Happy New Decade!

Holiday Blessings and Happy New Year to the OPA tribe. We complete the year 2019 and look forward to 2020 with great anticipation (I mean palpitation).

2019 was a wonderful year for OPA, and even though we did not have any event on location, many developments and processes took place this year:

- An expanding committed membership with well above 700 members from across the world, and new members from Chile.
- First OPA event in Australia, along with first Peer Group launched in Turkey and Greece.
- OPA East Bay chapter launched in California.
- The launch of the 2020 OPA Retreat, uniting astrologers in the most community-oriented conference format, in the beautiful natural setting of Zion National Park.
- OPA Articles translated into several languages.
- A newly active INSTAGRAM account, with ongoing video updates.
- More than 3000 members on our ASTROLOGY DISCUSSION Facebook Group.
- A new Fundamental Astrology Online Course.

You can find out more about these items on our website: opaastrology.org.

Keeping the OPA wheel spinning is a monumental effort that requires immense dedication from our board and from our satellites. We can really be so grateful for this super-productive team working on a voluntary basis. Thank you all.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the lesser seen agents who contribute just as much to making OPA amazing and interesting:

SARA FISK – our branding and Career Astrologer designer who works on tight deadlines and always delivers formidable results.

GEZ ABEL – Our video and Instagram wizard who is always available to provide the best recommendations and remind us how late we are with our submissions!

JEREMY KANYO and NANCY BEALE for their laser eye proof reading of the magazine under tight deadlines! And Nancy again for making sure subscribers get their printed copies.

GRANT JENSEN – Our website helper who, with Maurice, is on top of updating our website and fixing all bugs.

And then, all of you, UNITED RAINBOW COLORS OF OPA! United in different approaches to astrology, united in different levels of expertise, united in different cultures and time zones. We are a committed membership basis that supports the organization, and more globally, astrology as a practice.

As we march into the Jupiter/Saturn conjunction in Aquarius, astrology will undoubtedly gain tremendous presence in the mainstream. To meet those demands, we must continue to raise our standards and provide reliable references. Our work becomes critically important, and we thank you for your participation, support, and dedication.

A peak into OPA 2020

- New model for the Career Astrologer magazine, with exclusive “member only” section
- The 2020 OPA Retreat in April 2020, Zion National Park.
- OPA’s next book release, Essential Astrology
- The launch of our next I-Astrologer event in Europe

And much more… stay tuned!

With blessings,
Maurice Fernandez, OPA
The universe has plans for 2020, the year where “everything happens” – from dramatic cycles, to Solstice Eclipses, and both Venus and Mars retrograde cycles.

The HOT DEGREE ZONES – 20-28 Cardinal and 0-3 Fixed

Mark your calendar for a powerful celestial activation coming to your town!

**WELCOME TO 2020**

by Maurice Fernandez

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**ASTROLOGICAL MILESTONES**

- **Dec 26, 2019**
  - South Node Solar Eclipse at 4° Capricorn, conjunct Jupiter

- **January 10, 2020**
  - Lunar Eclipse at 20° Cancer

- **January 12, 2020**
  - Saturn/Pluto conjunction at 22° Capricorn, along with the Sun, Ceres, Chariklo, and Mercury.

- **April 1, 2020**
  - Mars/Saturn conjunction at 0° Aquarius.

- **April 4, 2020**
  - Jupiter/Pluto conjunction at 24° Capricorn

- **May 5, 2020**
  - Nodal Axis shifts to Gemini/Sagittarius

- **May 12 – June 24, 2020**
  - Venus Retrograde in Gemini

- **June 20, 2020**
  - Solar Eclipse on Solstice degree - 0° Cancer

- **July 5, 2020**
  - Lunar Eclipse at 13° Cancer

- **September 9 – November 13, 2020**
  - Mars Retrograde in Aries

- **October 14, 2020**
  - Mars Retrograde opposes the Sun at 21° Aries/Libra

- **December 21, 2020**
  - Jupiter/Saturn conjunction at 0° Aquarius

- **January 20, 2021**
  - Mars/Uranus conjunction at 6° Taurus square Jupiter in Aquarius
Looked at from a long, medium, and short-term historical perspective, 2020 marks a remarkable historical turning point.

2020 in its long-term historical perspective
To have four of the five outer planets in earth signs is rare. To have Jupiter, Saturn and Pluto in Capricorn, while Uranus is in Taurus has happened only one other year, in the 10,000-year period 4999 BCE to 4999 CE. 3838 BCE was the time of the Bronze Age and when there are first records of writing.

