



NCGR GEOCOSMIC

JOURNAL

FAVORITE TECHNIQUES
OF NCGR'S 2022 BOARD

DWARF PLANET UNIVERSITY

ON BOARD THESE NEW QUALITIES OF CONSCIOUSNESS BY STUDYING
THE HOUSE POSITION, ASPECTS AND TRANSITS IN YOUR CHART.



Starts 4th March.

Subscribe to our email
newsletter to get dwarf
planet news and special
deals on classes.

The students at the Uni range
from beginners to very
experienced astrologers,
and this is the source of the
vibrant class culture. What
they love is the community
sharing, through blog-posted
assignments and live Zoom
Q&As, which gives a good
picture of how these new
planets act similarly, yet
diversely in our lives.

**Courses
led by**

Alan Clay

The NCGR International Delegate for New Zealand

*What Alan Clay has created with the Dwarf Planet University is
nothing short of genius. His in-depth knowledge and amazing
teaching style are unique, and what the astrological world has been
waiting for. I'm so enjoying learning about our far reaching dwarf
planets amongst a galaxy of friendly, intelligent student astrologers,
logging on at their differing time zones. Eileen Richardson, UK*

**DWARF PLANET
ASTROLOGY**



Diploma

We offer a diploma on
completion of any 8 of our 10 courses, but students are
also welcome to do courses singly and in any order, and
all the courses have a mix of ongoing and casual students.
Each course runs for 6 weeks and costs as little as \$112
with our Earlybird deal. Those interested in the diploma
can get a 4-course bundle for \$340.

IXION

We recommend starting with Ixion,
Pluto's lawless brother, who gives us the strength to
follow our passions and be uniquely ourselves, while
remaining sensitive to the unspoken agreements in our
relationships. **Starts 25th February.** Join us if you can.



*I absolutely loved the class! As a first time student of astrology, I can honestly
say that aside from Alan (a wonderful teacher and guide), every one of the
students was a teacher for me. ~ Mary Anne Pitt, USA.*



*"Alan Clay's
comprehensive
biographical and
astrological
research comes
together in this
unusual book on
Sedna..."
The Mountain
Astrologer.*

Get the Kindle
edition from
Amazon for \$11

dwarfplanet.university..

NCGR GEOCOSMIC JOURNAL

Autumn 2022

GEOCOSMIC EDITOR
Leigh Westin

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Howard Moore

FORMAT AND GRAPHIC DESIGN
Richard Smoot

ADVERTISING
Sara Preibe
Advertising@geocosmic.org

NCGR HEADQUARTERS
2538 Jill Court
Merrick, NY 11566
Phone and/or Fax:
212-838-NCGR

SUBMISSIONS
Geocosmicjournal@
geocosmic.org

COVER
THE WHIRLPOOL GALAXY
By the Hubble Telescope
See page 4 for further
description

Copyright © 2022 NCGR, Inc.
Printed in the
United States of America
Single Issue \$15.00

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	From Your Editor By Leigh Westin
5	Prediction: Is It the Technique or the Astrologer? By Armand Diaz
8	The Hellenistic Lots: Fortune & Spirit – Prediction for a Lifetime By Meira Epstein
13	Introduction to Vastu Shastra By Ramya Krishnamurthy
17	Secondary Progressions: Charting Our Evolving Selves By Rachel Lang
23	Applying the Solar Return Chart in Year Ahead Consultations By Lars Mellis
28	Harmonic Age Charts By Mónica Escalante-Ochoa
32	Following the Mundane Trail By Shirley Prisco
36	Solar Arc Directions: The Way of the Sun Points to Key Developments By Manda Selva
41	The Diurnal Chart By Christeen Skinner
49	Born on the Station By Jackie Slevin
55	Lunar Returns: Setting Course by the Moon By Maria Wander
59	The Lunar Standstill Cycle By Leigh Westin
64	Hamuea and Pluto By Lianne McCafferty
73	Book Review: Planetary Connections by Bob Makransky By Michael Munkasey

From the Editor...

Welcome to the Autumn 2022 Issue of the Geocosmic Journal. This particular Geocosmic is like no other, because it rests on the idea that the majority of this publication is a gift to the membership from the National Board. Everyone on the Board made a contribution that allowed this journal to become a reality. The major player not mentioned below is, Linda Wilk, our Treasurer, who picked up the slack in various duties that allowed the rest of us to write and edit.

Below, in alphabetical order, each board member shares their unique thoughts as to why their chosen technique is a favorite.

Armand Diaz, President

Rather than writing on a specific technique, I've chosen to address the question of why so many astrological predictive methods work – in most other disciplines, this would be an impossibility. Yet our collective astrological history and continuing innovation show that there are many valid methods. I've explored the necessary subjective mindset and external parameters that keep us from dissolving into *anything goes* or getting lost in our personal imaginings.

Meira Epstein, Technology Director

From day-one in astrology I noticed the glaring absence of a long-range predictive system that can describe the long-haul periods and changes of life direction. Other techniques such as solar arc, secondary progressions and transits, though great on their own, have never been sufficient for this purpose. Then came Project Hindsight (1992) and filled that void, by uncovering the Hellenistic Time-Lord system known as Zodiacal Releasing, or aphesis – a predictive techniques based on the Lots - Fortune and Spirit. This became my mainstay tool for identifying the journey and the major milestones along the way. Since this technique is practically unknown, I call it "*One of the Best-kept Secrets in Astrology.*"

Ramya Krishnamurthy, Clerk

Vastu is a favorite technique for when a client is in need of a cleansing ritual. Sometimes it's unsettling to just sit and wait out a difficult time period. In those cases, a simple Vastu cleansing can help with the healing process and also be a daily reminder of the positive energy flow we are trying to enable.

Rachel Lang, Outreach Director

When I teach courses on secondary progressions, one of my favorite things to do is to ask my students about a significant turning point in their lives – when the trajectory of their lives changed and led to where they are today. We then look at the secondary progressions for that time in their lives, and the meaning of the astrological symbolism can lead to greater personal healing, self-discovery and clarity. Secondary progressions show our evolution as we grow through life. We begin at the starting point with our natal chart, and over time, we can see the shifts in consciousness that lead to circumstantial change, which is why this is my favorite technique. Progressions allow us to see our growth and the journey we make as we live each year.

Lars Mellis, Director at Large

I chose to write about solar return charts as my favorite timing technique because this technique fits perfectly in with my approach as a professional astrologer. With my practice, I consider myself more of a weather man than a seer. I give my clients a forecast for the year ahead, but it's up to them to wear a jacket and also decide what type of jacket is appropriate. Analysis of solar return charts allows for an acute look at the year ahead, something any (cosmic) meteorologist would covet.

Mónica Escalante-Ochoa, International Relations Director

The harmonic age chart (HAC) is my favorite predictive technique because even if it is used in a similar way to the solar return chart, I find that the HAC is more accurate and clearer to describe the emotional and mind state for the person at that time in the life. Also, with a few easy tips from studying the Moon, angular planets and conjunctions between HAC and natal planets, much valuable information is available.

Shirley Prisco, Membership Director

To me, mundane astrology always offers a fascinating and compelling journey. Although the cycle of the outer planets is only one tool and technique of the mundane, I chose Uranus and Pluto because their cycle is approximately 120 years or more and provides insight into many events and trends that can be examined. In my article, I compared this cycle mainly against the backdrop of historical events in the United States, which is the history that I know.

Manda Selva, Research Director

Solar arc is a reliable progression technique, as each aspect occurs very rarely and each one contains a pearl of opportunity. Unlike secondary progressions, the outer planets play a significant role, as they are all advanced along with the Sun. Solar arc also lends itself well to the Uranian technique of using midpoints with a focus on hard aspects.

Christeen Skinner, Advisory Board Coordinator

Choosing a favorite technique was not easy. I have favorite techniques depending on the task in question: financial astrology differs from business astrology, which differs from natal, which differs from relationship studies. In the end, I've chosen to write about the technique that gets me started every day. Like a musician, I need to warm up. Diurnal charts are my *scales*. I flex my brain cells with diurnal charts. I can also see cycles unfolding. Coupled with a good quality coffee, this gets my astro day started.

Jackie Slevin, Education Director

Planetary stations are celestial phenomena that have an enormous impact in horoscopes. Lacking the convenience of having them highlighted with a capital S until my software upgraded, they were often overlooked in my analyses of charts. Their importance in delineation speaks volumes, and the influence of being born on one lasts a lifetime. This is why stations are one of my favorite techniques; their effect is permanent. A station stamps the entire chart.

Maria Wander, Social Media Director

As a night sect person, with Luna angular and in Cancer, the Moon really speaks to me. Like a fairy godmother, my sect light bestows a sweet trine as first aspect to support my chart ruler, the out of sect malefic in debility by sign and house placement. These Firmicus concepts (the waxing Moon providing warming succor but acting malefically when in aspect to and heating up an already hot Mars and a waning Moon making an already cold Saturn more touchy) are useful to note in any type of chart. As a Moon devotee, lunar returns are one of my favorite techniques, as they capture the micro-shift of energies and oscillations of rhythm — the story within the story.

Leigh Westin, Chapter Director and Editor

Although I have a number of favorite techniques, most are not in the familiar *astrolese* of longitude, but rather in another celestial measurement, declination. Declination developed greater importance to me when I found smaller aspect orbs could be used, while frequently resulting in an overall precision that is unavailable in traditional longitude. To demonstrate declination a wee bit, I've chosen a current, ongoing celestial event, the Major Lunar Standstill. During this approximate nine-year period is the only time out of an 18.6 year cycle that the much acclaimed out-of-bounds Moon will appear.

All the above having been said, we close this publication with an article that ties into and reflects on the Dwarf Planet theme of our last Geocosmic. The author, **Lianne McCafferty**, from Great Britain, was inspired by the Dwarf Planet theme and as a continuum of those ideas, imparts an in-depth discourse on Haumea and Pluto.

In conclusion, I'd like to welcome **Howard Moore** to our publication staff. Howard comes to us from New York, is a professional editor and with his excellent editing was a major reason we were able to publish a quality journal on a very tight deadline. I'd like to recognize another publication staff member, **Sara Priebe**, our Advertising Manager and another that rallied to make this journal happen. too, was our colleague, who came through for us once again design and format artist, **Richard Smoot**. ✖

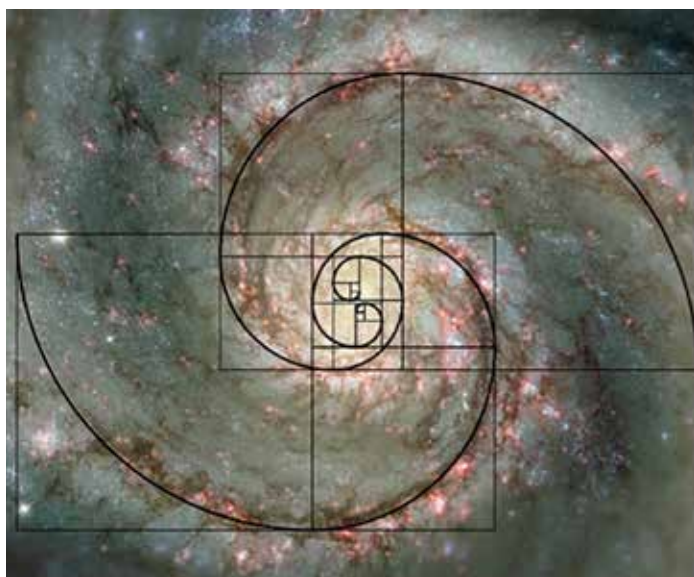
Please enjoy!

Leigh Westin.

Editor, Geocosmic Journal,
Autumn 2022



About the Cover...



The cover* is a depiction from the Hubble Space Telescope of the spiral galaxy M51, dubbed the Whirlpool Galaxy. The image, taken in visible light, highlights the attributes of a typical spiral galaxy, including graceful, curving arms, pink star-forming regions, and brilliant blue strands of star clusters.


In studying the beautiful galaxy, one notices how its spirals seem to follow the Fibonacci ratio and spiral, then the insightful illustration on this page came to light, combining two Fibonacci spirals over the Whirlpool Galaxy. A close look at the very center where the two spirals intertwine, the ancient Ying-Yang symbol is clearly visible.

“Scientific research finds evidence that the Fibonacci numbers and the Golden Ratio are prevalent in natural objects from the microscopic structure proportions in


the bodies of living beings on earth to the relationship of gravitational forces and distances between bodies of the universe.” **✧


* NASA ID: GSFC_20171208_Archive_e001925 NASA image release January 13, 2011

** Quote and illustration from <https://scienceinfo.net/fibonacci-number-sequence-and-golden-ratio-the-mystery-of-the-universe-or-simply-coincidence.html>

**IBIS
PRESS**

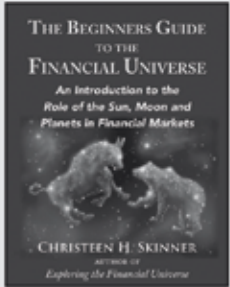
PROUDLY PRESENTS
Renowned Financial Astrologer
CHRISTEEN H. SKINNER





Exploring the Financial Universe
The Role of the Sun and Planets in the World of Finance
For both beginning and experienced astrologers. The author carefully covers upcoming financial forecasts for 2017 through 2024—including solar rhythms and the intricacies of commodity, property, and currency price movements within planetary cycles. Also explores the relationship between time and price, with a chapter on the natal horoscope and financial rhythms predicted at birth.
978-0-89254-218-5 • 6 x 9 • 256 pp. • Illustrated

The Beginner's Guide to the Financial Universe
An Introduction to the Role of the Planets in Financial Markets
Illustrates the role of the Sun, Moon, planets and planetary cycles in market movements. Understand events in the solar system and their correlation with the world of money. Illustrated with financial charts for astro-traders. Offers date, time and place data that can be used for further investigation.
978-0-89254-224-6 • 208 pp. • 8½ x 11 • Illustrated



FOR A COMPLETE CATALOG, PLEASE VISIT WWW.IBISPRESS.NET

PREDICTION: IS IT THE TECHNIQUE, OR THE ASTROLOGER?

BY ARMAND DIAZ

Introduction

I don't want you to think that I didn't know about solar arc (SA) directions or that I never used them, but like most astrologers, I have a very full predictive toolbox. It includes transits, secondary progressions, annual profections and solar, lunar and other planetary returns. When I want, I can also use the Huber Life Clock, and I've dabbled in zodiacal releasing. So, I rarely used SA directions, except in certain circumstances.

Then, in September of 2018, I went to London to give a talk for Frank Clifford's summer school, and of course Frank is very big on SA. Shortly after, I visited a friend who was taking a course on SA directions, and we went through many examples together. On returning home, I found that SA was *the* technique — it was working far better than anything else, including transits, which I always consider to be my mainstay in predictions.

Until about New Year's Day, that is. After a while, my enthusiasm for SA sort of fizzled out and the results I was getting were anything but dramatic. I went back to using them only in special circumstances, although I am now more likely to check SA directions, just to see. I continue to use them in rectification, and when it's not possible to explain a major event in a client's life otherwise.

We might wonder: what happened? My success with the technique appears to have been aligned with my enthusiasm for it. When my excitement diminished, so did my results. That's not supposed to happen in astrology, as most astrologers assert that it is the technique itself that matters. There are even computer programs that claim to be able to do prediction. The astrologer's mindset shouldn't make much of a difference.

You could argue that I tried a little too hard during the few months I was using SA directions regularly, perhaps reading too much into them. Or it could be that I became a bit lazy after my initial enthusiasm waned, and I began to miss valuable information. But I don't think so. To me, it seems that my success was indeed tied to my enthusiasm for SA, and that leads to some interesting questions about astrological techniques. For simplicity's sake, we'll limit the discussion to prediction, but most of what I'm saying could apply to other facets of astrology.

A Technique by Any Other Name

There are many valid predictive techniques in astrology. While some astrologers might assert that only one or a few methods of prediction work — for example, those based on a particular school or system — most of us would concede that a variety

of methods can be used successfully. If it were the case that multiple techniques reflected the same underlying principles, we could accept that the differences were not substantial and merely variations on a theme. However, that's not the case.

Some techniques show similarities. For instance, SA directions and secondary progressions are both timed to the movement of the Sun in a day-for-year manner and secondary, tertiary and minor progressions are all based on relating one cycle to another. Western zodiacal releasing looks quite a bit like the Indian Dasha system. Yet even with these similarities, the differences preclude the possibility that we are looking at the *same* information. There are some instances in which we can even mix techniques that have a completely different theoretical and practical basis, as when we look at transits to progressed planets, or look to see what planets are transiting the currently active Huber house and degree. How are we to make sense of all this variety?

Perspective

One possibility is that each technique works within a given frame of reference. Secondary progressions are, for the most part, described as showing internal changes or readiness for change within an individual, while solar arc directions are usually thought of as describing objective events. In contemporary Western astrology, transits occupy a middle ground, depending on the specific transiting planet, angle, and, to some extent, the attitude of the astrologer.

Each technique reflects the particular cultural environment and time in which it was developed, although subsequent use of the technique by astrologers remote from the culture and time will modify its application. Practitioners of traditional astrology in the 21st century may resonate with their ancient or medieval ancestors, but it's unlikely that they fully share the worldview of societies that were highly stratified, had little room for lateral — let alone upward — social mobility and were more monolithic in their beliefs.

The divergence of worldviews and beliefs in our culture is in sharp contrast to the uniformity that most societies had even a century ago, and that divergence has been accelerating in recent decades. Thus the predictive techniques that we use today need to account for a far greater range of possibilities than they did a few hundred years ago. A 14th-century European astrologer presented with the birth information of the newborn son of a blacksmith could probably tell a great deal about the native's life before even casting the chart. Today, it is not even a given that the child will grow up with the same gender assigned at birth.

Still, despite the need to modify older techniques to contemporary culture, the various predictive techniques do

present variables that might line up with the worldview of both astrologer and client. Some techniques emphasize internal state, while some are focused on events. There are techniques that cover a relatively long period of time, while some are temporally very precise.

What Are You Doing?

Then there is the question of what we intend to do with the information. I identify three different approaches to astrological prediction, although within one session, or even one topic, there can be considerable overlap and shifts among approaches.

Some astrologers and clients have a more-or-less deterministic perspective, and for them the predictive information is telling *what will happen*. Within this perspective, the only option for the client is to be prepared for the inevitable. For clients and astrologers who are hell-bent on such a fatalistic approach, such precise prediction is indeed probably feasible much of the time.

Many astrologers and clients take an archetypal approach to the information, and assume that while we can predict in general, we can't predict specifics. Astrological prediction as a kind of weather report, with the assumption that based on prevailing conditions the client has the ability to make decisions that will hopefully lead to the best possible outcome.

Another use of the process of astrological prediction is to decipher the *meaning* in both internal states and external events — past, present, and future. While these clients can also steer towards desired outcomes, they are using the process to develop themselves psychologically and perhaps spiritually. Within reason, most predictive techniques can be used to address any of these three levels of concern, but surely some techniques resonate better with one or two of these perspectives than they do with the others. A very precise timing technique like SA directions might be helpful in describing a years-long dissatisfaction with a relationship or career, but a technique that stretches over longer periods of time should logically be more relevant. Yet once again, we often see that the technique is not the only factor, and probably not the most important factor: SA directions can certainly help to understand internal states when they are in the right hands.

Multiplying Multiplicities

There is also the issue of the sheer number of predictive techniques, a number that is growing as new techniques continue to emerge. David Cochrane is having great success with *vibrational astrology*, a technique that uses smaller and more precise harmonics between planets. He has shown that while we have thought of Neptune and Pluto as being within a sextile for most of the 20th and 21st centuries, they have actually been moving between the 12th and 14th harmonics, and these are differences that make a difference. The use of Vibrational astrology's more precise angular relationships mirrors the move from aspect-by-sign to aspect-by-degree that happened long ago. Technological innovations correspond with innovations in interpretation. Twelfth, 13th and 14th harmonics become interpretive terms, just as orbs and approaching and separating aspects did in prior centuries.

Nor is it only recently that new techniques have been developed. Uranian astrology pioneered new techniques a century ago. The Huber Life Clock dates to the 1980s. The

composite chart has its roots in the early 20th century, but it was only with John Townley's work in the 1970s that it became commonplace in astrology. Predictive techniques now include transits to the composite chart and the progressed composite chart, options that weren't on the table six decades ago. Many readers will recognize that transits and progressions apply to the Davison relationship chart as well as the midpoint composite. That there are at least two composite charts in popular use today, for predictive purposes or otherwise, is exactly the kind of dilemma that becomes very difficult to resolve if the technique itself is the determining factor.

Synchronicity

Many astrologers like to rely on Jung's concept of synchronicity as means of understanding how astrology works, but there are a few issues with this. Jung was more concerned with describing the phenomenon of meaningful coincidence than providing an explanation for it, although he did speculate about the possibilities of the acausal connecting principle.

Jung's major essay on the subject ends with what he called an astrological experiment, examining the charts of married couples and looking for traditional favorable placements of the planets. Indeed, astrology takes up more than half of the seminal writing on synchronicity, and we can assume that Jung placed great emphasis on astrology as an example of meaningful coincidence.

However, astrology is a special case among synchronicities, and it's worth exploring the differences among his examples. Most prominent in his stories of synchronicity are what we might call *extraordinary coincidences*. For example, as a patient of his was relating a dream of an Egyptian scarab beetle, Jung heard a knocking at his office window, and upon opening the window a very similar beetle flew into the room. This had a powerful effect on the otherwise doubtful client.

Synchronicities like this are as rare as a scarab-like beetle in Switzerland: they are special events that are otherwise highly improbable. A key factor is the high emotional charge that is present in cases like this, and Jung said that as unconscious contents become conscious, the accompanying emotional release is part of what constellates the meaningful coincidence.¹

Astrologers will note that both the extraordinary nature of the physical event and the high emotional charge are often missing as we practice our art. Rather than extraordinary meaningful coincidences, we assume that such events are in fact *ordinary*. And if we view them as ordinary, we are unlikely to generate much in the way of emotional charge when doing astrology.

Unless, of course, our overall enthusiasm for astrology is sufficient for the purpose. In reviewing J.B. Rhine's parapsychology research, Jung noted that while initial trials tended to yield very positive statistically significant results, the number of correct responses tended to decline over time as both experimenter and subject lost enthusiasm for the tasks. However, if motivation could be returned, successful trials increased. Jung said, "*enthusiasm, positive expectation, hope and belief in the possibility of ESP make for good results.*"²

I would speculate that this is just why SA directions worked so well during and after my trips to England and California, when I was exploring the technique with knowledgeable and enthusiastic astrologers. And it also explains why on my own, my enthusiasm waned, and with it my results.

We are left, however, with the question of why my regular predictive techniques, like transits and secondary progressions, continue to work so well. The only explanation I have is unlikely to be satisfactory for most astrologers, but I will offer it as a possibility. When I learned astrology, I did so with a very strong emotional charge. It was essentially a mystical experience for me, and it grew out of other powerful mystical experiences. Although the numinous emotional intensity is not overt in my day-to-day work, I have reason to believe that it is still present. I often feel it when I am teaching astrology, letting me know that it is always just below the surface.

I'm sure astrologers have a wide variety of experiences in learning astrology, but perhaps there is some power in our initial encounters that makes a lasting impression. Maybe it was the first time you went to an astrologer for a reading, or the excitement you felt reading about your Sun sign in a book. For some, it is a link to parents or family members who practiced astrology. Any of these scenarios could be viewed as mundane, but perhaps they carry more significance for those of us who wind up reading an astrological journal. Consider also how typical it is for advanced astrologers to stick with the methods they initially learned no matter how far afield their research go.

Sloppy Solipsism

What I am suggesting is that it is not so much the technique as the mindset of the astrologer that makes for successful predictive work. Does that mean that anything goes? Can we declare that there are 14 zodiac signs or that Saturn is the fun-and-games planet?

No. The techniques we use have been used by astrologers for decades, centuries and even millennia, and a kind of morphic field has developed around them through repetition. That is, ongoing application of the techniques, along with instruction and discussion, has cut grooves in the fabric of the cosmos, and we tap into these when we use the methods for prediction. That implies that the cosmos is made up of mind — or consciousness — as much as, if not more than, matter, and I challenge anyone to come up with an explanation for astrology that doesn't include that assumption.

New techniques are possible because they build on established methods, both within astrology and outside of it. Vibrational astrology, for example, is an innovation on harmonics, which was an innovation on aspects. It is new, but it resonates with our existing knowledge. It also resonates with work that is being done in other fields, such as mathematics. The history of astrological knowledge, along with other types of knowledge, set guide rails around the forms that techniques can take.

The many predictive techniques in astrology are like ski slopes running down a mountain. Some are cut deep and some are more shallow. There is some virgin snow for new paths to be made, and the slopes are bounded by trees that can spell trouble for those who go too far afield.

In Conclusion

The search for a single valid predictive method in astrology is bound to lead to failure, as too many methods that are too different from each other can all work. When the search tries to find an approach that will work within the Western, materialist paradigm, it becomes quixotic.

The diverse predictive techniques in astrology are each appropriate for a given set of concerns and for the astrologers and clients with which they resonate. It is not possible to eliminate the subjective component, because in a real way, astrology works because we say it works. That's not to say that it's all pretend or only in our heads, but rather that astrology is a product of our consciousness — like everything else. At root, even the hard sciences like physics are no different, although the grooves they cut in the cosmic fabric are deeper and (appear to be) less subject to variation. ✖

©All Rights Reserved.

Endnotes:

1. Carl Jung, *Synchronicity: An Acausal Connecting Principle*. 1960. Bollingen
2. Carl Jung, *Synchronicity: An Acausal Connecting Principle*. 1960. Bollingen. Paragraph 838.



Armand Diaz is a Professional Astrologers Association Level IV Consulting Astrologer. In addition to seeing clients, Armand teaches astrology and is a frequent speaker for groups and conferences. He is the author/producer of several books and is Contributing Editor to NCGR's eNews. Armand is the president of NCGR's national board. He can be reached via his website,

ArmandDiaz.com

HOW NCGR-PAA CAN SERVE YOU

The NCGR-Professional Astrologers' Alliance helps you and your business in the following ways,

- ★ Administration of the NCGR-PAA Educational Testing Program for Professional Certification
- ★ Ongoing web listing of certification test venues (national and international)
- ★ Website resource for the Education Curriculum and Study Guide
- ★ Certification testing fee discounts for NCGR members
- ★ Web listing of NCGR-PAA Certified Astrologers and links to their personal website or email.
- ★ Online/live educational workshops on chart calculations and other astrology topics

Order your study guide for only \$20.00 - plus shipping!

For more details and information, visit us at www.astrologersalliance.org or email us at info@astrologersalliance.org



THE HELLENISTIC LOTS: FORTUNE & SPIRIT PREDICTION FOR A LIFETIME

BY MEIRA EPSTEIN

Introduction

The lots appear in astrology from the start in Hellenistic Alexandria, and they feature prominently in the classical texts, from Vettius Valens¹ to Abraham Ibn Ezra² and beyond. Fortune is the most well-known of the lots (formerly known as the Arabic Parts). Many astrologers have heard about the Lot of Fortune, and are aware of the Lot of Spirit, but in the modern landscape of astrology, their meaning and function has all but disappeared. Here, both the classical fundamentals of these lots in the natal chart along with a predictive technique based on them are addressed. The primary source for this material is Vettius Valens (2nd century), with supportive information from Claudius Ptolemy³, Paulus Alexandrinus⁴ and others.

For the natal application, I demonstrate how the lots are calculated, and I describe how their placement in the chart reveals what sustains us physically and mentally throughout life —where we are more fortunate, materially and spiritually.

For the predictive application, the Lots of Fortune and Spirit are the basis of a predictive technique known as zodiacal releasing, or aphesis, which is based on planetary periods and provides a long-range lifetime forecast. It tells us when an important change of direction comes about, how the transition happens and what will come next. I call it the real evolutionary astrology, since it functions as a roadmap for personal development by indicating when one chapter closes and a new one begins, such as a change of career, life direction or a financial situation. Best of all, it is surprisingly easy to apply — no computer needed!

Part 1: Fundamentals in the Natal Chart

A lot is not an astronomical point or a celestial body. It is a zodiacally calculated point, derived from the position of planets and cusps, primarily the Asc. Most lots are differentiated by day and night birth. Both the Lot of Fortune and Spirit are derived from the Sun and the Moon, and they reflect the relation between them.

Calculations of the Lots, Fortune and Spirit

The Lot of Fortune is known by its day formula: Fortune equals Asc plus Moon equals Sun. This simple formula does not explain the rationale behind it and is not related intuitively. The clue comes from the Hellenistic text for the Lot of Fortune: “Take the distance FROM the SUN to the MOON (in the order of the signs) and cast it from (add to) the ASC.”⁵ In other words: Moon minus Sun, added to the Asc, which is mathematically better described as $\text{Asc} + (\text{Moon} - \text{Sun})$. The key here is the phrase from and to, which describes the direction from one luminary to the other and makes it easy to remember. The night formula reverses the Sun and the Moon.

The Lot of Spirit is also formulated from the Sun and the Moon, in the reverse order.

The Lot of Fortune by Day: $\text{Asc} + (\text{Moon} - \text{Sun})$, from the Sun to the Moon, added to the Asc.

The Lot of Fortune by Night: $\text{Asc} + (\text{Sun} - \text{Moon})$, from the Moon to the Sun, added to the Asc.

The Lot of Spirit by Day: $\text{Asc} + (\text{Sun} - \text{Moon})$, from the Moon to the Sun, added to the Asc.

The Lot of Spirit by Night: $\text{Asc} + (\text{Moon} - \text{Sun})$, from the Sun to the Moon, added to the Asc.

An interesting point: Ptolemy recognizes only the Lot of Fortune and only its day formula, differing from his contemporaries and others⁶ (Figures 1 and 2).

The Lots, Fortune and Spirit, Form a Symmetry and Are Interchangeable (at Times)

Numerically, the distance from the Sun to Moon and from the Moon to Sun are complementary to 360° , forming a symmetry around the Asc-Dsc axis. Thus, they are interchangeable numerically. When this becomes necessary (change from Sun to Moon to from Moon to Sun), no new calculation is necessary — all you need to do is switch the names — Fortune becomes Spirit and Spirit becomes Fortune (Figure 3 next page).

The following is a situation when this is useful.

A Variant Calculation for the Night Formula When the Moon Is Below the Horizon

Vettius Valens said: “*Fortune is taken From the Leading Luminary to the Following one, that is, FROM the one Rising First TO the one that will Rise Next.*”⁷ In my experience, when this scenario occurs, this change

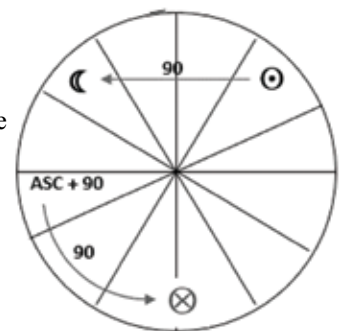


Figure 1: Fortune by Day from the Sun to the Moon



Figure 2: Spirit by Day from the Moon to the Sun

is necessary, as it provides more accurate information.

The sources tell us that Lots, Fortune and Spirit, are interchangeable in function in other situations as well, such as when the lot falls in a problematic house. Vettius Valens: "Often, then, when the Lot of Fortune or its lord falls amiss, the Lot of Spirit divides both bodily matters and those pertaining to action. Similarly, also, Fortune will divide both when the Lot of Spirit or its lord falls amiss, just as for predomination and rulerships."⁸

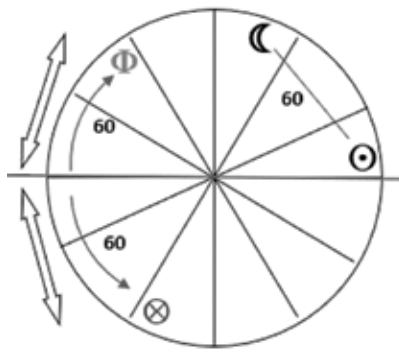


Figure 3: Fortune and Spirit Form Symmetry in the Chart

Significance of the Lot of Fortune

Fortune indicates material and physical matters in the reality of life, and it's associated with the 2nd house. Fortuna (Tyche) was the goddess of fortune and luck in Roman religion. In perspective, the Hellenistic lots are associated specifically with individual houses, as well as with specific planets. Example: The Lot of Children is of the 5th house, the Lot of the Father is of the 4th house. Fortune is also described by Ptolemy as a Lunar Ascendant. Fortune is lunar - it is the Lot of the Moon since the Moon also signifies material and physical well-being, or concerns.

Indications of the Lot of Fortune in the Natal Chart

1. Material fortune, good fortune in general, a point of blind luck: You find it when you need it. An area of life that works for you and sustains you over time.

2. As a Lunar Ascendant, the Lot of Fortune becomes a Horoscopic Point: A reference place to count houses from. It is described as a substitute, alternate or surrogate ascendant, which is used to identify bodily and physical matters, including health, marriage and rank!⁹

This is the most astounding feature of the Lot of Fortune — its function as an ascendant, which creates a secondary chart. The place of the lot is treated as an Asc and becomes a 1st house. Hence, planets found in the 7th sign from the Lot of Fortune describe marriage, planets in the 10th sign from Fortune describe career, in the 6th sign from Fortune describe health matters and so forth (Figure 4).

The Lot of Fortune chart does not replace the base chart but complements it, and many times it reveals meaningful facts that are not otherwise obvious. In a nutshell, the difference between the Lot of Fortune



Figure 4: Fortune Chart, Jupiter in the Career Place and Saturn in the Marriage Place

chart and the regular chart is: The regular chart carries the emotional personal baggage of life, while the Lot of Fortune chart describes what is, the realities of where, how the base chart is manifesting, and where life takes us over the long haul. The Lot of Fortune chart is there all the time, like another layer underneath the regular chart. Standard astrology does not see it, and that is why I call this the hidden ascendant and the invisible 10th house.

3. The Lot of Fortune's indications begins to show up early in life.

Significance of the Lot of Spirit

The Lot of Spirit is the counterpart, or the complement, to the Lot of Fortune, and its Greek Name is Daemon, or Daimon. The Lot of Spirit is solar — it is a Lot of the Sun (Pars Solis). The Sun represents the spirit, as the Moon represents worldly bodily matters. Spirit is also the lot of the 9th house, which is the joy of the Sun. The 9th house is the best place for the Sun, where the spirit can thrive. The Lot of Spirit is also called the Lot of Things to Come - the future (Pars Futurorum). Note that one of the indications of the 9th house is prophecy, i.e., looking into the future. The Lot of Spirit is also known as the Lot of Hidden Things. It's used in horary astrology to find things hidden from sight, not visible. The future is not visible.

Indications of the Lot of Spirit in the Natal Chart

1. The spirit and the mind: the mental part, the state of the mind.

2. Intentions that lead to action: the source of motivation, forward-looking, future, planning. Hence, it affects future occupation and action in the world. The house in which it is placed points to the source of motivation that catapults one into the future. It's what drives the mind.

3. The Lot of Spirit can also be used as a horoscopic point: As such, planets found in the 9th sign/place from Spirit indicate strong spiritual, mental, idealistic and futuristic tendencies.

4. Spirit tends to evolve later in life, as we mature into actions.

General Evaluation of Both Lots in the Natal Chart

1. House placement is a most important observation. The effects are noticeable when a lot is in an angular house: 1st, 4th, 7th or 10th.

As further food for thought, a 1st house placement results from Sun conjunct Moon, a 7th house placement results from Sun opposite Moon, 10th house and 4th house placements result from Sun square Moon, and 11th and 3rd house placements result from Sun sextile Moon.

2. Aspects from Planets: A conjunction with a planet provides the strongest effect. The other aspects, opposition, square, sextile and trine, draw our attention to the houses. For example, the Lot of Fortune in Aries trine Venus in Leo puts Venus in the 5th house in the Fortune chart. The Lot of Fortune in Sagittarius square Saturn in Virgo, puts Saturn in the 10th house in the Fortune chart. The Lot of Fortune in Scorpio opposite Mars in Taurus puts Mars in the marriage house — 7th from Fortune. Use wide orbs -precision is not required.

Examples

Chart 1: Ronda Rousey. (*Chart below*) Mars is in the 10th place from the Lot of Fortune together with the Lot of Spirit, both in a career house. From childhood on, she was known as a professional wrestler and martial art champion — a single-mindedness when both lots, Fortune and Spirit join forces. (Source: AstroDatabank; Rodden Rating, AA.)

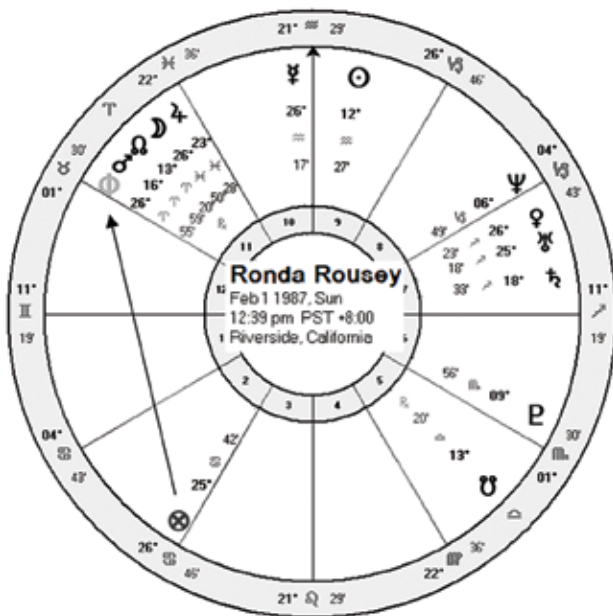


Chart 1: Ronda Rousey, Mars in the 10th Place from Fortune with Spirit in the Career House

Chart 2: Edgar Cayce (*Chart below*). Note the ultimate 9th, counted from the Lot of Spirit. Cayce was known as the Sleeping Prophet. The seer's Lot of Spirit is in the 10th from Fortune: the Lot of Spirit is the calling, the manifestation of the Lot of Fortune. (Source AstroDatabank; Rodden Rating, C.)

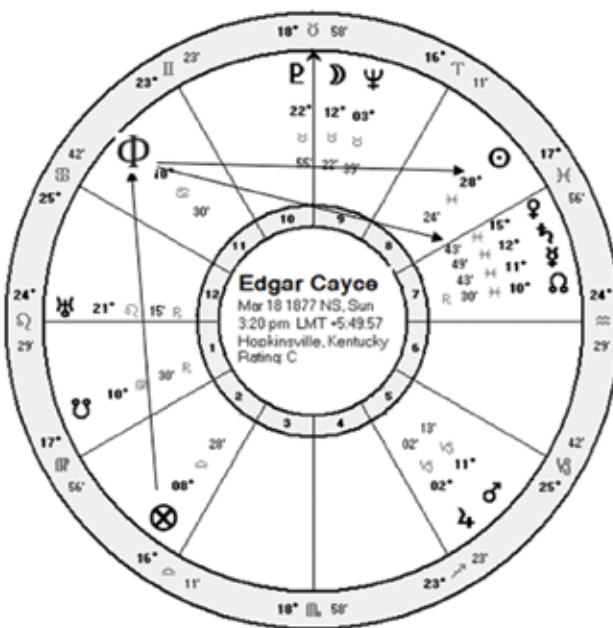


Chart 2: Edgar Cayce, the Ultimate 9th House

Part 2: Predicting for a Lifetime

The Lots of Fortune and Spirit are the source of a predictive technique for long-term periods in life, known as zodiacal releasing, or aphesis — Vettius Valens calls it the “division of time.”¹⁰ It is a time-lord system, in which periods in life are governed by a sequence of planets. The length of each period is determined by the minor years of the planet. The specific number of years is based on the astronomy of the synodic cycles of planets with the Sun. The starting point of the sequence — the first period — is determined by the ruling planet of the sign placement of the Lot of Fortune, followed by the years of the ruling planets of the signs that follow in succession.

The term zodiacal releasing comes from the ancient Greek aphesis (ἀφεσις), which means letting go, release from bondage, send forth. It is as if the natal planet is a potential waiting to happen, like pent-up energy expecting to start manifesting, and when it's time for the planet to act, it is released from the held-up position, to fully manifest its essential power, as well as its natal significance. I say that it should be called zodiacal planetary releasing since it is the planets that move the years forward.

This system provides a larger perspective and long-range lifetime forecast that is extremely valuable when the question is “when will my life change?” It maps the meaningful changes of direction in life. A unique phase in this process is what happens at the transition point, from one period to the next.

Application and Evaluation in the Chart

The periods, listed here are the years of the planets, as explained above (*Figure 5*). Note the period of Saturn, which according to Vettius Valens is 27 years for the period moving through Capricorn and 30 years for Aquarius.

The system also allocates sub-periods, but these are not discussed here. Suffice it to say that the main periods are where the important and developmental highlights of life are found. For more information about the source of numbers see Endnote ¹¹.

The Planetary Periods
Saturn, 27 / 30 years
Jupiter, 12 years
Mars, 15 years
Sun, 19 years
Venus, 8 years
Mercury, 20 years
Moon, 25 years

Figure 5:
The Years of the Planets

Tracking the Periods in the Chart

To track the periods in the chart, see the two sequences below:

1. For the Lot of Fortune in Leo, the first 19 years are governed by the Sun, followed by 20 years governed by Mercury, 8 by Venus, 15 by Mars, 12 by Jupiter, etc. (the sequence of Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, etc.)
2. For the Lot of Fortune in Aquarius, the first 30 years are governed by Saturn, followed by 12 years governed by Jupiter, 15 by Mars, 8 by Venus, 20 by Mercury, etc. (the sequence of Aquarius, Pisces, Aries, etc.)

Parallel Tracking: The period sequences of both Lots, Fortune and Spirit, produce changes and must be tracked side by side. This allows you to observe, in certain sequence scenarios, when the age numbers coincide, and produce a decisive dramatic life change (Figures 6 and 7).

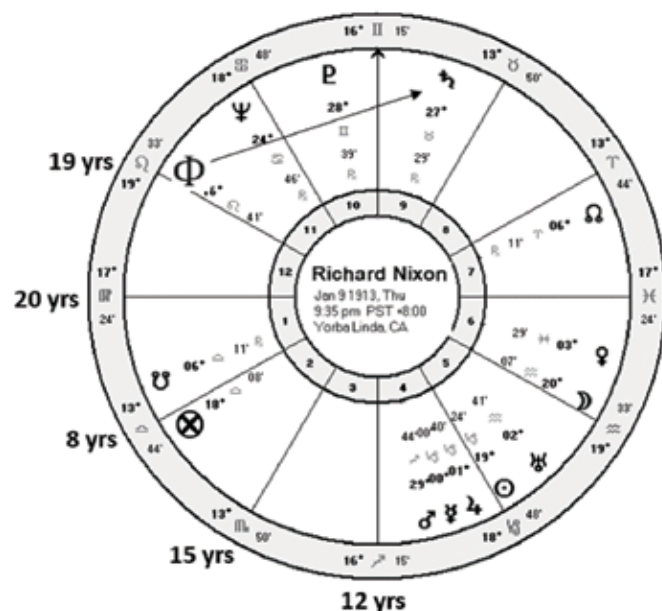
Delineation Guidelines

1. Each period is evaluated by the nature and natal condition of its ruling planet, as always in astrology, by dignity and debility, house placement and aspects.

2. As Vettius Valens emphasizes, when the period arrives at an angular house, it is an auspicious time in life. When a period released from one lot arrives at the place of the other lot (Fortune comes to the place of Spirit, or vice versa) it is also auspicious.¹² I call this time unity of spirit and matter, of purpose and actualization. See Case 1 below: Richard Nixon, age 39–47, when Spirit came to the place of Fortune.

The transition experience of going from one period to the next feels like one chapter of life is closing and a new one is opening, similar to the Pluto effect of finality. A period has ended. That part of life is done, completed and must be let go. When concurrent with Saturn or Pluto action, the changes are never easy, and some difficult situation enforces the change — the period tends to end with a bang, a critical event that is signified by the planet that just ended! This is because it is the end of the synodic cycle which functions like a return for the planet, repeating its natal phase relation with the Sun. (see endnote 11).

At this point, the old chapter is closed and left behind. It has played itself out completely and there is nothing there anymore. The bridges are burnt and it is a way of no-return. The new period brings a different life direction and significant change, along the path of personal evolution.



Counting from ☉ (Sun):	Counting from ♀ (Venus):
Period Age	Period Age
19 (19)	8 (8)
20 (39)	15 (23)
8 (47)	12 (35)
15 (62)	27 (62)
12 (74)	30 (92)

Figure 6:
Richard Nixon,
Planetary Periods

Examples

Case 1: The Highs and the Lows of President Richard Nixon (See Chart 3 below) (Source: AstroDatabank: Rodden Rating AA)

Richard Nixon came from humble beginnings, rose to the highest position in the land, and then fell from that height resulting from the Watergate political scandal. Each phase in his life is clearly marked by the planetary periods. Note that the chart is the variant case (nocturnal, with Moon below the horizon). The Lot of Spirit sequence is the most descriptive:

Age 19 (Sun, Leo, 12th): End high school. Invited by Harvard, went to college near home, due to family health.

