A gold ring set with a Roman green jasper intaglio. Helios.

Intaglio: Roman, 2nd–3rd century A.D.
Mount: Gold

Stone: 9 × 12 mm

Ring sizes: UK Q½ · US 8¼ · FR 57 (resizeable)

Total weight: 6.26 g

Condition: Chipped edge to the stone; wear marks; mount in good condition

A deep green jasper intaglio of the Roman Imperial period, set in a later gold mount with elegantly decorated shoulders of stylized plant and floral motifs. The stone is engraved with the standing figure of Helios, the solar deity, facing right, his head crowned with radiating rays and holding the solar whip — attributes immediately legible within the iconographic vocabulary of the Roman Imperial period.

The later gold mount, with its richly worked foliate shoulders, provides an accomplished foil to the ancient gem, in the tradition of Grand Tour connoisseurship.