

CALIFORNIA STATE
UNIVERSITY
EAST BAY

MYC. RING

Lanier Graham

Mon, Mar 22, 2010 at 10:38 PM

To: John Boardman
Cc: Lanier Graham

Dear John

I'm delighted you have the attention of an 'expert' to help explore this little mystery. You are more computer-literate than I, and my technical assistant is off on vacation. So I'll respond to your request as soon as I can.

Yours,
Lanier

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On Thu, Mar 18, 2010 at 2:41 AM, John Boardman <john.boardman@ashmus.ox.ac.uk> wrote:

Dear Lanier,

Could you send me another photo of the intaglio, preferably in a simple form that I can open. I am getting en 'expert' interested!

Yours ever,
John

Professor Sir John Boardman
Beazley Archive, Classics Centre, 66 St Giles,
Oxford OX1 3LU G.B.
01865 278084 (fax 610237)

From: Lanier Graham
Sent: 05 March 2010 22:41
To: John Boardman
Subject: Re: MYC. RING

You are kind to suggest that I should publish it, however I have no standing in this field. I cannot imagine any editor would even consider something from one whose publications are limited to the Western era between Renaissance & Modern. On the other hand, it happens that you are an authority in this particular field, a field in which every tiny bit of evidence is of some interest to specialists. So perhaps a short entry in the standard multi-volume corpus under "late curiosities"?

Yours,
Lanier

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On Fri, Mar 5, 2010 at 12:36 AM, John Boardman <john.boardman@ashmus.ox.ac.uk> wrote:
Probably yes, but better you than me and I am not sure what the pundits will think of it!

Yours,
John

Professor Sir John Boardman



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From: Lanier Graham
Sent: 04 March 2010 22:56

To: John Boardman
Cc: Lanier Graham
Subject: Re: MYC. RING

Dear John

So, even though it is unusual it is part of the historical record. Do you think it should be published?

Yours,
Lanier
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On Thu, Mar 4, 2010 at 12:31 AM, John Boardman <john.boardman@ashmus.ox.ac.uk> wrote:
Dear Lanier,

That does make better sense. I could not judge from the photo. It seems all certainly to depend on Min/Myc in some way or other, whether anciently or modern. The bezel shape is in a way more odd than the figure itself. 'Provincial' might be the best answer.

Yours ever,
john B

Professor Sir John Boardman
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From: Lanier Graham
Sent: 03 March 2010 18:17

To: John Boardman
Cc: Lanier Graham
Subject: Re: MYC. RING

Dear John

The intaglio is cut into the metal, the metal which is the whole of the ring. There is no stone as such. I know this is all a bit odd, but since the design relates to no other known style in the ancient world, shall we not say it must be a very late echo of classic Myc. design done in the provinces?

As ever
Lanier
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On Wed, Mar 3, 2010 at 12:07 AM, John Boardman <john.boardman@ashmus.ox.ac.uk> wrote:
Dear Lanier,

I am getting a bit confused! Gold+silver = electrum, not much used in the Bronze Age. Is the intaglio cut in the metal or a stone, and if so what stone; the photo remains puzzling!

Yours ever,
John

Professor Sir John Boardman
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From: Lanier Graham
Sent: 02 March 2010 23:05
To: John Boardman
Cc: Lanier Graham
Subject: Re: MYC. RING

John

I now have the report which says the 'stone' is a composite metal made of both silver and gold. Does this help? Below I repeat some thoughts I had after a close look at somewhat near-parallels in your book. I don't know much about metals. Were the royal Myc. rings pure gold? If my ring is a late provincial work, as I suspect, perhaps from the S.W. Turkey where it was found, that might account for the mixture? Let me know what you think.

Regards,
Lanier
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On Mon, Feb 8, 2010 at 11:10 AM, Lanier Graham <lanier.graham@csueastbay.edu> wrote:
Dear John

As I live far out in the countryside, it is not always easy to secure professional services. But I have located a jeweler who can verify if the "stone" is silver by the end of this month. I will let you know as soon as I have a report.

Yes the hoop must have been attached to the long ends, as there is room there and not on the short sides. I know the Minoan rings have their hoops attached on the short side, but perhaps it was different in the Late Myc. or Post Myc. period? I am reminded of some parallels with hoops attached on the long ends in your GREEK GEMS AND FINGER RINGS, e.g. figures #665, #662, & color plate #4; or if perhaps my ring began as a ring that was turned into a pendent there would be a parallel with fig. #378.

I assume from the composition of the figures on my ring that it is not Minoan but quite late Myc. or Post-Myc. perhaps about 1200 BCE, and quite possibly done with some Near Eastern influence. Would this match what you had in mind when you said perhaps GREEK BRONZE AGE?

Yours,
Lanier