



Pantheistic statuette

On display

Title/Description: Pantheistic statuette

Born: 0050 c. BC - 0100 c.

Measurements: h. 80 x w. 30 x d. 41 mm

Accession Number: 545

Historic Period: 1st century AD, 1st century, Ptolemaic (late)

Production Place: Africa, Egypt

Credit Line: Purchased with support from Robert and Lisa Sainsbury, 1974

Pantheistic figures embody in themselves the beneficial attributes of the deities of which they are composed. This statuette in hard pale blue faience is a conflation of a baboon-headed Pataikos and a falcon. The lower forepart of the figure has the dwarf legs and genitalia of Pataikos, holding his clenched fists upon his hips. The upper part is in the form of a baboon, sacred to Thoth, god of wisdom and learning, with prominent striated cheek hair, a tripartite wig with lappets, a broad collar around his neck and an *atef*-crown upon his head. The back of the figure slopes outwards to the rear of the trapezoidal base in the form of the folded wings of a falcon, associated with the god Horus. Below the wig at the back is the stump of a perforated lug. The top of the crown with its left horn is missing.

Entry taken from Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Collection 3 volume catalogue, edited by Steven Hooper (Yale University Press, 1997).

Provenance

Purchased by the Sainsbury Centre, University of East Anglia from Peter Sharrer in 1974 out of funds provided by Robert and Lisa Sainsbury.