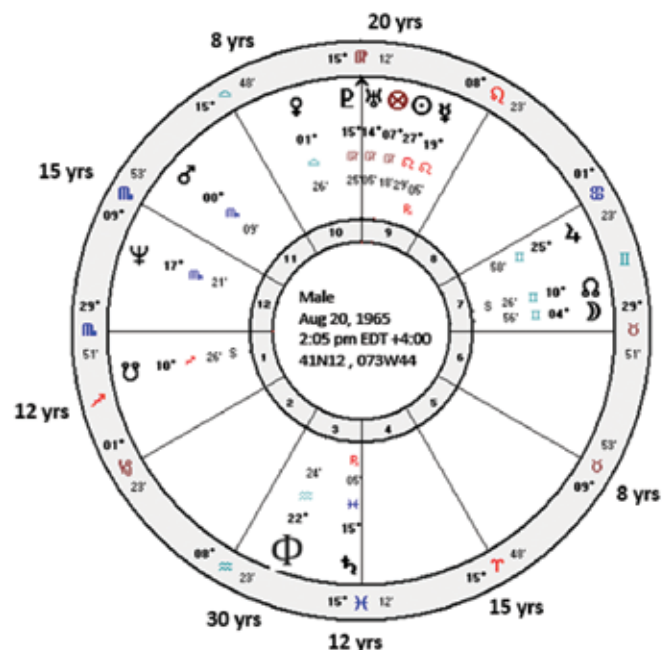
Age 19–39 (Mercury, Virgo, Asc): Entered politics. Won a Senate seat.

Age 39–47 (Venus, Libra, place of Fortune): VP for President Eisenhower, successful two terms (eight years of exalted natal Venus, Ruler of 10th house from Spirit)

Age 47–62 (Mars, Scorpio 3rd): Unanimously nominated by his party primaries but lost the presidential election to JFK. Elected president. successful visit to China, Second Term by a landslide (1972) followed by a big downfall from the Watergate scandal (1973). Age 62: resigned his presidency (August 15, 1974) when Fortune and Spirit coincided.

Age 62–74 (Jupiter, Sagittarius, 4th): Retreated to private life away from public eye. Wrote books. Regained respect as a foreign affairs statesman.

Case 2: An Event of Marriage and Drastic Change of Job



Counting from ♂ (Mars):	Counting from ♄ (Saturn):
Period Age	Period Age
20 (20)	30 (30)
8 (28)	12 (42)
15 (43)	15 (57)
12 (55)	8 (65)

Figure 7:
Male,
Planetary Periods

A male client (*See Chart 4 below*) who held successful high-level positions in a building construction company with international connections held two degrees from MIT and was well off financially. He was self-confident with an abrupt manner and married with two children.

During the 12 years of a Jupiter cycle, which in both sequences his age coincided (Figure 7), he begins a rocky extra-marital affair with pressure to get a divorce and marry the affair. At the end of the period (age 54 and time for the ending-event to come), he finally gets the divorce and marries the affair. True to form of Jupiter, the time-lord is in the natal 7th. The natal mutable T-square has been active all the time, but there is no need to elaborate it here.

Now (Summer 2022) the end of 15 years of Mars, another huge shock ending event came. Out of the blue, he was let go of his high-level job with no real explanation, no financial compensation and unsubstantiated email allegation of inappropriate verbal abuse towards people in the company. His natal Mars with Neptune in Scorpio, square the Leo planets, is not innocent. As in the case of Nixon, they built him up and then tore him down. The trigger for this crisis was solar arc Moon precisely square the natal Mars. Per this Moon-Mars, the allegations originated by a female in the company.

In our recent consultation, while still reeling from the shock, he recognized that he is on the threshold of a new phase in life. I explained the transition to a new period, and the new Venus period that is beginning (natal Venus, ruler of the 6th, dignified in the 10th). He has always worked well with women. ✱

©All Rights Reserved.

Endnotes:

1. Valens, Vettius, *The Anthology*, 2nd century, trans. Robert Schmidt, Berkley Springs, WV: The Golden Hind Press, 1993.
2. Ibn Ezra, Abraham, *The Beginning of Wisdom*, 12th century, trans. Meira Epstein, Reston, VA: ARHAT Publications, 1998.
3. Ptolemy, Claudius, *The Tetrabiblos*, 2nd century, trans. J. M. Ashmand, London: David and Dickson, 1822.
4. Alexandrinus, Paulus, *Introductory Matters*, 4th century, trans. Dorian Greenbaum, Reston, VA: ARHAT Publications, 2001.
5. Valens, *Anthology*, Book II, 3.
6. Ptolemy, *Tetrabiblos*, Book IV, ch. 2., Book III ch. 13.
7. Greenbaum, Dorian Gieseler *Calculating the Lots of Fortune and Daemon in Hellenistic Astrology*, *Culture and Cosmos*, Vol. 11 no. 2, Autumn/Winter 2007 pp. 163-187.
8. Valens, *Anthology*, Book IV, 4.
9. Valens, *Anthology*, Book II, 18.
10. Valens, *Anthology*, Book IV, 4.
11. A synodic cycle is a recurrence of an aspect between any two bodies from conjunction to conjunction, from square to square, from sextile to sextile, etc. The periods herein are the synodic cycles of the planets with the Sun, and function like a return of that body. A famous synodic cycle is the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction every 20 years. The New Moon is a synodic cycle from conjunction to conjunction. The numbers come from the synodic cycles of the planets with the Sun.
Saturn: 27/30 years Saturn return (synodic with the Sun)
Jupiter: 12 years Jupiter return (synodic with the Sun)
Mars: 15 years Mars return (synodic with the Sun)
Sun: 19 years (synodic with the Moon)
Venus: 8 years Venus return (synodic with the Sun)
Mercury: 20 years
Moon: 25 years
The Sun number (19) comes from the Metonic Cycle (of Greek Astronomer Meton), a period of 19 years and 235 lunations, or synodic months, after which the Moon's phases recur on the same days of the solar year. Every 19 years the combination date in the lunar calendar and in the Gregorian calendar repeat on the same day.

The Moon number (25) represents the 25 Egyptian years for the Moon to return to the same degree that it was in, relative to the Sun. The original calendar was in Egyptian years and months: One year equaled 360 days; one month equaled 30 days. I use the 365-day calendar since the difference is not enough to have significant effect. 12. Valens, *Anthology*, Book IV, 7.



Meira Epstein, C.A., NCGR-PAA has been a professional astrologer since the early 1980s. New York City Chapter Faculty. Technical director on the NCGR board. Education development on the NCGR-PAA board. Creator and teacher of the NCGR online education courses. National and international conference speaker. Specialties: Hellenistic/classical astrology. The Uranian System. Publications: Translations of the Medieval Hebrew astrology works of Abraham Ibn Ezra. Excellence in Astrology — study books for certification exams. Articles published in the US and Europe. An extended parallel IT career.

Write for the NCGR Journals

We offer two printed Journals:

Geocosmic Journal and Syzygy.

Geocosmic Journal is our annual flagship journal. Articles range from 3000 to 4000 words and focus on a myriad of subjects from current or future events to interpreting the horoscope of a famous person to illustrating a particular astrological technique. All astrological systems, techniques, and research results are welcome. Contact: geocosmiceditor@geocosmic.org.

Syzygy is our research journal. Articles range from 2000 to 4000 words and is for all interested in quantitative and qualitative methods and statistical analysis. These contributions are held to rigorous standards and raise the bar in the field of astrology. Send research ideas to our Research Director, Manda Selva, mandaselva@gmail.com.

Once accepted, articles must be sent electronically in MS Word, or text file according to writer's guidelines, which will be provided. We reserve the right to edit all material for sense and space.

NCGR is a nonprofit, tax-exempt, education and research organization, so our authors retain copyright to all of their material published in our publications



INTRODUCTION TO VASTU SHASTRA

BY RAMYA KRISHNAMURTHY

Jyotish or Vedic astrology translates to the science of light, while Vastu is known as the ancient Indian science of living. The root *Vas* means to reside. Vastu refers to the dwelling of humans and gods and is similar to Feng Shui, in the respect that it provides guidelines for the placement of architectural structures and the objects within. In both the systems, the focus is on bringing harmony between the dwelling and your innate energy. Additionally, the ancient tradition of Vastu can be used with or without astrological charts.

When constructing a house in ancient India, not only was it important to follow architectural rules for the building of the structure, but it was also important to ensure that the living spirit of the house, also known as the Vastu Purusha, was nourished and would bring happiness to the structure's inhabitants. In this ancient science, the building is considered a living organism.

Today, this science is still applied in many dwellings in India, and hence, it's a thriving area of learning in the construction business. Vastu is visible in all the ancient Indian temple architecture — for example, the Meenakshi Temple, in Madurai, is a monumental example of Vastu at its finest. Vastu has also been applied to entire cities, such as Jaipur. The city of Jaipur was established in 1727 as the capital of the state of Rajasthan. Its monarch, the Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, was a passionate astronomer, mathematician and scientist. As the first *planned* city in India, all of the tiny details, including the manuscript scrawled above each shop, were planned beforehand.¹ The city is a popular tourist destination and a treasure trove for students of Vastu.

In this world, whether it be man, animal, plant or mineral, all are made from the five basic elements. These consist of earth, water, fire, wind and sky (or spirit or ether). When the five elements are balanced and placed at proper areas of a building, we become one with nature and perhaps even one with God.

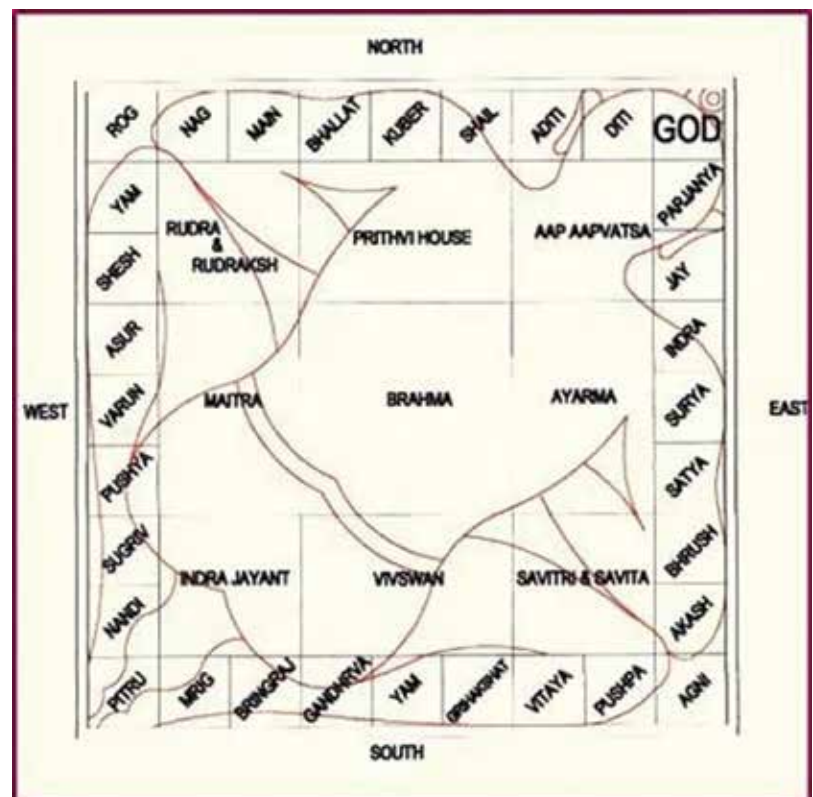
The Mythology of Vastu Mandala and Vastu Purusha

The Vastu mandala depicts a grid with equally divided squares, often with a courtyard (earth) in

the center and the image of a man superimposed upon it. The different directions of the structure are ruled by different deities, with different significations that govern the flow of energy (*Figure 1 below*).

It is said that Brahma as the father of creation, wanted to create an ideal man, which is how he created Vastu Purusha. Since the Purusha was not an ordinary man, he grew bigger with his powers, and as he grew, so did his hunger. He ate everything in sight which alarmed the gods, and a plan had to be devised to control him. The three divine gods (the Trinity) asked the gods of eight directions (Ashta Dipakalas), to help trap Vastu on the ground in a specific position. This is why the image of the man is superimposed on the grid with his head on the northeast and his legs towards the southwest.

Another popular story in the Matsya Purana (Vedic scripture) describes the Vastu Purusha as having been born from the sweat of the god Shiva.² But the result is the same — the extraordinarily hungry, celestial man starts to eat everything in sight and frightens the gods. Once more he is subdued and tied down to the Earth. He is then granted a boon by Shiva, to be the energy that dwells in homes, temples and buildings of all sorts, and he is given the power to possess those who construct them and those who live in them. If the Purusha is not appeased prior to laying the



The Vastu Mandala

foundation stone, he may trouble those who live there. In most Indian homes, prior to construction, it is common to worship the Purusha so that there is no delay or trouble during the construction and the dwelling is assured to be peaceful and prosperous for its inhabitants.

Since the Vastu Purusha was defeated by several deities and configured in different positions, each sector of the grid has a different ruling deity from which different energies emanate. This in itself can be an area of study and provide deep meaning to different corners of the structure.

Basic Vastu Considerations for the Construction of Homes

Here are some basic principles outlined for those new to this topic. The house should have plenty of cross ventilation along with natural sunlight. Bathrooms should never be constructed in the northeast or the southwest corners of a house or room. The rooms should be very well lit and clean. The corners of the room should also be clear of debris and well lit. It was usual in ancient times to have an empty space or courtyard in the center of the house. Since this is not always feasible, many households try to keep the center clear of heavy furniture.

Heavy furniture is usually relegated to the southwest direction of a room. Stairs in this direction are also considered to be good. Water features, like a fountain, aquarium and potted plants, are usually avoided in the bedroom.

In general, the north and east directions are considered to be auspicious and hence important to keep clean and well lit. The main entrance to a home is considered the doorway for harnessing the right sort of energy force. Hence the main doorway should be bigger and more substantial than the other doors in the house. Teakwood was preferred for the main entrance. It was recommended to keep the entrance well-lit so that it would be bright and invite good energy. Ideally, the door should open inward, in a smooth fashion without being noisy. In the absence of a full consultation, or one shortcut to locating the main door is to have it facing the north, east or in the northeast direction. The main door should be constructed such that, when you step out, you would face the north, east or northeast direction. In the next paragraph we will deal with the complexities of the main entrance.

The generic rules stated above are applicable for anyone and any space, be it office, home, etc. However, as we get into the subject in more in depth, as with anything else, it's best to consult a reputable Vastu practitioner to get the full benefits of this science. Vastu should not be treated as a quick fix for issues or as a self-prescribed medication as it can have negative effects if done improperly. We will explore some of the complexities of applying astrology along with Vastu below.

Basic Astrology Considerations for Applying Vastu

While purchasing a house, one of the biggest considerations is the direction of the main entrance to the home. Based on the buyer's Moon sign, different directions are known to be

auspicious. Indians will not purchase a house that has an entrance incompatible with their Moon sign. Moon signs and the corresponding compatible directions are given below.

Aries	South and East
Taurus	South and West
Gemini	South and West
Cancer	South and West
Leo	North and West
Virgo	North and West
Libra	North and West
Scorpio	North and East
Sagittarius	North and East
Capricorn	North and East
Aquarius	South and East
Pisces	South and East

Planets also have directions that they rule along with a Vastu Lordship (*Table 1 is at the top of the next page*).

Let's take an example of a person with a Leo Moon. The directions that are compatible for Leo are north and west. We can also incorporate the sign ruler indicated for Leo — which in this case, is the Sun, the ruler of Leo. The direction compatible for the Sun is east. Applying both the principles, the north, west and east directions are all compatible for this person. So automatically homes with the main entrance facing the north, west or east would be chosen for a residence, while homes with entrances facing the south would be rejected.

However, just like the several complexities of reading a natal chart we can layer on more considerations. For example, if the person has planets that are benefic located in the Moon sign, those can also factor into calculating the compatible astro direction. As you can see, this can get quite complicated which is why you would need an expert in astrology as well as Vastu.

In a typical situation, if we assume there are two people purchasing a home, we need to consider both of their charts, and the astro direction chosen should be compatible for both parties. Let's take a simple example of two people, one with a Pisces Moon and another with a Gemini Moon. In this case, if we refer back to the compatible directions, the southern direction is common for both signs. As explained earlier in a detailed reading, we would consider other factors such as the planets located in these houses as well as rulership of the Moon sign to determine an entrance that is compatible for both parties. This is probably one of the most common and important consultations that is done prior to house hunting. Based solely on the direction of the entrance, many homes are automatically rejected, no matter how desirable it may be. Many home buyers will take this basic rule into consideration and chose to layer on more Vastu rules within the home if they are able to. In the case of a brand-new construction where the builder is building to your criteria, a Vastu consultant would be brought in, along with an architect to plan every single room and placement to the property owner's best advantage. These days it is common in India for architects to study Vastu also, because their clients demand it, and either the architect

Directions	Planetary Lord	Vastu Lord
North	Mercury	Kubera – God of Wealth
North East	Jupiter	Esha – Supreme God
East	Sun	Indra – King of Heaven
South East	Venus	Agni – God of Fire
South	Mars	Yama – God of Death
Southwest	Rahu	Nirit – Goddess of Demons
West	Saturn	Varuna – God of Oceans
North West	Moon	Vayu – God of Wind

Table 1: Planetary and Vastu Lords of Directions

will undergo basic Vastu training or hire a Vastu specialist. It's common to find sales brochures for new homes touting the best Vastu consultants and the application of Vastu in the homes' construction.

Ideal Locations for Various Rooms

Listed below are some ideal locations prescribed by the texts. These are particularly applicable, if a house were to be constructed from ground up, utilizing the principles of Vastu. For homes that are pre-existing, the buyers will have to pick what is most important for them (usually the entrance) and relegate the rest to *nice to have*— and perform a spiritual practice (puja) to appease the deity for the *incompatibilities* in the home.

- **Meditation or spiritual room:** Most Indian homes designate a section of room or an entire room for this purpose. Spiritual pursuits are recognized as very important and the northeast part of a home is noted to be perfect for meditation, yoga and other spiritual activities. Facing east or northeast while meditating is considered to be very good. In many homes, if the northeast part cannot be designated for this purpose, a painting of a god, or something spiritual in nature is placed here in what is known as the Eshan corner. Suitable colors are white and yellow.
- **Living room:** This room should face east, north or northeast. Northwest is also an option. Heavy furniture is to be kept in the west or southwest direction, to block negative energies. The southwest direction, ruled by Rahu, has an energy that is obsessive in nature. This is why we try to block the energy flowing from that direction. For example, a television located on the southwest corner of the living room will have a tendency to remain on all the time, due to the obsessive nature of Rahu and its energies there. The north and east areas of the room should be lighter and open to allow for circulation of positive energy.
- **Bedroom:** Ideally the bedroom should be located in the southwest direction and the bed placed in

the southwest corner. Avoid water features in the bedroom to minimize emotional disruption. Attached bathrooms should never be constructed in the northeast or southwest corner of the bedroom (or any room).

- **Kitchen:** This room should be located in the southeast corner of the house, as it is ruled by the fire God, Agni. If there is no kitchen in the southeast corner of the house, this area can be illuminated by candles or lamps which bring in the positive fire element.
- **Courtyard:** - Historically, a courtyard would be located in the center of the house. The center of the house is recognized as its cosmic center and most powerful zone. This area is said to radiate the maximum energy and was kept open and clear for the energy to circulate. In ancient times (but still a common feature in new homes), the holy basil would be grown in the center of the courtyard as a method to purify the energy emanating from the center. These days, since houses tend not to be constructed with courtyards, it's important to keep the center of the house clutter free and open to circulation.
- **Home office:** This can be located in the northern direction of the house, which is traditionally reserved for the treasury. Desks should not be placed against the wall but rather three to six inches away. For those in the pursuit of knowledge (students), it's preferable to sit facing east (or north) — the flow of knowledge will be greatly facilitated.

Applying Basic Vastu Remedies

As seen above, a full Vastu consultation along with the astrology of the natal chart can be quite complicated. However, there are some easy ways to apply Vastu in your life by combining your natal chart and the directions provided in Table 1. This method can be applied to either Western or Vedic charts.

Let's consider an example of a person undergoing a harsh Mars aspect. What could we do by using Vastu, to improve

or ameliorate the condition of this Mars? By looking at the table we can see that Mars rules the southern direction. We can look towards the southern room in the house and check the condition of that room, to ensure that it is well lit, clean and well ventilated. We can incorporate interior design in the room utilizing things that signify Mars. An example might be the use of the color red, decorations that include sharp objects, lighting a candle etc. These things can be done to appease the planet Mars, and reduce the negative effects associated with this planet. Similarly, this concept can be applied to a single room. For example, a person who is struggling with Mars issues works from home and has problems with their boss could take a hard look at their home office. Within the home office, they could locate the southern corner of the room and apply the basic principles there by ensuring that the southern corner is clean, well-lit and with a good flow of air and energy.

Here's another example to illustrate how these principles can be applied with a basic understanding of astrology and Vastu. A person having relationship issues, due to an afflicted Venus, should look to the southeast corner of the house, and clean out any dead plants, remove garbage and trash receptacles, etc.

Keep in mind that we can combine, the natural significations of the planets, their directions per Vastu, and be creative in coming up with remedies that might help the querent. This can be applied with Western or Vedic astrology, but note that in Vedic astrology, the significations of the various planets are slightly different than in Western astrology.

Provided below are some of the natural significations of the planets in Vedic astrology.

Sun: Authority, power, ego, soul, father, source of life, government, heart, right eye, politics, gold, forests, fortresses.

Moon: Mother, women, emotions, family, breasts, lymph nodes, water bodies, nurses, cooks.

Mars: Courage, enemies, siblings/brothers, weapons, surgeons, butchers, barbers, dentists, sports competitors, factory workers.

Mercury: Duality, LGBT, skin, speech, intelligence, memory, youth, communication.

Jupiter: Teacher, spirituality, prosperity, fortune, luck, children, ministers, religion, liver, fat, sweet treats, philosophy, temples, places of worship, legislative places.

Venus: Luxury, materialistic gains, love, marriage, beauty, semen, hormones, musicians, transportation, cars and vehicles, artists, fine textiles, dancing, and luxury goods.

Saturn: Longevity, hard work, senior citizens, disappointments, disharmony, dejection, bones, teeth, melancholy.

Rahu or North Node: Materialistic gains, dissatisfaction, foreign, traveling, nonconforming, serpents, research, interreligious, eccentric, obsessive, diseases not visible to the naked eye.

Ketu or South Node: Wisdom, detachment, psychic abilities, micro sciences, self-realization, loss.

Conclusion

Vastu, like any other discipline, requires deep study and contemplation. To apply it in concert with the natal chart and associated transits requires a certain amount of skill and experience. However, there are many resources on the basics of Vastu, which we can apply in a generic prescriptive manner and tinker with it until we find a positive flow of energy that suits our needs. It's important to realize that a building structure can be considered a living organism that nourishes and provides us with life-giving energy. For us to function at our highest calling, it is important to harmonize ourselves with this energy.✳

©All Rights Reserved

Endnotes:

1. <https://www.cnn.com/travel/gallery/jaipur-vastu-shastra-photos/index.html>
2. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/astrology/vastu-feng-shui/vaastu-purush-its-significance/articleshow/68207074.cms>



Ramya Krishnamurthy is a practitioner of both Western and Vedic (Indian) astrology. Currently engaged in research of the Astro sciences, she is also a board member of the NCGR. She is actively involved in the Boston chapter. She is an organizer of conferences and events related to astrology, as well as an engaging and knowledgeable speaker at the national level. She currently holds a senior position in the corporate world and brings her real-life experiences to her astrology talks and consultations. She can be reached at ramya.astrology@gmail.com



SECONDARY PROGRESSIONS: CHARTING OUR EVOLVING SELVES

BY RACHEL LANG

Secondary progressions hold a complex range of symbols and meanings related to life events, whether studied as stand-alone charts or in comparison to radix charts. In this article, I provide an overview of secondary progressions and an outline of the top progressions that often relate to significant life changes.

Progressions are a symbolic system based on correlation of time. They are one of the most widely used ways to advance a chart, and there are different ways to work with them. For simplicity's sake, we will focus on the method of secondary progressions, a symbolic system that considers each day after birth as an equivalent to one year in life. So, if you want to look at a native's progression for their 20th year, you'd look at a chart for the 20th day after their birthday. For example, for someone born on October 2, 1971, you'd study the chart for October 22, 1971.

The first three months of life equate to ninety years in a progressed chart – a little more than the average lifespan of an individual. Progressions reflect the daily transits that were happening within the first few months of life, and research now shows that babies' brains grow exponentially fast in the first three years of life. Babies' brain synapses multiply more than 20 times in the first three months alone, and babies' brains have more neuroplasticity than at other times in life. As their central operating systems are being formed, babies pick up vital social and emotional cues in the first three months that help shape their life experiences in adulthood.

Using the technique of one day symbolically representing one year, we can see the evolution of one's life and consciousness from the moment of the nativity. The natal chart is always the starting point, and we can see its advancement slowly over time. As the planets and angles move forward (or retrograde), we can see shifts within the personality. No progression or transit can bring to fruition anything not indicated in the natal chart. Instead, progressions help us integrate and perfect what's in our natal chart and show us a snapshot of how we have grown throughout our lives.

We delineate progressions to understand subtle or overt shifts in consciousness. They portend how we maximize the opportunities in our charts or move through challenges. For example, a native with a Leo Sun will, at some point, experience the Sun's progression into Virgo. They still embody the traits of a Leo Sun sign, but the characteristics of Virgo will begin to overlay the Leo expression. The individual might come to be more careful and discerning about how to focus their energy, or they may become more disciplined in how they ground creative ideas into tangible, practical forms.

Secondary progressions often initiate an internal shift. Something awakens from within as a part of our evolutionary process. It could be the spark of an idea or a decision to do things differently. From that starting point, we begin to make changes in our lives over time, and *time* is the operative word! Planets move slowly by progression. Therefore, we pay most attention to the inner planets and track their movement most carefully.

After analyzing the natal chart, we study the progressed chart independently. We want to delineate it alone and in relation to the natal chart. For that analysis, we use a bi-wheel chart with the radix chart as the inner wheel and the progressions positioned in the outer wheel.

The next step adds transits, making a tri-wheel chart with the transits on the outermost wheel. Transits activate points in the natal and progressed charts, and transits to progressed planets bear significance in our astrological forecasting work. However, I find transits to natal planets more specific in how we experience them in life events. Transits to progressions are often more subtle, like inner movements of inquiry or decision points.

I look for the following movements in progressed charts to indicate life changes:

- Progressed planet changing signs
- Progressed planet stationing retrograde or direct
- Progressed lunation phase
- Progressed planets conjunct progressed angles or progressed angles conjunct natal planets
- Location by sign and house of the progressed Moon
- Aspects between progressed planets

Progressed Planets Changing Signs

When our progressed personal planets change signs, it's a big deal! Because progressed planets move slowly, we experience turning points in life when they change signs. One chapter opens and another closes in a process that stirs mixed emotions, because this change invariably involves letting something go. We start by experiencing a subtle shift in consciousness as the planet changes polarity, quadruplicity and triplicity. The modes and nature of the planet move, and we experience those evolutions in our lives.

When a progressed planet or angle reaches the 29th degree, we move through a period of transition that can feel unsettling. After all, the planet is receiving energy from two signs, the one from which it's pushing away and the one it is pulling toward. Consequently, we can feel unsure of where we're going regarding the nature of that planet. For example, I



**Chart 1 Passion of the Christ -
Production Starts: Mel Gibson**

Inner wheel: Natal chart Jan 3, 1956 4:45 PM PST, San Jose, CA
37° 20' N ; 121° 53' W ; Tropical Placidus True node

Outer wheel: Secondary Progressed chart
Nov 4, 2002 9:00 AM EST, Peekskill, NY 41° 17' N ; 73° 55' W

have heard clients say when their natal Venus reaches 29° by progression, “*What I want in a relationship is changing.*”

When a progressed planet reaches the 29th degree, we move through a letting-go process, even if what we’re releasing is something intangible, like a belief or dream. Along with letting go, we cannot always see what’s coming next. As a result, this transition is highly creative and full of potential.

On November 4, 2002, production started for *The Passion of the Christ*, a film written, produced, and directed by Mel Gibson. Gibson said in interviews his Christian faith inspired the film, and though it was quite controversial at the time, the film led Gibson’s career and life in a new direction.¹

You can see in Chart 1 (above) that Gibson’s secondary progressions for this period are striking and indicate a big-picture life change. His progressed Sun entered Pisces weeks before (on October 8, 2002), and his progressed Ceres entered Pisces several months before (July 1, 2022). His progressed Sun is also in the 9th house of religion and philosophy. His Sun’s entrance into Pisces suggests a dedicated focus on religion and spirituality. Gibson made an appearance in the film as the one who nails Jesus to the cross, and I recall hearing him in interviews talk about this choice in relation to his guilt, which also reflects the shift of his progressed Sun into Pisces.²

Progressed Planets Station Retrograde or Direct

When progressed planets station either retrograde or direct, it signifies a turning point. Because planets from Jupiter to Pluto move so slowly compared to the inner planets, we don’t feel the effects of those stations. They don’t move very far from

their stationing point. We want to pay attention to the degree at which the planet stations, as this becomes a sensitive point in the chart, and transits or other progressions could activate that point, signaling activity in our lives related to the nature of that planet.

We see a clear example in Chart 2, (top of next page) the progressed chart of actor, writer and comedian Mindy Kaling. She reached early success in 2002, when a play she co-wrote gained popularity and launched her career. Her progressed Mercury was at 14° Leo in early 1999, and it stationed retrograde on January 31, 2003. She changed her last name from Chokalingam to Kaling during that time because it was easier to pronounce. With Gemini rising, Mercury is her ruling planet. Any significant transition with progressed Mercury suggests a significant shift in life. The play she co-wrote premiered in August 2002.³ Transiting Neptune was opposite her natal Jupiter, and transiting Pluto was trine her progressed Jupiter and Mercury.

In early 2004, she was offered a job as a staff writer and cast member of the hit show, *The Office*. Transiting Neptune was at 14° Aquarius, opposite her progressed Mercury and Jupiter that year (Chart 3 on page 20).

Progressed Mercury will be retrograde for 21 years. Someone born with Mercury retrograde, Mercury will station direct sometime before his or her 22nd birthday. Clients often share stories of the radical overcoming of shyness, becoming involved with theater or coming out of their shells when Mercury stations direct by progression. Alternatively, I hear of clients born with Mercury direct starting careers in writing or becoming involved in a research project when progressed Mercury stations retrograde.

Venus goes retrograde for about 42 years by progression, and Mars goes retrograde for about 70–80 years by progression. Jupiter and Saturn go retrograde for about four to five months in an ephemeris, thus about 120–150 years by progression. Jupiter may only move up to four degrees in 65 years if it stations direct or retrograde by progression. Saturn moves up to two degrees in that time. The outer planets may not even move a degree if they station by progression, so their effects aren’t felt as strongly as those of Mercury, Venus or Mars.

Progressed Angles

Progressed angles changing signs or in an aspect relationship with transiting, natal or progressed planets are signifiers to note, as they often coincide with significant life changes. In the milestone moments of our lives, we often see progressions involving the progressed Asc or MC along with outer planet transits. Sometimes, those life changes happen, and we don’t notice anything significant with the angles. However, those events often directly result from an internal decision, mindset shift or evolution related to the themes of the angles involved.

For example, Whitney Houston won her first Grammy on February 25, 1986.⁴ At the time, her progressed Asc at 18° 51’ Aries was in tight conjunction with her progressed Jupiter, natal Moon and natal Jupiter. We can see the opportunity for her to shine in the spotlight, as these aspects were centered in her 1st house. The progressed Asc moved into a trine with her



Chart 2: Mindy Kaling, at the Premiere of Play

Natal Chart (Inner): Jun 24, 1979, 4:10 PM EDT Waltham, MA
42°22' N ; 71°14' W ; Tropical Placidus True node
Secondary Progressions (Middle): Jan 31, 2003 8:30 AM EDT
Transits (Outer): Jan 31, 2003 8:30 AM EDT

natal MC at 18°22' Sagittarius leading up to the Grammys, activating opportunities (Jupiter) for career recognition and fame (*Chart 4 on page 20*)

In addition, we see transiting Uranus at 21°59' Sagittarius separating from a conjunction to her MC. It had been forming trine aspects to her progressed Asc and Jupiter and natal Moon and Jupiter since early 1985, shortly before the album was released.

Houston's progressed MC shows indicators of career success as well. At 10°05' Capricorn, her progressed MC trined her natal Mercury and Pluto in Virgo. Her progressed Venus at 9°06' and the trine aspect between her progressed Venus and progressed MC perfected in 1989, when it reached 13° Virgo. Transiting Pluto moved from 12° to 15° Scorpio that year. From 1987–1989, Houston topped the charts with hits like *I Wanna Dance with Somebody*, and she won her second Grammy for Best Pop Vocal Performance in 1988. In 1989, she performed *One Moment in Time* at the Grammys and met Bobby Brown, the man she would later marry (*Chart 5 page 21*).⁵

Whitney Houston's chart exemplifies how three or more signifiers of change happen simultaneously during periods of radical shifts in our lives. The progressed angles are often involved in those periods.

Progressed Lunation Cycle

The progressed Moon represents our instinctual responses to life's events, the range of emotions we access and our subconscious urges. It progresses through each sign for two and a half years, and it shines a big spotlight on the affairs of the natal house through which it's moving. For that period, we prioritize that area of our life.

The progressed Moon is a timekeeper and is almost always involved in periods of change. We can study aspects between the progressed Moon and the natal Moon and gain some understanding of developmental milestones. For example, the first opposition happens in adolescence when we gain a sense of self separate from our families. Then, we move into early adulthood and further separate from our family of origin to become more of ourselves, facing challenges along the way as we enter the second square phase of that cycle around age 21. Another approach is to study the relationship between the progressed Sun and Moon, or the progressed lunation cycle. This way of working with the Moon shows us the cycles of initiation, culmination, and closure. Identifying where we are in our progressed lunation phase helps us determine the optimal timing for transitions in our lives.

The progressed New Moon phase occurs when the progressed Moon conjuncts the progressed Sun, and it continues until the Moon separates up to 33°. As you would expect, this phase is ideal for starting new chapters in life. We crave new experiences and seek to make changes, even though we may not see the manifestation of those changes for several years. Creative impulses and ideas mark this period. We want to keep in mind the lunation cycle is 29 years, and anything we start during the first phase of the cycle will become what we harvest at the Full Moon phase. Therefore, we need to be intentional about the seeds we're planting.

The First Quarter Moon happens about seven years later, and it offers the symbolism of a square. We often manifest the goals we established at the New Moon, but we are becoming more aware of the internal and external setbacks we must overcome. This phase is a time to keep moving forward and gain strength and momentum.

We enter the harvest period — or period of illumination and revelation — during the Full Moon phase, when we are in the process of reaching a peak. As a result, we may celebrate successes we've achieved and gain recognition. At the same time, our energy has culminated, and we may grow restless. The Full Moon phase features two lights pulling us in different directions, and we're often clear about what we need to heal or let go. These can be periods of intensity, and I've worked with clients who've had surprise experiences that unexpectedly launch them into new chapters of their lives. These are decision-making times, and we often feel pressure to make the right decision. Usually, we can identify our deep-seated desires and soul urges more clearly, because we have a more visceral sense of whether we're in alignment with those unconscious pulls. Think of this analogy: We can see in the dark when the Moon's full.



Chart 3: Mindy Kaling "The Office "

Natal Chart (Inner): Jun 24, 1979 4:10 PM EDT, Waltham, MA
 41°24'12.2"N 2°10'26.5"E Tropical Placidus True node
 Secondary Progressions (Middle): Jan 31, 2003, 8:30 AM EDT,
 Transits (Outer): Jan 31, 2003 @ 8:30 AM EDT

The Third Quarter Moon phase is another period indicative of the Sun and Moon's square aspect. We are often productive and industrious at this time and can accomplish a lot. We have more clarity about reaching the finish line with our goals and intentions, and we are inclined to act by stepping forward. This period is marked by reassessment and refinement. We have outgrown certain aspects of our lives, yet we're aware we may not be ready to leave existing structures.

The balsamic Moon phase brings closure and change. We are ready to make transitions and often clear space in our lives for a new beginning. This period can be quite intense with activity because we can sense change on the horizon, and this period is made more restless if we feel complacent. Often, friendships change, and we consider moving. We till the soil for what comes next.

In 1988, Oprah Winfrey entered her progressed New Moon phase at 14° 01' Pisces. At that time, she had just established Harpo Productions, and she moved her talk show from ABC and WLS-TV in Chicago to Harpo, *Oprah* spelled backward. These moves set in motion a new cycle for her as host and CEO of a production company. Pisces' influence shone through in how Oprah's work evolved over the next 29 years. She turned to spirituality, self-improvement and health subjects, interviewing spiritual and thought leaders on her show and later her *Oprah & Friends* XM channel (Chart 6, p21).⁶

In 1995, Oprah reached the First Quarter Moon phase of her progressions (Chart 7 page 21). At this time, her show was picked up for syndication by the BBC, and it aired in 149 different countries — which spoke to the symbolism of the progressed Moon in Gemini conjunct progressed Jupiter. Also in

that year, Oprah received a George Foster Peabody Award for individual achievement in recognition of her accomplishments in media as one of only a handful of women who owned production companies. She was named one of the 100 Most Influential People of the 20th Century by *Time Magazine* and in 1998, and she earned a *Lifetime Achievement Award* from the National Academy of Television Art & Sciences.⁷

We can see her building upon what she began in 1988, and we can also see some challenges indicative of the square aspect. Oprah became more vocal about her past, admitting to drug use and challenging relationships in an episode of her show and later talking about her experiences growing up, from childhood through career success the 1990s. She received criticism and more hate mail than she had received in her entire career for her interview with Ellen DeGeneres in 1997.⁸

In 2003, Oprah reached her Full Moon phase (Chart 8 page 21). In the years the progressed Moon was waxing, Oprah launched *O, The Oprah Magazine*, co-founded Oxygen Media, received nine Emmys, produced several films including *Beloved*, was the recipient of notable humanitarian awards and more. In 2003, Oprah received the Association of American Publisher's AAP Honors Award, and her book club was the largest in the world. This period was a harvest time in many ways, and we can see an indication of the turn toward more literary pursuits in her Virgo Moon.⁹

At the time of the Last Quarter Moon phase in 2011, Oprah transitioned away from the career-defining activities of the previous three quarters (Chart 9 page 22) She finished her final season of *The Oprah Winfrey Show* on May 11, 2011. She started OWN (Oprah Winfrey Network) that same



Chart 4: Whitney Houston, First Grammy Award

Natal Chart (Inner): Aug 9, 1963 8:55 PM EDT, Newark, NJ
 40°44' N; 74°10' E ; Tropical Placidus True node
 Secondary Progressions (Middle): Jan 31, 2003, 8:30 AM EDT,
 Transits (Outer): Jan 31, 2003 @ 8:30 AM EDT

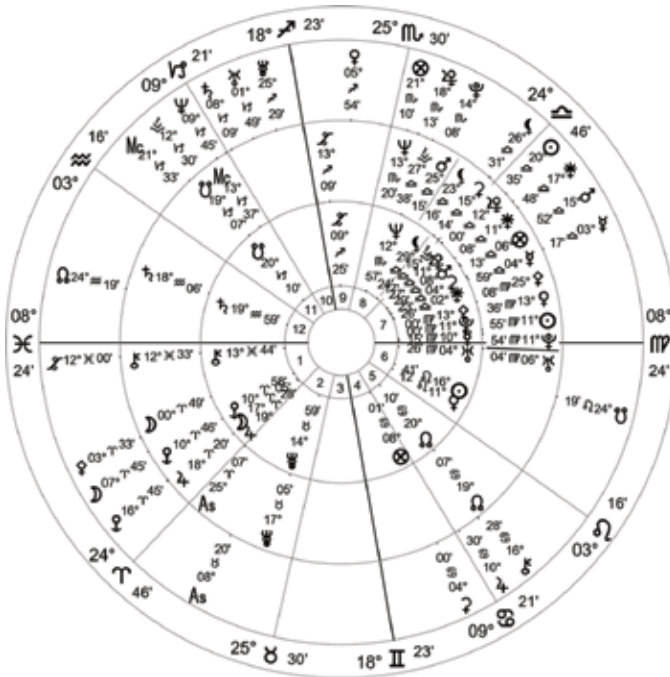


Chart 5: Whitney Houston, Second Grammy Award and Meets Bobby Brown

Natal Chart (Inner): Aug 9, 1963 8:55 PM EDT, Newark, NJ
 40°44' N; 074°10' E: *Placidus, True Node*
 Secondary Progressions (Middle): Oct 13, 1989, 7:PM EDT,
 Transits (Outer): Oct 13, 1989, 7:PM EDT,

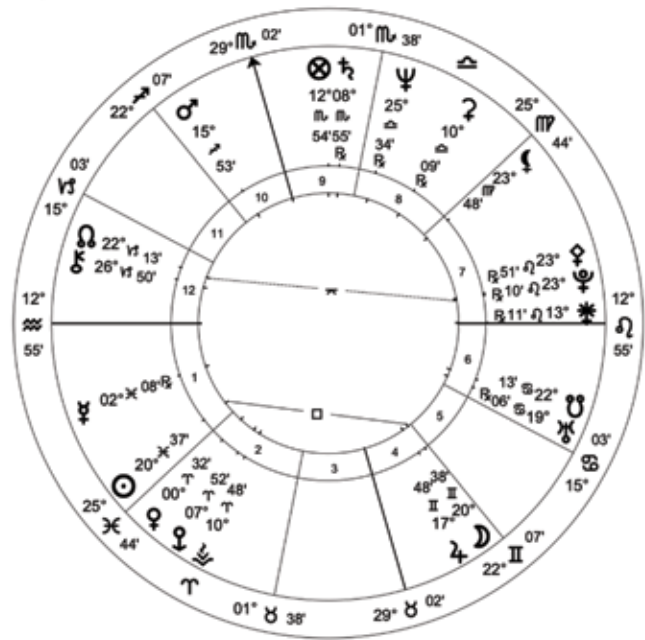


Chart 7: Oprah Winfrey, Secondary Progressed First Quarter Moon

May 21, 1995. 12:PM CST *Placidus True node*
 Kosiusko MS 33°37' N; 89°35'E

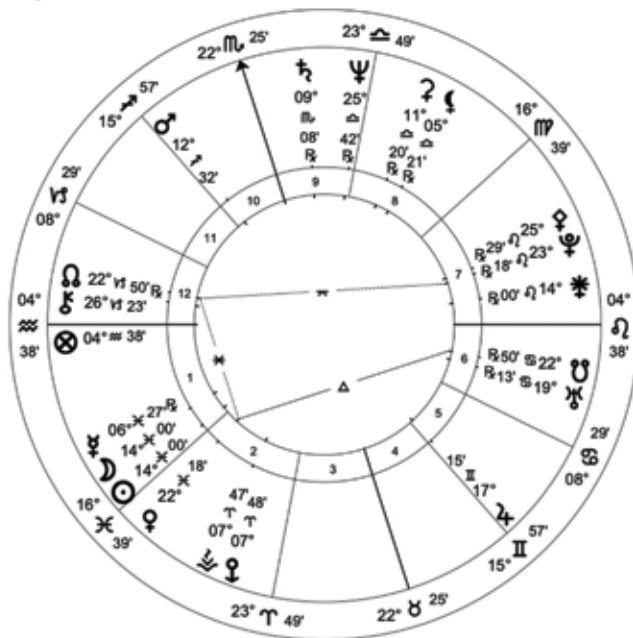


Chart 6: Oprah Winfrey, Secondary Progressed New Moon

Oct. 9, 1988. 9 AM CST *Placidus True node*
 Kosiusko MS 33°37' N; 89°35'E

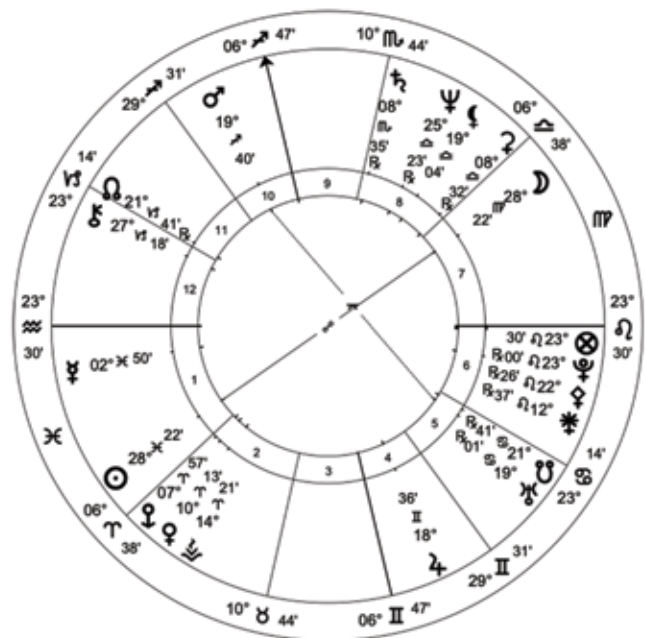


Chart 8: Oprah Winfrey, Secondary Progressed Full Moon

March 3, 2003, 3:20:45 PM CST *Placidus True node*
 Kosiusko MS 33°37' N; 89°35'E

year, leading to a new chapter of her life.¹⁰ By this time, her progressed Sun was in Aries, and her progressed Moon was in Capricorn, an indication of a focus on creating a new business entity by first letting go of the existing structures in her life.

