

Author: ANNELIES CAZEMIER

CAPInv. 903: *he synodos he ton melanephoron*

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Aegean Islands
ii. Region	Delos
iii. Site	Delos

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	ἡ σύνοδος ἡ τῶν μελανηφόρων (I.Délos 2075, l. 1)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>he synodos he ton melanephoron</i>

III. DATE

i. Date(s)	124 / 123 BC
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IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii. Name elements	Cultic: <i>melanephoroi</i>
iii. Descriptive terms	σύνοδος, <i>synodos</i>

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	I.Délos 2075 (124/3 BC)
Note	Roussel 1915-16: 138, no. 95 RICIS 202/0257 (with pl. 53) Trümper 2011: 77, no. 8
Online Resources	I.Délos 2075
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	dedication of honorary statue

i.c. Physical format(s)	square marble base, broken in two
ii. Source(s) provenance	Sarapieion C

VII. ORGANIZATION

iv. Officials	ἱερεὺς, <i>hiereus</i> (I.Délos 2075, l. 2), named Demetrios, son of Hermesion, from Marathon; he was priest in the year when Eisigenes was <i>archon</i> (124/3 BC). It is not clear whether this was a priesthood specifically of the association, and it is difficult to say whether other honorary inscriptions set up for priests by <i>melanephoroi</i> (I.Délos 2076) or <i>melanephoroi</i> and <i>therapeutai</i> (I.Délos 2077; 2078; cf. 2081; note also 2039; 2079; 2080) concern the <i>synodos</i> as well. See also 'Comments'.
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X. ACTIVITIES

iii. Worship	The <i>synodos</i> dedicated a honorary statue to Sarapis, Isis, and Anoubis (I.Délos 2075, l. 4).
Deities worshipped	Sarapis Isis Anoubis
iv. Honours/Other activities	The <i>synodos</i> of <i>melanephoroi</i> set up a statue in honour of their benefactor (I.Délos 2075, ll. 1-2: εὐεργέτης, <i>euergetes</i>) Demetrios, son of Hermesion, from Marathon, who was priest (l. 2: ἱερεὺς, <i>hiereus</i>) in the year when Eisigenes was <i>archon</i> (124/3 BC). The statue was dedicated to Sarapis, Isis, and Anoubis.

XII. NOTES

i. Comments	Another inscription from Sarapieion C has been attributed to the <i>synodos</i> of <i>melanephoroi</i> (CAPInv. 925), but the restoration of the text (I.Délos 2082, l. 1: ἡ σύνο[δος] ἡ τῶν μελανηφόρων?), <i>he syno[dos] he ton melanephoron?</i>) is uncertain. From Sarapieion B comes an early attestation (e. ii BC ?) of a <i>koinon</i> of <i>melanephoroi</i> (CAPInv. 216), which might be the same association as the <i>synodos</i> of I.Délos 2075 (cf. Roussel and Launey in Délos 2075; Roussel 1915-16: 270-1; Trümper 2011: 77, no. 8; Baslez 2013: 239, n 60). The Delian epigraphic record also yields many attestations of <i>melanephoroi</i> which do not specifically refer to a <i>synodos</i> or <i>koinon</i> (e.g., I.Délos 2039; 2076-2081; 2083-2084), but which may directly or indirectly concern the same association(s). Note that information from these texts has not been taken into account in this inventory entry. For a discussion of the <i>melanephoroi</i> , see Baslez 1975.
ii. Poland concordance	Poland B 180a
iii. Bibliography	Baslez M.-F. (1975), 'Une association isiaque: les Mélanéphores', <i>CE</i> 50 : 297-303. Baslez, M.-F. (2013), 'Les associations à Délos: depuis les débuts de l'indépendance (fin du IVe siècle) à la période de la colonie athénienne (milieu du IIe siècle)', in P. Fröhlich and P. Hamon (eds.) <i>Groupes et associations dans les cités grecques (IIIe siècle av. J.-C. - IIe siècle apr. J.-C.)</i> , Genève: 227-49. Roussel, P. (1915-16), <i>Les cultes égyptiens à Délos du IIIe au Ier siècle av. J.-C.</i> Paris. Trümper, M. (2011), 'Where the non-Delians met in Delos: the meeting-places of foreign associations and ethnic communities in late Hellenistic Delos', in O.M. van Nijf and R. Alston (eds.) <i>Political culture in the Greek city after the classical age</i> , Leuven: 49-100.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association

Certain

Note

The descriptive term and the wellknown character and activity of this association guarantees its private status.