

The Felix Gem

ASHMOLEAN

This is a very famous small sardonyx intaglio (engraved gem). The engraver signed his name Felix in greek letters on the altar in the scene. Felix means lucky in Latin. Also in greek is the name of a Roman owner, Calpurnius Severus. He used this gem as a seal.

Felix has engraved the story of the Greek sack of Troy. Odysseus (wearing a hat) scolds Diomedes. Their plan was to upset the Trojans by creeping into their city to steal the Palladion, the sacred emblem of Troy. But Diomedes killed a guard (whose feet stick out behind Odysseus), and touched the emblem with bloody hands.



We have created this so that your class
can put this jigsaw together!