Belying its downgrading to dwarf-plan- et status by astronomers, Pluto has been in Capricorn at the key influential periods that have led to creation of today’s world.

In the pre-Christian period, it was there during the Trojan War (1195-1184 BCE), building of the Temple of Solomon (948-931 BCE), the writing of the Indian Upanishads and Greek Theogony (700 BCE), construction of the Greek Parthenon (455-429 BCE). Christianity was legalised in Rome and defined at the Council of Nicaea during the Pluto in Capricorn period 287-330 CE.

Building more intensely to the modern world, the 1515-44 CE Pluto in Capricorn periods saw the reformation, dissolution of the monasteries in England, the first cir- cumnavigation of the World, developing trade to the Far East, the expansion of Islam into Eastern Europe, India and further east, as well as the publication of Copernicus’ On the Revolution of Heavenly Bodies immediately after his death. These developments spearheaded the Enlightenment.

The cycle for the twenty-first century below, shows the period 2017-25 to have the most extreme shift from bottom to top throughout the two-hundred-year period.
Video of OPA live analyses available for OPA members

The 40-year anniversary of Margaret Thatcher’s election chart shows that the policy that emanated from monetarism is in the midst of its mid-life crisis. Uranus in Scorpio [revolutionary desire] is now opposed by Uranus in Taurus [revolutionary reality]. Neptune in Sagittarius [dreams of unstoppable possibility] is squared by Neptune in Pisces [there are too many victims / Cinderellas]. Pluto in Libra [dramatic rebirth of balance] is squared by Saturn, Pluto, and now Jupiter, in Capricorn [confrontation with reality].
So many historical trends concentrating on the 2020s. Will we start to see their nemesis in the coming year? The longer the historical issues remain unanswered, the more traumatic will be the change, when it does come.

**Key Astro Events of 2020**

**Saturn/Pluto conjunct in Capricorn**

Saturn/Pluto conjunctions in any sign occur at intervals between 31 and 38 years, depending on the irregularity of Pluto’s orbit. They mark traumatic structural turning points in world affairs. In 1947, the conjunction in Leo marked the beginning of the cold war. In 1982 the conjunction in Libra marked the UK’s victory in the Falklands War. This reinforced the previously faltering standing of Margaret Thatcher’s government, emboldening it to proceed with privatisation, financial deregulation and trade union reform. Complementing the US policy under Ronald Reagan, this was to establish Monetarism as the driving force of the world economy.

Conjunctions occurring in Capricorn are far rarer. In the period 1,000 to 3,000 CE, before 2020 the only previous dates were 1284 CE, the ducat became the standard currency of international trade (to be used up to the twentieth century) and, appropriately, the story of the Pied Piper is credited to that year.

1518, Martin Luther posted his theses on the door of Wittenberg Church.

Hence, change on two cyclic levels comes with this 2020 conjunction.

Firstly, a radical reassessment of the post-war economic recovery. The negative consequences of monetarism, expressing themselves in distribution of wealth and immigration imbalance, leading to the consequent frequency of natural disasters and social unrest.

Secondly, with the conjunction being in Capricorn, a deeper, longer-term social turning point in humanity’s view of its standing in the Universe. The Renaissance and the Enlightenment led to radical change in the knowledge and use of science and social authority structures. From now, this focuses on a struggle between power in the hands of every individual on the planet against the authorities attempts to contain it, PLUS the planet’s capacity to allow humanity to survive the onslaught.

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On the evening of 10 January, the Moon will be eclipsed by the Earth’s shadow, as a prelude to Saturn’s sole [in this cycle] exact conjunction to Pluto in Capricorn on the 12th. Mercury conjuncts both planets that day and the Sun the next, just as Venus enters Pisces. See this as the point that hard-headed realism will kick in, alongside or even in spite of the needs of the vulnerable. This dichotomy will dominate most of the year. Consideration will take a back seat and be replaced by the need to put into place strong reliable organisation that is designed to stand the test of time.

The problem is that different people and groups have different contradictory time scales and ways of organising. Goat-like pushing could harm those who resist and overwhelm the weak. As the momentum of determination increases, people could find themselves swept along into unexpected situations and experiences.

**Aquarian New Moon**

The Aquarian New Moon on 24 January sees Mercury also in the sign. This could be the first of several of the year’s previews to the much more substantial Jupiter/
Saturn conjunction on the cusp of Aquarius at the 2020 Winter Solstice. With Jupiter approaching Pluto and Saturn, all still in Capricorn, the urgent need to address very serious problems will remain paramount. However, we will begin to see a glimmer of what might be different through the 2020’s decade. Maybe people’s ideas will not get in the way of each other so much. Paradoxically, relying on the creation of immovable, solid structures [especially walls!] to resist what seems to threaten only addresses the short-term. It is likely to turn out unreliable if not accompanied by a working understanding of what seems to oppose us.