Summary

Secondary progressions show us underlying life themes that motivate our shifts and transitions. When we work with this technique, we glean meaning from past life circumstances to help us forecast future cycles and transition points. We can see important points in our life's evolution by studying the chart alone or in relation to the natal chart and transits. I have outlined a few factors to prioritize when working with progressed charts, and I encourage exploration of all the ones listed in this article that relate to life changes and turning points. ✖

©All Rights Reserved.

Endnotes

1. Rooney, David., 2002. Mel driven by 'passion'. *Variety*. Available at <https://variety.com/2002/film/features/mel-driven-by-passion-1117873172/>.
- 2.. Today Show, J.W. & Pearson, A., 2004. Gibson makes act of contrition in 'passion'. *TODAY.com*. Available at: <https://www.today.com/popculture/gibson-makes-act-contrition-passion-wbna3881874>.
- 3.. Ivie, D., 2019. The rise and rise of Mindy Kaling. *Vulture*. Available at: <https://www.vulture.com/2018/03/mindy-kaling-evolution.html>.
- 4.. Anon, Whitney Houston. *Recording Academy*. Available at: <https://www.grammy.com/artists/whitney-houston/3899>.
- 5.. Anon, Whitney Houston | 1963-2012. *Los Angeles Times*. Available at: <https://timelines.latimes.com/whitney-houston-1963-2012/>.
6. .Anon, 2022. The Oprah Winfrey show. *Wikipedia*. Available at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Oprah_Winfrey_Show.
7. .Person, 2011. Oprah Winfrey's Official Biography. *Oprah.com*. Available at: <https://www.oprah.com/pressroom/oprah-winfreys-official-biography/all>.
8. .Anon, 2022. The Oprah Winfrey show. *Wikipedia*. Available at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Oprah_Winfrey_Show.
9. .Person, 2011. Oprah Winfrey's Official Biography. *Oprah.com*. Available at: <https://www.oprah.com/pressroom/oprah-winfreys-official-biography/all>.
10. .Anon, 2022. Oprah Winfrey. *Wikipedia*. Available at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oprah_Winfrey.



Rachel Lang is an astrologer, psychic medium, and author of *Modern Day Magic: 8 Simple Rules to Realize Your Power and Shape Your Life*. Rachel teaches classes and hosts workshops such as *Working with Magic, Astrology for Creatives* and more. She's an of the instructors for the Theosophical Society and the

Omega Institute, in addition to being on the core Relationships and Astrology Team. Rachel is the outreach director for NCGR and VP of the Los Angeles chapter. She believes in magical activism, volunteers with various nonprofits and leads ritual experiences for activists and organizations.

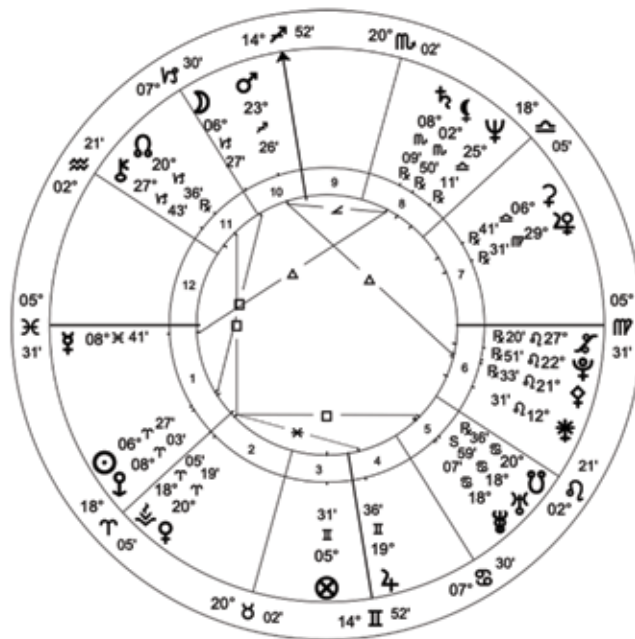


Chart 9: Oprah Winfrey, Secondary Progressed Last Quarter Moon

April 26, 2011. 5:29 CST Tropical Placidus True node
Kosiusko MS 33°37' N; 89°35'E

NCGR'S NEW CONVERSATIONS SERIES!

Join us on YouTube, where we chat with astrologers on various topics. You can view the talks on NCGR's YouTube channel, [The Geocosmic](#) and the [NCGR YouTube page](#).

Talks include astrologers Lynn Bell, Armand Diaz, Susan Gidel, Margaret Grey, Nina Gryphon, Elliott Kent, Ramya Krishnamurthy, John Marchesella, Lars Melis, David Perloff, Christopher Renstrom, Yvonne Tarnas Smith, Catherine Urban, and Fern Vuchinich, with more to come!

In the NCGR Conversations series, NCGR Outreach Director Rachel Lang talks with Ryan Kurczak, who incorporates Vedic astrology techniques into the tropical zodiac. When he first began integrating the two, he received some criticism from other Vedic astrologers, but the times have changed and so has astrology. Ryan shares a few of those techniques with us in this conversation.

Rachel Lang also discusses synodic cycles with Georgia Stathis, including the upcoming Jupiter/Neptune conjunction in 2022. Georgia studied planetary cycles for thirty years before writing her book, *Pushing Through Time: Synodic Cycles and Their Developing Phases*. With this background knowledge, she shares thoughts on inflation, movements in the arts and theatre, and more. Also, find out what Georgia means when she says, "The space for what you want is already filled with something you're settling for instead."

APPLYING THE SOLAR RETURN CHART IN YEAR AHEAD CONSULTATIONS

BY LARS MELLIS

What if I were to tell you that, in addition to being the source of all life on Earth, the Sun was also a cartographer? Wow! The Sun really likes being a multi-hyphenate. Every birthday, the Sun gives us a map for the upcoming year as a gift in the form of a solar return (SR) chart. The SR chart is cast when the Sun returns to its natal position. I view the SR chart as a map because it illuminates the *terrain* for the year. Moreover, transits to the SR chart are felt acutely, so studying it could be equivalent to marking a map with a big X and loudly proclaiming *X marks the spot!* This article describes how to create a SR chart and how to work with it to make the most out of this birthday map. Client and celebrity examples of the effectiveness of timing with the SR chart are provided as well.

Casting a Solar Return Chart

If you already know how to do this, feel free to skip ahead to the next section of working with your SR chart. However, do note that the juicy topic of *the location in which to cast this chart*, will be addressed here so feel free to stay for the drama.

As explicitly implied in its name, a SR chart is created the moment the Sun returns to its natal position by degree and minute. Sometimes this occurs a day before your actual birthday, because this involves a synodic cycle which is not aligned exactly with the Gregorian calendar. In order to cast the SR chart, you also need to identify what longitude and latitude to use. As I'm writing this, I'm thinking of about five different rough-and-tumble arguments from various iconic films because I know astrologers fall passionately in two teams — either *Team: Natal Location* or *Team: Location Where the Solar Return Occurs*. Based on the accuracy with timing with my clients, I firmly believe in using the natal location when casting a SR chart. Here is why!

While I recognize the validity of relocational astrology, to me, the SR should be cast to the natal location because the return is inherently linked to our natal chart which is defined by our birth location. Think of it this way: The SR cast for the location of your individual birthday each year still applies, but only at that particular location. Putting it simply, the SR chart for the city of the return itself is bound by the city limits, and not applicable to the whole world. Casting a SR to the natal location removes the limits of relocational astrology because our natal chart influences us, regardless of where we are in the world. Just as your natal chart is imbued with the fabric of your being, the SR chart cast for the natal location functions

in the same way. This is why when using a SR for timing, the most accurate reading would occur from the chart cast to the natal location.

How to Work with the Solar Return Chart

The reason why the SR chart is a more specific technique for acute timing is because most degrees and placements of the chart (except for the degree and sign of the Sun) are unique to each year. Now that you have calculated your beautiful SR chart, it's time to get down to business and work with it.

Chart 1 (*below*) is a SR, so first look for the Sun in the chart. Identify what house the Sun is in, aspects it forms, and the planet that rules it. The condition and placement of the Sun alone provides plenty of insight into the year ahead! After analyzing the condition and placement of the Sun, identify the ascendant, chart ruler, planetary placements and remaining chart aspects.

Pay attention if any placements in the SR fall on the angles of the natal chart. It's hard to overemphasize the importance of angles when it comes to timing and prediction. For example, if someone were to have the Moon in their SR chart at 24

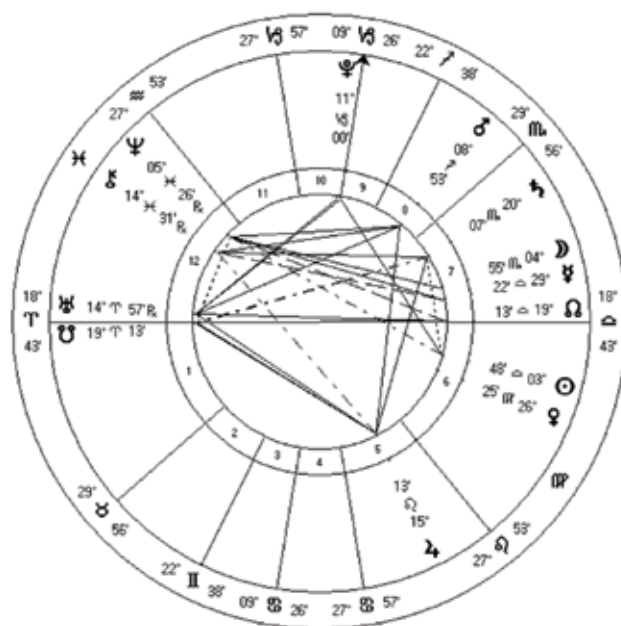


Chart 1 - Serena Williams SR 2014

Sept. 26, 2014; 7:53:06 PM EDT
Saginaw, MI; 43.4195° N, 83.9508° W
Regiomontanus; True Node

Aquarius and their natal ascendant at that same degree, this conjunction would elucidate that lunar significations would be especially pertinent to the year ahead. Moreover, transits to 24 Aquarius would be felt more deeply because the transit would aspect *both* the natal ascendant and SR Moon. Interpretations for this transit should highlight the house themes which the Moon rules (the house with Cancer on its cusp) in the SR chart, in addition to how transits to the SR Moon and natal ascendant are likely to be expressed. Transits to 24 Aquarius for the remainder of the applicability of this SR chart should be noted in the prediction portion of a consultation for this individual and delineated accordingly.

The next step is to look at transits for the year ahead and how they interact with the SR chart. Consider all transits you would deem important when analyzing transits to the natal chart. This includes but is not limited to: lunations (eclipses plus New and Full Moons), planetary transits and planetary retrograde motion. Make note of exact Ptolemaic aspects, especially conjunctions, oppositions, and squares. If you work with non-Ptolemaic aspects, those are still applicable as well.

Example 1: Serena Williams and Her Important 2015

The greatest athlete of all time, Serena Williams, had an especially transformational 2015, during which she met her now husband, Alexis Ohanian, by chance *and* won three of the four major tennis tournaments of the year (The Australian Open, The French Open and Wimbledon).¹ Chart 1 shows Serena's SR for the year and Chart 2 (*below*) is her natal chart.

There are several factors of this SR chart which demonstrate how 2015 would be an important relationship year for Serena. Firstly, the Sun is moving from a conjunction with Venus

to a sextile with Mars, which rules the 1st house of the SR. In overlaying the charts, we see that the SR Jupiter in Leo is exactly conjunct the natal Mars, which rules Serena's 7th house of partnership and marriage. Given the tight aspect that Jupiter and Uranus form in the SR chart, this also means there is an equally tight trine from the SR Uranus to the natal Mars, representing the random nature of Serena meeting her future husband. Furthermore, the SR descendant is conjunct within 1° to Serena's natal Jupiter. For acute timing, we see in the 2015 ephemeris that Jupiter returned to 15 Leo in May of that year, which is exactly when Serena met Alexis.

As mentioned previously, lunations, whether eclipses or not, are important to consider when working with SR charts. Eclipses are catalyzing events which usher in major changes over the course of several months following their occurrence. New Moons represent the start of a new emotional cycle and Full Moons represent the culmination of that cycle. Roughly two months before Serena met Alexis, the solar eclipse in Pisces opposed Serena's SR Venus, which rules the 7th house of partnership. Moreover, the lunar eclipse in Libra two weeks later, occurred tightly conjunct the SR descendant. In addition, the New Moon in Taurus on May 18 occurred at 26 Taurus, exactly trine the SR Venus. The confluence of these lunations heavily emphasizes the impending changes to Serena's personal life.

Serena's 2015 SR was also extremely important because of her incredible career achievements - placing all four major tennis finals and winning three of them. Moreover, she earned over \$10.5 million in prize money alone. In Serena's SR chart, we see Pluto tightly conjoined the MC. This not only represents the powerful developments in her career, but also indicates that transits to the SR MC will also aspect the SR Pluto.

The lunations which occurred immediately before each of the major tournaments she won, heavily aspected her SR MC or its ruler. The Full Moon in Cancer which occurred a couple of weeks before she won the Australian Open in 2015, tightly opposed the SR MC. Also featured in this lunation was a Mars-Jupiter opposition which created a tight T-square with the SR Saturn, the ruler of the 10th and 11th houses. The match itself was a tense affair, with Serena battling her most notorious rival, Maria Sharapova, and winning the tournament by two points in a pressure-filled second set tiebreaker. The Full Moon in Scorpio occurred right before her French Open win and once again featured Ptolemaic aspects from the lunation and Mars to her SR MC and its ruler. Lastly, the Full Moon in Capricorn which occurred six days before her Wimbledon win, featured an exact conjunction to the SR MC. The Sun conjoined Mars in this chart reiterating the same themes of the previous two lunations. This lunation featured a tight square from transiting Jupiter to the SR Saturn (which ruled the 10th and 11th). This was a particularly historic victory as Serena tied the all-time open era major record held solely by triple Gemini icon, Steffi Graf, for 25+ years.

When studying the lunation which occurred a month before Serena's next SR and right before the final major of the year (the US Open), this is the only lunation which did not feature

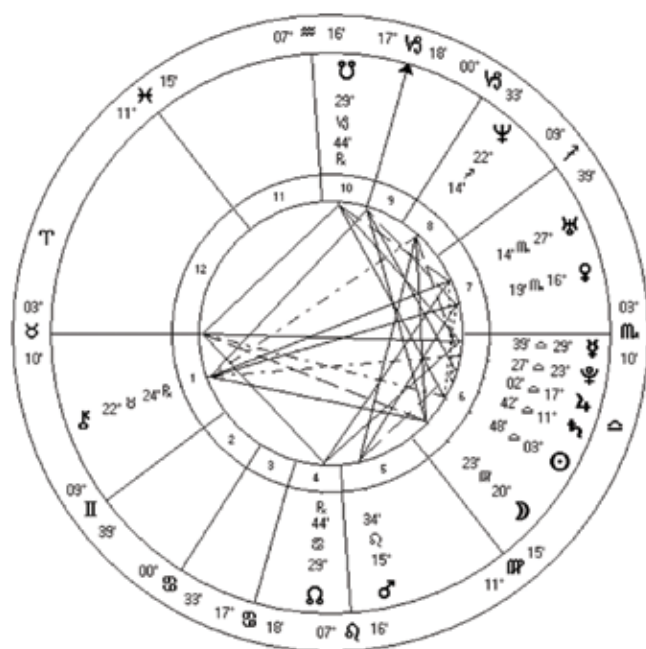


Chart 2 - Serena Williams Natal

Sept. 26, 1981; 8:28 PM EDT
Saginaw, MI; 43.4195° N, 83.9508° W
Regiomontanus True Node
Source: Astrodatbank, Rodden Rating:A

Ptolemaic aspects to either the SR MC or its ruler. Serena did not win the US Open in 2015 and didn't play for the remainder of the year.²

Example 2: Timing a Breakup to the Day

Charts 3 and 4 (*on this page*) show an anonymous SR chart for 2021 and natal chart respectively. For the sake of anonymity, we'll call this person John. Believe it or not, at the time this SR chart was cast, John was in a happy relationship with his partner for the past three months. Though the solar aspects in the chart don't indicate potential relationship trouble, remember that planets on the angles of the SR chart plus the planets that rule the angles of the SR are fundamental for analyzing timing during the upcoming year. Note the Venus-Pluto conjunction on the descendant and that the ruler of the SR descendant is Saturn in the 7th house. When timing something like a breakup using a SR chart, one of the primary transits to pay attention is to transiting Mars aspecting the SR 7th house cusp or its ruler. Traditional significations for Mars include its association with breaking things apart.

John and his partner went on vacation at the end of February and returned on March 1. On March 2, John noticed his partner disappeared and would not hear anything again until the upcoming weekend. March 2 featured a transiting Venus-Mars-Pluto conjunction on the SR descendant. Though John didn't know it at the time, this date and his partner's disappearance marked the end of their relationship. John attempted for the next 16 days to connect with his partner because he could tell something was wrong. His partner adopted a cold distant stance, but gaslit John that their relationship was okay every time John checked in and inquired about it. On March 18, after almost three weeks of enduring this stressful ambiguity, John finally felt empowered to confront his partner. John's partner admitted then to have checked out of the relationship on March 2 and apologized.

John expressed that he was still invested in the relationship and declared it was only right for his partner to be the one to say the words "*we should break up*." This conversation occurred the very day transiting Mars was at 9 Aquarius — exactly conjunct the ruler of the SR descendant (Saturn).

John didn't hear from his partner for five weeks until Mercury entered the pre-shadow period soon to station retrograde. His partner's text was nebulous and did not take accountability for the pain that was caused John. In response, John waited three days and then sent an email severing all ties to his ex-partner right after the April 30 solar eclipse in Taurus. This lunation occurred at 10 Taurus and squared the ruler of the SR descendant. At the time of writing this article, John and his ex-partner have not spoken. When doing a post-mortem on the relationship, John was flabbergasted by how exact the timing of transits to his SR have been thus far.

Example 3: Martha Stewart's Trial and Tribulations

In the late 90s and early 2000s, Martha Stewart was one of America's most successful and beloved television personalities. I have fond childhood memories of watching her cooking shows and salivating over the scrumptious food she made. On December 27, 2001, Martha sold all her ImClone stock, approximately 3,000 shares, after being privately notified that the stock could plummet in value.³ This behavior alone is a crime in the United States, but Martha also was accused of obstructing justice by trying to hide her crime from authorities. Chart 5 (*above*) is Martha Stewart's SR chart cast for 2002, Chart 6 (*next column*) is her SR chart cast for 2003 and Chart 7 (*next column*) is her natal chart. Now, let's look at how we can use the SR charts to see the overarching themes for these years and how the timing of transits to these charts led to swift outcomes.

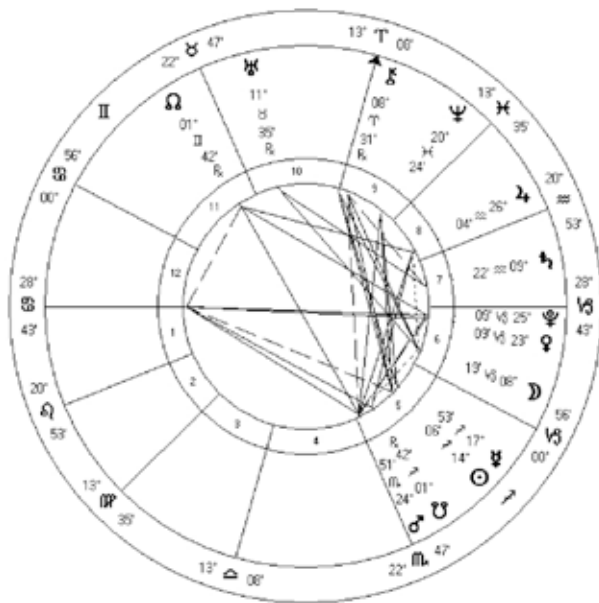


Chart 3 - John SR 2021
Dec. 5, 2021; 7:43:49 PM EST
Bronx, NY; 40.8448° N, 73.8648° W
Regiomontanus; True Node

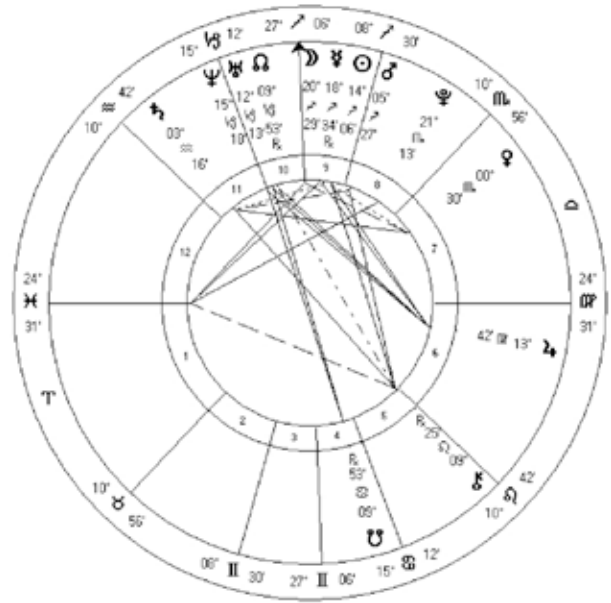


Chart 4 - John Natal
Dec. 5, 1991; 12:43 PM EST
Bronx, NY; 40.8448° N, 73.8648° W
Regiomontanus; True Node



Chart 5 - Martha Stewart SR 2002

Aug 3, 2002; 7:29:25 PM EDT
Jersey City, NJ; 40.7178° N, 74.0431° W
Regiomontanus; True Node

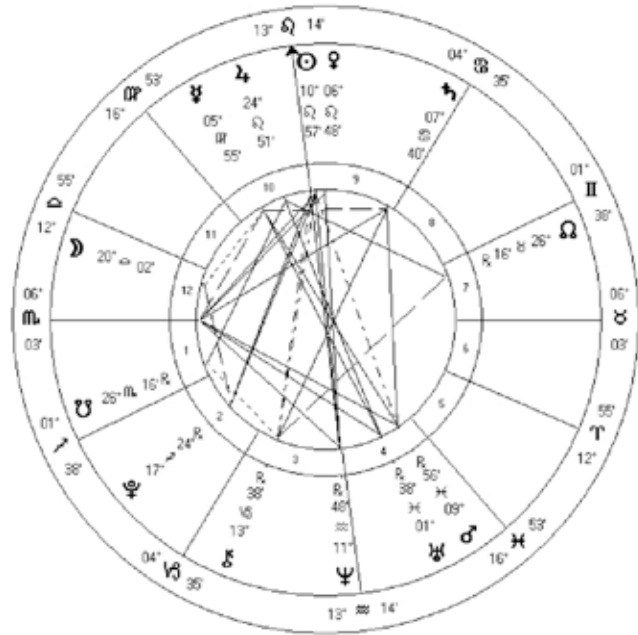


Chart 6 - Martha Stewart SR 2003

Aug 3, 2003; 01:11:40 PM EDT
Jersey City, NJ; 40.7178° N, 74.0431° W
Regiomontanus; True Node

Martha's tribulations really began when she had to resign from her position on the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange on October 3, 2002.⁴ Pay attention to how blatantly the 9th and 12th houses are afflicted in her SR charts and through transits over the next two years. The 9th house represents legal matters, and the 12th house represents impending incarceration or isolation.

Martha's SR chart for 2002 (*Chart 5*) features a Sun–Mars conjunction in the 12th. These are also the rulers of the 1st, 4th, 9th and 12th houses. This conjunction opposes Neptune, representing uncertainty and disillusion in these areas of her life. The Full Moon in Pisces occurred on September 21, 2002, prior to this major event. This lunation was scrutinizing in general as it features an exact T-square with Saturn and a tight Mars square to Pluto. The Full Moon almost exactly opposes Martha's SR Venus, which represents personal finances and rules the SR 10th, forecasting this event as a catalyst for the shift in how the public viewed her. Lastly, transiting Mars in the lunation chart is at the bendings⁵ of Martha's SR nodal axis, highlighting the serious turmoil of this situation.

Martha was under immense public scrutiny for several month, until matters escalated significantly in the Gemini season of 2003. On June 4, Martha was officially indicted by the US government for nine criminal charges.⁶ While this had been brewing for months, the charges were finally brought forward less than a month after the eclipses in the Taurus and Gemini seasons. What is truly remarkable is how the eclipses interact with Martha's SR chart. The lunar eclipse occurred at 24 Scorpio on May 16 and was exactly square Martha's SR Saturn. Saturn has dominion over imprisonment and isolation. Mars in this lunation chart is tightly opposing

the SR Sun–Mars conjunction, which rules the SR 9th and 12th (legal matters and incarceration). The solar eclipse occurred at 9 Gemini on May 31 and was equally disruptive when overlaid with Martha's SR chart. The lunation itself is conjunct Martha's SR Moon, representing changes to living situation, and through ruling the 11th, widespread regard from peers. Mars in this chart has moved to a tight applying opposition with the ruler of the SR 2nd. It is important to note



Chart 7 - Martha Stewart Natal

Aug 3, 2003; 01:11:40 PM EDT
Jersey City, NJ; 40.7178° N, 74.0431° W
Regiomontanus; True Node
Source: Astrodatabank, Rodden Rating: AA

that Jupiter in this lunation chart is conjunct the SR Sun–Mars conjunction, but the greater benefic doesn't always bear gifts as its nature is to augment. Therefore, transiting Jupiter in this context represents an increase of the existing energy surrounding 9th, 12th, 1st and 4th house matters. Lastly, we can see recitations of themes with how this lunation transited Martha's natal chart (*Chart 7*) This eclipse exactly squared her natal Venus, which rules the 4th and 12th houses.

Things went from bad to worse the following year. Chart 6 is Martha's SR chart from 2003. This SR chart essentially screams legal troubles and incarceration. Saturn in this chart is conjunct the 9th house cusp (representing legal difficulties). The ruler of the 9th, the Moon, is staunchly in the 12th (representing impending incarceration). The angles and house cusps of this SR chart are similar to that of Martha's natal chart, meaning that conjunctions and transits to house cusps are felt profoundly, given that they hit both the natal and the SR cusp. Seven months later, on March 5, 2004, Martha Stewart was found guilty of several of the criminal charges for which she was tried.⁷ The two prior lunations to this sentencing feature Saturn returning to the exact influential position it held in the SR chart at 7 Cancer. Moreover, transiting Mars in the Full Moon chart interacts with all four angles of the SR and natal chart through a conjunction to the ascendant and serving as the apex of a T-square with the IC-MC axis. The presence of Mars throughout this entire ordeal should be noted, given its associations with police and, second to Saturn, imprisonment.

Martha Stewart was formally sentenced to serve several months in jail in July 2004, right after the Full Moon at 10 Capricorn, which served as the proverbial nail in the coffin.⁸ This lunation tightly opposes Saturn on the 9th house cusp while squaring the 12th house cusp. The ruler of the 12th, Venus, also is heavily afflicted as transiting Mars is less than one degree away from an applying exact conjunction.

Commonalities Among and Takeaways from These Examples

All three of these examples elucidate the efficacy of working with the SR chart for identifying more acute timing with prediction. The examples demonstrated how sensitive the angles, and even the house cusps, of the SR chart truly are. While all different types of transits were considered and studied, two transits in particular, occurred with the greatest frequency. Lunations interacting with the SR chart were incredibly telling regarding impending changes to the native. Transiting Mars' influence cannot be understated as well. The fiery planet catalyzes through breaking apart and irritability. Lunations with a significant Martian influence were also noted to be particularly potent when aspecting the SR charts. Though it may take more effort, using a SR chart is highly recommended to recognize how all the upcoming New and Full Moon charts for that Solar cycle aspect the chart. Moreover, planetary motion, both direct and retrograde, is fundamental when utilizing a SR chart to delineate predictions. Lastly, the overlay of a SR chart with the native's

natal chart is absolutely fundamental when working with this technique. Ptolemaic aspects from the SR chart placements to the natal angles or placements should be noted and interpreted in any reading for the year ahead.

Conclusion

In closing, my favorite timing technique revolves around the luminary that we all revolve around — the Sun. Working with my clients' birthday maps has been a boon to my consulting practice and I have clients who specifically request a year ahead reading with their annual SR chart. Efficacy in timing using the SR chart requires significant knowledge of transit significations and delineation. The next time you are thinking about all the ways to describe the Sun, I hope you include *cartographer* in your description. ✨

©All Rights Reserved

Endnotes:

1. Buzz Bissinger, "Serena Williams' Love Match," *Vanity Fair*, Aug 2017. <https://www.vanityfair.com/style/2017/06/serena-williams-cover-story?redirectURL=https://www.vanityfair.com/style/2017/06/serena-williams-cover-story>.
2. Rory Marsden, "Serena Williams Ends 2015 Season, Withdraws from China Open and WTA Finals," *Bleacher Report*, October 1, 2015. <https://bleacherreport.com/articles/2574337-serena-williams-ends-2015-season-withdraws-from-china-open-and-wta-finals>.
3. Securities and Exchange Commission, "SEC Charges Martha Stewart, Broker Peter Bacanovic with Illegal Insider Trading," Press Release, June 4, 2003. <https://www.sec.gov/news/press/2003-69.htm>.
4. "Martha Stewart Resigns from Board of NY Stock Exchange," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, October 3, 2002.
5. J. Lee Lehman, "The Book of Rulerships: Keywords from Classical Astrology," Atglen, PA: Schiffer Publishing, 1992.
6. Securities and Exchange Commission, "SEC Charges Martha Stewart, Broker Peter Bacanovic with Illegal Insider Trading," Press Release, June 4, 2003. <https://www.sec.gov/news/press/2003-69.htm>.
7. NBC News, "'I Will Be Back' Stewart Vows After Sentencing," Associated Press, July 15, 2004. <https://www.nbcnews.com/id/wbna5444565>.
8. Ibid.



Lars Mellis is a professional astrologer based in Los Angeles, California. He was elected to NCGR's board of directors two days after his Saturn return. He also serves as outreach director of NCGR's Los Angeles chapter. Lars has a YouTube channel devoted to delineating natal squares with fellow astrologer

Rachel Lang. In his free time, he is a stand-up comedian and avid tennis player. Lars can be found on Instagram (@Lars_Stars) and on his personal website LiveYourTruthLars.com

HARMONIC AGE CHARTS

BY MÓNICA ESCALANTE-OCHOA

The harmonic age chart (HAC) is an astrological technique used only by a few astrologers. Ross Harvey¹ discovered this technique in 1983, and it was widely promoted by Dymock Brose (1918-2014)². The HAC is used as a prediction technique, as well as a rectification method.

The Harmonic Age Chart is most easily calculated using computer software. For each point in the chart, the absolute degree (position in the 360° of the zodiac) is multiplied by the person's chronological age. The resulting number is likely to be large, so multiples of 360° are subtracted until a number below 360° is reached. For example, for someone with natal Sun at 5 Gemini at their 20th birthday, we would take the absolute degree of 5 Gemini (65°) and multiply by 20 to get 1,300. We would then subtract 360 three times, to get 220°, which is equivalent to 10 Scorpio. The challenge of doing an HAC by hand is that the same procedure is required for all planetary positions and points (including angles, etc.).

This article demonstrates how the HAC is used as a predictive technique, specifically as an annual prediction tool. However, it can be used as a predictive technique for months or even days, as well as a rectification technique.

The HAC is used in a similar way to the solar return (SR) chart, that is, by itself and in relation to the natal chart. Both are predictive techniques that last for about one year. They indicate planetary energies that will be manifested in this period, always considering the natal chart promises.

The most important things to analyze in harmonic charts are conjunctions and Ptolemaic aspects, both between planets and angles within the HAC, and between the HAC and the natal chart. In analyzing the HAC, a maximum 3° orb is used. In order to compare the SR and HAC as annual predictive techniques and to find out which one seems to describe better how the person will experience a given year, we will analyze a few years of Rosita's life.

Rosita

Rosita is an Italian woman, although that is not her real name. She was born on April 20, 1969, at 5:55 am in Bergamo, Italy.

As we know, the natal chart is the natural energy of the person, and it describes her potential in all areas. So, before we attempt to make any prediction, we should understand the natal chart well (*Chart 1*).

Rosita is a very active and responsible person (Sun in Aries in conjunction with Saturn; Venus, her chart's ruler, is also in Aries and trines Mars). She is a very intelligent woman

(Mercury conjuncts the Asc, and Moon in Gemini in the 1st house makes a sextile to Venus). She is very practical, and the world sees her as a hard-working person (Asc in Taurus, MC in Capricorn and Saturn conjunct Sun in Aries).

Her work is very important to her (Saturn, ruler of MC, conjunct Sun; Juno conjunct MC; both in Capricorn). In fact, she has been working in a bank, in a high-level position, for many years.

She is very independent and loves to be able to decide the way to live her life, so marriage is not a very important part of her life (Sun and Venus in Aries; Mars, ruler of the 7th, opposes her Moon and squares Pluto), but her son (the ruler of the 5th house — children — is the Sun) and her grandmother (the ruler of the 9th — grandparents — is Saturn, which is conjunct her Sun) are very important to her.

Rosita's Year 1996

The year 1996 was very difficult for Rosita. This year held the greatest loss of her life when her grandmother passed away. The grandmother raised Rosita as a mother would do, because Rosita lived with her grandmother for her first 10 years without her actual mother.

- Chart 1: Rosita, Natal Chart
- Chart 2: Rosita, Solar Return, 1996
- Chart 3: Rosita, Harmonic Year Chart, 1996

Just analyzing the aspects found between the SR, the HAC, and the natal chart's planets (*Chart 1 on next page*), we find:

In the SR chart (*Chart 2 on next page*) there are some interesting aspects that describe the sad loss of the grandmother: Uranus and Neptune conjunct IC, Saturn conjunction Chiron, and a change in the home suggested by the IC at 00° Aquarius. SR Uranus is also in conjunction to natal Ceres.

In the HAC (*Chart 3 on next page*) we find several aspects that describe a much deeper and difficult loss as Pluto and Ceres are both conjunct the Asc. Additionally, Neptune in the HAC conjuncts natal Ceres, while HAC Moon conjuncts natal Moon.

As we know, the Moon's condition is very important to describe the mental and emotional state of the person. The Moon in the SR chart is happy and strong in the sign of Taurus, making trines to Jupiter, Neptune and IC, which does not describe the very difficult year that Rosita lived. On the other hand, the Moon in the HAC is very stressed, as it squares

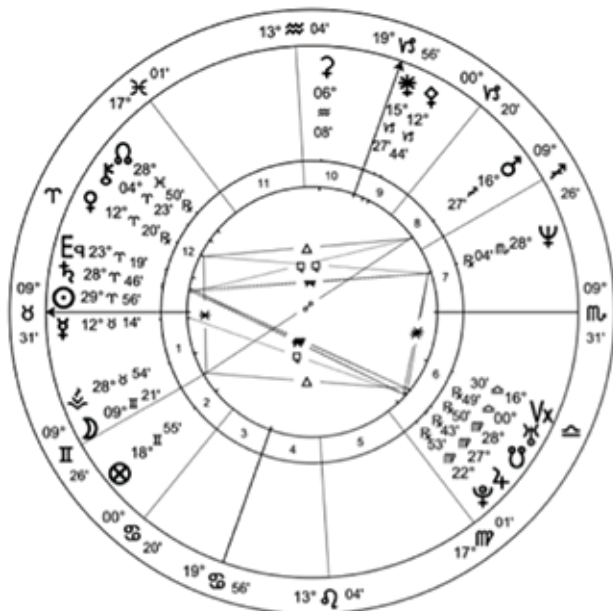


Chart 1: Rosita, Natal Chart

Apr. 20, 1969; 5:55 am; CET -1:00
Bergamo, Italy; 45°N41'; 9°E43';
Placidus; Mean Node

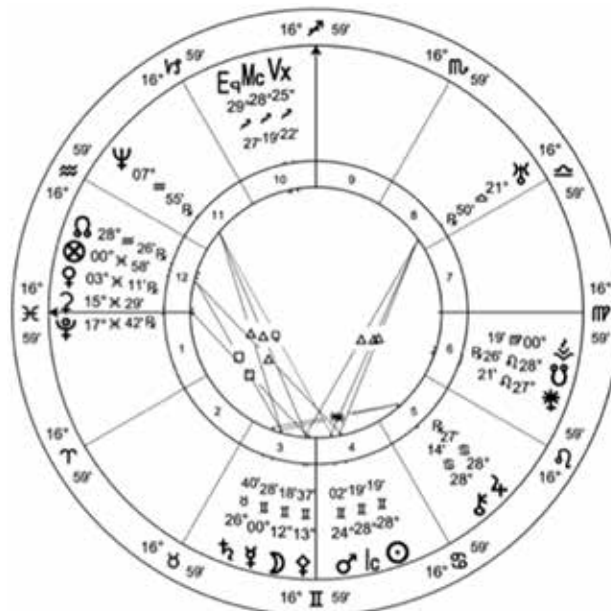


Chart 3: Rosita, 27th Harmonic Chart

Apr. 20, 1969; 5:55 am; CET -1:00 in
Bergamo, Italy; 45°N41'; 9°E43';
Equal Houses; Mean Node

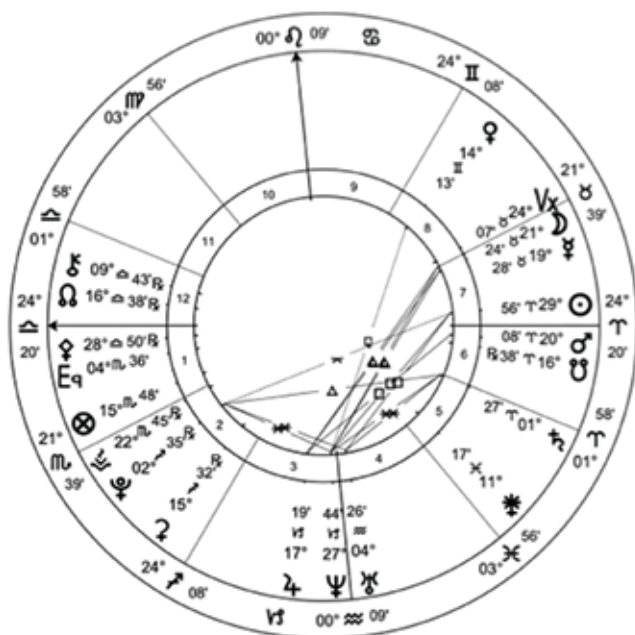


Chart 2: Rosita, Solar Return

Apr. 19, 1996; 7:38:04 pm (±1 secs); CEDT -2:00
Bergamo, Italy; 45°N41'; 9°E43';
Placidus; Mean Node

the difficult Ceres–Asc–Pluto conjunction, so this Moon very well describes the difficult emotions that Rosita experienced that year.

We should also analyze the houses that are emphasized. In the SR chart (Chart 2), we can see that the emphasized houses are the 7th (Mars and Sun conjunct Dsc, Moon and Mercury are in

the 7th) and the 4th (IC 00°Aquarius and Neptune and Uranus conjunct the IC). In the HAC (Chart 3) we can see that the most emphasized house is the 1st (Pluto and Ceres conjunct Asc), but the 4th is also important (Sun and Mars are there), and the 3rd house has an important stellium (with Saturn, Mercury and Moon).

Conclusion for the Year 1996

Both the SR and HAC describe the difficult year that Rosita lived, but the HAC better describes the sense of loss the journey to the underworld that Rosita felt when she lost her grandmother, who was more like a mother to her.

It is easy to see in the HAC, with the Asc in Pisces surrounded by Ceres and Pluto (two signifiers of big losses and the underworld), to know that it was going to be a very difficult year for Rosita. In addition, if we notice the chart ruler Jupiter in a partile conjunction with Chiron, we can see a very vulnerable year too. The Moon in the HAC is making squares to Ceres–Asc–Pluto, also a key indicator of emotional difficulties in that year.

Rosita Year 2000

The year 2000 was a fortunate one for Rosita. Her son was born, and in her own words, this was the most important event in her life, which brought her much happiness.

Chart 4: Rosita, Solar Return, 2000 (*next page*)

Chart 5: Rosita, Harmonic Year Chart, 2000 (*next page*)

In the SR chart (Chart 4), there is basically only one wide aspect (Moon opposite Saturn, ruler of the 5th house) which describes the possibility of having a child. By contrast, in the HAC (Chart 5) there are four close aspects which describe the

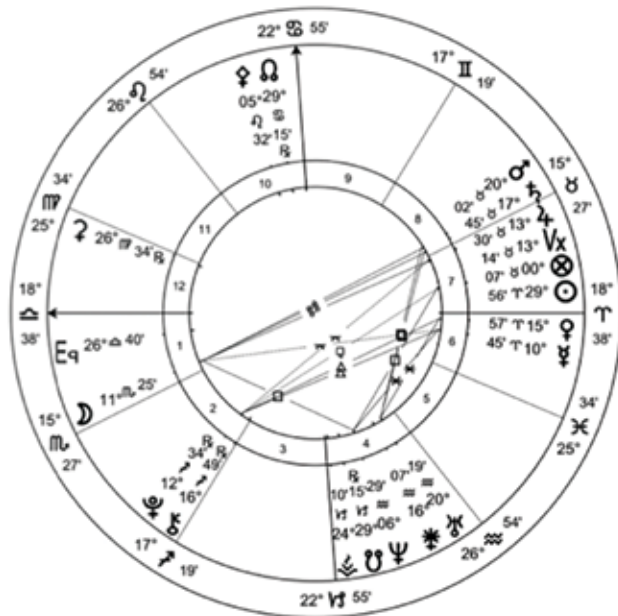


Chart 4: Rosita, Solar Return 2000

Apr 19, 2000 @ 7:07:38 pm (±1 secs); CEDT -2:00
Bergamo, Italy; 45°N41'; 9°E43';
Placidus; Mean Node

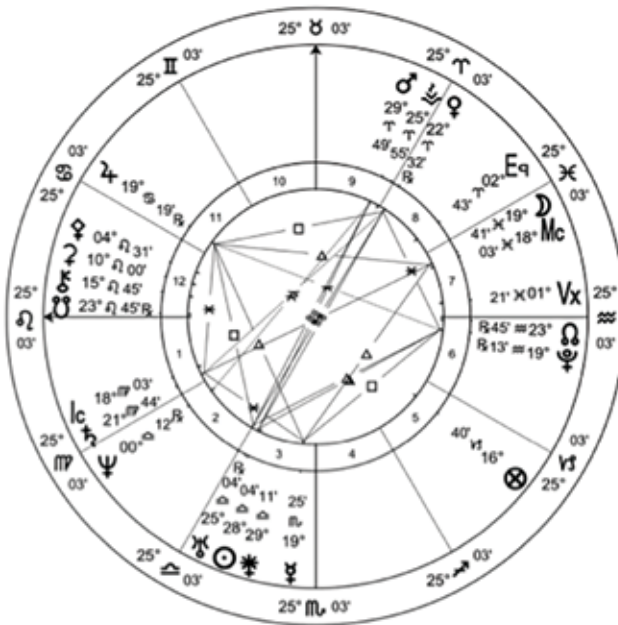


Chart 5: Rosita, 31st Harmonic Chart 1969

Apr 20, 1969 @ 5:55 am; CET -1:00
Bergamo, Italy; 45°N41'; 9°E43';
Placidus; Mean Node

possibility of having a child (grand trine among Jupiter, Moon and Mercury; South Node conjunct Asc; Saturn opposite Moon and HAC Saturn conjunct natal Pluto).

The Moon in the SR chart is very stressed; it is in Scorpio, and in a T-square, so it does not look as a relaxed and happy year for Rosita. The HAC's Moon is quite happy: It is in Pisces (one of Jupiter's signs) and in a partile grand trine with Jupiter

(its dispositor and 5th house ruler) and Mercury. Therefore, the Moon's conditions in the HAC well describe the year as Rosita lived it — very happy!

In the SR chart, we can see that the emphasized houses are the 4th (Neptune, the focal planet of the T-square is here with Uranus and South Node), the 7th (Venus conjunct Dsc, Sun and Jupiter are in the 7th and Jupiter is part of the T-square), and the 1st (the Moon is here and part of the T-square). In the HAC we can see that the 1st house is important (South Node conjuncts Asc) as well as the 7th (North Node conjunct Dsc) and the 5th, as Jupiter, its ruler, is the focal planet of the T-square.

Conclusion for the year 2000

In this case, the SR chart does not describe the happy year that Rosita lived, and most astrologers, looking only at the SR, would not have predicted one. In fact, this SR describes a very intense and difficult year. On the other hand, the HAC describes a year with many things happening (T-square among Uranus, Mars and Jupiter), but also a very happy one, described mainly by the HAC Moon.

In the HAC, it is easy to see the coming of a child as a beneficial and happy event (Jupiter, ruler of the 5th house, in a partile trine with Moon and Mercury). If we look to the SR chart for this event, we may be able to find it, but it appears very difficult (Moon in Scorpio in opposition to Saturn, the 5th house ruler, and both planets making a T-square with Neptune). The very happy Moon in the HAC is a key factor to know that 2000 was a very good year for Rosita, while the very intense Moon in the SR would suggest the opposite.

