



Antique Carved Hardstone Cameo Ring £16,500.00

A hardstone carved cameo ring, depicting Athena, the Greek goddess of wisdom and war, mounted in yellow gold on a wide tapering shank. The cameo is believed to be late 18th-early 19th century, later set in a gold ring mount, circa 1870

Athena was regarded as the patron and protectress of various cities across Greece, particularly the city of Athens, from which she most likely received her name. She is usually shown in art wearing a helmet and holding a spear.

In the Greek mythology Athena, daughter of Zeus, was the goddess of Wisdom, of the Weaving, of the Arts, and, presumably, of the noblest sides of the War, while the violence and the cruelty were part of the dominion of Ares. The sacred symbols were the owl and the olive. She is almost always represented with a helmet or a shield and with the Aegis (a short armour with fringes) with in the centre the head of Medusa given by Perseus to Athena in sign of thanks for the help had when he faced the Medusa. Athena never had an husband or lover and for this she was known like Athena Parthenos (the Virgin Athena), from which the name of the most famous temple dedicated to her, the Parthenon on Athen's Acropolis.

Period	Other
Condition	Good
Materials	Gold
Ring Size	P
Dimensions	Head of stone measures 34 x 26mm

Antique ref: S261019R1