Relying on the creation of immovable, solid structures [especially walls!] to resist what seems to threaten only addresses the short-term. It is likely to turn out unreliable if not accompanied by a working understanding of what seems to oppose us. This is the message that Aquarius exists to give to Capricorn.

Take advantage of any opportunity to make friends through this cycle. For time is running short. 16 February, the day after the start of the fourth lunar quarter, Mars enters Capricorn to stir the organisational ‘pot’. Each person or group will ‘urgently need’ to get on with what ‘we know has to happen’. Getting in the way will not be wise!

Spring Equinox

With Mars conjuncting Jupiter in Capricorn eight hours after the 2020 Vernal Equinox, the drive behind the early Spring will be not only far more forceful, but more realistic, than usual. Expect anything instigated not to fade away, but to be sustained, as the Sun applies to square the Capricorn stellium through the month. Over-impulsive determination could find people forcing themselves upon one another without regard for the consequences. With Mars and Jupiter in Capricorn driving the momentum of the time, and Aries-ruler Mars due to retrograde in its sign late in the year, the distracted and unwise could easily find themselves swept along in a process they did not expect, wish for and certainly do not agree with. The conscious and wise will understand and pace themselves, letting the momentum work in their favour.
Summer Solstice and Solar Eclipse

Lack of understanding could make it very difficult to put right the anxiety and feelings of vulnerability that could well cloud the 2020 Summer Solstice. Earlier in the day, a Solar Eclipse will be visible from the Pacific Ocean through key flash points in Hong Kong, Asia and Yemen into Central Africa. It is at its longest at the spiritually important Mount Kailash in Tibet. Retrograding Mercury is virtually unspected. Venus, about to go direct in three days, is merely connected by a weak separating trine to Saturn.

The number of earth planets is reduced to Jupiter, Pluto and Uranus, but the first two are rising on the UK chart. It is the loosest part of the year, when breakthroughs should seem possible, but Saturn returns to Capricorn at the end of the month. Mars moves worryingly on in late Pisces; its hopeful conjunction with Neptune the previous week, now a distant memory. So much is needed! So little seems possible! The connections between the planets being insubstantial and hardly forward looking, this could be a dangerous time, when ill-considered actions could have dire consequences.

Avoid falling for the temptation. Sit back, watch, listen, observe. Let all feelings of negativity flow through and out of you inactivated. See and understand what is happening and its causes.

Autumn Equinox

The issues of the year are brought back to balance at the Autumn Equinox. In 2020, the Sun is almost unaspected, making just three very weak aspects. By way of contrast, Mercury in Libra is applying to oppose retrograding Mars to make a T-square with Jupiter, Pluto and Saturn in Capricorn. Within ten days Venus will be in Virgo. Again, five planets will be in earth signs, Venus making a grand trine to Taurus and Capricorn. Time to draw together the threads and get down to business, something new and improved, or to do everything possible to recover from what has gone wrong.
Whatever the difficulties, false moves, or disasters that have been experienced over recent years, the pressures building as the Winter Solstice marks a new astrological year will be very different.

Winter Solstice and Jupiter/Saturn conjunction in Aquarius

Whatever the difficulties, false moves, or disasters that have been experienced over recent years, the pressures building as the Winter Solstice marks a new astrological year will be very different. Change is coming to the UK! Mars in late Aries is gathering speed to enter Taurus early January 2021 and conjunct Aquarius' ruler - Uranus. Sun and Mercury in Capricorn apply to trine Uranus in the coming week. Venus is in Sagittarius near the Midheaven.

The conjunction marks the dawning of an Aquarian transformation. Bear in mind, however, that Jupiter and Saturn in Aquarius is not necessarily good in itself, or even better than what was before. In the sixteenth century, the Capricorn religious schism morphed into horrific executions and wars that were to blight the centuries that followed. In the eighteenth century, Pluto in Aquarius brought the American and French Revolutions and nineteenth and twentieth century social upheaval, yet to be resolved.

Whether it is for the worst, but hopefully for the best, the general mood as we enter this time will be that we cannot be held back any more by narrow protectionist counter-productive impositions on our lives. People will be tiring of those that insist we have to put up with this or that ‘way’ of being told what is impossible, or not in our interests. However, rebellion against the status quo could be mixed blessing. Some may insist on outcomes that bring harm, even destruction. So, it is important to encourage the humanitarian side of Aquarius. Not seek revenge, but understanding. Try to avoid arrogance. Be ready to learn and carry on learning, especially if from all appearances it is very likely you were right!