Rosita Year 2008

In 2008, Rosita got a divorce. While we assume that a divorce is usually a painful event, this was not the case for Rosita, because she and her former husband had already been separated for some time, and she was waiting only for the divorce. When it finally came, it was a happy event.

Chart 6: Rosita, Solar Return, 2008 (*next page*)

Chart 7: Rosita, Harmonic Year Chart, 2008 (*next page*)

The SR chart (*Chart 6*) shows changes in her civil status: Vesta conjunct Dsc, Juno conjunct Pluto and a grand trine among Saturn, Pluto–Juno and Mercury–Sun. There is also the SR Jupiter is in conjunction with the natal MC.

It is also interesting to find that in addition to the grand trine, there is a grand cross in the 2008 SR, that includes Jupiter, ruler of the 7th, and Venus (a guest of the house and a marriage significator). According to the SR, the problem of the year could be fighting for the marriage, which in fact was the opposite.

In the HAC (*Chart 7 next page*), we see that it is Saturn, the planet of limits and reality, that makes more aspects to the marriage significators — Saturn trine Dsc, Saturn trine Mars, Saturn trine Neptune and HAC Saturn trine the natal Asc. Also, significators of marriage, like the Dsc and Juno, are activated, Mars conjuncts the Dsc and Neptune, and HAC Mars conjuncts natal Juno.



Chart 6: Rosita, Solar Return 2008
 Apr 19, 2008 5:19:15 pm; CEDT -2:00
 Bergamo, Italy; 45°N41'; 9°E43';
 Placidus; Mean Node



Chart 7: Rosita, 39th Harmonic Chart
 Apr 20, 1969 5:55 am; CET -1:00
 Bergamo, Italy; 45°N41'; 9°E43';
 Placidus; Mean Node

The Moon in the SR chart (*Chart 6*) is in the sign of Libra (partnerships), and it is very stressed; it is in a grand cross that includes Jupiter, ruler of the 7th, Venus and Mars. In analyzing this grand cross, many astrologers would say it was a very difficult year in terms of marriage for Rosita, but in fact it was

the opposite. It was an easy divorce and something she had wanted for many years — more of a change in legal status than a practical and emotional upheaval.

The Moon in the HAC is also stressed, but not as much as in the SR. Here we see the Moon, also in Libra, making squares to the Sun, Jupiter and Mars, and Mars rules the MC. Even though Mars is in the 7th, we could think that the stressed Moon better describes work problems.

In the SR we can see that the four angular houses that are in the grand cross are important, with an emphasis on the 7th (Uranus conjunct Dsc with an 8° orb, Venus in the 7th), as well as the 4th (Juno and Pluto conjunct the IC). In the HAC, the most emphasized house is the 7th (Mars and Neptune conjunct Dsc).

Conclusion for the year 2008

In this case, the SR and HAC both describe the change in her marriage, but the HAC better describes how Rosita experienced this event.

In the SR, we see that Uranus conjuncts the Dsc, but with a very wide orb (8°), and the Moon is very stressed by difficult aspects with marriage indicators. In the HAC, Mars, exalted in Capricorn, is in an exact conjunction with the Dsc and making a partile trine to Saturn, ruler of the 7th. Also the Moon is less stressed than in the SR.

Final Conclusion

I highly recommend the use of the harmonic age chart as a main predictive technique, but also consider it in the context of the most used predictive techniques in modern Western astrology such as transits, SRs, eclipses, secondary progressions, and solar arc directions. ✖

©All Rights Reserved

Endnotes:

1. Ross Harvey discovered the technique of the harmonic age chart in 1983. HAC is used as a prediction technique and as a rectification method. Constellations, Winter Solstice 2008, "Ross Harvey's Life Span Revolution" by Kenneth Gillman, pp. 67-80; https://www.astro.com/astro-databank/Harvey,_Ross
2. Dymock Brose, Australian astrologer. He was a great advocate of the harmonic age technique, discovered by Ross Harvey.; https://www.astro.com/astro-databank/Brose,_Dymock

Mónica Escalante-Ochoa is NCGR-PAA Level IV certified, the president and co-founder of NCGR's AstroMéxico Chapter and has been a practicing astrologer since 1996, both as a national and international lecturer and teacher. She has written multiple articles and four books: *Astrology, Path of Light*; *Astrological Predictive Techniques*, *Walking with Light*; *Astrology III: Deepening into the Path of Light and Advanced Astrology: Exploring Different Paths towards Specialization*. She has spoken at international conferences: NCGR, UAC and Astro Lodge, and she is on the NCGR-PAA and IAA boards. E-mail: astromonica@yahoo.com.

FOLLOWING THE MUNDANE TRAIL

BY SHIRLEY PRISCO

Mundane astrology studies how planetary patterns and cycles mirror events on the world stage. Volumes have been written and lives have been spent in this pursuit. It requires extensive analysis of horoscopes and research into cultural, economic and spiritual trends. It is not for the faint of heart.

Among the tools of the mundane are the cycles of the outer planets in relation to one another. From conjunction to conjunction, each planetary pair has phases similar to the lunation cycle. The approximate 120-year cycle of Uranus and Pluto provides fertile ground for the study of events, trends and changes in society. As astrologers we look for correlations between past and current patterns. What has happened in the past provides a clue to the future. We also recognize that within a particular cycle of a planetary pair such as Uranus and Pluto, other cycles bob and weave, and these must be taken into consideration.

Uranus and Pluto: Liberation and Transformation

Uranus is the planet of the big surprise, the sudden and the unexpected. It is the planet of technology, anarchy and progressive movements, and it seeks to remove the outmoded and rigid constructs that prevent forward movement. Uranus works to move the world into the future.

Pluto rules the masses and seeks to eliminate and transform what is necessary for evolution. Social upheaval, mass reorganization on a global level and society's underbelly all belong to Pluto. When Pluto moves into a new sign, the ugly side of people and concepts associated with that sign bubble to the surface in order to be eliminated.

A conjunction between Uranus and Pluto occurred three times between June 26, 1850, and March 23, 1851.¹ The chart for the first conjunction (*Chart 1 next column*) at 29° Aries has Aries rising with Uranus and Pluto in the 1st house with Saturn widely conjunct at 19° Aries. In September of that year, the US Congress passed the controversial Fugitive Slave Act.² This act required that all escaped slaves, whether captured in a slave state or free, had to be returned to the slave holder. The free states had to cooperate. The Fugitive Slave Act was a major factor leading up to the American Civil War and a huge setback for the Abolitionists. Neptune in this chart is at home in Pisces in the 12th house. Neptune has connections with human rights and conditions of the impoverished and oppressed. The 12th house is associated with institutions of confinement, with slavery being the ugliest of those institutions.

The opening square between Uranus and Pluto occurred three times between October 21, 1876 (*Chart 2 on the next page*) and August 25, 1877. The chart for the first square, with Uranus in Leo and Pluto in Taurus, has Neptune again in the 12th house in Taurus as well. Between these dates, on November 7, the presidential election of 1876 was held. This election resulted in Republican Rutherford B. Hayes receiving 165 electoral votes, while Democrat Samuel J. Tilden received 184 electoral votes.

Twenty votes from four states were in dispute with both parties declaring themselves winners in three of those states and an elector being replaced in the fourth. President Ulysses S. Grant appointed an electoral commission to resolve the issue. In a shameful, unwritten deal, the Compromise of 1877³ was hammered out. Among the five points contained in this deal was the removal of Federal troops from the southern states and the right for those states to deal with their African American citizens without northern influence. This essentially ended Reconstruction and ushered in and firmly established *Jim Crow* laws in the southern states.

The opening trine phase of 1884–1885, with Uranus in Libra and Pluto in Gemini, coincided with the *Gilded Age* and the *Gay Nineties*. In the United States, there was great western



Chart 1: Uranus Conjunct Pluto
June 26, 1850; 00:11:58 AM LMT
Washington, DC; 38.9° N, 77° W
Koch; Mean Node

expansion, economic growth and immigration from Europe to the eastern United States. It was a period of great wealth and great poverty.⁴

The series of oppositions in 1901 and 1902, with Uranus in Sagittarius and Pluto in Gemini, coincided with the November 1901 conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn in Capricorn. From ancient times to the present day, the 20-year cycle of Jupiter and Saturn, known as the *Great Chronocrators*, serve as punctuation signaling ends and beginnings. When Saturn is in the picture there is nothing magical, mystical or esoteric going on — with Saturn, you can see, feel and touch it. This 20-year period in history reflects the energies of the planets and signs involved. Uranus is well represented with new technological developments — automobiles, planes, moving pictures — with Pluto adding the Gemini flavor to the mix. At the end of this 20-year period, the world was a different place. Pluto, the great transformer, and Uranus, the radical rabble rouser, had done their work. There was war, revolution and an epidemic, dynasties fell, and the fabric of society had altered considerably. Women got the vote and Congress banned the booze.

In 1921–1922, Uranus and Pluto were in their closing trine phase, from Pisces to Cancer with five exact hits. Once again, the Jupiter–Saturn conjunction in Virgo occurred in the middle of that period. These planetary configurations ushered in a decade of growth and change. Known as the *Jazz Age* and the *Roaring Twenties*, freedom and oppression walked side by side. Women shortened their skirts and bobbed their hair. This is the era of the Harlem Renaissance on one hand and the Tulsa Race Massacre on the other. Thanks to Henry Ford, the automobile was made available to the masses, and the first commercial radio station, KDKA out of Pittsburgh, began broadcasting.⁵ The Volstead Act, which prohibited the manufacture of alcohol, allowed organized crime to flourish.⁶ The bubble begins to burst when the squares move into action.

As we look through the lens of history, the Great Mississippi Flood of 1927⁷ provides a hint of what is to come. Wet weather, beginning in the summer of 1926, swelled rivers and undermined the levee system along the Mississippi. On April 15, 1927, Good Friday (*Chart 3, below*), 15 inches of rain fell on New Orleans over an 18-hour period. The levee system collapsed, and an estimated 27,000 square miles were submerged in 30 feet of water. At this time, Uranus and Pluto were transitioning from a trine aspect to a square aspect. Jupiter and Saturn were moving into a square aspect as well. The Sun, Neptune and Ceres formed a happy grand trine throwing their energies into the mix. Thousands of African Americans were forced into labor to shore up the levees, and as the waters rose and the levees collapsed, they were left stranded in deplorable conditions for days. This contributed to great political and social change as these Americans shifted their allegiance from the Republican party to the Democratic party. This incident was also a major factor in the *Great Migration* of African Americans from the South to the North in search of a better life.

The stock market roared and soared during this decade as well. Stock prices rose to unprecedented heights. Once again, the squares are felt. In October 1929, the Dow Jones Industrial Average began to slide. By mid-November of 1929, it had lost half its value. The slide continued until the summer of 1932, when the stock market hit its all-time low.⁸ The global impact of this economic collapse has been well documented. As we look back at this decade, Hitler's rise to power and the resultant horror dominated. The buzz words for the Uranus–Pluto combination are radical extremism. On the positive side, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, elected President in 1932, initiated social programs that were also considered radical and extreme.

By 1935 the world was deep in the Great Depression. The Vernal Equinox of 1935 (*Chart 4, below*) has Uranus in Aries



Chart 2: Uranus Square Pluto,
Oct 21, 1876; 7:01 PM LMT
Washington, DC; 38.9° N, 77° W
Koch; Mean Node

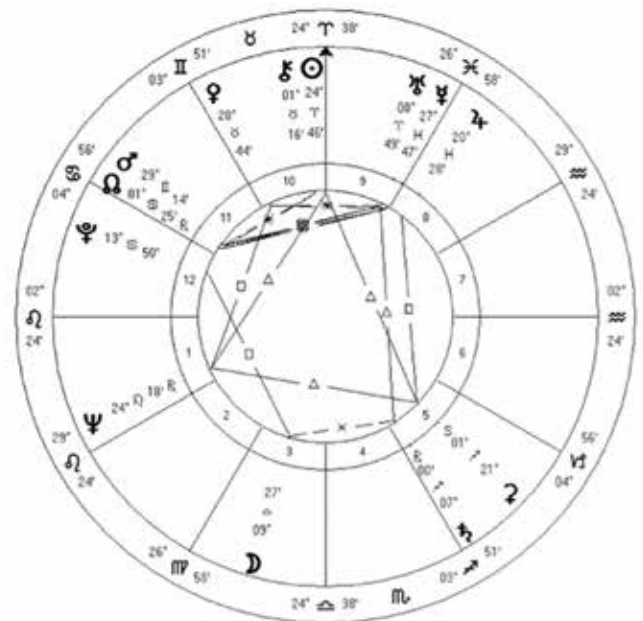


Chart 3: The Great Mississippi Flood
April 15, 1927; 12:00 PM CST
New Orleans, LA; 29.95° N, 90.07° W
Koch; Mean Node

and Pluto in Cancer in full square mode, with Uranus poised to move into Taurus. Ceres is conjunct Pluto and they both trine Jupiter in Scorpio. Saturn in Pisces opposes Neptune in Virgo at the midpoint of their 35-year cycle. Stirring things up is retrograde Mars in Libra squaring Pluto and the Nodes. This would be a year of events that would have far reaching effects as a result of weather, politics and policy.

One of the big events of the 1930s was the Dust Bowl. In the 1920s millions of acres of native grassland were plowed up to plant corn, wheat and cotton. Poor conservation techniques were further exacerbated by over grazing of cattle and sheep. After years of drought and without the long roots of the native grass to hold the topsoil in place, dust storms began to form as the soil dried up and was blown away. The worst of these storms occurred on April 14, 1935, known as Black Sunday.⁹ At this time, the Equinoctial configurations were still in play. Uranus has shifted into Taurus, and Mercury (wind) in Aries opposed retrograde Mars in Libra. The environmental disaster of the Dust Bowl precipitated another great migration, with the farmers of the Great Plains packing up and moving west.

This black cloud moving across the landscape can be looked at as a metaphor for things to come. But in 1935, social programs were enacted that would lift people out of poverty and ensure that this type of environmental disaster would be avoided in the future. The Soil Conservation Service was formed to protect land from erosion. New techniques (Uranus) in farming (Taurus) were introduced to help farmers manage the land more effectively. The Works Progress Administration was created to provide public works jobs for millions rebuilding the infrastructure. With the enactment of the Social Security Act in August of 1935, millions of elderly folks were lifted from abject poverty.¹⁰ That the dark cloud was hanging is evident in the passage of The Nuremberg Laws in Germany

in September of that year. This law deprived Jewish people of citizenship and made them subjects of the state. This law was the foreshadow and framework for the Holocaust to come.¹¹

One Cycle Ends, Another Begins

We come full circle as one cycle ends and a new one begins. On October 9, 1965 (*Chart 5, above*) Uranus and Pluto made the first of three conjunctions at 16 and 17 Virgo. This conjunction in Virgo is in opposition to Saturn in Pisces. Neptune in Scorpio sits on the descendant.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 rectified injustice long endured by African Americans in many parts of the US. These acts prohibited discrimination based on race, sex, religion and national origin. The Voting Rights Act specifically targeted racial discrimination.¹²

In July of 1965, the Medicare and Medicaid Act was enacted. It established Medicare for the elderly and Medicaid for those on limited income. These are also known as Social Security Amendments. Saturn in Pisces opposing outer planets in Virgo was in play in 1935 when Social Security was enacted.¹³

The opening square for the current Uranus-Pluto cycle occurred seven times between September 2012 and March 2015 from Aries to Capricorn. The discordant energies of the square aspect were reflected in world events. This decade was one of political divide. The election of the first African American as President, Black Lives Matter, Me Too, and the Arab Spring resonate with Uranus' impulse to liberate, while Pluto's compulsion to control provides the pushback.

The exact hits of the opening trine phase begin in November 2026 with Uranus in Gemini and Pluto in Aquarius. This sign-planet combination has a revolutionary signature. Since we are in the *information age*, the revolution may be one of ideas.

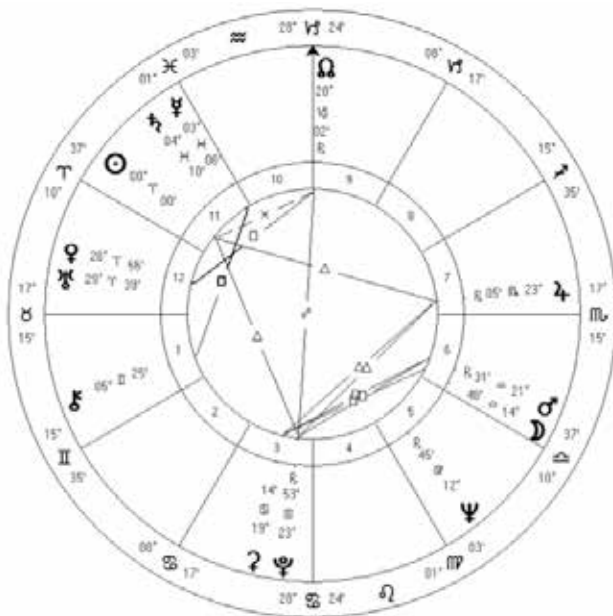


Chart 4: Spring Equinox, March 21, 1935
March 21, 1935 8:17:41 AM EST
Washington, DC; 38.9° N, 77° W
Koch; Mean Node

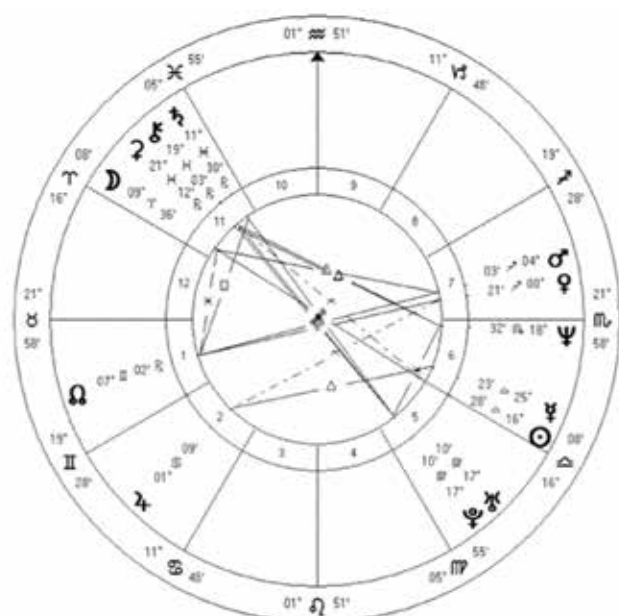


Chart 5: Uranus Conjunct Pluto, October 9, 1965
Oct 9, 1965 8:11 PM EDT
Washington, DC; 38.9° N, 77° W
Koch; Mean Node

The 1850 conjunction of this planetary pair was in Aries, ruled by Mars. That cycle was characterized by pioneering, industrialization and war. The 1965 conjunction was in Virgo, ruled by Mercury. The 1960's was a decade of youthful protest against the war, segregation and outmoded social constructs. The seeds planted then are coming to fruition. Youth, once again, is leading the way, marching for their lives, whether for gun laws or climate change. This Mercury-ruled cycle has also brought a technological explosion, from the transistor radio to the cell phone, along with the awesome, fearful ability to push a button and destroy a city miles away. It will take a true visionary to be able to conceive and visualize the technological breakthroughs yet to come.

While there are themes that recur throughout the Uranus-Pluto cycle, this particular cycle is but one tool of mundane astrology. The conjunctions and cycles of all the outer planets must be taken into consideration along with stations, ingresses, lunations and eclipses. Some schools of thought maintain that countries have planetary rulers and look to transits of and aspects to that ruler. Mundane astrologers study the horoscopes of sovereign rulers to gain insight into the course of events. The Moon's nodal cycle has been shown to correlate with business cycles. All of these are tools of the mundane.

As you begin to unpack the mundane toolbox, be ready for a fascinating and compelling journey.✱

©All Rights Reserved

Endnotes:

1. Michealsen, Neil F. Tables of Planetary Phenomena. San Diego: ACS Publications, 1995, p. 90.
2. <https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/fugitive-slave-acts>.
3. <https://www.history.com/topics/us-presidents/compromise-of-1877>.
4. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/lifestyle/magazine/1977/12/18/1890-1899/eac03653-58b0-41b5-992a-c2b2a8076492/>.

5. <https://www.history.com/topics/roaring-twenties/roaring-twenties-history>.
6. https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Organized_crime..
7. <https://www.britannica.com/event/Mississippi-River-flood-of-1927>.
8. <https://www.federalreservehistory.org/essays/stock-market-crash-of-1929#:~:text=The%20slide%20continued%20through%20the,89%20percent%20below%20its%20peak>
9. <https://www.weather.gov/oun/events-19350414>
10. <https://www.history.com/topics/great-depression/new-deal>
11. <https://www.museumoftolerance.com/education/teacher-resources/holocaust-resources/timeline-of-the-holocaust.html>
12. <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/us-history/postwarera/civil-rights-movement/a/the-civil-rights-act-of-1964-and-the-voting-rights-act-of-1965>
13. <https://healthlaw.org/announcement/medicare-and-medicaid-act-1965-2/>

Bibliography

Carter, Charles C. O. *An Introduction to Political Astrology*. London: L. N. Fowler & Co. Ltd.
McWhirter, Louise. *Astrology and Stock Market Forecasting*. New York: ASI, 1988.
Baigent, Michael. et al *Mundane Astrology*. London: Aquarian/Thorsons, 1992.

Shirley Prisco: My interest in astrology began at an early age. This was back in the dark ages, when information about the subject was not readily available. Whenever I saw a book or publication about astrology, I bought it. The more I learned, the more my interest grew. Now, a lifetime later, I am still fascinated, curious and amazed with every chart that crosses my radar. These days I write an astrology column and seasonal reports for a local magazine. I'm a lifetime member of NCGR, affiliated with the Boston Chapter, and I serve on NCGR's national board as Membership Director.



Join us on Youtube

NCGR is now offering

“The Foundations of Astrology”

A series of free video presentations

for those who wish to become familiar with the basic language of astrology.

SOLAR ARC DIRECTIONS: THE WAY OF THE SUN

BY MANDA SELVA

As the Sun makes a complete cycle around the birth chart every year, it brings to light the area of the chart that it aspects, opening up key opportunities for development. When this process is slowed down through progression —equating one day of the Sun’s movement to one year and moving, or directing, all other planets the same distance (measured by arc in a chart wheel) — it is called solar arc direction (SA). SA shows how our soul’s intention unfolds bit by bit, degree by degree over time. SA works well with other techniques like Uranian.¹

Method

In the example shown in Figure 1, if the person was born with Sun at 0° Libra (shown by position A), when they reach 62 years of age, through progression, the Sun would be at approximately 2° Sagittarius (shown by position B). It is only approximate because the Sun’s speed is not the same throughout the year. To be exact, it helps to use an astrology software program. In this case, the distance traveled by the Sun through

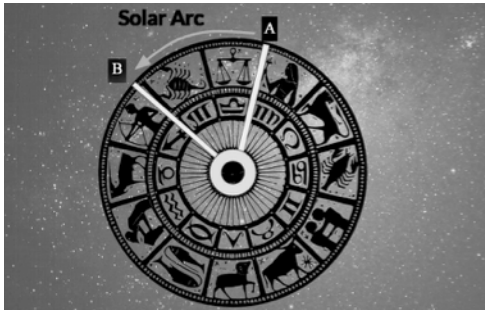


Figure 1 - Solar Arc

62° is denoted by the SA, and all other planets are moved the same distance as this arc. Please note that for the purpose of this article, *planets* include Sun, Moon, inner and outer planets, nodes, asteroids and other significant chart points. SA direction works well with hard aspects —the

conjunction, opposition, square, semi-square and sesquiquadrate — as these fall under the 2nd, 4th and 8th harmonics of manifestation. Usually, small orbs, like ½° to 1° on either side of the exact aspect, are used for this technique.²

In Chart 1, the inside circle shows the natal chart, and the outside ring shows the progressed position of the planets, while in Chart 2, the same positions are shown in a 90° dial format. In Chart 1, SA Mars is making a square to the natal MC. The same can be viewed in a 90° dial, wherein all squares, oppositions and conjunctions show up as conjunctions, while semi-squares and sesquiquadrates show up as oppositions. In line with this, as seen in Chart 2, the square from Mars to the midheaven shows up as a conjunction in the 90° dial. When interpreting SA directions, all hard aspects are defined in the same manner, and the 90° dial is an easy way to spot them. This example can be written as SA Mars = natal MC. Also, SA directions not only trigger planets and chart points, but simultaneously release the expression of midpoints tied to them.

Symbolism and Expression of Solar Arc Aspects

The periods when SA planets meet natal planets are very important intersections of life, when specific developments occur as part of the soul’s journey. It can show up as a gradually growing interest in a new skill or a surge in confidence — for example,



Chart 1 The inside circle shows the natal chart, and the outside ring shows the progressed position of the planets

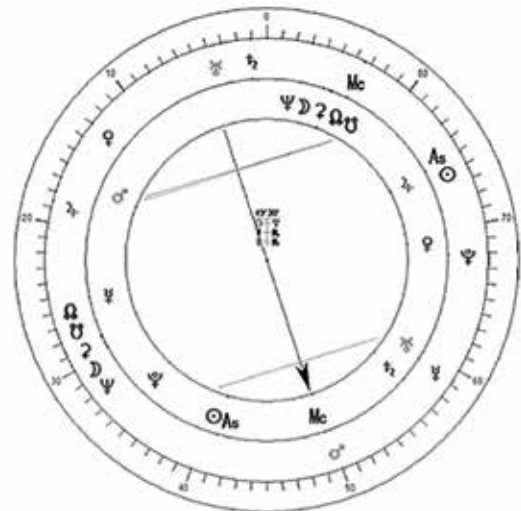


Chart 2 the same positions are shown in a 90° dial format

suddenly wanting to be the limelight. This can lead to certain events based on the inherent potential in the chart, which may or may not manifest externally. As seen in Charts 1 and 2, (*bottom of this page*) Mars aspecting the MC could signify a shift in the mindset, like wanting more independence in one's life. This could potentially lead to starting a business, advocating for oneself, finding a leadership position or even a separation or divorce. For example, when SA Neptune aspected the natal Mars of a client, she started to notice increased interest in many kinds of movements beginning about six months to a year before the exact aspect, and she ended up learning yoga, Zumba and Qigong, leading to a new way of connecting with her body.

Case Study 1: Cher



Chart 3: Cher, Natal Chart

May 20, 1956, 7:25 am PST El Centro, CA; 32 N 48, 115 W 34
Placidus; Mean Node

Source: Astrodatabank; Rodden Rating AA



Cher is an example of a celebrity who has changed careers to keep in step with changing public interest and needs of the younger generation. I remember being awestruck by her beauty and charisma in the movie *Moonstruck*. As you see in her natal chart (*Chart 3 above*), with an unaspected Sun and three planets (Moon, Venus and Pluto) out-of-bounds by declination, she is not hampered by other people's expectations of her. She is not

afraid to cross limits or to stand out and be unique.

Also, seen in the 90° dial of her natal chart, (*next column*) the 0° Aries Point, or World Axis (the portal that opens up access to the masses), makes a midpoint picture with Venus/Neptune

= Mercury. This midpoint as represented in Figure 3 signifies an opportunity to express herself through artistic creativity. Cher was known not just for her music and acting skills, but also for the way she presented herself to the world through outlandish outfits and a great sense of humor.

Figure 3: Cher's Midpoints Tied to the Aries Point

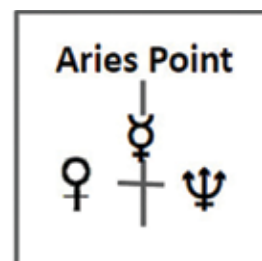


Figure 3:

Cher's Midpoints Tied to the Aries Point

In this example, we are going to observe only the MC and Aries Point as each planet aspects them by SA. Solar aspects to the MC will create changes in how and what we want to accomplish in the world. Based on the placement of Cher's MC relative to the Aries Point as seen in the 90° dial, SA planets will first aspect her MC and, a few years later, the Aries Point. This could mean that each shift in her psyche in relation to career has an opportunity to be projected in a big way through the Aries Point a few years down the line.

SA Uranus on natal MC:

6–7 years old, 1952–53

Aspects from SA Uranus could signify an unpredictable home environment in her early years. During her childhood, Cher's mother married several times, leading to frequent moving, a lack of basic resources, financial constraints and even Cher being sent to an orphanage for a few months.³ Uranus aspects can also be reflected through questioning one's life direction in terms of expressing one's individuality. This could have been a period when Cher did things to stand out as a way of making up for the instability in her life.

SA MC and Node = Aries Point:

7–8 years old, 1953–54

Her Venus/Neptune creativity channeled through the Aries Point showed up at a very early age. She was very clear about wanting to be famous, and she organized a musical for her class, helping the teachers with choreography and directing dance routines. When the boys did not want to participate, she took on the male roles and had to learn to sing in a deep, low voice, which later became one of her artistic signatures.⁴

SA Uranus = Aries Point:

14–15 years old, 1960–61

Cher is a teenager now and is a very unconventional and daring one! She started attending a school with students from rich families and had to find a way to stand out. Since SA Uranus crossed the MC at an earlier age, she already had her mind set on getting attention, and this was a ripe opportunity to display it to the whole school. Her former classmates commented, "I'll never forget seeing Cher for the first time. She was so special ... She was like a movie star, right then and there".⁵ Two years later she dropped out of high school, left home and moved to Los Angeles.

SA Saturn = MC: 16–17 years old, 1962–63

With Saturn in aspect to the MC, the mindset is about facing the real struggles of reaching success, and Cher was determined to persevere through them. Once she left home, she took acting classes and worked hard to support herself, dancing in small clubs and connecting with agents and managers. Even after she met Sonny Bono, who coached her career and became her husband, she was still struggling with stage fright. It was so bad that she would sing facing Sonny instead of the audience.⁶ Also, this period probably reflected the theme of hard work, persistence, and responsibility, which are needed characteristics to get to the top.

SA Jupiter to MC: 20–21 years old, 1966–67

Jupiter opens people up to different experiences, including travel. Since they were advised that their music would be well received in England, Cher and Sonny traveled to London and became an instant success.⁷ British teenagers started to copy their outfits, and the song *I Got You Babe* was number one on the *Billboard* Hot 100.⁷⁸

SA Sun to MC: 25–26 years old, 1971–72

SA Sun to MC is the most important progression, as it usually brings more clarity to one's career. Also, one can start feeling more confidence and wanting to be in the limelight if it is supported in the chart, and Cher was ready for a bigger audience. Both Cher and Sonny were offered their own television program, *The Sonny & Cher Comedy Hour*. It became extremely popular and was an incredible platform for Cher to bring out her sense of humor and entertain people—which is what she liked to do most. Part of the show's appeal was her choice of unconventional outfits and its influence on 1970s fashion trends. A few years later, Cher won a Golden Globe Award for *Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series — Musical or Comedy*.⁹

SA Sun to Aries Point and SA Neptune to MC: 32–34 years old, 1978–80

Cher realized that to survive in the entertainment industry, she had to re-direct herself from rock and roll to more contemporary disco music. With the help of SA Sun on her Aries Point, which also triggered the Venus/Neptune midpoint, an aspect frequently seen in dancers, she made a comeback by capitalizing on the disco craze. Also, Neptune, among others, rules flowy movements like dance. When it aspected her MC, she developed a liking for disco, and stated, "*It's terrific! It's great music to dance to. I think that danceable music is what everybody wants*"¹⁰

SA Mercury to natal MC: 36–37 years old, 1981–82

In the early 1980s, Cher's career had begun to slow, and she was probably prompted by Mercury to learn new skills. She moved to New York in 1982 to take acting lessons with Lee Strasberg, the founder of the popular Actors Studio. However,

before she started the lessons, she performed in *Come Back to the Five and Dime Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean* on Broadway and later played in the film adaptation.¹¹

SA Neptune = Aries Point and SA Mars = MC: 41–42 years old, 1987–88

Neptune is the king of virtual entertainment on the large screen and other media. At this point, Cher was soaring in confidence and had acted in many leading roles. In 1987, she starred in the movie *Moonstruck* and won the Academy Award and the Golden Globe for *Best Actress in a Motion Picture, Comedy or Musical*. She had become a very successful artist in the movie industry, commanding big bucks for her work.¹²

SA Pluto and SA Venus = MC: 44–45 years old, 1990–91

Pluto aspects bring a need to dig deep into early traumas, power struggles and getting in touch with one's authentic power. Cher also had natal Pluto opposite Venus, which generally shows an intense emotional makeup and potential challenges in relationships. In *Mermaids*, Cher replayed her childhood, in which a neurotic mother keeps moving her two daughters from one place to another following her frequent breakups. During this period, Cher also had power struggles with two directors of the film, who both were later fired, and Cher was able to provide more creative input.¹³ But due to this negative experience, Cher declined to take any more lead roles for a while, and she started to explore directorial opportunities, which are more in line with Pluto's push for authentic power.

As you can see, Cher was the queen of reinventing herself. Each time a SA planet or angle aspected her MC, there was a shift in her attitude towards career and what she wanted out of it. The change could have been caused by the environment, relationships or changing trends, and this often seems to be a precursor to significant manifestations in the outer world.

Case Study 2: Barack Obama



In this example, SA aspects to and from the Asc will be studied. Other than appearance and health, the Asc is about one's worldview, which may not always be easy to assess, as it tends to be more internal. However, in Barack Obama's case, he has expressed his views and beliefs in his interviews, speeches and through

his published books, so we can glean some of the key SA directions that have potentially influenced his life.

In Chart 4 (*next page*) Obama's natal chart is shown and in Chart 5 (*next page*) the natal chart is shown in the 90° dial format. His Aquarius rising has both a humanitarian and intellectual bent and sees the world as a big community with common goals. Also, as seen in Figure 4, the main midpoints related to his ascendant are Jupiter/Pluto and Sun/Uranus. The Jupiter Pluto midpoint, in brief, is related to success and "*prudence, far-sightedness, organizing talent, the desire for*



Chart 4: Barack Obama, Natal Chart
 August 4, 1961; 7:24 pm AHST Honolulu, Hawaii;
 21 N 18, 157 W 52 Placidus; Mean Node
 Source: Astrodatabase: Rodden Rating, AA.

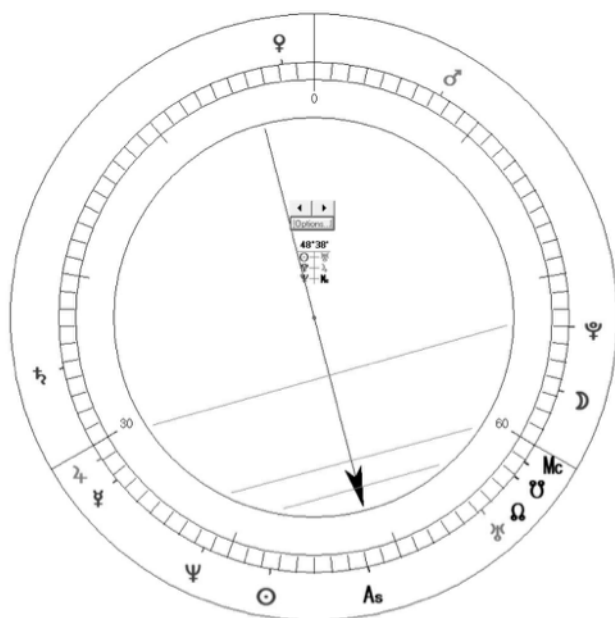
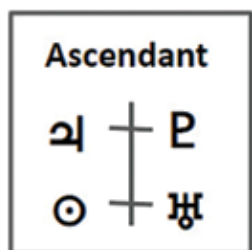


Chart 5: Barack Obama's 90° Dial



**Obama's Midpoints
 Tied to the Ascendant**

power, personal advancement".¹⁴
 This may show his ability to spot opportunities for advancement in the environment, and to avail them as necessary.

The Sun/Uranus midpoint tied to his Aquarius ascendant gives a *Man of the World* kind of identity and related to "sudden experiences, new associates, excitable".¹⁵ In a 2006 interview with Oprah, he talked about the

diversity of his extended family and how it is like a *mini-United Nations*"¹⁶ highlighting his racial lineage, father from Kenya, a white American mother, and his possibly Irish and Native American ancestors. This diverse identity is seen through the ascendant which is at the midpoint of Sun/Uranus, wherein one is related to everyone or/and not really tied to anyone.

SA Sun to natal Asc: 6-7 years old, 1967-8

In 1967, when he was six years old, he moved with his mother to join his stepfather in Indonesia, which follows the Sun/Uranus characteristic of spontaneous changes and new connections. He ended up in a completely different land, learning a new language within six months, making friends with kids of low-level bureaucrats, and experiencing both the positives and negatives of a new culture.¹⁶ Since his Sun is conjunct Mercury and both aspect the natal ascendant during this phase, he probably was excited about this adventure and opportunities to learn new skills.

SA Neptune to Asc and SA Asc to Moon Nodes: 10-11 years old, 1971-2

Change struck again in accordance with Sun/Uranus midpoint tied to the ascendant. He was sent to live with his maternal grandmother in Hawaii, where he would stay until his graduation from high school.¹⁷ With Neptune on his ascendant, one can only imagine how confused he must have been about his identity as he was moved from one place to another and away from his mother, the only consistent caregiver he had so far. Aspects of the Nodes from the SA ascendant often show the coming and goings of people in one's life.

However, despite the potential challenges seen in his chart, he was able to see the positives of living in Honolulu. In his book *Dreams from my Father*, he mentions the expansive experience of being exposed to a variety of cultures in a climate of mutual respect and states "*this became an integral part of my world view, and a basis for the values that I hold most dear*".¹⁸

SA Jupiter and Mercury = natal Asc: 17-18 years old, 1978-9

Since Obama has Jupiter and Mercury aspecting within a 2° orb, both will make SA aspects during the same time period. Mercury and Jupiter aspects often tend to be about learning, traveling, and expanding one's mental horizons in different ways. This seemed to be evident in his active participation at Occidental College, where he made his first public political speech related to US international policies.¹⁹ The Jupiter/Pluto midpoint tied to his ascendant is about the need for power, and he probably had the intrinsic knowledge of how and when to claim it as he saw the right opportunities. In the same period, he also traveled to Indonesia after a long time to visit his mother, half-sister and other friends.²⁰ It is quite possible that this phase of his life influenced his decision to join Columbia University later on to major in political science, with a specialty in international relations.

SA Saturn = Asc and SA Asc = natal Saturn: 23-4 years old, 1984-5

This is a double dose of Saturn to and from the ascendant. SA Saturn aspects are about reality testing one's dreams. After graduation from college, his first job was with an International Finance company, which did have a global flavor but also involved a lot of hard work. He learned fast and took on major responsibilities. The place was seen by others as a sweatshop where people were thrown in the deep end and had to figure out a way to learn and survive. Colleagues also described Obama as "*mature beyond his years*."²¹ At the end of the year, he probably saw that the reality did not match his dreams, and decided finance was not for him.

SA Pluto = Asc: 27-8 years old, 1988-9

Pluto is about transforming one's values and beliefs by going deep to find truth. The truths could be about generational and racial trauma and about power in general. Obama traveled for the first time in Europe for three weeks and then for five weeks in Kenya, where he met many of his paternal relatives and this experience may have influenced writing his book, *Dreams From my Father*.²² Also, in Harvard Law School, Obama gained media attention as the first elected black president for the Harvard Law Review, which led to a publishing contract for a book about race relations.²³

This case study shows that Obama's path to becoming President of the United States did not happen in one leap. There were key progressions that provided opportunities for him to shift his worldview at each step of the way, led by the clarity offered by the path of the Sun.

Conclusion

As evident in these two case studies, the Sun lights up the path to increase clarity and awareness of the less known, hidden, or the shadow aspects of our psyche, with the potential to bring them into consciousness. Cher may have started out as a musician, but as specific SA directions touched off her midheaven, she shifted her mindset to exploring disco music, producing her own TV shows, acting in movies, and even trying her hand in directing them. Similarly with Obama, as planets arched across his ascendant, his worldview and identity as defined by the midpoints related to his ascendant got strengthened or modified, allowing him to gain the confidence necessary to run for the President of the United States.✱

©All Rights Reserved

Endnotes:

1. Ebertin, Reinhold. *The Combination of Stellar Influences*. American Federation of Astrologers, 1994, p. 10.
2. Harding, Michael and Charles Harvey. *Working with Astrology: The Psychology of Harmonics, Midpoints and Astro-Cartography*. Arkana, 1990, p. 20.
3. "Cher." *Wikipedia*, 10 Sep. 2022, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cher>.
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.
6. Dondoros, Chris. "Six Decades of Cher: Six Facts You May Not

Know -or Remember." *Masslive*, 24 Apr. 2019, <https://www.masslive.com/entertainment/2019/04/six-decades-of-cher-six-facts-you-may-not-know-or-remember.html>.

7. "Cher." *Wikipedia*.

8. *I Got You Babe*. *Wikipedia*, August 31, 2022, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I_Got_You_Babe.

9. "Cher." *Wikipedia*.

10. Ibid.

11. Ibid.

12. *Mermaids* (1990 Film). *Wikipedia*, 1 Sep. 2022, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mermaids_\(1990_film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mermaids_(1990_film)) "Cher." *Wikipedia*, 10 Sep. 2022,

13. Ebertin, Reinhold. *The Combination of Stellar Influences*. American Federation of Astrologers, 1994, p. 177.

14. Ibid., p. 83.

15. Person. "Keeping Hope Alive." *Oprah.com*, 18 Oct. 2006, <https://www.oprah.com/world/keeping-hope-alive/all>.

16. "Barack Obama." *Wikipedia*, 10 Sep. 2022,

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barack_Obama.

17. "Barack Obama Recalls Childhood Years in Indonesia." *The Guardian*, 9 Nov. 2010,

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2010/nov/09/barack-obama-childhood-indonesia>.

18. Obama, Barack. *Dream From My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance*. Three Rivers Press, 2004.

19. "Barack Obama." *Wikipedia*, 10 Sep. 2022, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barack_Obama.

20. Ibid.

21. Horsley, Scott. "Obama's Early Brush with Financial Markets." *NPR*, 9 July 2008,

<https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=92337754>.

22. Obama, Barack. *Dream From My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance*. Three Rivers Press, 2004.

23. "Barack Obama." *Wikipedia*, 10 Sep. 2022, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barack_Obama.



Manda Selva, C.A., NC-GR-PAA, practices astrology and psychotherapy in the San Francisco Bay Area. Aided by her educational background in science, she is passionate about applying evidence-based methods in astrological research. She does astrological consulting, has published articles in astrological journals, magazines, and in her own blog, *Astromanda*.

com. She has presented her research in NCGR and ISAR symposia and teaches through webinars.



THE DIURNAL CHART

BY CHRISTEEN SKINNER

I work mainly in the world of finance and business and consider it imperative to keep on top of daily transits both heliocentric and geocentric. Whilst I certainly discuss long-term trends with investors and yes, keep constant eye on world affairs and the influence of outer planet cycles, the first port of call on any day is to look carefully at the charts of clients and for close-of-trading for each of the major stock exchanges.

The global village trades 24/7 and it is important for me to be aware of those times of day when planets rise, set, culminate, or reach the nadir in different locations. Depending on precisely where you are in the world, planets arrive at these angles at different times — important to note if working with day traders who need to identify potential change-of-trend moments.

Markets across the world open and close at their own set times. (see Table 1 *below*). Some, notably those in the Far East, will close for a couple of hours during the middle of what we would consider to be the working day. Traders know that there are rhythms to the trading year and that there are seasonal factors. Those with even moderate astro-interest will ask for comment on trends as indicated at each equinox and solstice and their midpoints.

Table 1: The Global Trading Day in Universal Time

00:00 – In Tokyo, the Nikkei 225 opens.
02:00 – As Hong Kong stocks opens, the Nikkei 225 closes.
03.30 – After closing for 90 minutes at 2:00, the Nikkei 225 re-opens in Tokyo.
05:00 – Australia closes, 6 hours after opening.
06:00 – The Japanese Nikkei 225 closes following a total of 4.5 hours of trading.
07:00 – In France, CAC 40 opens
08:00 – As Hong Kong index closes, the FTSE 100 and DAX both open for trading.
14:30 – DAX closes in Germany as Wall Street opens
16:30 – The London FTSE closes.
17:15 – In France the CAC closes (after 10.25 hours trading).
21:00 – Wall Street closes.
23:00 – Australia 200 opens in Sydney

Using the brilliant software now available, it is possible to animate charts and to look several days ahead. Obviously, considerable care needs to be taken when change to daylight savings takes place.

The opening bell signals the start of the day and the chart for this moment yields clues as to the general trading mood and expectation of the day's trading. However, it is the outcome — i.e., moment — when a market closes for the day

that, for me, is most useful. I have clients who want to know specifically the level at which an index might close. True, there are numerous techniques to be considered, but I give priority to the chart for close of play.

I have used these close of trade charts when working with London Metal Exchange markets (gold and silver), and with the London Stock Exchange FTSE index as well as Wall Street-based indices. Yes, the same chart is used for the Dow Jones Industrial Average, S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite, and the diurnal chart must be used in conjunction with the natal charts for these indices.

Before moving on to discuss the efficacy of these market-diurnal charts, and to understand the context a little better, let's consider the chart of individuals and how you might use this technique.

What Is a Diurnal Chart?

The diurnal chart is based on the exact time that you were born. Take today's date and calculate your *daily* chart having converted local time to universal time (UT). You may need to do this twice: once using the birth location and another for your present location.

