

A Late Georgian gold ring set with a Late Hellenistic garnet intaglio. Triptolemus.

Intaglio: 2.4 x 0.8 cm (1 x 0 $^{1}/_{4}$ inches)

Mounting: UK size Q $^{1/2}$; total weight 4,90 gr

Late Hellenistic, 2nd-1st century BCE on a early 19th century ring

On this splendid almond-shaped cabochon garnet, of an intense color, Triptolemus is represented standing, slightly turned to the left. With his right hand he offers ears of wheat on an altar, while with his left he holds a sickle. Groundline.

Rare iconography.

The scene symbolizes abundance and good fortune.

Triptolemus, character from Greek mythology and linked to the goddess Demeter as well as to the Eleusian mysteries. According to tradition, Demeter decided to teach Triptolemus the art of agriculture, so that he could pass on his knowledge of planting and harvesting to the Greeks.

He was king of Eleusis. Demeter gave him a winged chariot pulled by great serpents, with which he was supposed to travel all over the Earth and sowwheat.