Badly used and abused the light of humanitarian hope can dim, even turn in on itself and become didactic and destructive. ‘Expert’ people and artificial intelligence machine systems could insist ‘they know what is best for us’. Humanity’s future will not be a happy one, if we emphasise the ‘know all’ attitudes that dominated the turn of the 20th/21st century, when Uranus and Neptune mutually received each other in Aquarius/Pisces. Not that again! It is vital to bring out Aquarius’ humanitarian quality – tolerance through universal understanding. Slow down! Remember, Pluto remains in Capricorn until 2023-24. There will still be much left to put right. Realise how very much more there is to realise, master and incorporate wisely. Only this way can we edge ourselves into a promising future.

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in our long-term history, the Jupiter Pluto conjunction is a 12.5 year cycle, and the Jupiter Saturn conjunction a 20 year cycle. The Saturn Pluto cycle, probably the most important of all this year, is a 31 to 38 year cycle, relative to the Pluto orbit.

The Jupiter – Pluto cycle may bring new leaders who can provide solutions to social problems. On the other hand we are going to have power and financial struggles among states and people. While this is not an uncommon thing, I believe that this year, such contentious issues around money may become more acute.

The Saturn – Pluto conjunction can bring huge success on a long term project, but it is also a great cycle for spirituality. This cycle can raise questions about inequalities in societies, problems with the environment, and turbulence in political affairs that is going to bring instability in international relations.

In the end the Jupiter – Saturn cycle is about finding a new way to respond to society’s problems and also about finally having a new paradigm of change and transformation.

Importantly, I believe that the Jupiter/ Saturn conjunction taking place at 0 degrees of Aquarius is the most profound and important cycle. While this conjunction occurs every 20 years, it will now shift to occur in a new element, the AIR SIGNS, for the next two centuries.

The last time we had a grouping of slow moving planets in the sign of Capricorn was 1989-1991, leading to significant events such as the collapse of the Soviet Union, the end of the Cold War, and including the fall of the Berlin Wall.

The upcoming changes of society

Societies are going to change, particularly the western world. Many of us agree that the system we live in is not sustainable and these transits may be the activating forces to create a climax of change. We can anticipate that many people will act in opportunistic ways in the midst of change, and possibly take advantage of the problems of the society to increase their profit and create even more problems and inequalities within our system. This includes self-destructive dictators and political leaders creating even more havoc and problems in our political situation. Yet, there is always a new beginning. As astrologers we strongly believe in the idea of creation and destruction - the new rise through an eternal cycle, like a breath: inhaling and exhaling. We need to understand the nature of the sign of Capricorn. This is the sign of the winter solstice, this is the sign when the Sun dies (in the Northern Hemisphere), but also, it is the time of light starting to return.

The Sedna cycle and its perihelion

Sedna is planet or a planetoid recently discovered in 2003. Her myth is of an Inuit Goddess of Marine Animals and the sea. The most common version of Sedna tells the story of a beautiful woman who was offered many marriage proposals but refused them all, until a hunter asked her father to grant her for his wife. To facilitate this marriage, her father gives her a sleeping potion while the hunter transforms himself into a bird and takes her to a nest. In order to save her from the bird spirits, her father throws her into the sea. Desperate, Sedna tries to cling to the Kayak while her father tries to take her hand. But she freezes, her fingers fall off, and she drowns, falling to the bottom of the sea and transforming to a sea goddess.

Sedna will be around 28 Taurus this year, forming a trine from Saturn in Capricorn and gradually with Pluto. Those aspects are going to change the ways we are dealing within society from 2020. This is going to change a lot on how the Saturn/Pluto/Jupiter conjunction will work; it may add a lot more intensity and depth in the current changes and how
those cycles work. Sedna can act as a universal multiplier and add more depth, bringing us close to what makes us human. The Perihelion (closest to the earth) of Sedna is in the Sign of Cancer while the Aphelion (farthest from the earth) is in the sign of Capricorn. While the Perihelion is only happening in the distant future, the year 2078, it echoes the current transits and eclipses in the axis of Cancer and Capricorn, an axis that has to do with foundations as law and order.