Having used this technique for over three decades I would say that the location chart is every bit as important as the chart using the natal location. I suggest that you experiment with both. You will find that if you have moved several hundred miles away from the birthplace, that the respective angles of these diurnal charts will differ.

Consider too the degree of your ruling planet. That degree will form the ascendant, midheaven, descendant or IC on one of four dates each year. You can make notes of when these dates will occur both at your birthplace and your new location. They form a natural rhythm to your year. Look back on your life: You may find that these charts reveal factors you might otherwise have ignored.

Some of my clients have weekly or monthly consultations and part of my preparation is to use their exact time of birth along with their natal and present location alongside that of the market (usually Wall Street) in which they have interest. This technique has never failed to deliver. Through this it has been possible to determine key trading dates and — based on our joint experience — the probability of trading success.

Whilst for reasons of client confidentiality, I cannot use their charts here; I can use that of a prominent individual to illustrate the usefulness of these charts. You may know that here, in the UK, we have experienced extra-ordinary political shenanigans.

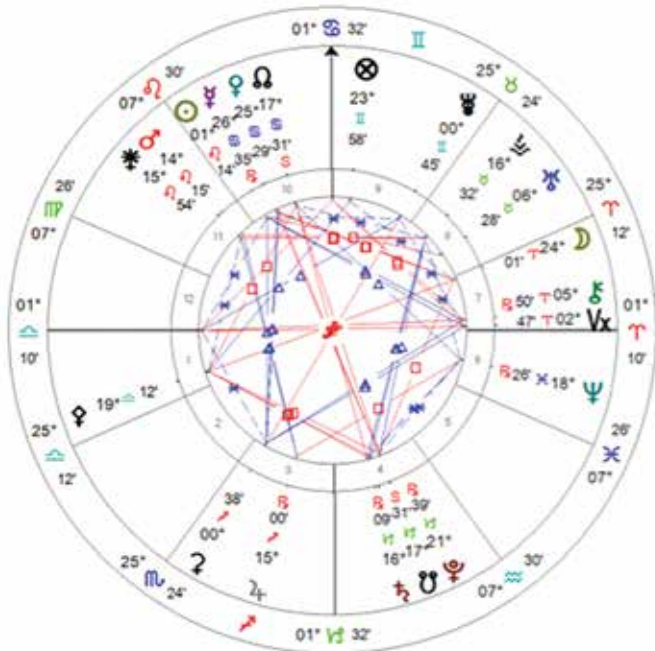


Chart 1: Boris Johnson Becomes Prime Minister of the UK,
Diurnal Cast for London 10:00 UT
51°N30' 000°W10' Placidus, True Node
Source: Astrodatabase, Rodden Rating A

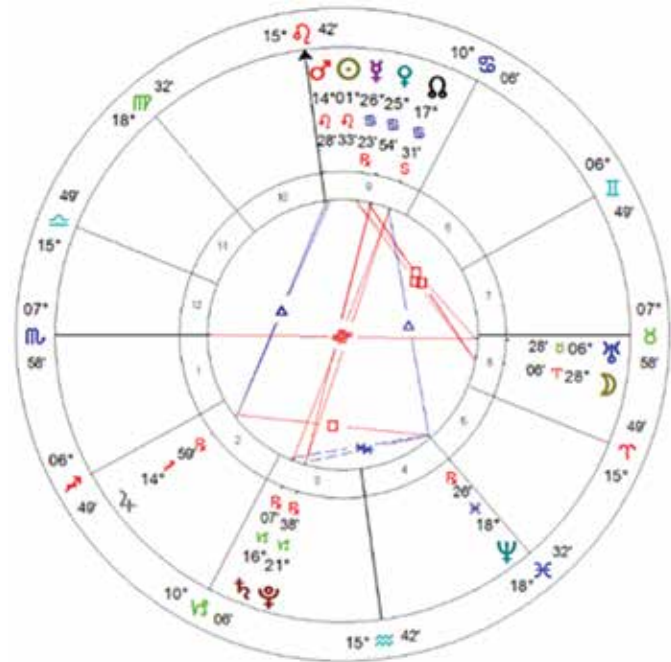


Chart 2: Boris Johnson Becomes Prime Minister of the UK
Diurnal Cast for New York, 14:00 EDT
40°N52'23" 074°W00'23" Placidus, True Node
Source: Astrodatabase, Rodden Rating A

Boris Johnson

Boris Johnson's diurnal charts are fascinating in that both his birth location (New York) and Westminster, London affirm the story of his career.

Boris was born in New York, at 2:00 pm local time (EDT) on the afternoon of June 19, 1964 and assumed office of Prime Minister of the UK on 24 July 2019 (*Chart 1*). In London, UK, the angles of his diurnal chart are the first degrees of each of the cardinal signs, suggesting a day of *leadership*.

Just how dramatic a day in his life this would prove to be is shown in the diurnal chart set for his birthplace, New York in Chart 2.

In the New York chart, Mars is at 14 Leo conjunct the midheaven (15 Leo) and Juno (16 Leo) with all in trine to Jupiter at 14 Sagittarius. Uranus, at 6 Taurus is within 1° of the 7 Taurus Dsc indicating a day of political (Uranus) drama with his profile and strategies (the Leo stellium in trine to Jupiter) receiving wide-spread attention.

During his time in office, on August 24th, 2019 (*Chart 3*), Boris Johnson prorogued parliament — at the time, an unheard of action. The London diurnal chart that day has Moon, at 6 Leo exact on the midheaven in exact square to Uranus.

Just five weeks later, on September 24 (*Chart 4 next page*), and again using the London chart, that action was deemed unlawful by the UK Supreme Court. Saturn was with the lunar South Node and Pallas was rising.

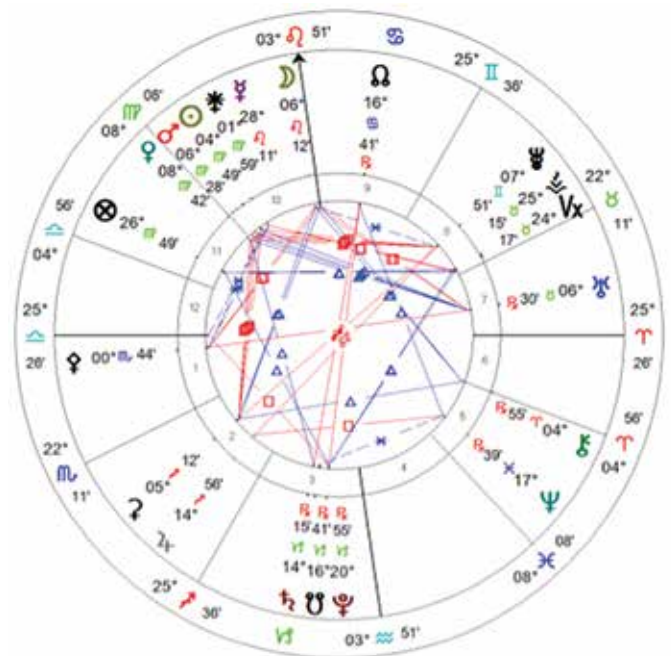


Chart 3: Boris Johnson Prorogues Parliament,
Diurnal Cast for London, 10:00 UT
51°N30' 000°W10" Placidus, True Node

At his birthplace, the Galactic Centre was the rising degree as Mercury sat at the MC (*Chart 5 next page*). In both charts, Venus squared Saturn and the nodal axis.

Just short of three years after assuming the office of Prime Minister, on the afternoon of July 7, 2022 (*Chart 6 next page*), it was clear that Boris would have to resign his position.

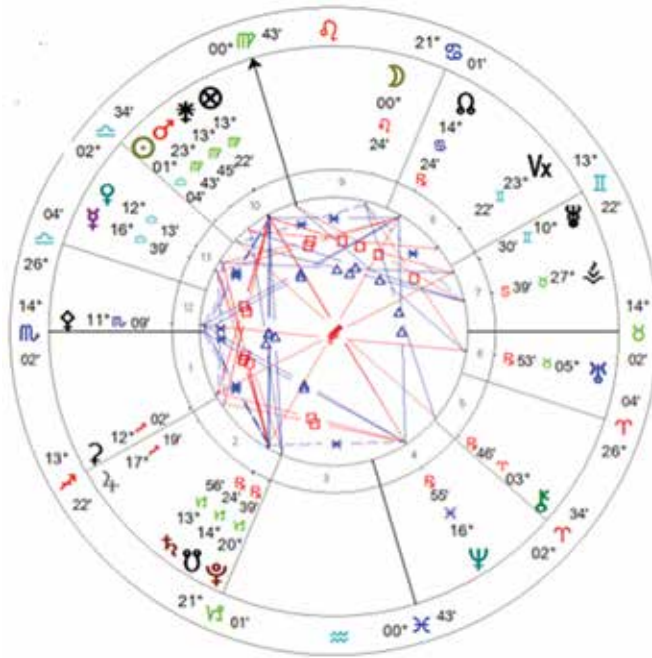


Chart 4: Boris Johnson Prorogue Deemed Unlawful,
Diurnal Cast for London, December 24, 2016
10:00 UT, London, UK; *Placidus; True Node*
51 N 30, 000 W 10

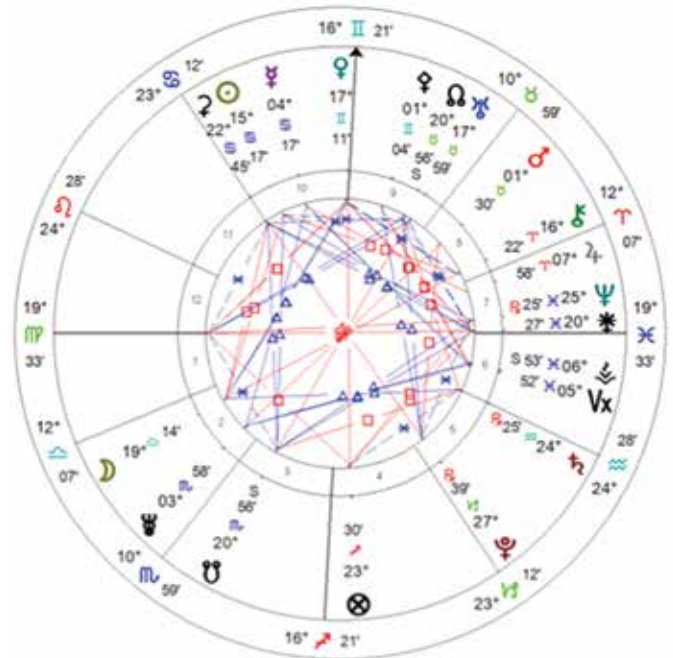


Chart 6: Boris Johnson Resigns
Diurnal Cast for London July 7, 2022 10:00 UT,
London, UK; *Placidus; True Node*
51 N 30, 000 W 10

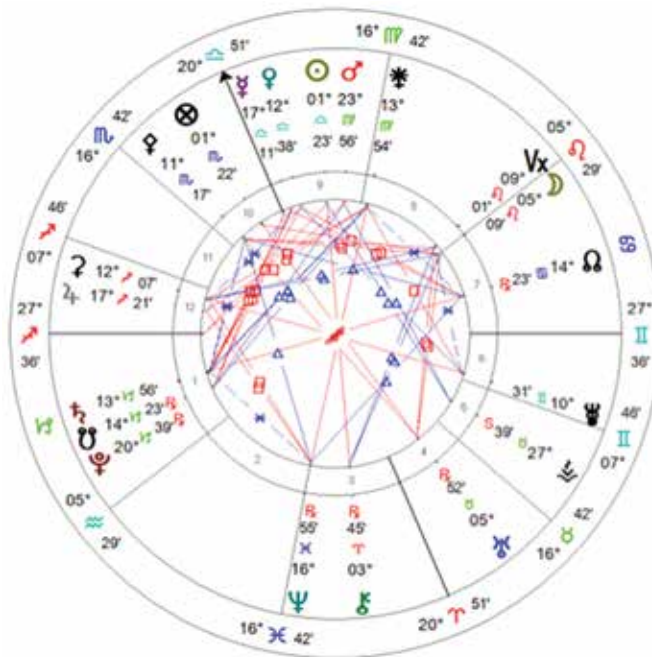


Chart 5: Boris Johnson Prolouges Parliament
Diurnal Cast for New York
September 24, 2019; 14:00 EDT *Placidus; True Node*
New York, New York; 40°N42' 51", 074 W 00' 23"

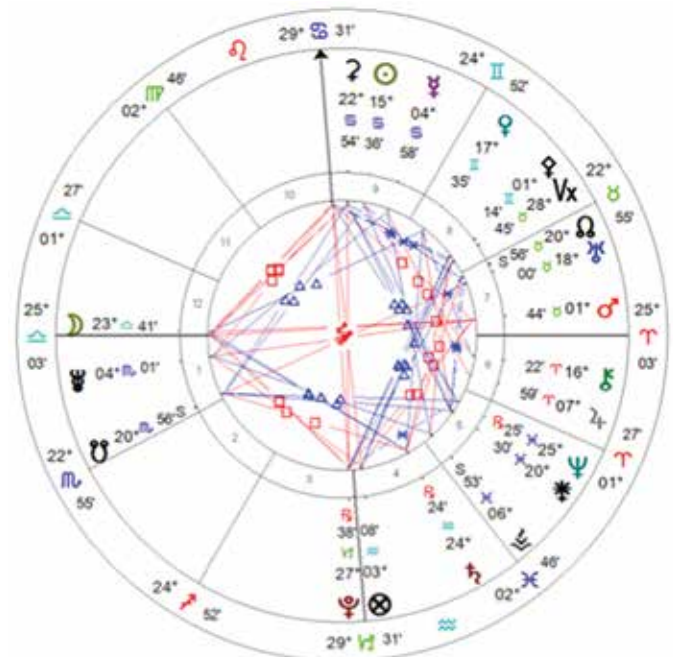


Chart 7: Boris Johnson Resigns
Diurnal Cast for New York July 7, 2022; 14:00 EDT
Placidus; True Node, New York, New York;
40°N42' 51", 074 W 00' 23"

The diurnal for that date is equally dramatic. His New York diurnal chart (*Chart 7 next page*) has the Moon rising (within 2°) and Pluto (again within 2°) of the IC. Set for London, Venus at 17 Gemini is within 1° of the midheaven as Juno sets on the Dsc (again within 1°

Another diurnal chart for Boris is of his last appearance in the House of Commons on July 22, 2022 (*Chart 8 next page*), at Prime Minister's Questions. His parting words to the

assembled House included "*Mission largely accomplished, for now,*" and "*Hasta la vista, baby,*" arguably inferring his intention to return.

Unquestionably there is a teasing element as is shown by Neptune within a few degrees of the descendant (is he really going?) at the London diurnal that day. However, this was also within a degree of the cardinal axis appearing at all four angles so, perhaps...

He is scheduled to leave office on 5 September 2022 when his London diurnal has 1° Scorpio rising. (Boris' natal Moon degree is 0° Scorpio Chart 9 *on the next page*). It is fascinating that this chart reflects the Saturn-Uranus square of 11° of fixed signs that operated throughout *party-gate* and his eventual resignation.

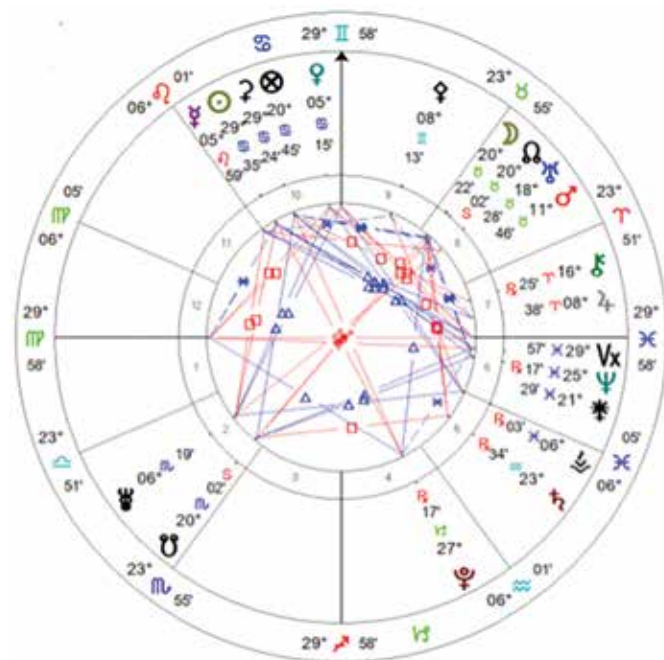


Chart 8: Boris Johnson's Last Appearance in the House of Commons,
Diurnal Cast for London, UK; July 22, 2022 10:00 UT,
London, UK; Placidus; True Node
51 N 30, 000 W 10

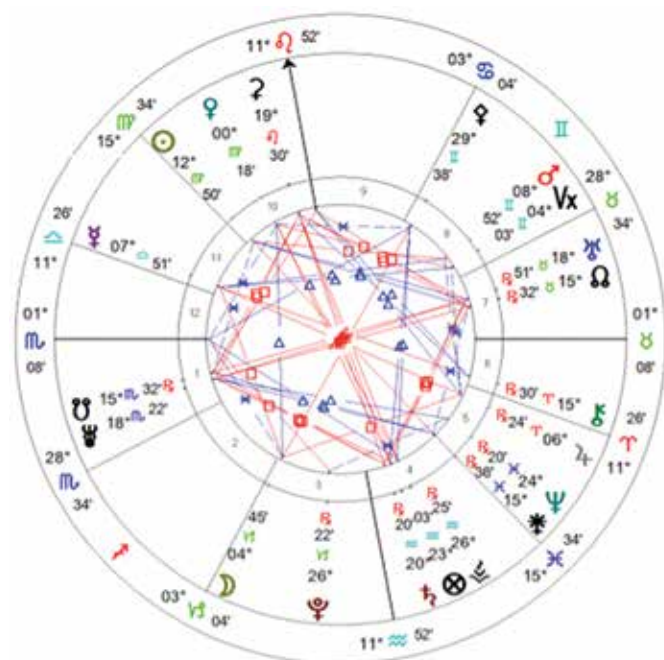


Chart 9: Boris Johnson Leaves Office
Diurnal Cast for London
July 22, 2022 10:00 UT, Placidus; True Node
London, UK; 51 N 30, 000 W 10

Of course, there is more to this story. We could use any number of forecasting techniques. Where the diurnals are so useful is in *closing in* on days of high activity.

Prince Harry

Prince Harry resigned his royal title on January 9, 2021. Around that date every year, the IC will be at the degree of his natal Mercury. Harry was born on September 15, 1984, and he is a Virgo. Mercury is his ruling planet, thus dates in the year when that planet's natal position becomes an angle in the diurnal chart are likely to be important. When these coincide with major transits, events will tend toward the dramatic.

His natal Mercury is 5 Virgo and on the day of the resignation, the IC was 7 Virgo. The diurnal ascendant mirrored his natal descendant on January 9, 2021, (Chart 11 *next page*) with the *royal factor* shown by Jupiter's conjunction to natal Hygeia. There is more, — as there always is — including the diurnal part of fortune within 2° of his natal Moon, but even a brief look at his chart would have indicated this to be an important date for him that year.

Harry's announcement and subsequent move had implications for the UK monarchy, as is shown in the diurnal charts of the Queen and Prince Charles. The Queen's diurnal chart for January 9, 2021, shows Mars at 0 Taurus exact on the descendant with asteroids Hygeia (at the MC) opposing Pallas on the IC. The transiting Moon was exact on her Saturn and MC, again drawing attention to her position. The asteroid opposition perhaps says something about the way in which she likely felt that her family was being torn apart, and perhaps, how the monarchy might be tarnished by this decision.

Prince Charles' (*next page*) diurnal presents another vivid planetary picture. Born on November 14, 1948 in London (Astrodatabank, Rodden Rating AA), his diurnal chart is drawn for 21:14 UT each day. At that exact time, again in London on January 9, 2021, Ceres was exact on the Dsc, whilst asteroid Astrea was at the IC.

At this point we will note that although the actual planets and asteroids so involved tell a story, equally compelling is that they were angular at the exact time of birth. When working with diurnals, often this is all you need to know to determine a likely key date.

In Practice

When it comes to fine-tuning, the financial world is *where it's at*. Attention to diurnal charts is vital in determining dates of likely volatility or of dramatic highs or lows.

Trading

The examples used above focused solely on angularity or natal degrees that become angular during the course of the year. Either assists in determining dates of probable eventfulness. Traders require more. Applying aspects are taken into consideration: in particular those aspects that become exact close to closing time. There is a wonderful example of this.

Many of you may know that one of the greatest traders of the 20th century was W.D. Gann. His forecasts were sold at a premium. He almost certainly used astrology as one of

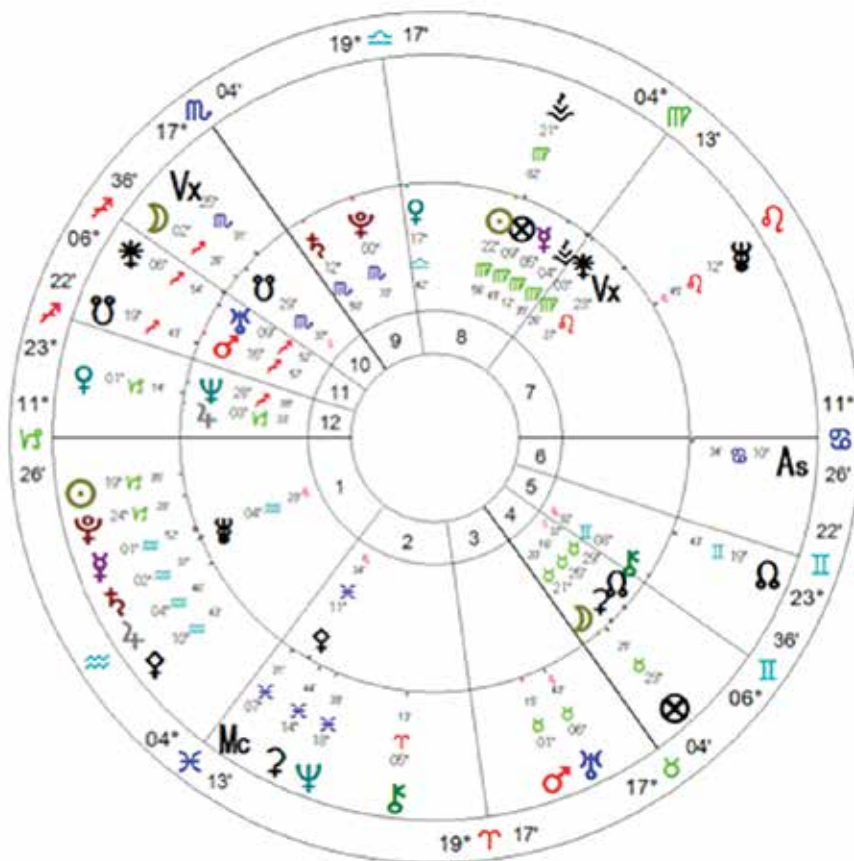


Chart 10: Prince Harry Natal Chart (Inside)

Prince Harry's Resignation (Outside)

Harry, Prince of Wales, September 15, 1984 *Placidus; Mean Node*

16:20 BST, London, UK 51 N 30, 000 W 00

Prince Resignation, January 9, 2021 15:20 *Placidus; True Node*

London, UK 51 N 30, 000 W 10

the tools in his trading box. There is a fabulous example of him declaring the exact price at which a corn trade would close. During the course of that trading day, this appeared unlikely — if not impossible. However, he was aware that precisely at the close, the Moon would be in exact opposition with Mercury and foresaw major price movement in the last moments of the trading day. His forecast proved 100% correct.

This is a rare occurrence. Exact aspects do not always coincide with the closing bell! However, it is not uncommon for markets to close as one or other of the planets or asteroids are exact on an angle. Should the planetary body concerned also be making major aspect, then we might reasonably conclude a day of above average activity. Diurnal charts throw a spotlight on dates of probable exceptional activity and when used along with technical analysis, the rewards can be considerable.

You may remember that many of us thought that a banking or corporate crisis would coincide with Pluto's Capricorn ingress and that this would lead to extreme global financial activity. Analysis of the diurnal charts of 2007-2008 were used to identify dates which warranted special care. Chiron's position

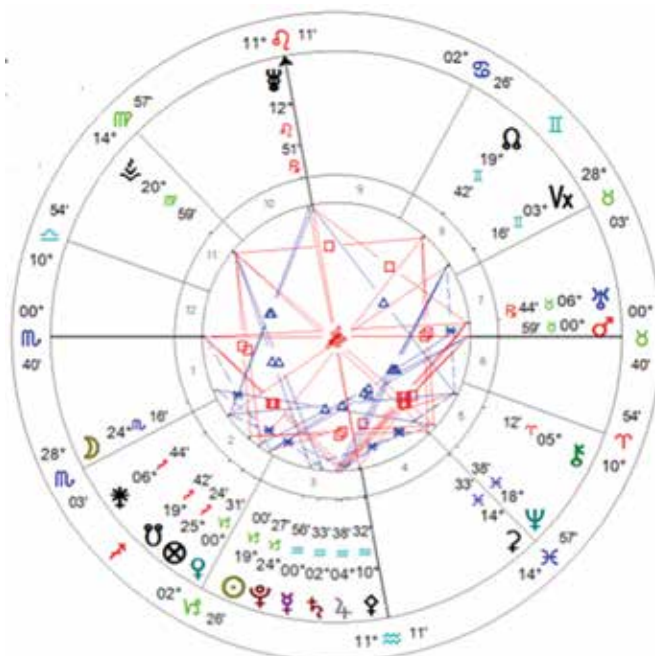


Chart 11: Queen Elizabeth II

Diurnal Chart Cast for Prince Harry's Resignation

January 9, 2021, 01:40 GMT

London, UK; *Placidus; True Node*

51 N 30, 000 W 10

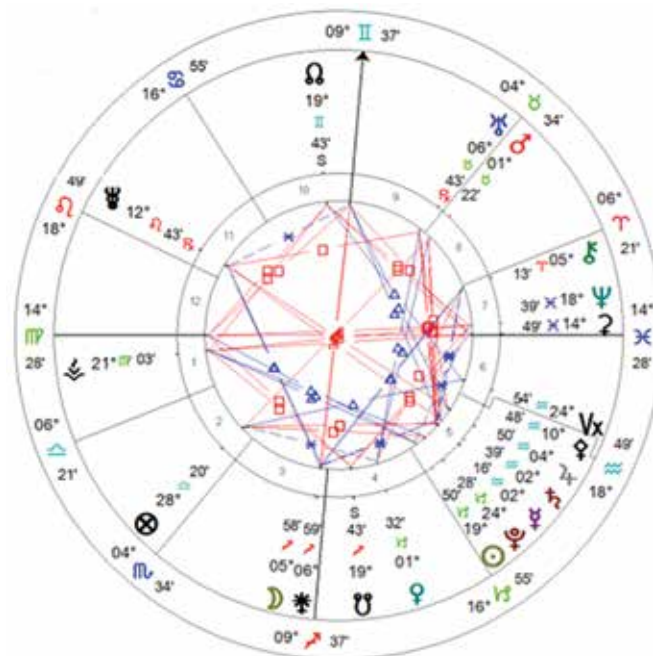


Chart 12: Prince Charles, Diurnal

Chart Cast for Prince Harry's Resignation

January 9, 2021, 21:41 UT London, UK;

Placidus; True Node 51 N 30, 000 W 10

at close of trade was watched with interest as it has been known to be angular on dates of *correction* or singular activity.

It is now on record that the largest single-day point loss (777.68 points) in Dow Jones history took place on September

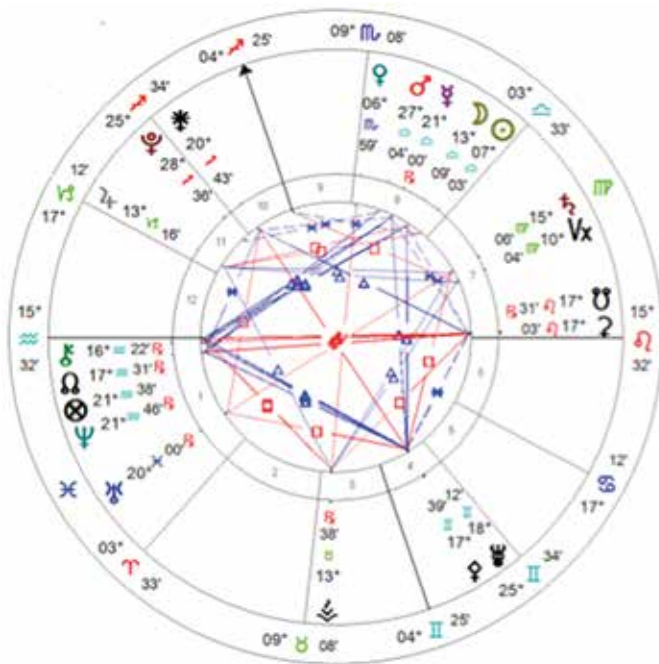


Chart 13: Equity Market Close on Wall Street

Diurnal on the Largest Single-Day Drop
September 29, 2008, 16:30 EDT
Wall Street, NY, *Placidus, True Node*
40°N42' 074°W01'

29, 2008, after the US Congress failed to pass a \$700 billion bank bailout plan.

The diurnal close of trade chart for that day (Chart 13) has, unsurprisingly, Chiron within a degree of the ascendant with Ceres in opposition (again within a degree) setting. True, that aspect was within orb of the ascendant/descendant axis and operative over several days. Multiple other factors, including the New Moon, played their part. However, the fact is that a run of the diurnal charts for the year identified this as being a day of high trading drama.

Chiron also featured on March 24, 2020 (Chart 14), when the Dow *gained* over 11%. At close of trade that day, Vesta (the trader's asteroid) was proud on the MC as Mercury was within 3° of setting and the Sun and Chiron conjoined in the 8th house (for New York). Of course, there is always more: The New Moon earlier that day squared the lunar nodes and Jupiter was within a degree of Pluto to mention just a couple of factors.

Again, by running a series of diurnal charts and first focusing on angularity and pausing to focus on other aspects, it is possible to identify key trading dates and to advise accordingly.

Pluto does not make an ingress every year, but Jupiter does. The *vibration* in any market is altered by the apparent fresh energy that each ingress brings. Traders must navigate these waves. In May 2022, Jupiter moved into Aries. We know that fire moves quickly, from dying ember to roaring furnace — especially when the flames were fanned by Jupiter — and financial astrologers anticipated several days of sharp moves.

Those familiar with trading bar charts know that the length of each day's bars indicates just how far prices move throughout

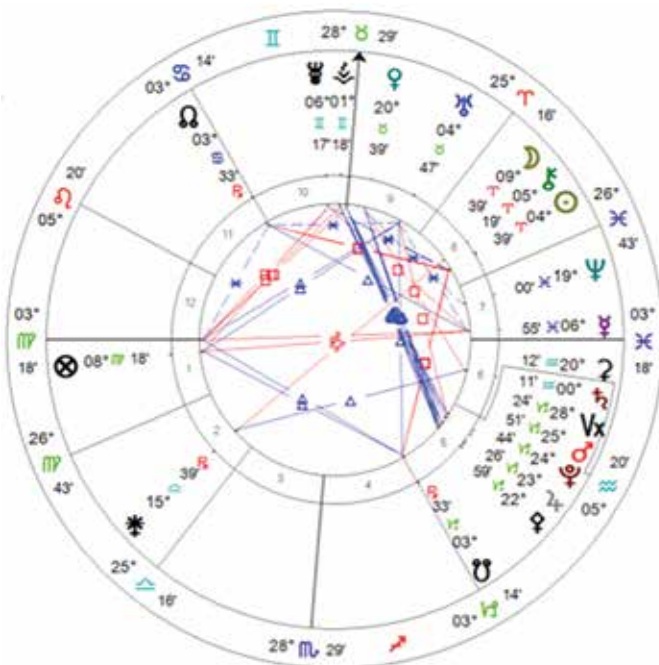


Chart 14: Market Close

March 24, 2020, 4:30 PM EDT
Wall Street, NY, *Placidus, True Node*
40°N42' 074°W01'

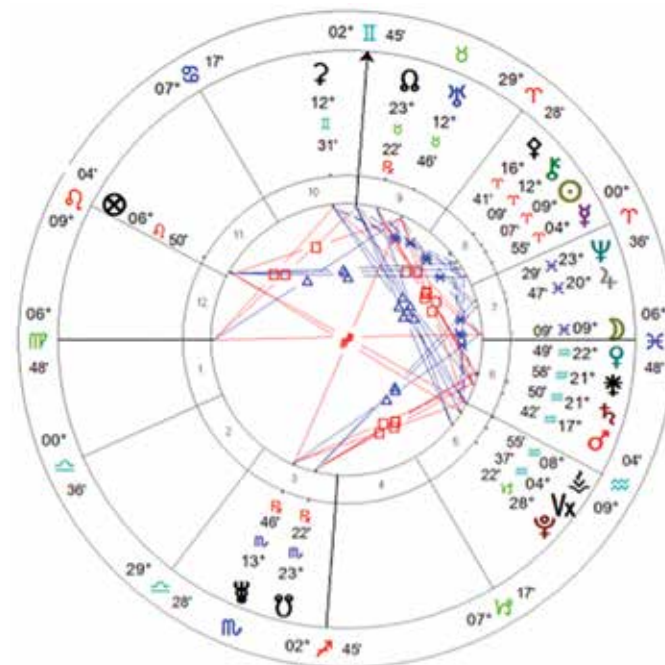


Chart 15: Equity Market Close on Wall Street

Diurnal on March 29, 2022, at a High
March 29, 2022, 16:30 EDT, Wall Street, NY, *Placidus, True Node*
40°N42' 074°W01'

the day. Analysis of the days following the ingress gives many examples of Jupiter-in-Aries volatility.

The S&P 500 index had been in steady decline since March 29, when close of trade that day (Chart 15 *previous page*) placed a Pisces Moon within 3° of the Dsc and in exact 30° aspect to an Aries Sun conjoining Chiron. (Again, there is far

more to this chart but, for brevity here, we are focusing solely on angles and major aspects).

By Monday May 16 (Chart 16), Chiron was angular at the Dsc and conjoining Venus, which would be exact on the Dsc two days later. This is always a critical time of year for the New York Stock Exchange, which celebrates its birthday on May 17 (incidentally, exactly 6 months before that of Tokyo). A close look revealed that at close of trade, the Moon, at 5 Sagittarius opposed Mercury at 3 Gemini. The exact opposition would have taken place earlier in the day and likely marked a peak trading moment (i.e., a significant high).

The expected volatility — or instability — continued throughout that trading week as both Chiron then Venus took up angular positions with an upward trend failing to establish until after the Sun moved into Gemini the following week.

Once days of significant activity have been identified, other factors are considered. Knowing the positions of major alignments and eclipses is essential. Thus, though as expected, between May 23 and June 2 (Chart 17) the S&P 500 made gains — the probability was that there would be change of trend. That change coincided with Mercury's station which coincided with the diurnal Asc squaring Pluto and the IC's arrival at 2 Aquarius — reflecting the Jupiter/Saturn conjunction of December 2020.

Negativity took hold and the S&P 500 fell sharply. The shape of the diurnal chart tells a story: from June 2 and for two weeks (half a month), the Moon formed the handle to the bucket of traditional planets lying in the right-hand hemisphere of the diurnal chart.

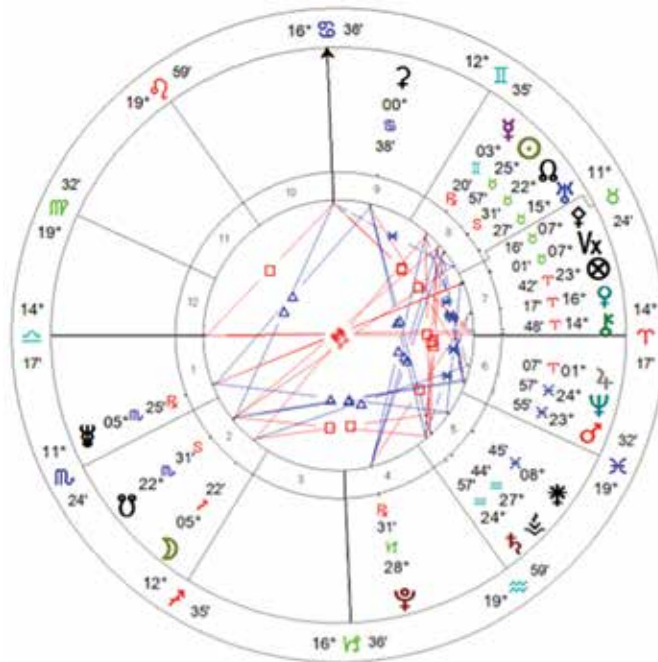


Chart 16: Equity Market Close on Wall Street
Diurnal on May 16, 2022, at a Peak
16:30 EDT, Wall Street, NY, *Placidus, True Node*
40°N42' 074°W01'

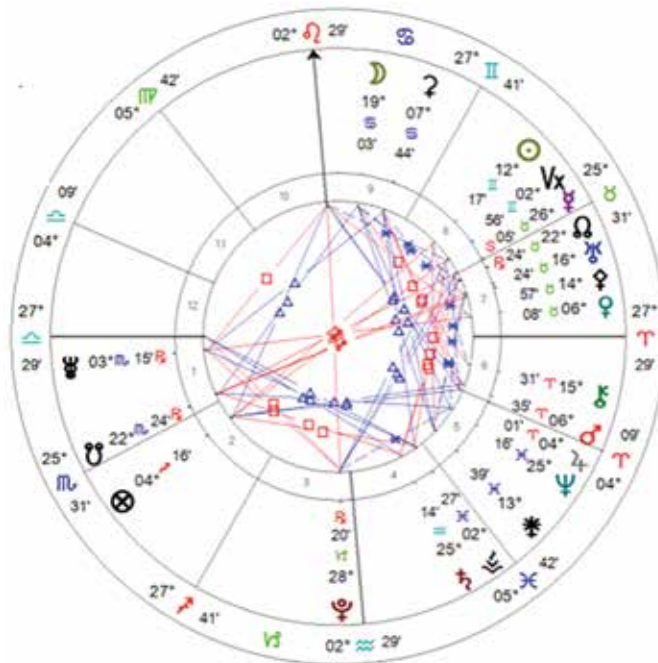


Chart 17: Equity Market Close on Wall Street
Diurnal on June 2, 2022, Wall Street
Negative Change of Trend
16:30 EDT, Wall Street, NY, *Placidus, True Node*
40°N42' 074°W01'

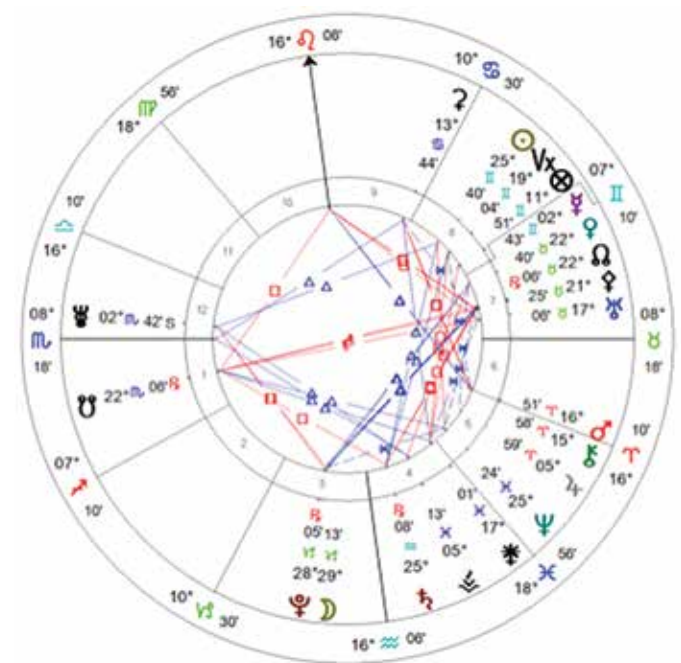


Chart 18: Equity Market Close on Wall Street,
Diurnal on June 16, 2022, Positive Change of Trend
16:30 EDT, Wall Street, NY, *Placidus, True Node*
40°N42' 074°W01'

The change of trend that occurred on June 16 and 17 (Chart 18 below) coincided with the close Moon–Pluto and Venus–Uranus conjunctions. In the days following, the chart-shaping became locomotive with Pluto as lead, marking the start of days of wealth-building (positive trend).

Looking Ahead

This article is scheduled for the first issue of 2023: the first of a few very special years as first Pluto, followed by the other now traditional outer planets, change signs. *History shows that even one outer planet changing signs coincides with major development in global finances.*

Pluto's crossing of the last few degrees of Capricorn — just as with its entry in 2008 — will surely bring large financial waves and perhaps, echoes of that earlier time. Whilst definitely not forecasting doom and gloom, those who watch the markets will surely be interested in events taking place on January 4, 2023, as Neptune reaches the MC at close of trade on Wall Street (Neptune will simultaneously square the Moon).

Almost two weeks later, Wall Street closes with Jupiter at the MC as Uranus conjoins the Part of Fortune. Then, on January 23, Chiron sits on the MC as Pluto sets and Saturn opposes the Part of Fortune. Three days later, it's the Moon, then in Aries, that conjoins the MC.

On February 4 — halfway between the solstice and equinox — the Moon, at 6 Leo, rises. This *IS* interesting, as it echoes the North Node position in the U.S. natal chart, which is often accented at times of naval drama. This could be a precursor to events on February 15, when the South Node aligns with the IC, the Sun and Saturn conjoin and Mars, in Gemini, conjoins the Part of Fortune. Perhaps not a *happy* trading day. The Sun moves on into Pisces, then on February 24, as Uranus reaches the MC, and with Mercury on the Dsc, we may see a reversal of fortunes.

As I conclude this article, I note that my diurnal chart for today has Vesta (the trader's asteroid) exactly rising, as Venus, my ruling planet, sets: a fitting image of my wish to show my love of these charts! It doesn't take long to run through these charts and list the key dates and it's a fascinating way to start your astro-day. I wish you joy with your diurnal studies. ✨

©All Rights Reserved



Endnotes

1. <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/politics/19257342/boris-johnson-warns-successors-against-backstabbing-mps/>



Christeen Skinner D.F.Astrol. S, F.R.S.A is a director of Cityscopes London Ltd — a company offering future-casting services. Christeen taught for the Faculty of Astrological Studies, was chair of the Astrological Association, is a trustee of the Urania Trust and director of the Alexandria ibase project. She

has spoken at many conferences, and she is the author of *Exploring the Financial Universe*, *Navigating the Financial Universe* and *The Beginner's Guide to the Financial Universe*.

NCGR'S NEW "FOUNDATIONS OF ASTROLOGY" SERIES!

NCGR, an organization of Astrological Education and Research, is now offering FREE instruction in astrology on YouTube!

In this Foundations of Astrology series, professional astrologers present introductory material that is essential for beginners and also paves the way to our more advanced four-level curriculum, which is recognized throughout the world for its academic integrity. Every astrologer gives up to five lectures, each building on the previous one.

Learn how horoscopes are put together from presentations by seasoned instructors and practitioners as they discuss the planets, elements, signs, houses, and basic interpretation.

Discover how the phrase "As above, so below" applies to you!

- "Introduction to Astrology, Part 1" by Paul Kelley.
- "Introduction to Astrology, Part 2" by Paul Kelley.
- "The 12 Houses" by Didem Can, C.A., NCGR-PAA.
- "Lights, Planets, Action" by Paul Kelley.

Click, enjoy, and connect with our community.
Visit our website at www.geocosmic.org.

BORN ON A STATION

BY JACKIE SLEVIN

Planetary stations are celestial phenomena that have an enormous impact in horoscopes. Lacking the convenience of having them highlighted with a capital S until my software upgraded, they were often overlooked in my analyses of charts. Their importance in delineation speaks volumes, and the influence of being born on one lasts a lifetime. This is why stations are one of my favorite techniques; their effect is permanent. A station stamps the entire chart.

As a magician uses smoke and mirrors to create a deception, the planetary motion employs the same suspension of belief with its own form of optical illusion, making a seemingly simple change of direction create a whole new dimension of interpretation.

The Reverse Rotation, or the Wagon Wheel Effect

A spoked wheel appears to rotate more slowly than the true rotation, it can appear stationary, or it can appear to rotate in the opposite direction. This last form of the effect is sometimes called *the reverse rotation effect*. The direction of movement *appears* to change. Retrograde is the Latin word for *backward step*. Retrograde motion is an optical illusion caused by the visual system, which is part of the central nervous system that is required for visual perception. *This optical illusion is characterized by a visual precept that appears to differ from reality.* In a horoscope, this visual precept becomes a frozen snapshot image, a freeze frame of a slowed-down motion that plays a central role in the person's life, branding them with that planet's influence. The qualities of the planet become intensified, characterizing the person's life for better or worse. Anyone born within three days of this planetary phenomenon has the stationary planet functioning on overdrive in their charts and thus in their lives.

Stations are one of my favorite portents in a horoscope. The effects of aspects, both natal and transiting, can be minimized through lifestyle, and eclipses come and go. But if one is born on a station, the areas that come under that planet's rulership planet are magnified; there is no way to escape their magnetic impact.

