



A Renaissance Agate Cameo set in a Silver pendant. The Muse Polyhymnia

18.5 × 26 × 3 mm | 2.65 g

16th – 17th century

Possibly ancient cameo reemployed in the Renaissance

A finely carved cameo depicting a draped female figure in a contemplative pose. She wears a flowing tunic and mantle, her legs elegantly crossed as she leans against a rocky pillar. Her chin rests pensively upon the palm of her left hand—the characteristic attitude of Polyhymnia, Muse of sacred poetry and eloquence.

The carver skillfully exploited the natural banding of the agate, reserving the warm amber-toned layer for the figure while leaving the cool grey ground as background.

A diagonal break runs through the stone; however, the gem remains solid within its silver mount and fully wearable.

The cameo is mounted in a simple silver bezel with suspension loop, likely dating from the period of carving or shortly thereafter.