1975): Antike Gemmen in deutschen Sammlungen IV. Hannover, Kestner Museum, Hamburg, Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe. Wiesbaden, 192 Nr. 951 Taf. 126