The following charts depict individuals who were born within 48 hours of a planetary station. All data was obtained from Astrodatabank. While no time of birth was recorded for Benjamin Franklin, astrologer Frances McEvoy rectified the time from the Franklins' father's diary and the baptismal records from the Old North Church.

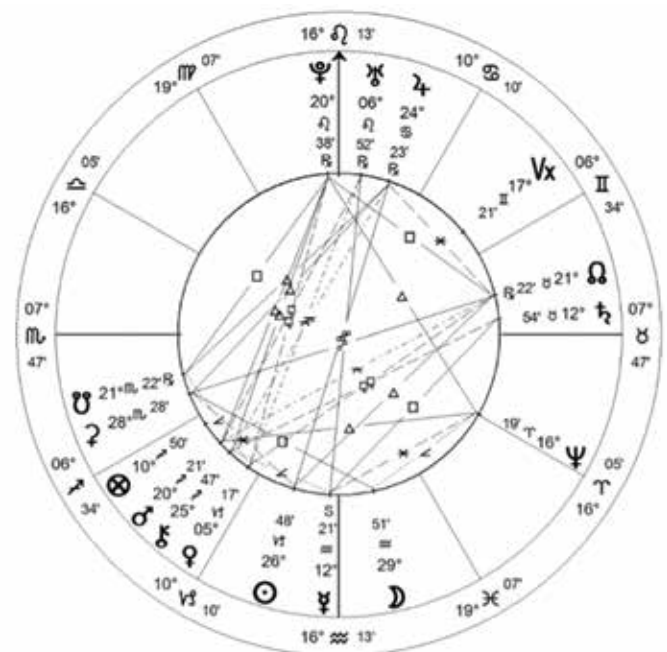
Born on a Mercury Station

- Writers, storytellers, the printed word
- Transportation
- Information
- Siblings or cousins play a pivotal role
- Exceptionally persuasive conversationalists
- Dialects and language are focal points
- Limbs, flexibility, movement
- Take an alternate route to education

Example of Mercury SR: Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin, American inventor, printer, postmaster, librarian, humorist, columnist, negotiator and scientist was a founding father in American history.

After two years of school, Franklin was apprenticed as a teenager to learn typesetting from his brother James, printer of the New England Courant. Despite his talent as a wordsmith, Franklin wasn't permitted to make any contributions to the newspaper his brother published; he was allowed only to set the type. In 1722 James was jailed for three months for publishing a criticism of the governor. Franklin assumed



Benjamin Franklin

Jan 17, 1706 NS 1:30 AM LMT Boston, MA
42°N21'30" 071°W03'37" Placidus, True Node
Source: Grant Lewi from AstroDataBank

all tasks in his brother's shop with superior results. During James' absence Franklin anonymously penned a column in the Courant entitled "Silence Do-good" that resulted in many letters of compliment and inquiry. When James returned and discovered that Franklin wrote this column, a fistfight ensued, and Franklin fled to the stagecoach station. According to the law in colonial America, leaving an apprenticeship without permission made Franklin a fugitive, impelling him to take the coach to its furthest destination, the city of Philadelphia.

It was here that Franklin's prodigious abilities manifested in establishing another newspaper, a post office, a fire department, a library, a hospital, and a university. His *Poor Richard's Almanac* sold over 10,000 copies per year, and the quotes from it, namely "Time is money," and "Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise," are ingrained in the English lexicon. Franklin's insatiably curiosity resulted in the invention of bifocals, the Franklin stove, musical instruments, the lightning rod, and electricity. His diplomacy earned him the position of Ambassador to France, where he formed a military alliance to help win the American Revolution, and in 1783, he helped to negotiate the Treaty of Paris, ensuring financial aid from the French for the colonies. After returning to Philadelphia, he helped draft and then signed the Declaration of Independence.

Franklin was particularly fond of his clever youngest sister Jane, teaching her to read and write at a time when girls in colonial Boston weren't sent to school, and they corresponded through letters for 63 years. When Jane's husband died, leaving her penniless and in debt, Franklin supported her for the rest of her life and bought her a house near his own in Philadelphia, where the two were close companions.

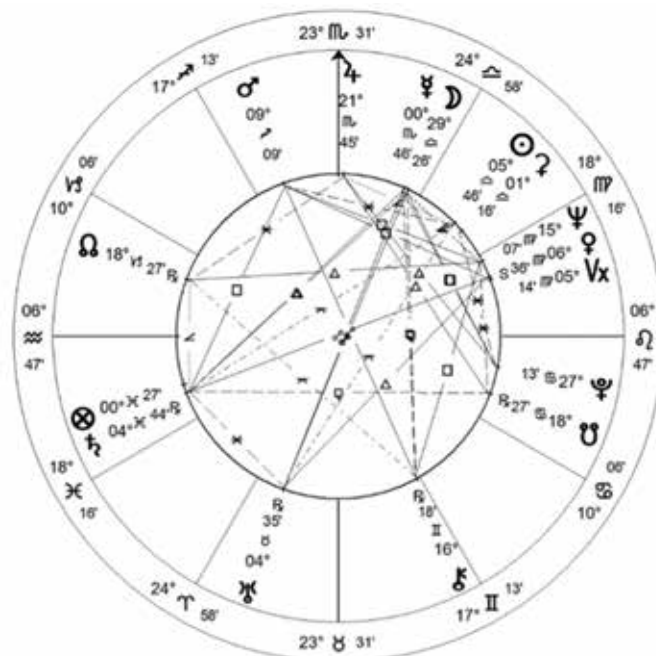
Born on a Venus Station

- Music and the arts prevail over the life
- Diplomacy plays a central role
- Legal issues with partnerships
- Overindulgence
- Throat and neck problems

Example of Venus SD: Jerry Lee Lewis

Jerry Lee Lewis (*chart on next column*) was a legendary performer and was the first musician inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. His rowdy antics on stage earned him a loyal following and in 1957 he became an international sensation with the hit songs "Great Balls of Fire" and "A Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On". Born into an impoverished farming family, Lewis spent much of his childhood sneaking into the juke joint across the railroad tracks, where he emulated the itinerant black musicians playing rhythm and blues.

By age nine, his innate talent to play their music was so prodigious that his father mortgaged the farm to buy Jerry Lee his own piano, and by 14 the self-taught Jerry was playing in public assemblies, revivals, tent meetings, and on the local radio. Lewis was offered a record deal after his first audition in Nashville and his career was off and running, filling the gap left by Elvis Presley, whose enlistment in the army kept him out of the spotlight. Lewis was a frenzied showman



Jerry Lee Lewis

Sept 29, 1935 3:00 PM CST Ferriday, LA
 42°N21'30" 071°W03'37" Placidus, True Node
 Source: AstroDatabank, (Alternate data)

who played the piano with his fists, elbows and feet, thrilling audiences across the globe.

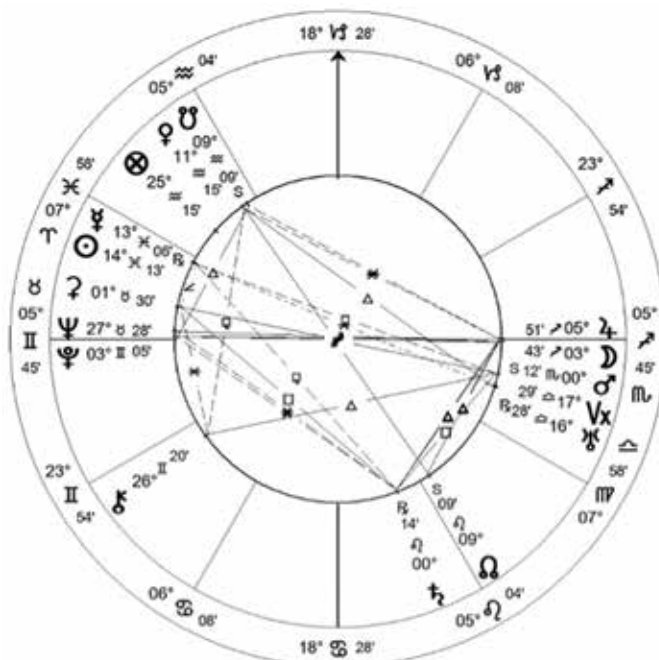
In May 1958, Lewis' much-anticipated concert tour in London was cancelled upon his arrival due to an interview with the young girl accompanying the 22-year-old musician, who told reporters she was his wife. Thirteen-year-old Myra Gale Brown (Lewis gave her age as 15), was legally his wife in Lewis' second bigamous marriage. When the press received this news, Lewis ended up playing in pubs and clubs instead of sold-out stadiums at \$10,000 per night, returning to America a few days later to find himself blacklisted. Radios stopped playing his music and his friends abandoned him, yet the couple remained married for 12 years and had two children. Regaining his career foothold in country music after struggling for a decade to resume performing, Lewis soon evolved into a rockabilly superstar. After a total of seven marriages, problems with drugs, alcohol and taxes finally took their toll, and Lewis retired from performing in 2019.

Born on a Mars Station

- Aggression manifests
- Athletics and sports predominate
- First responders
- Bold and protective: refuse to back down or play a passive role
- Head injuries change the course of their lives

Example of Mars SR: Knute Rockne

Knute Rockne is regarded as one of the greatest coaches in the history of college football. He was born in Norway and emigrated to Chicago with his parents when he was five years



Knute Rockne

March 4, 1888 8:30 AM CST Voss, Norway
 60n39, 6e26 Placidus, True Node
 Source: AstroDatabank: (A data)



Ralph Waldo Emerson

May 25, 1803 3:15 PM LMT Boston, MA
 42n21, 071w03 Placidus, True Node
 Source: AstroDatabank: (A data)

old. In his youth he excelled at football and ran track. In the summer of 1913, he worked as a lifeguard.

Graduating Notre Dame in 1914 with a degree in pharmacy, he was then offered the job of football coach. His performance and record were unprecedented. In a span of 13 years Rockne led Notre Dame to 105 victories, 12 losses, five ties and three consensus national championships, which included five undefeated and untied seasons. Rockne posted the highest all-time winning percentage (.881) for a major college football coach. Rockne's charisma and the stylish play of his teams riveted public imagination. He perfected such maneuvers as the Notre Dame Shift, the forward pass, and he helped to change the game from one of brute strength to one of speed and deception, making him the intercollegiate sport's first true celebrity coach.

On March 31, 1931, Rockne died a violent death in a plane crash. Shortly after an hour after take-off from Kansas City, one of the planes' wings broke in flight. The plane crashed into a wheat field near Bazaar, Kansas, killing Rockne and seven others. This tragedy and the resulting public outcry led to sweeping changes to aircraft design, manufacturing, inspection, and crash investigation, igniting safety regulations that transformed air travel worldwide from one of the most dangerous forms of transportation to one of the safest. Rockne's unexpected death stunned the nation. Over 100,000 people lined the route of his funeral procession, and the funeral was broadcast live on network radio across the United States, Europe, South America and Asia.

Born on a Jupiter Station

- Philosophy and religion prevail over the lives
- Cross-cultural issues and higher education are focal points
- An extraordinary stroke of luck changes their trajectory
- Problems with legs and hips
- See to it that justice and mercy are implemented
- Righteous; they'll have *their day in court*.

Example of Jupiter SD: Ralph Waldo Emerson

Emerson was an American essayist, lecturer, and philosopher who was a prominent figure in the transcendentalist movement of the mid-19th century. He was a champion of self-reliance, a prophetic critic of the Industrial Revolution and its stultifying impact on society, and he published dozens of essays. A renowned public speaker, he gave more than 1,500 public lectures across the United States.

A core belief in Transcendentalism is in the inherent goodness of people, that nature has its own intelligence, and that people are at their best when they are self-reliant, maintain good conscience, and see the divine experience inherent in everyday experiences, rather than believing in a distant heaven and suffering on earth while preparing for glory in an afterlife.

Emerson began attending Harvard College at age 14. After graduating three years later, he worked as a schoolteacher, then entered Harvard Divinity School. In 1829 he was ordained as a minister and accepted the position of junior pastor at Boston's Second Church. Two years later his world fell apart, after losing his adored wife to tuberculosis. He wrote in his journal: "*I have sometimes thought that, in*

order to be a good minister, it was necessary to leave the ministry. The profession is antiquated. In an altered age, we worship in the dead forms of our forefathers. This mode of commemorating Christ is not suitable to me. That is reason enough why I should abandon it."¹

Embracing pantheism, Emerson believed that all things are connected to God and, therefore, all things are divine. His religious views were considered radical during his lifetime. He traveled widely throughout Europe and the United States, lecturing and meeting with prominent writers and philosophers.

Emerson died of pneumonia on April 24, 1882. In May 2006, 168 years after Emerson delivered his "Divinity School Address," Harvard Divinity School announced the establishment of Emerson Unitarian Universalist Association Professorship.

Born on a Saturn Station

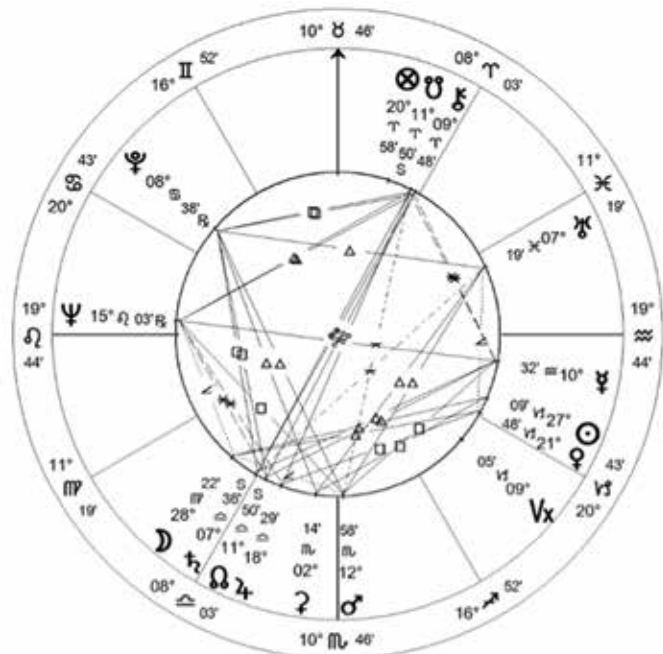
- Father is either absentee or all-powerful
- Maintaining traditions is a focal point
- Depression
- Restrictions
- Fall from Grace
- Longevity
- Become the Standard or an Icon

Example of Saturn SR: Betty White

In 2014, American actress and comedian Betty White (*chart on next column*) earned a Guinness World Record for longest television career of a female entertainer. In a career that spanned more than 80 years, she received eight Emmy Awards, three American Comedy Awards, three Screen Actors Guild Awards, and a Grammy Award.

In the mid-1940s, White was rejected from the Los Angeles television studios for being not photogenic. In 1952, her success on the TV show *The Make-Believe Ballroom* consisted of five and a half hours of live ad lib television six days per week, including singing a few songs during each broadcast, earning White her first Emmy nomination. The sitcom *Life with Elizabeth* followed in 1953, with White as the title character and producer, making her the first woman in television to have control behind and in front of the camera.

In the 1960s, White was a regular on daytime TV and was dubbed "*The First Lady of Game Shows*." Her performance in *The Mary Tyler Moore show* in the 1970s highlighted her comedic skills, winning her two consecutive Emmy awards in 1975 and 1976. In the 1980s stardom was assured in her signature role as Rose Nylund in the hit series *The Golden Girls*, marking the highlight of her already stellar career. She won the Emmy after the first season and was nominated every year of the show's run. Her television appearances on sitcoms in the 90s continued into the 21st century in a steady stream, and in 2010, at age 88, White became the oldest guest host on *Saturday Night Live*.



Betty White

Jan 17, 1922 6:38 PM CST Oak Park, Illinois
41n53, 87w47 *Placidus, True Node*
Source: AstroDatabank: (AA data)

"I'm having the time of my life and the fact that I'm still working — how lucky can you get? I'm 90 years old and still able to work as much as I do. That's a privilege."² On December 31, 2021, White died peacefully in her sleep in her home 18 days before her 100th birthday.

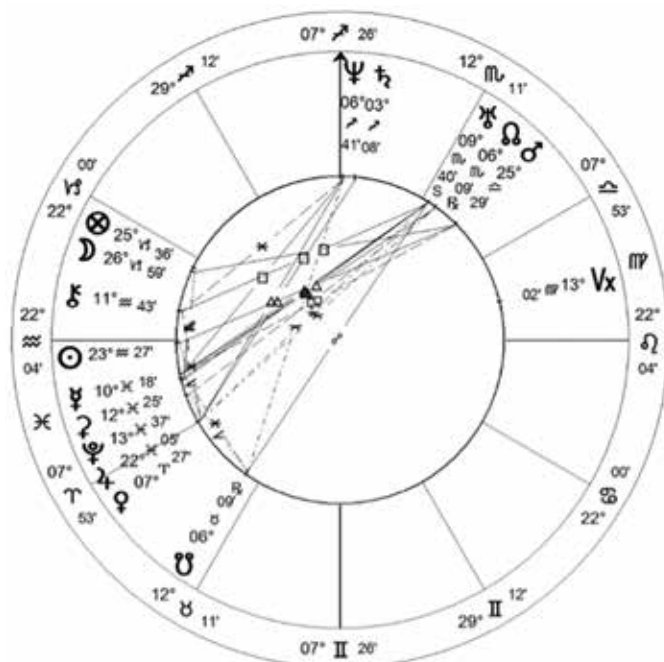
Born on a Uranus Station

- Disrupt the status quo
- They break the mold and create a new one
- Rebel against personal or societal restrictions of all kinds
- Hold strong visionary goals
- Maintain a humanitarian and progressive outlook

Example of Uranus SR: Abraham Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln (*Chart on next page*) was the iconic 16th American President who abolished slavery and led the nation through the cataclysm of the Civil War. In both popular and scholarly polls, Lincoln is frequently categorized as the greatest president in American history.

A self-educated prairie lawyer, Lincoln's sweeping changes in American culture had a shocking and permanent impact on the financial and social structure of the United States. The most activist president in American history, Lincoln changed the role of the presidency of Commander in Chief to one of prevailing over Congress and the courts, and he stated that the President was subordinate to neither. Lincoln broke many laws and ignored a series of constitutional provisions. He affirmed his own version of judicial review that placed the President as the final interpreter of the Constitution, and while the government officials are required to support



Abraham Lincoln

Feb 12, 1809 6:54 AM LMT Hodgenville, KY
37n34, 85w44 Placidus, True Node
Source: AstroDatabank: (B data)

the Constitution it was the President alone who is sworn to preserve, defend and protect it, placing the well-being and survival of the nation on his shoulders during times of war.

During his speech on September 17, 1859 in Cincinnati, Ohio, he said, *"I think Slavery is wrong, morally, and politically. I desire that it should be no further spread in these United States, and I should not object if it should gradually terminate in the whole Union."*³

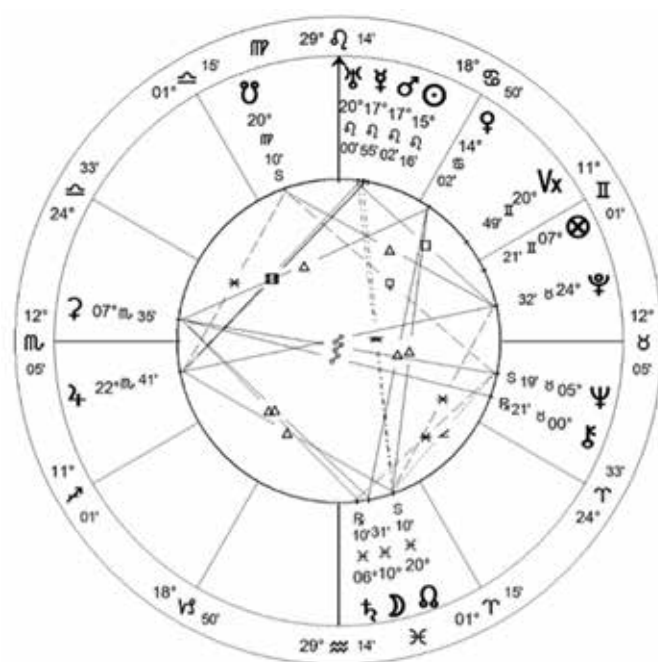
During the Civil War, Lincoln, a born charismatic leader, was determined to preserve the Union, which was quickly unravelling. Lincoln's premise to abolish slavery incurred many enemies throughout the southern states, where slave labor was the engine that drove their agrarian economy. On April 14, 1865, five days after the Confederate Army surrendered at Appomattox Courthouse, Lincoln was assassinated at Ford's Theatre in Washington D.C., plummeting the nation into shock and mourning.

Born on a Neptune Station

- Romantic and idealistic
- Lean toward activities connected to water, swimming, sailing, etc.
- Artistic talent that has an all-consuming, seductive impact
- Selflessly dedicate themselves to a charitable cause
- Wears a mask of deception

Example of Neptune SD: Mata Hari (Margaretha Geertruida MacLeod, née Zelle)

Responding to an ad for a mail-order bride, impoverished 18-year-old Margaretha Zelle married Dutch Colonial Army



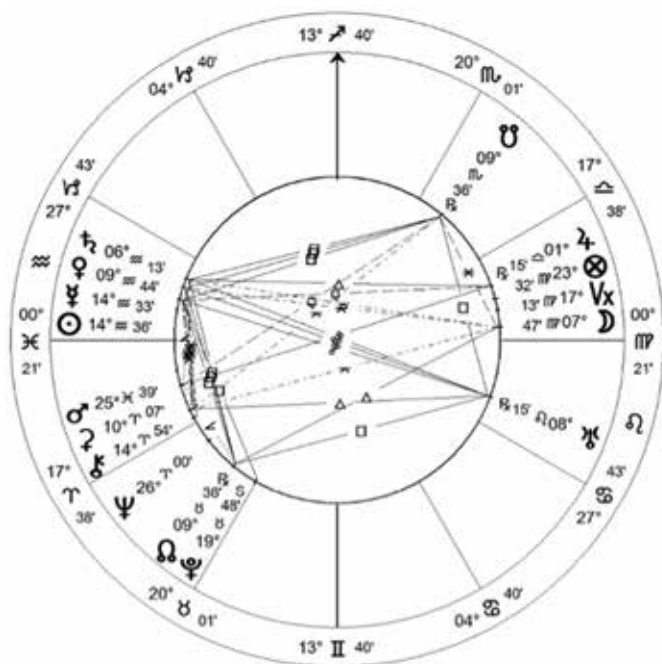
Mata Hari (Margaretha Geertruida MacLeod, née Zelle)

Aug 7, 1876 NS 1:00 PM LMT Leeuwarden, Netherlands
53N12, 05E48 Placidus, True Node
Source: AstroDatabank: (AA data)

Captain Rudolph McLeod in 1891 in Amsterdam, and the couple then moved to Java in the Dutch East Indies. McLeod was a syphilitic, abusive alcoholic. Zelle fled the domestic violence in her household and immersed herself in the local culture, particularly Javanese dancing. In joining a local performing troupe, she adopted the name *Mata Hari*, meaning the Sun, or the *Eye of the Day*. Moving to Paris in 1903, she became an overnight sensation as an exotic dancer, claiming she was a Javanese princess of priestly Hindu birth, who had been trained since childhood in the art of sacred Indian dance. Her large following brought many influential contacts, and in 1912 Zelle traded the stage for the life of a courtesan, consorting with military officers of high rank throughout Europe.

At the outbreak of WW I, Zelle, fluent in seven languages, capitalized on her neutral Dutch citizenship to cross international borders with impunity. French military intelligence recruited her as a spy, offering Zelle one million francs if she could seduce admirer Crown Prince Wilhelm and provide France with valid information about German tactics.

Zelle was arrested in England in 1916 and interrogated. Eventually confessing to espionage, her credibility and integrity came under scrutiny due to her background as an exotic dancer and courtesan; a woman of such loose morals could not be presumed to be telling the truth. To this day, it is unclear if her reports were fabricated. She may have thought her testimony made her sound more captivating, or the French authorities were possibly using her as a scapegoat but were embarrassed to acknowledge it. Later that year, Zelle offered to share French secrets with the German army in exchange for money, but she only reported gossip. Exasperated and feeling exploited, the Chief Intelligence Officer of the German army



Gertrude Stein

Feb 3, 1874 NS7:55 AM LMT Allegheny, PA
 40° 27' 9.9576" N, 80° 1' 47.1180" W Placidus, True Node
 Source: AstroDatabank: (A data)

During this time Gertrude and Leo began an art collection, which was to become prominent for its cultural and historical importance.

Alice B. Toklas met Stein at a colleague's apartment. It was love at first sight. Noting that the two women were more than friends, Leo moved out and Alice moved in, managing Stein's household, and helping her preside over the famous salon. Stein's education and Parisian lifestyle were financed from her inheritance from the cable car company.

At Stein's death in 1946, she left her distinguished art collection, including paintings of Picasso and Matisse, to her beloved Alice, who subsequently nursed her grief in Italy. During her absence, Leo removed all the art from their apartment and stored it under lock and key. Since Stein and Toklas' same-sex relationship wasn't legally recognized at the time, Toklas had no recourse. She spent her remaining 21 years in poverty, depending upon the kindness of friends and the modest income from the publication of two cookbooks.

The above examples highlight the overriding effect of planetary stations. Note them well when you analyze a chart and discover the power of optical illusions and their impact on the course of events. Using this technique, stage magicians keep their audiences in awe, and so can astrologers.✱

©All rights reserved.

exposed Zelle to the French as a German spy. On October 15, 1917, Zelle was executed before a French firing squad.

Born on a Pluto Station

- Sex and sexual issues take center stage
- Inheritances, legacies, and bankruptcies
- Research and investigation
- Lured toward the Underworld
- Issues of life, death, and crisis

Example of Pluto SD: Gertrude Stein

Gertrude Stein was born into an upper middle-class family. After spending 1877 in Paris with a housekeeping staff, governesses and tutors, the Steins moved to Oakland, California the following year, where Stein's father purchased the Market Street Cable Car company, establishing the family's financial security. When Stein was 17, her father died, and her brother Michael took over the cable car company. The business thrived.

A brilliant student, Stein studied literature and psychology at Radcliffe and then pursued a degree in medicine at Johns Hopkins College, where she encountered two female medical students in a lesbian relationship. It was then she experienced her *erotic awakening*. A love triangle followed, ending in crushing disappointment, which caused Stein to abandon her studies in 1902 and follow her brother Leo to London. The two siblings moved to 27 Rue de Fleurus in Paris, where Stein hosted her renowned salon, entertaining European and American artists, writers and bohemians of every stripe.

Endnotes

1. Ferguson, Alfred R, editor. *The Journals and Miscellaneous Notebooks of Ralph Waldo Emerson*, Volume IV, 1832 Cambridge, MA: The Belknap Press of Harvard University 1964, p. xi.
2. International Movie Data Base, (www.imdb.com) Betty White, Personal Quotes.
3. Basler, Roy P, editor. *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, Volume III*, "Speech at Cincinnati, OH, September. 17, 1859." New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, January 1, 1953, p. 440.



Jackie Slevin, M.A., C.A., NCGR-PAA, is author of *Finding Success in the Horoscope*, available on Amazon.com. An internationally published and full-time professional astrologer, she is the education director of NCGR where she hosts monthly webinars that

feature astrologers from around the world. She was also a track coordinator and presenter at each United Astrology Congress (UAC) from 1995 to 2018. A biography writer for Lois Rodden's AstroDatabank, she has been featured in the *New York Post*, *Psychology Today* and numerous radio shows and podcasts. She currently writes the Daily Guides, Love, Money, Health, and Birthday columns for *Horoscope Guide Magazine*. Visit her website at www.geocosmicstudies.com.

LUNAR RETURNS: SETTING A COURSE BY THE MOON

BY MARIA WANDER

The lights of the celestial universe, the Sun and the Moon, have been a focus of wonder and a tool of timing for generations. The Sun symbolizes the source of life, everlasting spirit, that which is eternal and unvaried. The face of the Sun does not change, illuminating with a constancy of latitude along its annual path on the ecliptic. The intersection of the ecliptic with the celestial equator marks 0° Aries at the start of Spring, to begin the astrological year.

The Moon in comparison has a face that changes often, and varies in latitude on the ecliptic. The path of the Moon winds and twists, creating a serpentine circuit. It takes the Moon 1/12th of the time as the Sun to traverse the zodiac, which separates the solar year into 12 lunar months. Reflecting the light of the Sun, having no light of its own, illuminates the Moon. As the closest celestial body to the Earth, the Moon reflects physical matter, the material reality of our fortune, and the temporal pulse of our daily life (Figure 1 below).



About once a month, every 27.32 days, the Moon returns to the same degree as the natal Moon. This monthly development of lunar energies is known as a lunar return (LR). The location of the LR chart should ideally be set for the natal location, although some select the current place of residence. The interpretation of the LR chart is preferably done in comparison with the natal chart and will provide a representation of what direction one is urged toward. The LR chart can show instinctive reactions and where there is ability to establish contact in a way that translates the quintessence of the heavens down to Earth.

While the Sun is a strong part of our astrological character as our purpose of spirit, the Moon is the other side of the coin, symbolic of the physical self and the circumstances of one's life. The Moon is not only the matter of a person but also throngs of people, towns and cities, movement and voyages, caregivers, mothers, marriage, and all things lunar, like silver, salt and the emotional responses based on early imprinting. When one casts a LR, it can be read to discover the ebb and flow of the monthly tides of life on which one can set course.

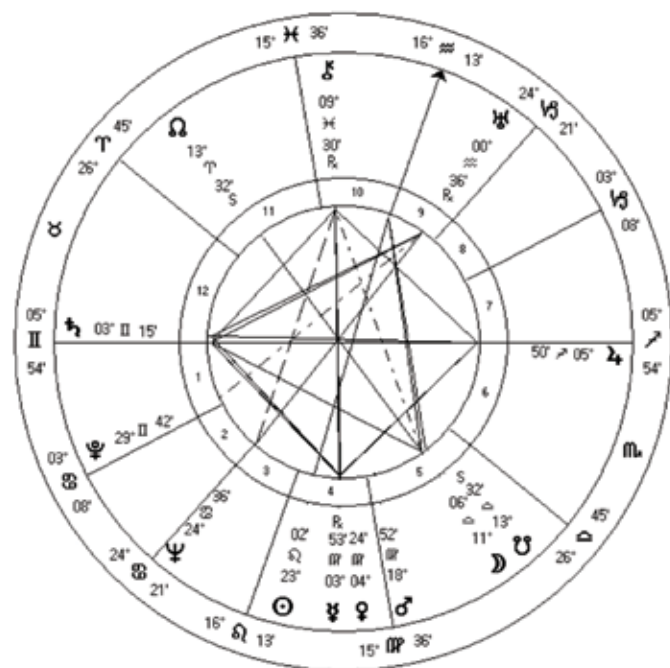
In most astrological software available today, a LR can be cast from a nativity as the base chart, then can be read thusly:

- Look to the nativity and what is promised there. The natal promise can be seen to be activated in the LR chart; a good placement or aspect in the LR chart alone, not supported in the nativity, cannot come to be.
- Look to the place of the Moon, as this house will be activated, showing where fluctuations and focus of concern and involvement will occur for the month.
- Look to the Asc of the LR to describe the monthly theme. The Asc will clue how best to express emotional needs and getting those needs met. Any planet conjoined the Asc will illustrate the need.
- Look to the house of the Asc ruler, as its signification will strengthen the message shown by the Asc.
- Look to the Asc of the LR and aspects received from another LR and house the planet rules in the LR chart.
- Look to the MC of the LR to describe emotional ambition of the month and how best to reflect your light into the world. Any planet conjoined this MC will color the monthly aim.
- Look for a stellium, by sign or house; where placed will bring focus to the foreground.
- Look to angular planets in the LR, as they will describe the issues in the coming month.
- Look to compare the nativity with the LR and see which natal factors receive the most aspects from the return, particularly aspects to the natal angles. Note the house in the LR where the natal ruler falls as the placement will be meaningful.
- Look to any aspects that occur in both the LR and the natal chart; these are especially important as they show a month when the issue indicated in the natal promise may manifest.
- Morin, in *Astrologia Gallica* Book XXIII, states “the more the figure of the revolution is similar to the radical positions of the signs and planets, the more efficaciously it will bring forth the significations of the geniture, whether good or evil, and especially those that will be signified by a similar direction.”¹
- Look to compare the LR chart with the solar return chart, especially if aspect patterns in the LR repeat themes in the solar return.

Morin states further, “If the ruler of the revolution is also the ruler of the geniture it will be very strong either for good or for evil. The same thing must be said about the ruler of the lunar revolutions if it is also the ruler of the solar revolution.”²² In the reading of a natal chart, the Moon and Sun are of equal importance. They present as the same in size by comparison in the sky and symbolically express the yin and yang balanced contrasts and dualism of night and day.

In the Rodden Rated AA example chart of Julia Child, (*above*) born Julia McWilliams on August 15, 1912, at 11:30 pm in Pasadena, California,³ both lights are below the horizon, which makes for a night sect chart. As she was famous for her cooking and eating, one might suppose her Moon to be in Cancer or Taurus, but this was not to be. Rather her Moon is in luxurious, discerning Libra in the 5th house of joyful passions. The sect ruler of her chart is in a tight trine to the Asc, which reinforces a personal theme of extroversion, entertainment, fine pleasures, artistry and most interestingly — diplomats.

Mercury in Virgo rules her chart; is exalted in rulership, occidental/nocturnal in placement behind the Sun, the lead in a personal planet Virgo stellium; and has the most essential dignity of all the natal factors despite being in retrograde motion. Mercury progresses to station direct just before Julia begins college where she “did some theater, a bit of creative writing,” as mentioned in her memoirs, *My Life in France*.⁴ Her Mercury is in the triplicity of the Moon and the Moon is in the triplicity of Mercury, bringing both into an airy, mutual reception. Add this buoyant, blithe, lively communicative power to her creative, expressive, angular Leo Sun and one has a star of the stage in the making.



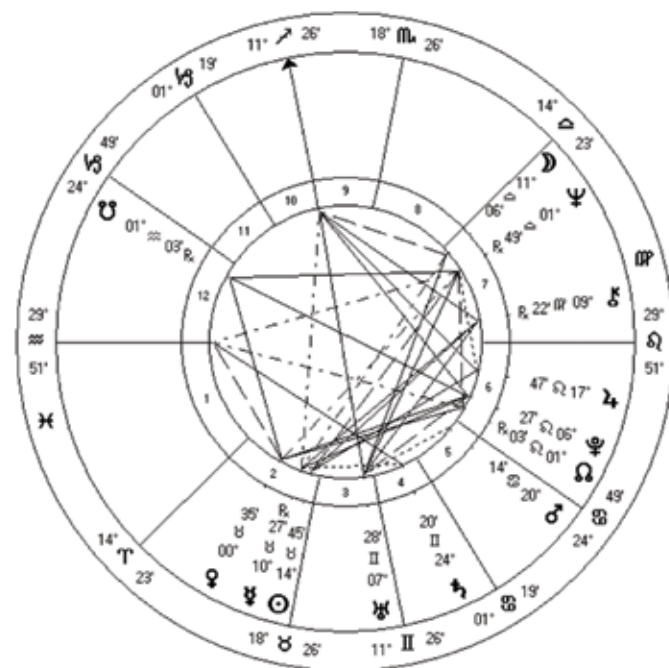
Julia Child – Natal Chart
 Aug 15, 1912, 11:30 PM PST
 Pasadena, CA
 34°N08'52", 118°W08'37"
Regiomontanus, True Node
 Source: AstroDatabank (AA data)

Her next most dignified planet is Jupiter. As the benefic out of sect, Jupiter is tightly conjoining the 7th house Sagittarius angle, in rulership, in its own triplicity and in its own terms, ready and able to provide the sublime significance of its sign and house, foreign travel, partnership luck, joyful inspiration, expansive enjoyments, and a higher level of education or guidance of a guru or teacher.

Saturn sits on Julia's Asc from the 12th house in a T-square with Jupiter and Mercury–Venus at the apex. Her immitigably pitched trilling voice to which she communicated so interestingly to her enraptured audiences, was a commonplace family hooting that she had inherited from her mother's side of the family and which her mother and her siblings also shared.⁵

In her own words, Julia describes the manifested expressions of some of her natal factors: “...I had married Paul Child, a painter, photographer, poet and mid-level diplomat who had taken me to live in ... France. I couldn't have been happier!”⁶ and “Paul ... had already traveled the world. He was a natty dresser and spoke French beautifully, and he adored good food and wine. I was lucky to marry Paul. He was a great inspiration, his enthusiasm about wine and food helped to shape my tastes, and his encouragement saw me through discouraging moments. I would never have had my career without Paul Child.”⁷ Julia goes on, “...in Paris and later in Marseille, I was surrounded by some of the best food in the world, and I had an enthusiastic audience in my husband; it seemed only logical that I should learn how to cook la cuisine bourgeoisie — good, traditional French home cooking.”⁸

Julia went on to study at the Cordon Bleu and to teach cooking with Simone Beck who co-authored their famous cookbook.



Julia Child, Lunar Return, Julia Meets Paul
 May 5, 1944, 2:39:37 AM PWT
 Pasadena, CA
 34°N08'52", 118°W08'37"
Regiomontanus, True Node

She made history hosting her own television cooking show for ten years (1963–73), a sensation and first of its kind. Let us allow the Moon to take us back through her story and see how it all unfolded.

Julia seeking to do her part in the war effort, takes a job in Washington D.C. in 1942 and then in 1944 is transferred overseas. Julia meets Paul in May 1944 while stationed abroad in Ceylon during the war. The LR Moon for that month activates the 7th house of committed partnerships. The 7th in the LR is where Mercury, the natal ruler falls, making the 7th most important (Chart 2 *above*).

The Asc of the LR is Aquarius which describes social activities, organizations, current developments in politics, and the initial intellectual rapport which first drew each of the pair to the other's wit, humanitarianism, conversation, and company.

The Asc of the LR is sextile LR Venus trine LR Saturn. Asc–Venus makes for a sociable, pleasant perspective in which friendship and partnership are important; in socializing and dating, this aspect helps to meet a good match and make a good impression as one's charm is increased. Venus rules the 3rd and 8th houses; Julia meets the love of her life when working as a research assistant in the Secret Intelligence Branch of the Office of Strategic Services during World War II.

The Asc ruler is Saturn in Gemini in the 4th house, building solid foundations and rapport through discussed shared viewpoints, serious work in communications and common interests. Saturn rules the 1st house of body and self, and the 11th house of beneficial fate. Asc–Saturn brings hard work, maturity through experience, important contacts with those that will support the native's efforts; an influential person may come into the life who plays a significant role in mentoring or teaching personal fulfillment.

The Sagittarius MC finds inspiration in foreign cultures, being gregarious, networking social connections, and taking part in the enjoyments of life. Julia's emotional ambition at the time was for learning new things through travel; with LR Jupiter in the Leo 6th, she was ready to work hard and play hard. Previously Julia had been doing volunteer work for the war effort and then on the advice of Harrison Chandler, the newspaper scion she opted not to marry, she took the Civil Service exam.

This first LR of what would become Mr. and Mrs. Child has not one, not two, but three different stellia. One in Taurus, one in Leo and one in Libra bring into focus the sensual enjoyments of food, drink and joyful creativity to partnership and diplomacy. Uranus in Gemini is conjoined an angle in the LR, which shows the spark in communication as well as the surprise factor of meeting someone, not initially attractive who becomes curiously more so after discovering clever insights about each other.

In Julia's nativity, Uranus is notably the handle in the natal bucket chart that balances the rest of the chart and describes her natal promise as a unique broadcaster on the electromagnetic waves of the small screen. Julia's natal Uranus is the factor, which receives the most Ptolemaic, and declination aspects from the LR chart. The LR Uranus

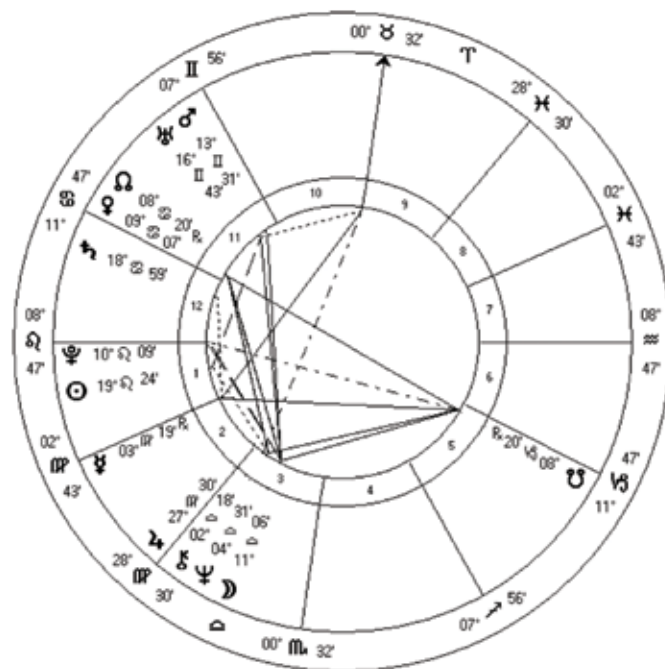
conjoins the natal Asc, accenting Uranus again. The LR Uranus conjoins Julia's natal angular Saturn, bringing her a sudden, surprise sense of self-awareness and the first spark of a beginning of what may be a long-term development, Gemini in flavor.

Factors in the natal that also are aspects in the LR are: Moon with Mars (emotional animation and activation), Saturn with Uranus and Asc (personal disruption to the status quo), Uranus with Neptune (unique creativity unbound), Asc with Venus and Saturn (restrained personal attraction), MC with Moon (social standing in an emotional climate) and Part of Fortune with Moon and Node (concerns of the body and striving forward in the course of life; Figures 2 and 3).

The annual solar return for Julia's 31st year and the LR of first meeting Paul have two matching aspects found in each chart, a Saturn–Uranus parallel, which functions similarly to a conjunction, and the North Node conjoin Pluto. Saturn–Uranus pursues the path of freedom with responsibility, innovating and liberating through stable routines. North Node conjoin Pluto is the development of a power that moves life and purpose forward with an insatiable appetite and drive that can bring renown.

The LR paints a picture of Julia hungry and aware of the need for substantive change to restructure her life “so I signed up to go to the Far East” ready for “the adventure of a lifetime” which meant “taking each new experience as it came.”⁹

Little did Julia know, Paul Child had been tipped off. A year before they met, Paul was working in the Visual Presentation branch of the OSS in Washington D.C. where he consulted with prominent astrologer Jane Bartleman. She spoke to him of a soon to be revealed, yet unanticipated, remarkable



Julia Child, Lunar Return, Julia Meets Paul Again

August 12, 1945, 5:23:56 AM PWT
Pasadena, CA
340N08°52", 1180W08°37"
Regiomontanus, True Node

undertaking in the Far East that was to change the course of his life. He consulted with her again prior to taking a posting with Lord Mountbatten in the Far East, saying that her pronouncement that he would fall heavily in love in about a year “was worth paying for”¹⁰ (Chart 3 below)

War assignments separated Julia and Paul who at the time were just friends but warming up to each other. In April 1945 Paul had been moved to Chongqing, China while Julia had been assigned to Kunming. Fortunately for the pair, the war room moved from Chongqing to Kunming and Paul returned to Julia’s social sphere. They took to exploring local Chinese food options to avoid the terrible army food. These regular meals together created a close rapport, in which they poured their hearts out to each other, speaking about romantic losses, family difficulties, and personal hopes and dreams. On August 15, 1945, for her birthday, Paul wrote Julia a sonnet filled with romantic imagery.

The LR Moon placed in the 3rd activates communication and neighborhood. The LR Asc in Leo is joyful and passionate. The Asc ruler is in the 1st of self, appropriate to the date of the SR. The LR Asc is sextile the Moon, conjoins Pluto and parallel the Part of Fortune; powerful intense affection and caring bring personal fortune. The MC is in Taurus, the slow, steady building of life work towards substantial legacy. The natal planet receiving the most aspects for the LR chart is Mercury, the ruler of the nativity and the romantic 5th house, located in the 4th of home and domesticity.

Factors aspecting in the natal chart that also are aspect in the LR: Moon with Mars (emotional animation and activation), Moon with Saturn (emotional investment), Moon with Nodes (potent emotional attraction), Moon with Asc (emotional presence), Moon and Sun with Part of Fortune (destiny of identity), Jupiter with Neptune (idealistic enthusiasm), Saturn with Venus (harmonious commitment) and Saturn with Uranus (dynamic stability).

The annual SR for Julia’s 33rd year and the LR of Paul’s sonnet have matching aspects found in each chart: Mars conjunct Uranus (fireworks and excitement), Jupiter conjunct Neptune (expansive dreams), North Node conjunct Venus and square Neptune (fated love, visionary gifts).

This LR signals a shift for Julia towards a deepening of the relationship with Paul and the possibility of a future together. Paul having suffered heartbreak of his own, was healed from that pain and ready to become serious with Julia who had by late 1945, been discharged back to the States. The letter from Paul, who had transferred to Peking, began with “Beloved Julie ...I wish you were here. I need you to enjoy these marvels with...why aren’t you here, holding my hand and making plans for food and fun!” the missive ending with a sweet “Love, Paulski.”¹¹ Julie was Paul’s nickname for Julia.

Their written exchanges became more heated with their separation, with Paul entreating “I want to see you, touch you, kiss you, talk with you, eat with you... eat you, maybe. I have a Julie-need.”¹² Paul returned Stateside and suggested that Julia move to Washington to keep house and cook for him. Apparently, their appetites began with and remained a strong focus of the relationship.

Julia and Paul prepared for a September wedding and enroute to their rehearsal dinner on August 30, 1946, they were involved in an automobile accident.¹³ Julia’s LR chart for August 29, 1946, is a chart of pain and triumph. Scorpio 0° is on the Asc with ruler Mars as the midpoint planet in a 12th house stellium of Jupiter, Venus, Mars, Moon and Neptune. Jupiter in Libra conjoined the Asc. Taurus was the sign on the Dsc with Venus in Libra. Saturn in Leo was conjunct the Asc by 20 minutes, with the Sun in Virgo and Mercury in Leo, both in the 10th house.

There was some talk about postponing the wedding, given the seriousness of the accident but the bride would hear none of it. Julia and Paul were married on September 1, 1946. They spent two years in Washington DC until Paul took a diplomatic post in France. They sailed to Le Havre in Autumn 1948, where Julia’s first meal in France was on November 3 at La Couronne in Rouen. She said it was “the most exciting meal of my life.”¹⁴

I invite you to follow along the steps to cast the LR for that iconic meal, the spark that set off a food revolution. Keep up with your own LR regularly and let the Moon be your guide to innovation and transformation. ✨

©All Rights Reserved

Endnotes

1. Morin, J.B. *Astrologia Gallica* Book 23. Translated by Holden, James Herschel. American Federation of Astrology, 2000, Chapter 18, p. 2.
2. Ibid, p. 10.
3. Astro-Databank, Julia Child, https://www.astro.com/astro-databank/Child,_Julia.
4. Child, Julia and Prud’homme, Alex. *My Life in France*. New York: Random House, 2006, p. 99.
5. Spitz, Bob. *Dearie: The Remarkable Life of Julia Child*. New York: Knopf, 2012, p. 38.
6. Child and Prud’homme, p. 28.
7. Ibid, p.5.
8. Ibid, p. 6.
9. Spitz, p. 105.
10. Ibid, p. 127.
11. Ibid, p. 144.
12. Ibid, p. 147.
13. Ibid, p. 158.
14. Child and Prud’homme, p. 24.



Maria Wander is a CAP-certified astrologer based in New York City with a background in clinical hypnosis, herbalism and energy work. She is priestess for a non-profit syncretic tradition and teaches astrology, cardology, tarot, Lenormand and esoteric studies. Maria serves as NCGR’s Social Media Director and co-hosts the Big Apple Astrology Meetup, which showcases speakers

locally at the Theosophical Society and online for a global membership. Maria can be reached at mariawander@icloud.com.

THE LUNAR STANDSTILL CYCLE: ORIGIN OF THE OUT-OF-BOUNDS MOON

BY LEIGH WESTIN

From the stark standing stones of Callanish, to the giant Stonehenge trilithons, to megaliths all over Earth, an ancient reckoning anticipates the silent splendor of the Moon as it marks its momentous events of reaching beyond the solstices to its highest declination — this is the part of the Lunar Standstill Cycle known as the Major Lunar Standstill. In late 2022, the world is in the midst of just such an event, one that began on March 5, 2020, when the Moon reached above and beyond the current solstitial degree of $23^{\circ}26'$.¹

A Major Lunar Standstill covers about nine years and is the only time that the Moon can reach beyond the solstices out of bounds. The Moon will continue to reach above the solstices, until March 22, 2025, when it will hover at slightly greater than 28° , its highest declination position of the Major Standstill. The Moon will continue to reach beyond the solstices every two weeks, although at lower declination positions, through January 29, 2030, concluding the approximate nine-year period of its reaching out of bounds.

Yet, the Major Lunar Standstill represents only half of the whole Lunar Standstill Cycle. In the second half, the Moon never reaches out of bounds, but reaches less and less in height at the solstices until it hovers around 18° plus minutes. This part of the cycle is called the Minor Lunar Standstill and also lasts for a little over nine years. The last Minor Lunar Standstill cycle began on April 20, 2011, reached its minimum

extreme on September 21, 2015, and ended when the Moon began reaching above the solstices again on March 5, 2020.

The word *standstill* is most often associated with the Sun at the Summer and Winter Solstices when its direct light reaches as high as $23^{\circ}26'$ north or south of Earth's equator. Although the entire Lunar Standstill Cycle covers 18.6 years, compared to the solar one-year cycle, the silvery Moon reflects a similar style, yet much more intricately, its threads more tightly spun, interlacing into elaborate patterns, and creating over all a richly woven tapestry.

Tapestry Overview

An inclusive view of the 18.6-year Lunar Standstill Cycle is shown in Figure 1. The graph covers slightly more than one cycle. The actual time of the entire Lunar Standstill Cycle shown is from the midpoint of the Minor Lunar Standstill on September 21, 2015, to the midpoint of the next Minor Lunar Standstill on March 26, 2034. The line at the center of the graph depicts 0° declination, while north declination is represented from the center line to the top of the graph and the North Solstice by the heavy line at $23^{\circ}26'$. South declination is represented from the center line to the bottom of the graph and the South Solstice by the heavy line at $23^{\circ}26'$. Years are shown across the top.



Callanish on the Isle of Lewis in Scotland is one of the most spectacular megalithic sites, and one of the most ancient in the world, even more so than Stonehenge. The overall design is similar to the Celtic cross and was built so that the Moon, at its major standstill appears to rise and set from behind the island hills which are as much a part of the monument as the stones themselves. Callanish has been associated with both lunar and solar astronomy.

In Figure 1, a wave pattern is shown with the upper and lower boundaries coming toward each other, then expanding away. The greatest width of the expansion area reaching above $23^{\circ}26'$ is the Major Standstill wherein the Moon reaches its highest declination. Notice that the Moon is near the same declination height, both north and south, for about three years from 2024 through 2026. Although the actual dates are not easily seen on the graph, for about nine months on either side of the greatest attained height the Moon's declination height around the Solstices varies no more than $20'$ from August 15, 2024, through April 26, 2026.

Alexander Thom, an engineer who studied the astronomical aspects of Stonehenge and other archeological sites, noted the effect thusly: "*The Moon...in no sense stands still, but for about a year the limiting declinations do not vary more than 20 arc minutes, so that for month after month the Moon's declination goes through almost the same cycle.*"²

Of course, the Moon doesn't really *stand still* and neither does the Sun. Yet in the context that the Sun swings to its highest declination, and hovers at this degree varying little for about three days, the term *standstill* was long ago applied. Additionally, the word, Solstice, actually means *Sun stands* (from Latin: *sol-* meaning *sun*; *-stices* from *stitium* meaning

stand). Similarly as the Moon swings north and south, month after month, it too *stands still*. In fact, Alexander Thom appears to be the first to have coined the terms, Major and Minor Lunar Standstills.³

While the Major Lunar Standstill occurs at the widest height of the expansion pattern (Figure 1), the opposite phase of the cycle called Minor Lunar Standstill occurs where the two boundaries contract to their lowest height attained at the solstices. During Major Standstill the Moon reaches as high as $28^{\circ}+$, but during Minor Standstill, the Moon reaches no higher at the solstices than about $18^{\circ}+$. In so doing, as the Moon continues to swing both north and south, month after month, the Moon, in this context, *stands still*.

Primary Thread: The Out-of-Bounds Moon

One of the primary threads that occurs only during a Major Standstill is that the lunar orbit reaches above $23^{\circ}26'$, thus allowing the Moon to sail beyond the solstices, and thereby yielding *the origin of the out-of-bounds Moon*. In Figure 2, $23^{\circ}26'$ is shown as the obliquity, or angle difference, between Earth's equatorial plane and ecliptic plane. This degree amount is also the position of Earth's latitudes, the Tropic of Cancer, north of the equator and Tropic of Capricorn, south

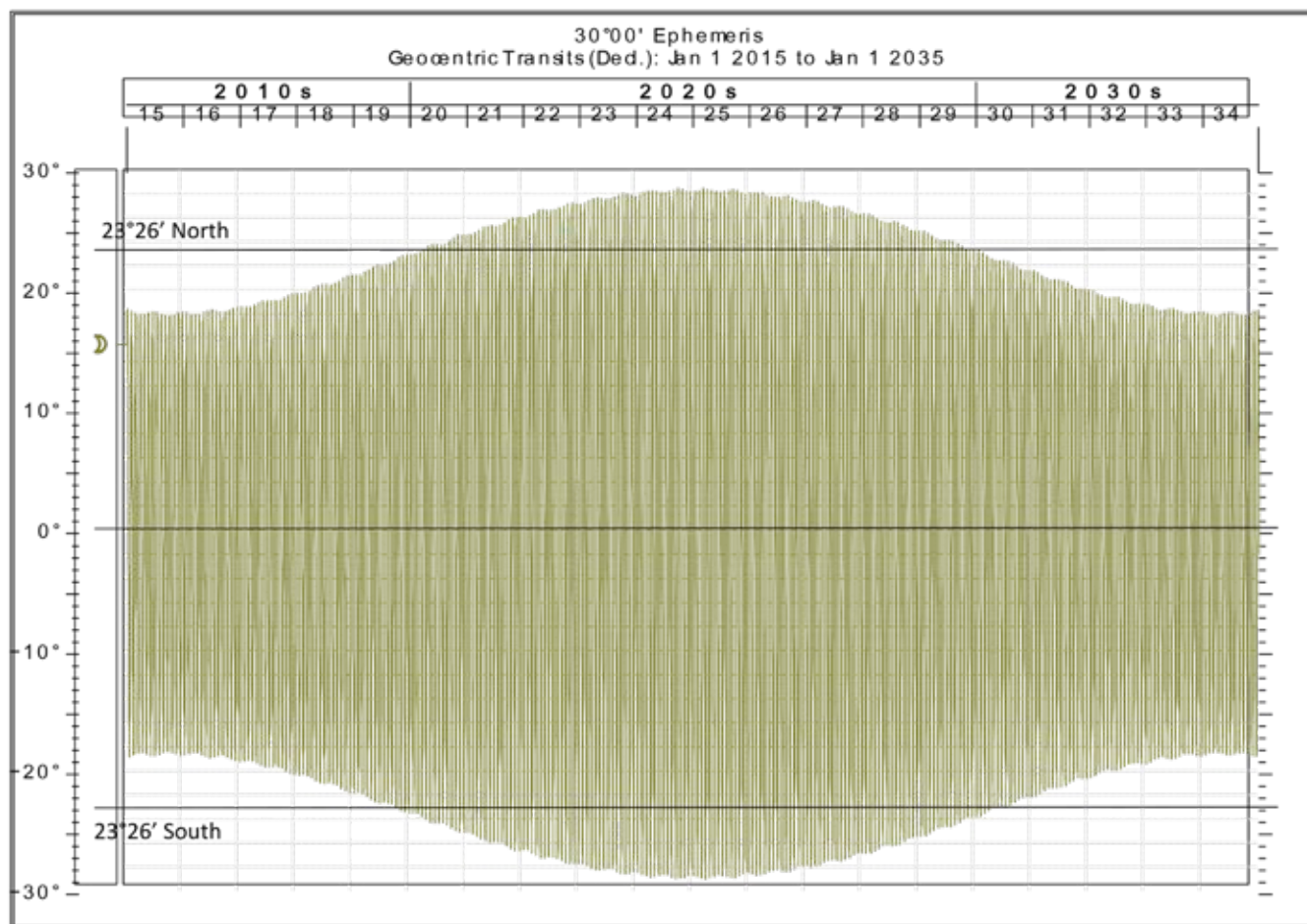


Figure 1: The horizontal line at the center of the graph represents 0° declination and the Earth's equator. The line at the top shows $23^{\circ}26'$ declination or the height of the Sun's north declination also known as the North Solstice and the Tropic of Cancer. The line at the lower part of the graph depicts $23^{\circ}26'$ as the height of the Sun's south declination, also known as the South Solstice and the Tropic of Capricorn. Origin of the graph is from SolarFire Software.

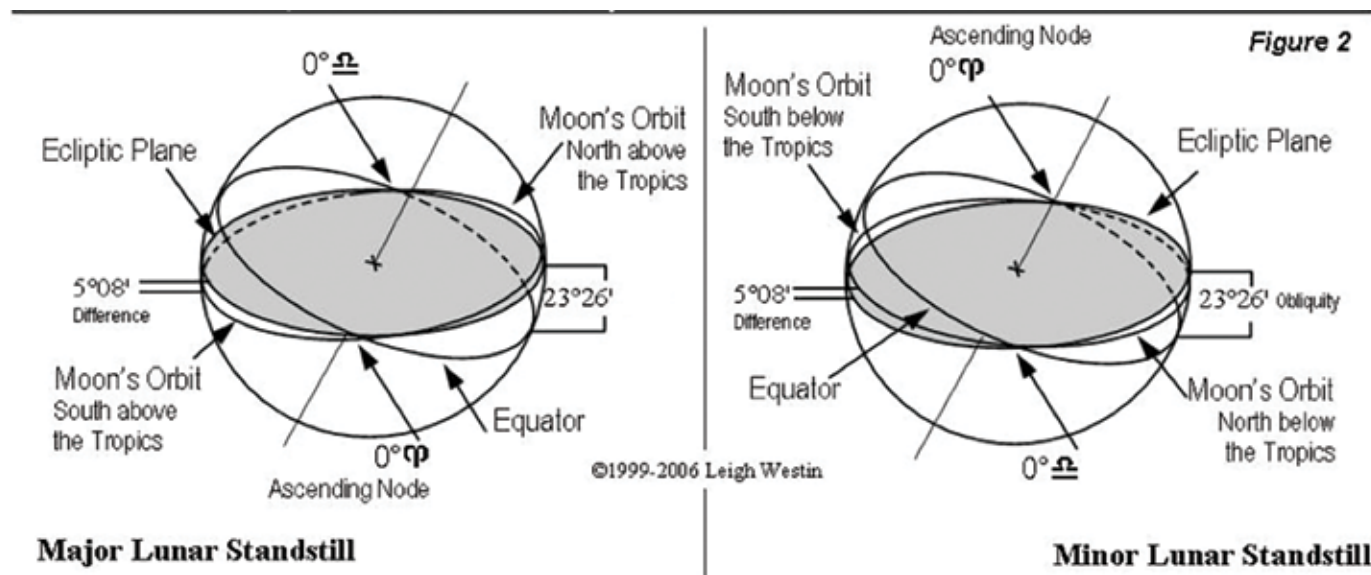


Figure 2 shows the positions of the Moon relative to the ecliptic and equatorial planes at Major and Minor Lunar Standstill; as well as the positions of the North Node: Aries at Major Standstill and Libra at Minor Standstill.

of the equator. These are the highest latitudes on the Earth's surface that the direct vertical light of the Sun ever touches, respectively, at Summer and Winter Solstices.

The difference between Minor and Major standstill, that allows the Moon to reach out-of-bounds has to do with the lunar orbit being inclined or angled to Earth's orbital path, the ecliptic plane (Figure 2). As a result, during half of the 18.6-year lunar cycle, the Moon's orbit falls *between* the planes of both the ecliptic and Earth's equator. This equates to the contraction phase shown in Figure 1 that yields the Minor Standstill.

However, in the period leading to a Major Standstill, the Moon's orbit is no longer confined between the two planes, thus Luna can sail above the ecliptic plane and eventually above the solstitial degree of 23°26', *becoming out of bounds*. Another factor that affects the amount of declination that the Moon can achieve depends on obliquity, the difference between the ecliptic plane and the equatorial plane measured in degrees (Figure 2).

The amount of obliquity is also the number of degrees that the Earth tilts on its axis, a cycle that changes over about 41,000 years by about 3° forward and backward⁴. Currently

this cycle is in its decreasing phase, resulting in the Moon achieving lower declination than when the ancients were making sightings 3,000 years ago. In 1000 BC, the amount of obliquity (according to available data bases) was 28°48' causing the Moon to have appeared higher in the sky during standstills — as well as the Sun.

Nodal Axis Interweave

Along with the Moon's orbit being at an angle to Earth's orbit, there are two points at which the plane of the Moon's orbit intersects the ecliptic plane — the familiar Lunar Nodes. Rather than moving *forward* in the zodiac as the Moon travels, the Lunar Nodes regress, taking the entire 18.6 years of the Lunar Standstill Cycle to travel from one position backwards around the ecliptic to the same position again. During Minor Standstill, when the inclined orbit of the Moon falls between the ecliptic plane and the equatorial plane as shown in Figure 2, the North Node position is about 24° Sagittarius and continues to regress tropically through 0° Libra to about 6° Cancer. Then *when the North Node is near 0° Libra*, the Moon attains its lowest declination (18°+) during Minor Standstill.

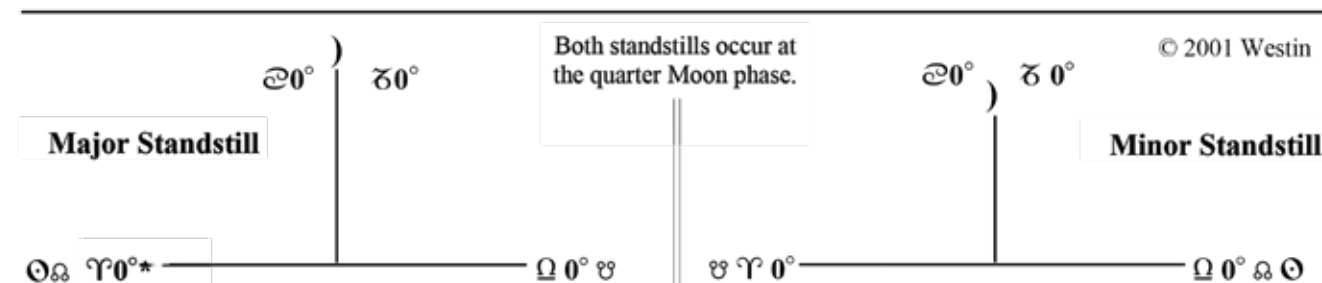


Figure 3 The Moon's orbit reaches its culminating moment of Standstill at either First or Third Quarter phase, when the Sun is 90° away within orb of the Equinoxes, and when the axis of the Lunar Nodes is within conjunction of the Equinoxes (North Node near 0°Aries during Major Standstill and near 0° Libra during Minor).

Conversely during Major Standstill, when the lunar orbit is no longer confined between Earth's ecliptic and equatorial planes, the North Node's position reaches about 6° Cancer and continues to regress through 0° Aries to about 24° Sagittarius. Around the center of this period, *when the North Node is near 0° Aries*, the Moon obtains its highest declination (28°+). Thus, the Major Lunar Standstill is connected with the North Node at 0° Aries and the Minor Lunar Standstill with the North Node at 0° Libra.

The Lunar Nodes may be even more interwoven than at first it seems. When the inclined orbit of the Moon falls between the ecliptic and the equatorial plane, instead of the North Node transiting from 0° Capricorn to 0° Cancer, it will be nearer 24° Sagittarius and moving toward 6° Cancer. The difference between 0° Capricorn and the approximated 24° Sagittarius is 6° degrees, accounting for a little more than the lunar 5°08' angle (Figure 2). The same difference exists between 0° Cancer and 6° Cancer.

By the same token, the North Node will not always position exactly on 0° Aries when the Moon attains its highest declination during Major Standstill or on 0° Libra when the Moon achieves its lower declination during Minor Standstill. In fact, when the Moon attains either Standstill, the North Node was found to be as much as 6° from 0° Aries or Libra.⁵

A Major Pattern

While the familiar standstill of the Sun focuses on the solstices, the lunar standstill focuses on the equinoxes, but unlike the Sun, the Moon's standstills interlace not just the equinoxes, but as has been shown, the nodal axis, the solstices, and the Sun to boot. Major or Minor Standstill always occurs near the time of one of the equinoxes, sometimes Vernal, sometimes, Autumnal; however, this means not only that the nodal axis will be near 0° declination, but also the apparent Sun.

As for the solstice connection, the Moon can reach its declination height only when it is the furthest from 0° declination at a type of solstitial position. Since the Sun will also be near 0°, the Moon's greatest height in declination will occur during a First or Quarter Phase (Figure 3), and again for either lunar standstill at either equinox. An old rule of thumb was when the highest declination occurred at Vernal Equinox, the Moon's highest declination was at First Quarter, and when at the Autumnal Equinox, it was at Third Quarter. Yet my research has shown otherwise.⁶ The Moon's highest declination position in 2025 takes place at the Vernal Equinox at Third Quarter; but in 1969, the Moon's highest declination occurred at the Vernal Equinox at First Quarter; then in 1950, the highest declination was at the Autumnal Equinox at First Quarter; so, there is no favor for either equinox as to which lunar quarter phase occurs.

From the Collective Point of View

To the lunar standstills all manner of life and trends have been correlated, including extreme weather conditions, pestilence, volatile and stable markets, inventions, war and peace. Perhaps the most reliable examples are the high tides which can without question be said to occur always at Luna's high declination. Although all life cannot be explained away

by the lunar standstills any more than the solar cycle, it is a framework that can yield a more emphatic expression of trends or character.

From a general overview, during Major Standstill, reactions and perceptions tend to be overly distorted by the populace and not as easily controlled on a subjective level. Then along comes Minor Standstill and action tends to be taken, thus providing a correction. Subjective energy and instability tend to result more at Major Standstill with objective energy and balance at Minor.

On an individual level, it can be said that those born within Major Standstills seem to have greater swings of emotions through their individual persona and/or from events within their lives. As a result of the Moon soaring above one of the solstices, exists the petulance of not wanting to be hemmed in and at the same time confrontation with an uncontrollable vulnerability to the winds of fate. Whereas those born within Minor Standstills restricts the Moon to reach lower between the solstices. Therefore, the Minor Standstill is indicative of a greater containment of feelings and a more even nuance, yet sometimes fewer options and at the same time less personal demand for such.

Actually, there is a very small chance of even having a natal out-of-bounds Moon. Even though the overall out-of-bounds Moon cycle occurs over a nine-year stretch, the Moon is out of bounds for only a few days twice a month. For example, at the center peak of the Major Standstill in 1987, the Moon was out of bounds from September 12 at 11:00 pm through September 18 at 2:00 pm, with time rounded off to the nearest whole hour. That's 11 days out of about every 30 — or roughly 37% of the time. Another half cut would have to be made for the nine years the Moon never goes out of bounds. With that one consideration, the percentage is reduced to around 19%. When shorter periods of out-of-bounds are figured in, the percentage would be significantly decreased again. Although it has not been precisely researched, a 20% decrease sounds reasonable, thus a figure reflective of the population in which a natal out-of-bounds Moon would be experienced, is about 15-16%. On the other hand, anyone born within a Major Standstill, even without a natal out-of-bounds Moon, will be subjected to a progressed out-of-bounds Moon every 14 or so years.

The Out-of-Bounds Moon Paradigm

The idea of a paradigm for an out-of-bounds Moon was discovered and written about by Kt (Katie) Boehrer.⁷ Some people seem to have concluded that this concept always indicates an abused or orphaned childhood. Such a notion has been somewhat misunderstood. Orphaning or abuse can be associated, but such extremes are not the *only* outcomes.

What the Moon paradigm does indicate is a skewing of normal nurturing, nesting, safety or security. Some factor associated with family or heredity tends to be compromised, thus creating a need to compensate by filling a void that can manifest in inordinate ways. Among cases of children with an out-of-bounds Moon who otherwise had generally happy childhoods, the mother was very authoritative and ran roughshod over the father (Capricorn Moon); the father became ill early on and the child was raised by the mother (Gemini Moon); the parents

separated at birth and grandparents raised the child (Sagittarius Moon); the child was left with a grandmother while the mother and father worked (Taurus); the family was infamous (Leo); the father was in the military, often gone and a strong disciplinarian (Scorpio); or there were unusual intellectual genetics (Aquarius).

Some differences in reactions can be traced to how the child perceived what was going on around him from his own chemistry and the way the genes manifested. Rarely do two siblings from the same parents perceive in exactly the same manner, as there are always differences in circumstances. Also, these situations can manifest and be related to the Moon but in ways other than the Moon out of bounds. One case of a child being mistreated was Moon conjunct Mars, yet the Moon was not out of bounds at the solstices. The point here is that possibilities are diverse, and nothing should be taken out of context of the whole.

Sometimes the degree of skewing the Moon's principles is related to height of declination with the highest indicating the most deviation. At the same time accompanying planets can affect the Moon and it be barely out of bounds, such as in the 1950s, when Uranus and Pluto were both close to the solstices and at present with Pluto heading to the solstices by declination. Of course, this adds to the chart as a whole, depending on which planets are involved. Even so, although the out-of-bounds condition cannot explain every abnormality or accomplishment, the condition is an important, revealing concept.

At Major Standstill, emotions tend to run higher thereby, correlating to the Moon's declination. A greater emotional energy is implied. Psychologically it has been shown that if early needs are not satisfied, a deep unconscious hunger or thirst can result, creating greater needs, greater desires, and many times greater deeds.

Generally, those with an out-of-bounds Moon require a lot of space and time for solitude. A tendency exists for taking greater freedom to do things in one's own way and an avoidance of being hemmed in by time schedules, dictates from others and societal mores. Without the limiting bonds of the ecliptic, a greater vulnerability to the twists and turns of fate exists and

because of the south's inherent nature of less control, more so with a south declination Moon than north.

Final Thoughts

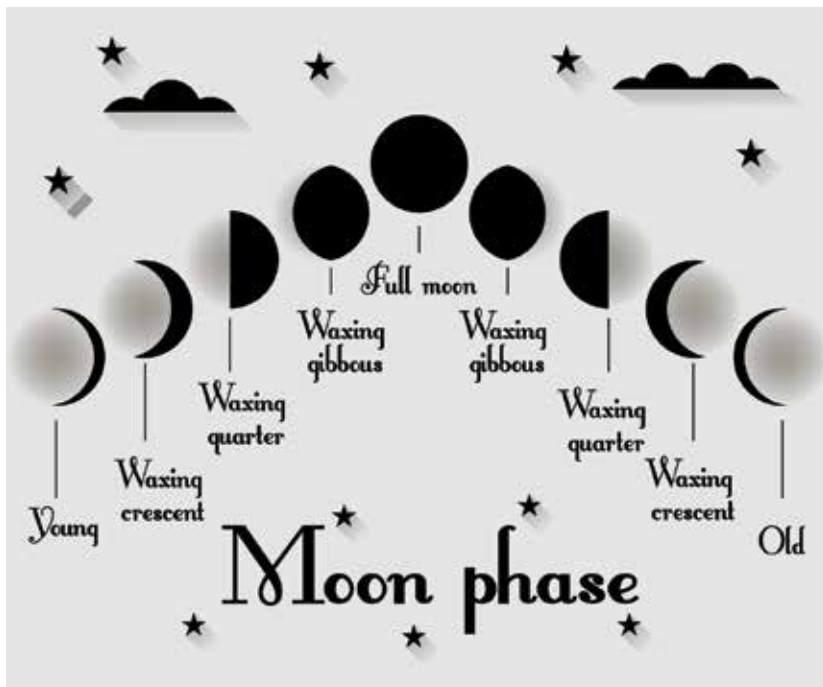
Within the standstill framework great tragedies and triumphs result. The Sun, Nodes and Moon set the stage and the rest of the solar system play out their roles yielding other effects, some major, some not so much. As for the current Major Standstill not all lunar standstills are accompanied by so many powerful positions — such as Saturn square Uranus near the solstitial midpoint; Jupiter and Neptune nearing the Aries Point; Mars retrograde for three and a half months and out of bounds for six; *and* Pluto nearing the Galactic Center. One might say this is *not* your *usual* Major Lunar Standstill and thus is likely to bring about *very* interesting times. ✖

All Rights Reserved ©2001-2022 Leigh Westin
From *Beyond the Solstice by Declination*
To use data, conclusions or drawings from this article requires author's written permission.

Endnotes:

1. Unless otherwise described, all degree positions are in declination.
2. Thom, Alexander, *Megalithic Lunar Observations*, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1973, p. 18.43.
3. Ibid.
4. Kaplan, Geroge, "The Seasons and Earth's Orbit—Milankovitch Cycles", http://aa.usno.navy.mil/data/faq/docs/season_orbit.html.
5. Westin, Leigh, *Beyond the Solstice by Declination*, Gheminee, 2001, p. 93.
6. Ibid, p. 87
7. *Declination: The Other Dimension*, by Kt Bohrer, Fortuna Press, 1994, p. 16.

Leigh Westin (MS; MA; D.F. Astrol.S.; CA, NCGR-PAA), researcher/editor/author, originated the declination premise from Earth's dynamics and the theory of progressed LunarSeasonsTM, plus discovered Venus and Mars out-of-bounds in fixed signs and established declination as basis for true antiscia. Leigh serves as an examiner for NCGR-PAA, as Chapter Director on the NCGR Board and sometimes Geocosmic Editor. The late Dave Roell cited Leigh's first book, *Beyond the Solstice*, as "rich in analysis...and startling insights", while The Mountain Astrologer noted its "wealth of information . . . by a highly creative astrological thinker."



HAUMEA & PLUTO: FANNING EVOLUTIONARY FLAMES AT A MOLECULAR LEVEL

BY LIANNE MCCAFFERTY



IMAGE 1

Christoph Bock, Max Planck Institute for Informatics,
CC BY-SA 3.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons

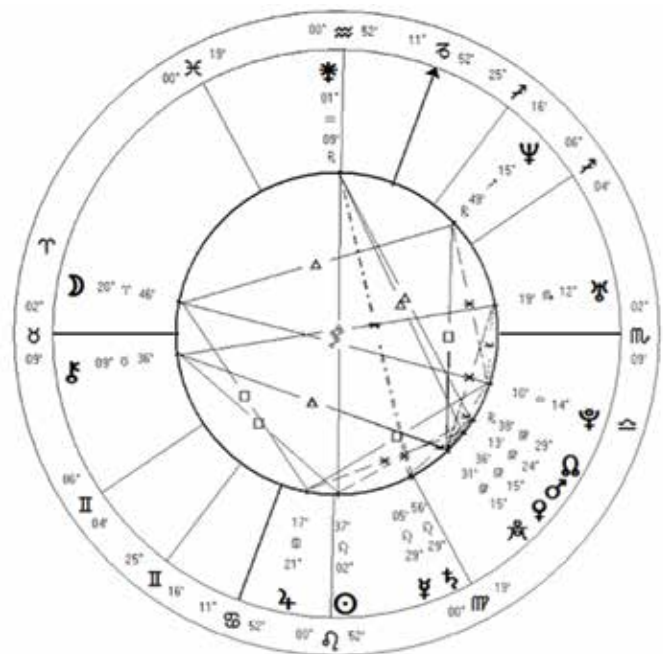
Many of us are looking toward Pluto's ingress into Aquarius as the next *big shift*. It signals a further step into air which began with the Great Mutation of 2020 when Jupiter and Saturn conjoined at 00Aquarius00, and an era of air might be most welcome with its less materialistic ethos looking beyond the physical. I'm sure we're all imagining a myriad of life changing inventions and technological developments ranging from continued exploration of space, growth of artificial intelligence, virtual reality, gene therapy, human cloning, cryogenics and artificial wombs. The list is only limited by the confines of the mind. Yet for any innovation to be born, a spark of life is needed, a creative energy to fan the flames. So, might there be another dimension to this, a deeper evolutionary force at work?

In my ongoing research on dwarf planets MakeMake and Haumea, their archetypes have become my new normal. It is Haumea's creative genius and prominence in the upcoming Pluto Aquarius ingress that has led me to the world of genetic engineering, cloning and other scientific manipulations of DNA, the *stuff of life*.

Haumea is Hawaii's most ancient deity. She is Mother Goddess to the island, its other gods, and in particular, Pele, the volcano goddess. There is hardly a more spectacular sight than lava spewing forth from the Earth then cooling to form

new land. Haumea is the midwife of nature and in her myth repeatedly transforms from an old woman to a young girl, bearing children from various parts of her body, thus ensuring further generations. This mythological imagery is also quite Plutonian. Haumea is a double-edged sword: the matriarch orifice and destruction, but also of creativity, fertility and regeneration, the latter of which is demonstrated perfectly in the nativity of the first test tube baby, Louise Brown. Haumea sits in a clinical 6th house (if the time of birth is accurate), Virgo Stellium, conjunct chart ruler, Venus. Mars, also present in the stellium, aptly describes *sex in a test tube*! The chart itself is full of fire, including both lights.

Haumea's discovery Chart¹ (*below*) (time unknown) has a strong fire-air signature – more on this later. Sitting in Libra (again the double-edged sword) and conjunct Jupiter, Haumea forms a benefic triangular aspect pattern with Sagittarius Mercury, Venus and Aquarius Neptune. Haumea's creative potential is limitless and events connected to her often seem to



Louise Brown

July 25, 1978, 23:47 BST

Oldham, UK

53°N33', 002°W07'

Placidus, Mean Node

Source: AstroDatabank (A data)

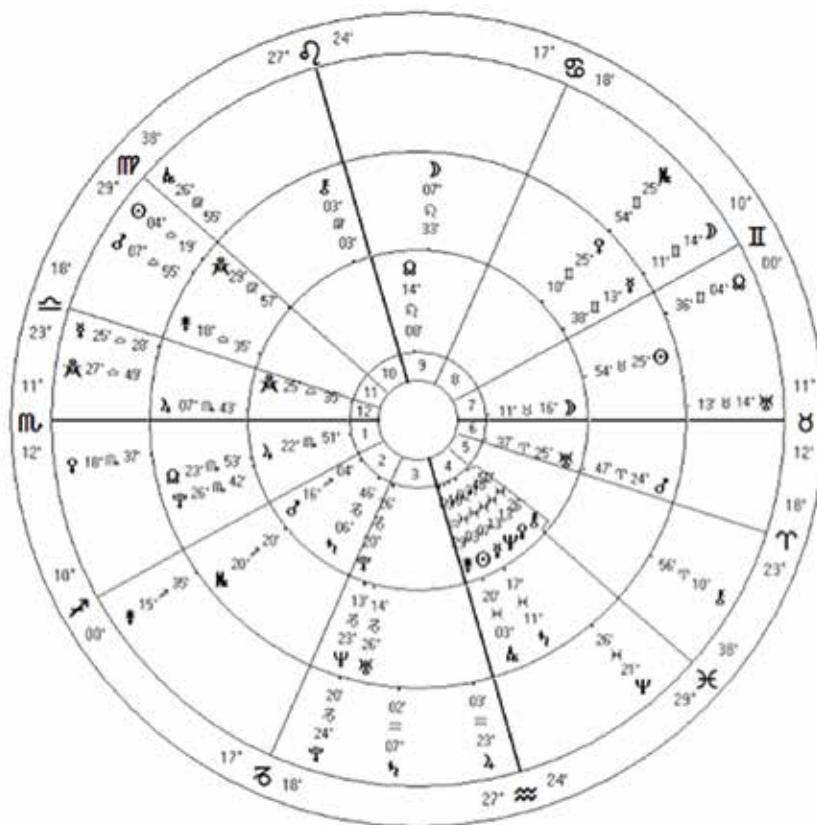
occur on a collective scale. She was discovered just after the 2004 Boxing Day, Indonesian tsunami, a devastating event, which killed nearly 300,000 people. Thus Haumea walks a fine line, a balancing act between creation and destruction. This naturally leads to the question of ethics, a crucial consideration when something wonderfully innovative has the ability to destroy as many as it benefits.

Some of us may already be familiar with Haumea in the charts of Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Japan², but in both bombings, a Leo Sun-Haumea conjunction (with Pluto also close by in Leo) sits on Japan's Saturn. Mars and Uranus are on Japan's Gemini Haumea, describing not only the twin explosions, but that they were dropped and detonated from the air. Astrology has a way of painting incredibly powerful pictures; here one of fiery death and devastation born from what was once just a spark of creativity. Similarly Dante's *Inferno* also conjures horrendous images of depravity and torture in the bowels of hell, and the latter words of this quote resonate strongly with the misuse of creative power, *"Hell...is the realm of those who have rejected spiritual values by yielding to bestial appetites or violence, or by perverting their human intellect to fraud or malice against their fellowmen."*³ Dante's natal Haumea sits in a Grand Air Trine with the Sun and Chiron with his Leo Mars-Neptune⁴ conjuring the conflagration of the explosions.

Although Hiroshima and Nagasaki are the prominent nuclear events of the 20th century, the Russian Tsar Bomba⁵ was the most powerful nuclear bomb ever tested, creating the largest man-made explosion ever. The energy released by the underwater earthquake preceding the 2004 Tsunami was 1500 times that of Hiroshima; yet the Tsar Bomba far exceeded this force, suggesting manmade destruction can ably compete with that of nature literally and metaphorically, shaking the ground we stand on.

Returning to Haumea's link to fertility-- my interest, as a former professional equestrian, was piqued by news in Autumn 2021 that Olympic show, jumping stallion, Arko, had been cloned. This announcement was made in September 2021⁶ by pet cloning company, Gemini Genetics⁷ when the foal was already a few weeks old. The company most likely waited a while post-birth to ensure a healthy outcome.

Gemini Genetics!--astrology never ceases to amaze us with its infinite ability to astound with both its literal and symbolic manifestation which speaks for itself in the triwheel (*next column*) (unfortunately no time of birth for Arko⁸). The clone announcement has a Grand air trine of a Haumea-Mercury conjunction, Jupiter in Aquarius and Gemini Midheaven which picks up Arko's Venus and Gemini Genetics' IC and Haumea, the latter opposing Arko's Mars.



Inner wheel: Gemini Genetics Incorporation

February 22, 2018 @ 00:01 UT, Telford, UK; 52°N38', 002°W30';
Placidus, Mean Node

Middle wheel: Arko

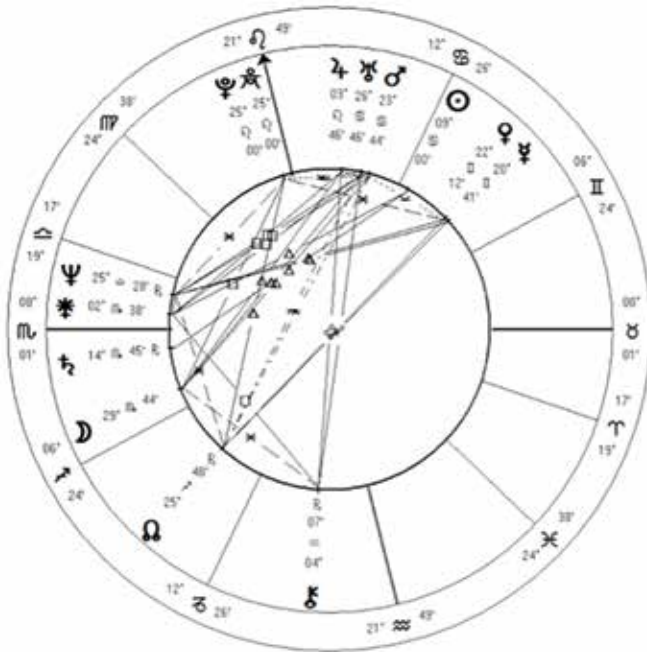
May 17, 1994, 03:00 CEDT; Hamburg, Germany; 53°N33', 009°E59';
Placidus, Mean Node

Outer wheel: Arko clone announced

September 27, 2021, 5:28 UT; Whitchurch, UK; 52°N58', 002°W41';
Placidus, Mean Node

One of the various reasons to clone a sport-horse is money and the Taurus Scorpio axis here suggests such financial incentive. Racehorse breeding is incredibly lucrative but thoroughbreds destined for a racing career require a *live cover*, i.e., physical mating. However, other horse sports have used artificial insemination for many years since it is easy for a breeder to go online and purchase frozen semen from their favoured stallion, then inseminate their mare (or implant an embryo into a foster mare so the biological mare can continue competing. That said, once a stallion is deceased, its frozen semen stocks are finite. Water cannot be turned into wine, unless a clone, which is usually fully fertile, can be produced.

Of course, this isn't just finance led; it is also incredibly emotive. UK based Gemini Genetics is partnered with US Viagen. Pets and cloning is a growing industry serving pet lovers, livestock, and sport horses to advocates for endangered species. So the question must be asked, how long before cloning technology jumps to humans? The Haumea-Uranus opposition in Gemini Genetics' natal describes the pioneering science, yet Pluto completing a T-square raises the question of how do we evolve and break boundaries without upsetting the balance of nature? Cloning occurs naturally in single-celled organisms, some plants and fungi⁹, yet when *manmade* will its



1955 Pluto Haumea Conjunction

July 1, 1955, 15:01:54 GMT; London, UK; 51°N30', 000°W10'
Placidus, Mean Node
 Source: AstroDatabank (AA data)



Francis Crick

June 6, 1916, 12:00 BST; North Hampton, UK; 52°N14', 000°W54'
Placidus, Mean Node
 Source: AstroDatabank (X data)

focus remain about replicating the original or seek to improve on it?

Here there is a resonance with the alchemical process of turning lead into gold. In the book, *Dynamics of the Unconscious*, Liz Greene says "...alchemy accomplishes what Nature leaves imperfect.....the alchemist saw themselves as the transformer of this natural chaos, the individual who stepped in and interfered with God's noble but imperfect creation in order to accomplish its ultimate evolutionary design.....it concerns transforming the raw substance of human nature and releasing its potential of inner divinity..."¹⁰

Yet the integrity of the alchemist is an important factor aligning with the ethical issues genetic engineering raises. There is a macro and micro version to this, the macro involving the Magnus Opus¹¹ as the overall engineering project, the Prima Materia being the defective genetic material or that with potential to be refined - something that must have blackened then calcinated (the first stage of alchemical transformation, that of heating and decomposing raw matter that has decayed or is dysfunctional). On a micro level, the basic steps of cloning a DNA fragment such as joining together the pieces of DNA (ligation) then inserting the new DNA into cells (transfection) could be linked to *solutio, coagulatio and submilatio* (stages of the alchemical process).

So how did our understanding of DNA come about? A rare exact conjunction of Pluto and Haumea at 25°Leo00 in July 1955 heralded a revolution in the understanding of genetics, and with astrological hindsight suggests that the relationship between these planets might be intimately linked to the evolution of life.

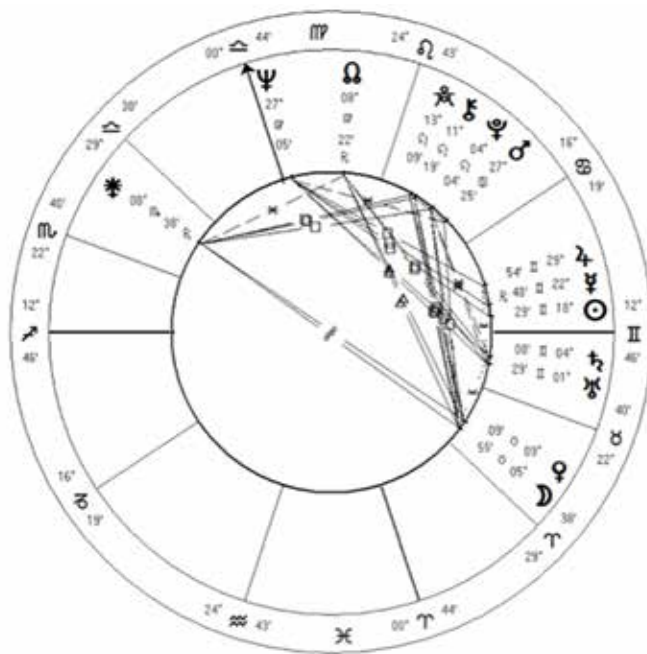
In 1953 Francis Crick & James Watson published "*A Structure for Deoxyribose Nucleic Acid*", describing their discovery of

the double helix structure of DNA.¹² It is important to bear in mind that the conjunction was within 03° or less throughout the 1950's due to the slow speed of these planets. Pluto has long been associated with the splitting of the atom which coincided with its 1930 discovery, therefore it's not unrealistic to associate Haumea with the splitting of the nucleus or DNA. In the conjunction chart, again there is a strong fire-air theme, to which I promised I would return. The meaning of fire is



James Watson

April 6, 1928, 01:23; Chicago, IL; 41°N51', 087°W39'
Placidus, Mean Node
 Source: AstroDatabank (AA data)



Jurassic Park Premier

June 9, 1942, 20:00 EWT; Washington DC; 38°N14', 077°W02'

Placidus, Mean Node

Source: AstroDatabank (A data)



Mary Shelley

Aug 30, 1797, 23:20 London, UK 51°N30', 000°W10'

Placidus, Mean Node

Source: AstroDatabank (AA data)

clear enough, creative action, energy and life; but where does air fit in, you might ask? DNA is a code and language, the mother tongue of life itself and the duality of the double helix here is demonstrated by the Gemini-Libra trine.

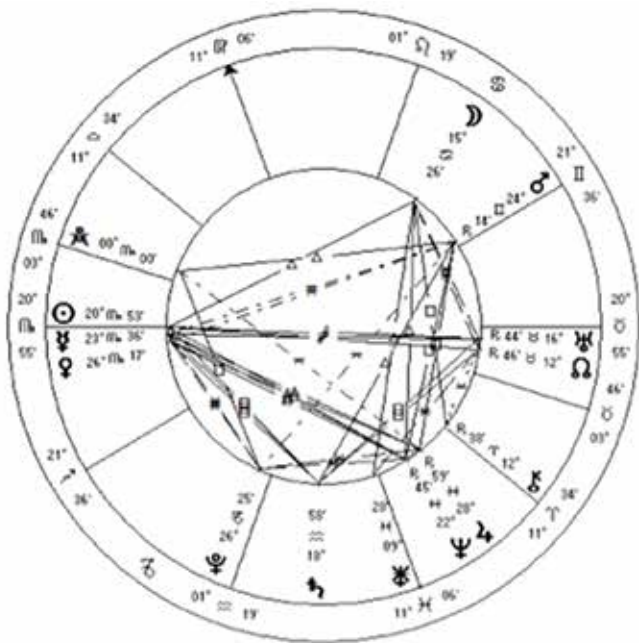
Crick and Watson's natal charts both have Haumea inconjunct an Aquarius planet, so unsurprisingly, their work led to a breakthrough as all hard aspects force change to some degree, with the inconjunct in particular bringing a shift or change of direction. Both nativities have Haumea-Venus aspects in water as well as Pluto in Cancer, and water is indeed the source from which all life emerged.

DNA has become integrated into the zeitgeist through both further scientific research and popular culture. Michael Crichton, author of *Jurassic Park*,¹³ has Leo Pluto and Haumea rising sextile Mercury in Libra echoing the fire-air theme. *Jurassic Park* is a story of dinosaurs cloned from prehistoric DNA for a theme park island, and its film premier chart showcases this with an impressive Gemini stellium, but also contains a caveat --Chiron in between Haumea and Pluto. We need be mindful of the consequences of tampering with the evolutionary process. Recall that in the story the dinosaurs escape and re-establish themselves in the food chain!

On the subject of monsters, Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* was a precursor to this idea of tampering with life. Her angular Pluto in Aquarius describes the *re-animating* electricity, but also a hint of what soon might actually be approaching us with Pluto's forthcoming ingress. With her angular Capricorn Haumea and Sagittarius Moon sextile Pluto, she was someone with foresight regarding the realities of scientific experiments promising immortality or regeneration. Her angular Mars in a Virgo stellium trine Haumea echoes the energies of the first test tube baby.

Shelley was possibly inspired by the commonplace exhumation of bodies for medical study in the 18th and 19th centuries. In 1752, concurring with Haumea in early Scorpio,¹⁴ the Murder Act¹⁵ was passed in England which permitted dissection of executed murderers. Prior to this bodies were often exhumed at night by *resurrectionists* and sold for medical study, a practice which continued after the act was passed due to lack of supply. Such ghastly entrepreneurship was not limited to cadavers; murders were also committed solely for the corpse's value, both financial and scientific,¹⁶ that gruesomely describes the Taurus/Scorpio axis. This look backwards is very relevant as Haumea ingresses into Scorpio imminently, the first 'taster' November 2022-April 2023, then the full ingress October 2023-October 2049,¹⁷ providing context to the likes of "*Therapeutic cloning is almost identical to reproductive, except...the embryo is cloned for the sole purpose of extracting stem cells which have the incredible ability to turn into any other cell in the human body, which means they're great for developing new treatments for disease and have the potential to repair or regenerate tissues and organs.*"¹⁸

The first ingress in 2022 has an outlying Scorpio stellium in an already watery chart whilst in the full 2023 ingress, Taurus carries the weight along with more air and fire. As I wrote this section, I stumbled across this exciting development "*.... in 2021, researchers from Queen Mary University of London demonstrated that mammal DNA floating in the air could be collected and sequenced. This is really the first time airborne samples have been used to look at mammals, and it's very exciting... we've learned that airborne DNA is a lot broader than what we originally gave it credit for, and I think this paper opens the door for expanding into new areas.*"¹⁹



Haumea Scorpio Ingress October 2023

Oct 1, 2023, 21:10:23 GMT; London, UK; 51°N30', 000°W10'
Placidus, Mean Node



Haumea Scorpio Ingress November 2022

Nov 13, 2022, 07:21:21 GMT; London, UK 51°N30', 000°W10'
Placidus, Mean Node

I've briefly mentioned the Haumea, Pluto relationship and their similar evolutionary energies; Haumea regularly rebirths whilst Pluto regenerates. Both are about life and death and thus understanding their relationship and cycles might reveal deeper perspective on Pluto's Aquarius ingress. Haumea's location and eccentric orbit of 283-309 years is similar to Pluto's. However their cyclic relationship is not the easiest to track with its non-concentric pattern. They spend a lot of time chasing each other, often within hands reach before pulling away again. Perhaps there is some sense of repulsion as with magnets, both so powerful that they only dare to come together out of absolute necessity. Interestingly, Haumea has an extremely fast rotation of four hours²⁰ so perhaps it's worth considering that, despite her slow orbit, there might a dynamo effect and the potential for vast creative output.

What makes Haumea significant in this is her square to the Pluto ingress, and as with all planetary cycles, history is our best guide. Unfortunately my software says NO to anything pre-1400 or post-2090; but from the 1400s the only aspects were conjunctions, semi-sextiles, or sextile, and I've yet to find any oppositions. The (near) conjunctions were: 1500s in Capricorn, 1700s in Libra, 1870s Taurus and late 1880s Gemini.²¹ The already discussed Leo conjunction in the 1950s²² saw the start of an exciting cycle on a molecular level. The current square started in 1997, becomes exact 25th June 2022 at 27Libra/Capricorn then moves to Scorpio-Aquarius exacting (within seconds) a further eight times or so from 2023-2027.²³ Therefore moreorless in orb through the 2020s. A trine between them starts in the 2050s then a waning square in 2093, so this is a cycle to be viewed through a long-range lens with Pluto's Aquarian ingress being a significant marking point.

Pluto will slide in and out of Capricorn before settling in Aquarius until 2043 on its third ingress. Although these ingresses should be viewed collectively, the angular emphasis

when set for London cannot be ignored and is worthy of further study. In all three ingresses, Haumea is aspected by dispositors, Mars and Pluto, square Pluto in all three; trine Mars in the first, quintile Mars in the second and square Mars in the third forming a T-square:

Ingress #1 Haumea, as handle of the chart, is the standout feature with a pioneering Aries stellium suggesting major initiatives. The square at 00°00' accesses a deep well of untapped creativity and with the nodal axis forming a T-square a strong developmental pull between past and future.

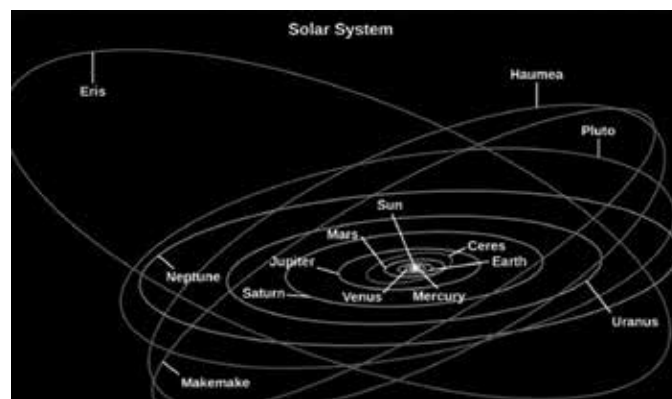
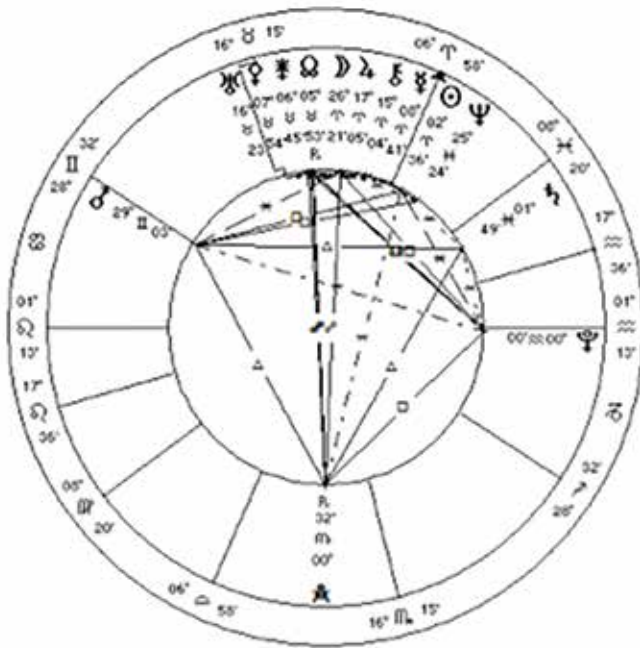


Image of our Solar System

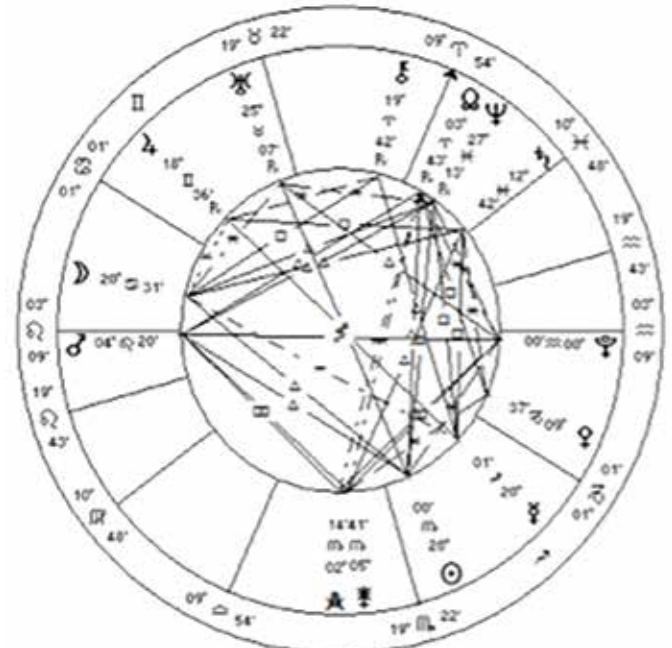
Ingress #2 Sun-Pluto is an apex of a T-square with Haumea and Jupiter in Taurus and also trine a Gemini Moon. Might this be organic growth of resources involving cloning/genetic innovations?

Ingress #3 Leo Mars completes a T-square with Haumea and Pluto tied in with the nodal axis. How will we control our creative impulse and its offspring? Might we bite off more than we can chew? Undoubtedly we will see



Pluto Aquarius #1

March 23, 2023, 12:23:20 GMT; London, UK; 51°N30', 000°W10'
Placidus, Mean Node



Pluto Aquarius #3

Nov 19, 2024, 20:39:39; London, UK; 51°N30', 000°W10'
Placidus, Mean Node

huge revolutionary leaps in science but likely resistance too, particularly around our future identity and existence as humans, social organizations and with regards to our relationship with technology. Where do the boundaries begin and end, and will transhumanism become a challenging area?

I've mentioned that Haumea produced babies from various parts of her body, but she also brought the promise of pain free natural childbirth. Playing with this theme, no one would argue against the most pain free birth being that of not bearing a baby in the first place. I have no doubt there have

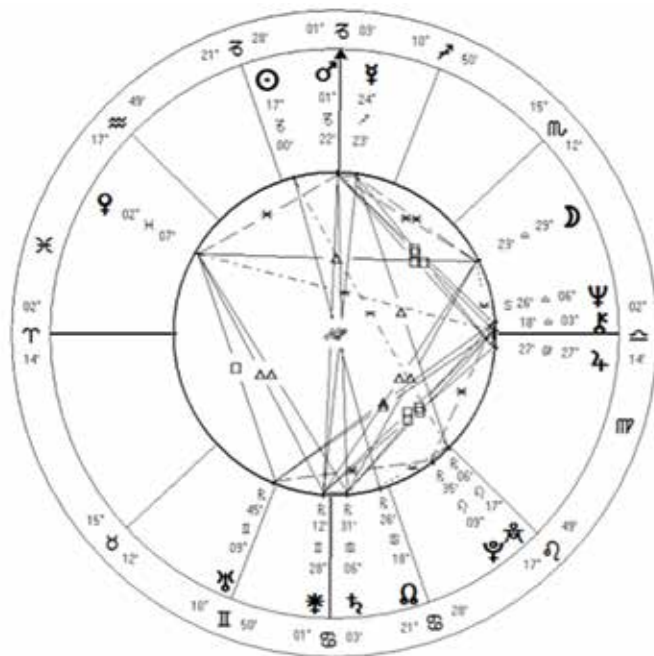
been countless women in the throes of labour wishing they could instead have their baby passed to them fully gestated from a pod. Artificial wombs are already in development,²⁴ albeit limited by legal and ethical constraints around full term development of foetuses; but they unarguably offer potential to save premature babies as well as providing an alternative to those unable or unwilling to physically carry a baby. They perhaps also resonate with the idea of the alchemical alembic (the vessel within which the alchemical process occurs). Gender selection and elective births are already becoming common place and Shulamith Firestone, feminist and author of the 1970 book, *The Dialectic of Sex*, argues that "*the biological family has always oppressed women and children*"²⁵ and means of artificial childbirth would "*free women from traditional child bearing, female roles.*"²⁶ "*The freeing of women from the tyranny of reproduction by every means possible, and the diffusion of the child-rearing role to society as a whole, men as well as women.*"²⁷ This viewpoint captures the Aquarian evolution of societal organization, so possibly the Haumea-Pluto squares describes a Scorpio-Aquarius standoff - natural versus mechanical sexual reproduction, female emancipation from both the pain of childbirth and imbalance of gender roles in society. Firestone's Haumea inconjunct Capricorn Sun captures that discomfort with a patriarch dominated world.

Molecular geneticist, Arathi Prasad²⁸ (unfortunately no birth data), also describes the artificial womb in her article "*How artificial wombs will change our ideas of gender, family and equality*"²⁹ in which she discusses the potential opportunities. But preceding any of these ideas was the discovery of nuclein³⁰ in 1869³¹ when Haumea and Pluto neared conjunction in Taurus, and next in Aldous Huxley's 1932, *Brave New World*, a fictional description of a genetically engineered society produced in artificial wombs where the

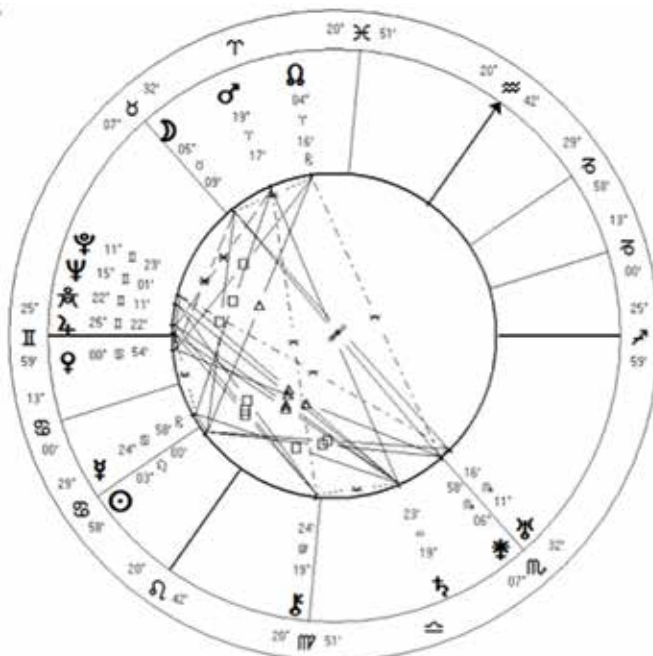


Pluto Aquarius #2

Jan 21, 2024, 00:56:08 GMT; London, UK; 51°N30', 000°W10'
Placidus, Mean Node



Shulamith Firestone
Jan 7, 1945, 12:00 EWT;
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada; 45°N25', 075°W42'
Placidus, Mean Node
Source: Wikipedia A data



Aldous Huxley
July 26, 1894, 01:20 GMT
Godalming, UK; 51°N11', 000°W37'
Placidus, Mean Node
Source: AstroDatabank (AA data)

concept of mother and father are scoffed at and everyone belongs to everyone else. (*chart on next page*)

Natal Haumea in a Gemini stellium sextiled Aries Mars, trined Libra Saturn and transit Haumea then conjoined Huxley's Leo Sun during the summer of 1931 when he wrote the novel. Also born around the same time, and sharing the Gemini Pluto, Haumea, Neptune signature was Huxley's friend, J.B.S. Haldane,³² author of *Daedalus; or Science and the Future*. Haldane was also a genetic and evolutionary biology scientist who first suggested the central idea of IVF (in vitro fertilization) and theories around human cloning, leading to artificial breeding of superior individuals. Both were forerunners into the realm of transhumanism and the ideas of reinvention and upgrade of the human. Yet where might these concepts lead us – to a detachment from the divine feminine and end of women as the Holy Chalice, the end of physical procreation even? Nevertheless, I look forward to the forthcoming movie, *The Pod Generation*³³ in which couples generate babies in pods, particularly as its estimated release late 2022 coincides with Haumea's Scorpio ingress.

Scorpio energy can be incredibly healing and therapeutic so gene therapy, the therapeutic treatment which involves transferring genetic material into the body to modify or replace defective genetic material is a relevant and emotive topic. Where it becomes emotive is not only the range of illnesses it might potentially treat such as cancer and genetic diseases, but along with stem cell therapy and the controversial source of the material, for example embryonic cells or cells derived from other species.³⁴ Might this controversy manifest through the square to Pluto?

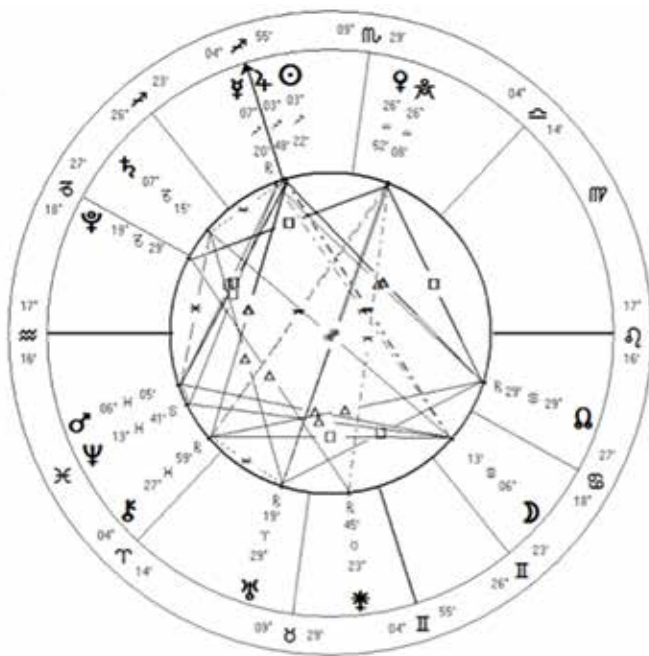
Therapeutic cloning created replacement tissues and in April 2019, the first bioprinted 3D human heart was created using

the patient's own cells and other biological materials.³⁵ Mini-organs, or organoids, are already being successfully cultivated in the lab³⁶ and only recently in the US a man successfully underwent a pig heart transplant. The reason for its brief success (very sadly he passed away two months later) was the heart undergoing gene-editing to help reduce the risk of rejection.³⁷ Might it not be better to be able to grow a human heart for transplant rather than use another species, or should we use every viable resource regardless of its source?

Producing whole copies of organisms is called reproductive cloning³⁸ that echoes the myth of Haumea, and perhaps even Eve being created from Adam's rib. It is already becoming commonplace with various mammals, yet human cloning is a contentious issue.

The closest we have come so far is the cloning of primates, the first in 1999 being Tetra,³⁹ a Rhesus monkey created by embryo splitting (Haumea in Libra, handle to the chart and apex to a Yod with Mars in Pisces and Saturn in Taurus). Then in 2017, Macaque monkeys Zhong Zhong and Hua Hua⁴⁰ were created using somatic cell transfer where the genetic material comes from body or foetal cells rather than embryonic (both clonings have Mars conjunct Haumea in Libra opposite Uranus in Aries.)

More cloned primates were announced in 2019⁴¹. However it was the birth of the first genome edited human babies, Lulu and Nana in 2018, that incited the most controversy. Chinese scientist, He Jiankui, conducted a secret project engineering HIV resistance genes and although both babies were born healthy, his work was widely condemned as unethical and highly flawed by WHO and the international scientific community. No birth details are available for the babies or He Jiankui, but a date for when a third party explosively pub-



Lulu and Nana Announcement

Nov 25, 2018, 12:00 EST
Cambridge, MA; 39°N17'25'', 076°W36'45''
Placidus, Mean Node
Source: Wikipedia (A data)

lished the news shows⁴² a Haumea-Venus Libra conjunction as apex to a Yod with Chiron and Juno. In mundane terms, Juno describes people's rights and Libra looks at both sides of the argument, so although Chiron suggests this was probably flawed there is also something valuable to be learned. Haumea-Venus also form a cardinal grand cross with Uranus and the Nodes describing the familial innovation and the responsibilities that come with it.

There is such a wealth of futuristic innovation to explore here and certainly more questions than answers. I hope that in looking at not only Haumea herself but also Haumea in relation to Pluto, an avenue has perhaps opened leading to further research and understanding of our future evolution. I do wonder when Pluto enters Aquarius with Uranus still in Taurus if this will change, or at least challenge, our societal ethics and value systems regarding genetic engineering. If there lies the possibility of eradication or a universally effective treatment for diseases, such as cancer, perhaps some boundaries will need to be crossed. But a shadow-side may be its potential to filter the best *stock*, to build the best bodies and minds i.e. eugenics, therefore compromising human rights of equality. The next decade looks interesting for sure, so let's keep an eye on Haumea and Pluto and the innovations they will birth. ✖

All Rights Reserved

©Lianne McCafferty 06/02/2022

Endnotes

Many thanks to Rikki Blythe of Fishtail Astrology for her alchemical insight

1. [Haumea - Wikipedia](#) Officially announced 29 July 2005 – controversy over exact date and exact discoverers 22.30 is my

estimate therefore I haven't used angles or houses and Moon's degree is speculative

2. [Nuclear: Atomic bombing of Hiroshima, horoscope for birth date 6 August 1945, born in Hiroshima, with Astrodatabank biography - Astro-Databank](#), [Nuclear: Second Atom Bomb, horoscope for birth date 9 August 1945, born in Nagasaki, with Astrodatabank biography - Astro-Databank](#), Japan 11 Feb 1889 Meiji Constitution Chart
3. [Inferno \(Dante\) - Wikipedia](#)
4. 30/05/1265, 04.33. Florence Italy. Astro.com.
5. [Tsar Bomba - Wikipedia](#)
6. [Gemini Genetics - Breaking News: Clo30 Auh10, 11ne of Arko III - ... | Facebook](#)
7. [Gemini Genetics Limited Company Number 11219653 Prepared By Reporting Accounts](#)
8. [ARKO - AES - Anglo European Studbook](#) I set Arko's TOB for 3am as most foals are born evening thru to early morning, but just a guesstimate.
9. [Cloning | National Geographic Society](#)
10. P259 *Dynamics of the Unconscious*, Liz Greene and Howard Sasportas, 1988 *Samuel Weiser, Inc*
11. The great work, the project and purpose.
12. [The Discovery of the Double Helix, 1951-1953 | Francis Crick - Profiles in Science \(nih.gov\)](#)
13. [Jurassic Park \(novel\) - Wikipedia](#)
14. Haumea in Scorpio 13/01/1743-12/02/1743, 10/11/1743-25/04/1744, 27/09/1744-01/10/1771
15. [Body Snatchers in the 1700 and 1800s - Geri Walton](#)
16. [The study of anatomy in England from 1700 to the early 20th century - Mitchell - 2011 - Journal of Anatomy - Wiley Online Library](#)
17. Haumea in Scorpio 13/11/2022-20/04/2022, 01/10/2023-03/02/2049, 22/03/2049-05/12/2049, 31/05/2050-22/10/2050
18. [Why Haven't Scientists Cloned Humans yet? \(businessinsider.com\)](#)
19. [Our Favorite Genetics Stories of 2021 | The Scientist Magazine® \(the-scientist.com\)](#)
20. [In Depth | Haumea – NASA Solar System Exploration](#)
21. 1517 saw a near conjunction in early Capricorn, the mid 1700's a near conjunction at 20-24 Libra. The 1870's saw a near conjunction 23-25 Taurus, the late 1800's a near conjunction at 0-6 Gem. My research into these dates is ongoing.
22. Conjunction was also within seconds of exactness between 25 Leo 26-25 Leo 31 mid-February 1955, and also within seconds of exactness in October 1954. Essentially within a 3 degree orb from 1950 so in orb most of the 1950's.
23. 25/06/22, 08/04/23, 20/03/24, 19/08/24, 19/08/24, 09/09/25, 17/02/26, 30/09/26, 01/02/27, 24/10/27
24. [Artificial womb - Wikipedia](#)
25. 175 *The Dialectic of Sex* Shulamith Firestone, Edition Verso 2015
26. P182 *The Dialectic of Sex* Shulamith Firestone, Edition Verso 2015
27. P185 *The Dialectic of Sex* Shulamith Firestone, Edition Verso 2015
28. [Aarathi Prasad - Writer, Broadcaster, Researcher](#)
29. [How artificial wombs will change our ideas of gender, family and equality | Aarathi Prasad | The Guardian](#)

30. Nuclein is the material from the nucleus of a cell, considered a single substance when first isolated in the late 1800's but later know to consist of DNA and associated proteins Nuclein - definition of nuclein by The Free Dictionary
31. Friedrich Miescher - Wikipedia
32. J.B.S. Haldane, horoscope for birth date 5 November 1892, born in Oxford, with Astrodatbank biography - Astro-Data-bank, J. B. S. Haldane - Wikipedia
33. Emilia Clarke, Chiwetel Ejiofor Cast in The Pod Generation Sci-Fi Movie (collider.com)
34. Gene Therapy - an overview | ScienceDirect Topics
35. Growing Organs in the Lab: One Step Closer to Reality | BioSpace
36. New tissue engineering process brings lab-grown organs one step closer (drugtargetreview.com), 7 HUMAN ORGANS WE CAN GROW IN THE LAB - Science Museum Blog
37. Surgeons transplant pig's heart into dying human patient in a first | Live Science&Man given genetically modified pig heart dies - BBC News
38. Cloning Fact Sheet (genome.gov)
39. Tetra (monkey) - Wikipedia Announcement 13/01/2000 Hillsboro, Oregon
40. Zhong Zhong and Hua Hua - Wikipedia
41. Gene-edited disease monkeys cloned in China | EurekAlert!
42. He Jiankui affair - Wikipedia



Lianne McCafferty D.M.S. Astrol, MAPAI. Lianne holds the Mayo School of Astrology Diploma (Distinction) in both Natal & Mundane Astrology and now also tutors for the Mayo. She has a wide range of astrological interests with her current research focused on Asteroids and Dwarf Planets. As well as consulting, lecturing and writing, as a former professional

sportsperson & coach she is particularly interested in the use of astrology to help enhance sport performance and is currently training for her Black Belt in Shotokan Karate. Website: liannemccafferty.com
Email: lianne.mccafferty@yahoo.com



HOW NCGR-PAA CAN SERVE YOU

The NCGR-Professional Astrologers' Alliance helps you and your business in the following ways,

- ★ Administration of the NCGR-PAA Educational Testing Program for Professional Certification
- ★ Ongoing web listing of certification test venues (national and international)
- ★ Website resource for the Education Curriculum and Study Guide
- ★ Certification testing fee discounts for NCGR members
- ★ Web listing of NCGR-PAA Certified Astrologers and links to their personal website or email.
- ★ Online/live educational workshops on chart calculations and other astrology topics

Order your study guide for only \$20.00 - plus shipping!

For more details and information, visit us at
www.astrologersalliance.org
or email us at
info@astrologersalliance.org

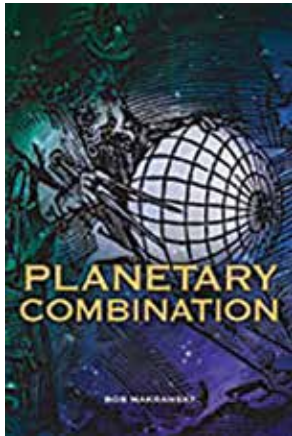


EDUCATION CURRICULUM AND STUDY GUIDE FOR CERTIFICATION TESTING



**NCGR - Professional
Astrologers' Alliance**

NCGR Book Review



Book Review: Planetary Combination by Bob Makransky

Publisher: The Wessex
Astrologer Ltd.
4A Woodside Road Bournemouth
BH5 2AZUK
ISBN: 978-19105-311-05
Copyright: 2016
Soft bound: 222 pp., 6" x 9"
Price: £17.50

Bob Makransky's book *Planetary Combination* is a follow-on to his earlier *Planetary Strength*. The initial focus is on aspect configurations, and later there is a section on planetary aspects and mutual receptions. Looking at a chart, the variety of the planetary layout within the chart diagram can be simple, or, more likely, it is complex. That is, the chart diagram can hold within the configuration a shape, like a square, or a triangle or a more complex configuration, like a kite, grand sextile and others. This book addresses the variety of configurations and the astrological implications they represent.

Erect a chart and look at the layout of the planets within that chart. Discern whether there is some geometrical or astrological configuration. If the configuration is relatively less complex, the native may have an easier life. But if the configurations are more complex then the native will probably be drawn into circumstances requiring more effort and attention.

There can be simple configurations, like a T-cross, or no configuration, and these generally indicate depictions of a life that is simpler, less complex: "...highly structured horoscopes indicate complex, multifaceted people who are often at war with themselves" (p. 23). Less complex chart diagrams often occur within a bowl- or bundle-temperament type — as defined in works by Marc Edmund Jones.

The author asserts that people with less complex diagrams are not lazy but may need direction when left to their own devices:

"...the more structure, the more the native is the prime mover or manipulator in his or her social environment... You're not necessarily ambitious, but you live in a flurry of activity and busyness and are very intent on yourself and your purposes of the moment" (p. 24). "When there are several different configurations present in a horoscope which involve basically the same planets, then the meaning of the configurations add to and flavor one another" (p. 24).

"Sometimes several different configurations will 'aim at' or point to the same planet, which is thereby brought to special prominence. For example, Neptune in the 10th house would rarely be considered an indication of dynamic ambition and drive to succeed; but in Theodore Roosevelt's horoscope [his] 10th house Neptune is the mediating planet..." (p. 25) of a variety of configurations.

What follows in the next 25 or so pages are diagrams and descriptions of various configurations. These are taken from the less complex to the more complex, and then even some that lack a general category. Included are: stelliums, close pairs, triangular forms, square forms, mixed forms, compound configurations, like grand squares, and quadrangular forms, like bow ties or kites. Each is shown with a diagram that is helpful in visualizing the configuration's overall layout.

This makes up about a third of the book. The other two-thirds are taken up under a more general presentation concerning "Aspects and Mutual Reception." One of the features I like about this book is the inclusion of a glossary of terms at the beginning. There the author defines mutual reception as "when two planets each occupy a sign ruled by the other."

The planets, Sun through Pluto, are given paragraph-length interpretations for their aspects, and then also a paragraph on mutual reception. This is not a subject often included in other works and makes a worthy addition to this volume.

This book shows a lot of thought by the author. He tends to skip around but the reader needs to put up with that for the good messages provided. ✖

Reviewed by: Michael Munkasey

NCGR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ELECTED OFFICERS

Armand Diaz, *President*
President@geocosmic.org

Ramya Krishnamurthy, *Clerk*
Clerk@geocosmic.org

Linda Wilk, *Treasurer*
Treasurer@geocosmic.org

ELECTED DIRECTORS

Rachel Lang, *Marketing Director*
Marketing@geocosmic.org

Lars Mellis, *Director at Large*
Directoratlarge@geocosmic.org

Shirley Prisco, *Membership Director*
Membership@geocosmic.org

Leigh Westin, *Chapters Director; Journal Editor*
Chapters@geocosmic; Journal@geocosmic.org

APPOINTED DIRECTORS

Meira Epstein, *Technology Director*
Technology@geocosmic.org

Monica Escalante-Ochoa, *International Director*
InternationalRelations@geocosmic.org

Manda Selva, *Research Director*
Research@geocosmic.org

Christine Skinner, *Advisory Board Chair*
Advisory@geocosmic.org

Jackie Slevin, *Education Director*
Education@geocosmic.org

Maria Wander, *Social Media Director*
SocialMedia@geocosmic.org

STAFF

Elizabeth Hazel, *Editor Memberletter*
Memberletter@geocosmic.org

Rita Chabot, *Editor E-news*
eNews@geocosmic.org

David Perloff, *Editor, Around the World*
Around-the-World@geocosmic.org

Sara Priebe, *Advertising Manager*
Advertising@geocosmic.org

ADVISORY BOARD

Bernadette Brady, Ph.D. (UK)

Nicholas Campion, Ph.D. (UK)

Gary Christen

David Cochrane

Priscilla Costello, M.A. (Canada)

Adrian Duncan, (Denmark)

Michael Erlewine

Monica Escalante-Ochoa (Mexico)

Linda Fei

Steven Forrest

Robert Hand, Ph.D

Kitty Hatcher

Madalyn Hillis-Dineen

Baris Ilhan (Turkey)

Babs Kirby, M.A. (UK)

Joyce Levine

Alphee Lavoie

Michael Lutin

Vivian B. Martin

Michael Munkasey

Ingrid Petroff (Austria)

Bill Sarubbi (Austria)

Gloria Star

Rod Suskin (South Africa)

Richard T. Tarnas, Ph.D.

INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES

Zane Stein, *Australia*

Jennifer NG, *Canada*

Adriana Merchan, *Colombia*

Rai Liu, *President, China Affiliate*

Henrick Bisbo, *Denmark*

Clara Guarnieri, *Italy*

Terumi Kondo, *Japan*

Monica Escalante-Ochoa, NCGR International
Director; *President, AstroMexico Chapter*

Alan Clay, *New Zealand*

Ana Andrade, *Peru*

Izabela Podlaska, *Poland*

Miloslaw Krogulska, *Poland*

Nuno Michael, *Portugal*

Nathan Theo Naicker, *Sud Africa*

Winai Ouypornprasert, *President, Thailand
Chapter*

Maki S. Zhai, *President, Taiwan Affiliate*

Baris Ilhan, NCGR Advisory Board;

President, Turkey Chapter

Christeen Skinner, NCGR Advisory Director,
United Kingdom

Luis Emilio Riveero Kattar, *Venezuela*

NCGR CHAPTER CONTACTS

CALIFORNIA

Bay Area Chapter

Gemini Brett, 707-334-3284

Email: info@ncgrsanfrancisco.org

Website: www.ncgrsanfrancisco.org

Los Angeles County Chapter

Gaye Nelson, 310 480 8149,

Email: gayenelson@gayenelson.com

Website: www.ncgrla.com

Sacramento Area Chapter

Linda Byrd, 916 765 0999

Email: fullofgratitude@comcast.net

Website: www.ncgrsacramento.org

San Diego Chapter

Tina Miles, 760 271 6773

Email: presidentncgrsandiego.org

Website: <http://ncgrsandiego.org>

COLORADO

Rocky Mountain Chapter

Jill Pitts, 303 437 7656

Email: theastrodancer@gmail.com

FLORIDA

Florida Atlantic Chapter

Christine Chase, 954-452-5201

Email: chris.ncgrfloridaatlantic@gmail.com

Website: www.astrologyfla.com

ILLINOIS

Northern Illinois Chapter

Janet Berres, 947 965 9916,

Email: janetberres@gmail.com

Website: www.chicagolandastrology.com

MARYLAND

Annapolis Chapter

John Marani, 703 389 9168

Email: astrotarotjohn@gmail.com

Baltimore Chapter

Jennifer Moxley, 443 783 9664

Email: baltimoreastrology@gmail.com

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston Chapter

David Perloff, 212 726 2527

Email: davidperloffastrology@gmail.com

Website: www.ncgrbostonastrology.org

MICHIGAN

Southeast Michigan Astrologer's Round Table Chapter

Elizabeth Hazel, 419 242 1696

Email: smartmich2010@gmail.com

MINNESOTA

North Star Chapter

Adam Wolter, 612 237 6690

Email: astrologeradam@gmail.com

Website: www.northstarastronomy.org

NEVADA

Las Vegas Stargazers Chapter

Carol Dimitrov, 702 286 3325

Email: lasvegasstargazers@yahoo.com

NEW JERSEY

New Jersey Chapter

Beth Hyslip, 210 274 4538

Email: beth.hyslip@gmail.com

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Enchantment Chapter

Sandy Bryan, 505 255 5001

Email: stars@thuntek.net

Website: www.swcp.com/~nmncgr

NEW YORK

Long Island Chapter

Jamie Forbes, 631 909 1192

Email: Jamie.forbes@mac.com

New York City Chapter

John Marchesella, 212 255 8497

Email: astrojohn8@icloud.com

Website: www.astrologynyc.org

TEXAS

Dallas-Ft Worth Chapter

Marie Loeb, 281 703 1362

Email: marie@loebarchitects.com

Website: www.asntx.com

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia Chapter

Kathleen Burtis, 267-221-7001

Email: info@ncgrphilly.com

Website: www.ncgrphilly.com

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee Chapter

Dawn Cerise, 920 583 6319

Email: dawncerise64@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL CHAPTERS

CHINA

China Affiliate

Ray Liu

Email: Ray@newmoonmag.com

Website: www.astrology.jp

JAPAN

Toyko Chapter

Terumi Kondo, 81-90-7812-6179

Email: kondo@astrology.jp

Website: www.astrology.jp

MEXICO

AstroMexico Chapter

Monica Escalante-Ochoa, 525 651 6598

Email: astromonica@yahoo.com

Website: www.astromexico.com

Mexico City Chapter

Luis Michel Fox Elizondo, 5255 1524

6789

Email: luisnichelastrologo@gmail.com

Website: www.cimg-astro.org

TAIWAN

Taiwan Affiliate

Maki Shibata

Email: president@tw.ncgr.asia

Website: tw.ncgr.asia

THAILAND

Thailand Chapter

Winai Ouyapornprasert, 662 935 4252

Email: Buddhaluck2001@yahoo.com

Website: www.rasamichanpbh.com

TURKEY

Turkey Chapter

Baris Ilhan

Email: barisilhan@superonline.com

Website: www.ncgr-turkey.com



NCGR Founded

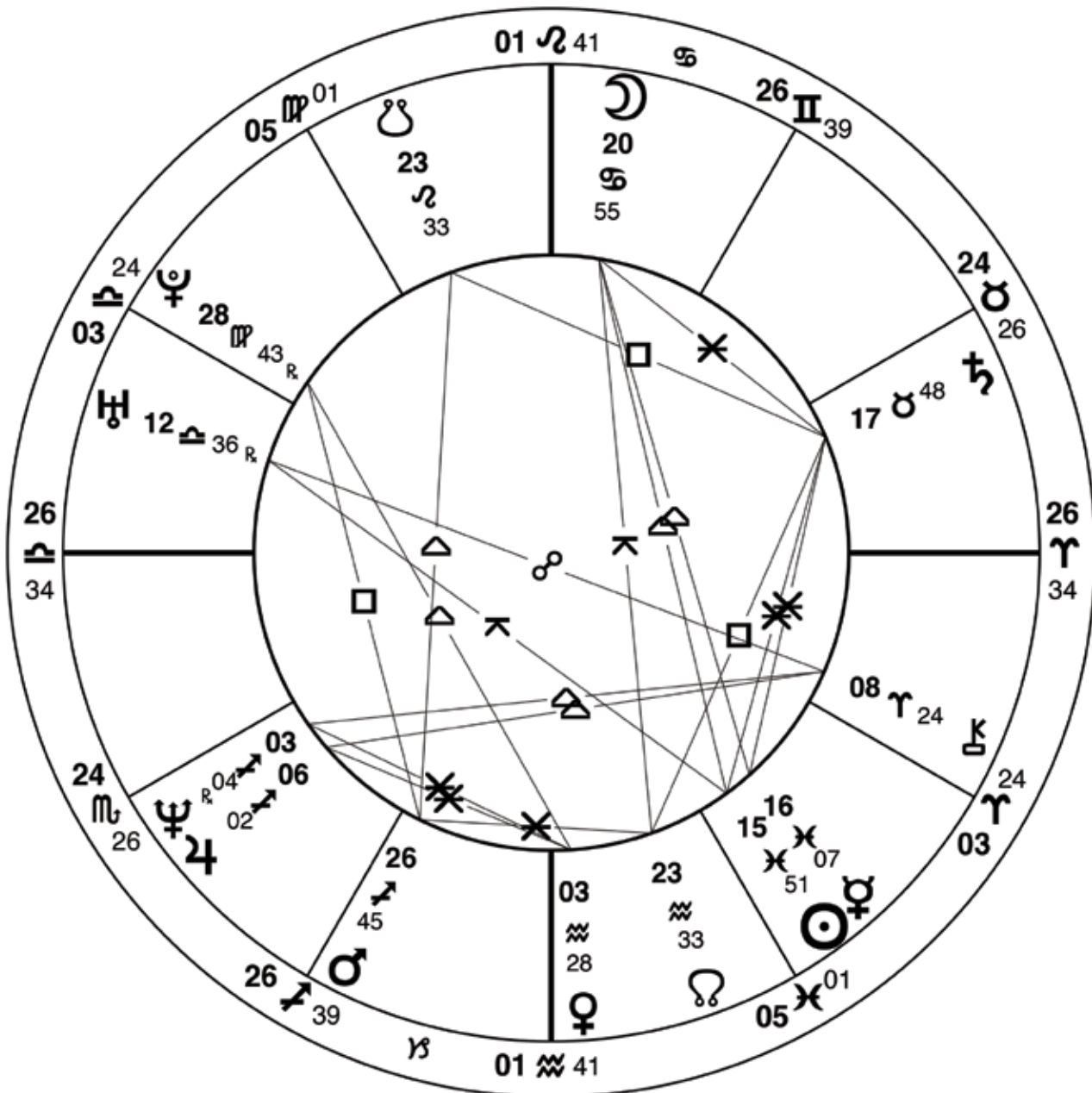
Natal Chart

Saturday, March 6, 1971

9:02:00 PM EST

Wareham, Massachusetts

Tropical Placidus True Node



A New Day

in astrological computing

Dawns

Solar Fire X

For PC and MAC

Improved Maps ★ Symmetrical Dials ★ Full Speculum
and Much More!

alabe.com ★ 1-800-843-6682



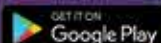
ASTROLABE

PO Box 1750, Brewster, MA 02631

TimePassages

FROM ASTROGRAPH.COM

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED SINCE 1995



TIMEPASSAGES MOBILE APP



Create and save Interactive Charts for you and all your friends, family, and clients, complete with interpretations for planetary placements and natal aspects.



Align with current and future influences by utilizing fully interpreted Transits, Secondary Progressions, and Solar Arc Progressions (Directions).



Compare Charts in synastry method, with full interpretations and six relationship categories including Attraction, Communication, and Finances.



Read your Daily Horoscope comprised of all the most important current transits to your own birth chart, categorized into six areas of life.



Up to the minute Current Astrology chart display with the Moon phase and sign, Void of Course, next Mercury Retrograde, interpretations of planet placements and aspects.

The Apps Pros Trust and Beginners Love

TIMEPASSAGES DESKTOP APP



DOWNLOAD THE FREE DEMO:
ASTROGRAPH.COM/DOWNLOADS

Follow us @timepassagesapp



DESKTOP FEATURES

	Basic	Standard	Advanced
Natal & Transit Charts with detailed interpretations	✓	✓	✓
Point & Click Interpretations for in-depth analysis	✓	✓	✓
Full Built-In ACS Atlas includes 250,000+ locations	✓	✓	✓
Comprehensive User's Manual	✓	✓	✓
25+ Chart Points including Chiron, Eris & many more	✓	✓	✓
Multiple House Calculation Methods	✓	✓	✓
Chart Patterns such as Seesaw and Fan, fully delineated	✓	✓	✓
Transiting Aspect Date Ranges including retrogrades	✓	✓	✓
Transit Timeline graphical display for transit timing	✓	✓	✓
Import/Export Charts from multiple file formats	✓	✓	✓
Adjustable Aspect Orbs for Natal, Transit & Comparison	✓	✓	✓
Aspect Grid including parallels and contra-parallel	✓	✓	✓
European Chart Wheel	✓	✓	✓
Rulerships & Exaltations for each house	✓	✓	✓
Secondary and Solar Arc Progressions	✓	✓	✓
Tri-Wheel Charts	✓	✓	✓
Time-Lapse Animation for transits and progressions	✓	✓	✓
Report Generator for natal report, transit survey, & more	✓	✓	✓
Natal Chart Rectification	✓	✓	✓
Comparison Bi-Wheel & Composite Charts	✓	✓	✓
Solar & Lunar Returns plus other Planetary Returns	✓	✓	✓
Graphical Ephemeris for transiting planets	✓	✓	✓
Astro Clock a realtime animated chart	✓	✓	✓
Planetary Midpoints including midpoint trees	✓	✓	✓
Astro Maps show planet lines on stunning satellite maps	✓	✓	✓
Fixed Stars Report	✓	✓	✓
Over 35 Arabic Parts with aspects to natal planets	✓	✓	✓
Harmonic Charts including 5th, 7th and 9th harmonics	✓	✓	✓
Sidereal Charts with square chart format	✓	✓	✓