I believe that the trine of Sedna to Saturn and Pluto this year is going to be the ignition of a whole change around the notion of philosophy and what we think humanity is. We will feel severe changes in the way we are thinking and we’re going to have tremendous changes in the way our life is working. In the myth we have a young girl who is transformed to a Sea-Goddess; a life-threatening situation makes her into one of the most important Goddesses of the Inuit tradition. Her very slow speed and her orbit mark, whenever she touches something, very important matters. Wherever we have a strong planetary cycle that is going to be in any other aspect with another planet, the meaning of this cycle is going to take the color of this planet.

Some important keywords in the chart if we find Sedna are: The victim, abandonment, alienation, transformation, a sense of making things important and significant, like a planetary multiplier.

Therefore, from 2020 until 2080 we can expect possibly the greatest changes in humanity’s lifespan. We can refer to a second Axial Age. The term Axial Age was coined by the German philosopher Carl Jaspers who believed that there was a pivotal age, an incredibly important period from the 8th to the 3rd century BCE. Sedna in the next years will be closer to the center of the Solar System’s center in its orbit (perihelion), while the previous Axial age occurred when she was in her furthest point (Aphelion). I believe that when Sedna is in her farthest and closest points in her orbit, we will witness a surge of revolutionary ideas.

Additionally, the axis of Gemini and Sagittarius is the axis of the mental development of humanity. While Sedna during the Axial age was mostly in Sagittarius, now it will be on the sign of Gemini for most of the time (ingress into Gemini in 2023), the first time that it enters the sign of Gemini since the beginning of the Axial Age. Many ideas that were shaped during the previous Axial Age (8th to 3rd Century BCE) are going to deepen now. Historically this was a period that radically redefined our philosophies and perception of life and the universe, including the rise of culture in Greece, Persia, India, China. Some of the most important and recognizable philosophers, from Plato to Lao Tsu emerged, altering the ways people think. For example, during this axial new ethical references changed the concept of sacrifices offered to the gods. The Greek civilization in the West gave birth to philosophy, democracy, and tragedy. I believe that from 2020 until 2080, we are entering a new Axial Age that may bring fundamental changes to how the world works. 2020 may be the year that the Goddess once again falls into the deep waters, yet, while this crisis can bring a great deal of anxiety, it may transform humanity’s future in the same significant ways.

Singularity is coming

Singularity is a prophetic point in the future where technological growth may become so immense and irreversible that it completely alters human civilization. It is an important moment when our civilization will change so much because of technology that it is going to alter even the relationship we have with our bodies and our society. It is a paradoxical situation – a significant point in the theory of the future that is going to bring the merging of technology and humanity to a very intense level. We can talk about an explosive event, an explosion of intelligence, altering the understanding of our bodies, our concept of soul, and our idea of God. Jupiter – Saturn conjunction shifting from Earth to the Air signs is likely to further enhance technological advancement. I believe that technology is going to bring a lot of important answers to various problems we have about our health, but even our existence. The last cycle of Jupiter – Saturn in Air signs was 800 years ago.

I believe that the upcoming technological singularity is going to solve the environmental crises as the earth is screaming. Despite the potential upheavals and even dramatic earth events, we can expect that from 2020 to 2080, we will upgrade our whole cosmology and integrate concepts such as cloning, body alterations, consciousness, concepts of the soul, and perhaps access our own immortality.

Christos Archos was born in Athens in 1982 and his interest in humanity started very early. After having completed his undergraduate studies at the University, he went to England where he completed his postgraduate studies in Counseling Psychology and Clinical Psychology and subsequently gained specialization in Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy. He is the VP for ISAR in Greece and the President of the Mediterranean and Balkan Astrology Research Center. https://www.christosarchos.gr/
I work in the field of finance and know all too well the impact of poor financial planning. I am also well aware that there are times when an individual is faced with financial misfortune that is clearly not of their own making and which requires them to review their general position. Though I am not so naïve as to think that all situations can be turned around, I have seen enough examples of re-emergence of financial security to know that no situation lasts forever and that astrology can help in identifying those moments when situations will alter and when the native can develop natural talents to advantage.

Poverty – real or imagined – all too often leads to ill-health and dis-ease. Before considering the potential for financial dis-harmony in 2020, it is wise to be aware that focusing on what could go wrong can make that a reality and incumbent on each of us to remember that the cosmos always offers a balance and that at the end of what could be a tumultuous year, the financial tables will turn.

TIPS FOR SELF-INVESTMENT

Although the much-noted Capricorn stellium becomes exact in January 2020, the joint forces of Jupiter, Saturn and Pluto have been at work for some time. Saturn and Pluto have been in close parallel aspect since 2016 with Jupiter joining them through many months of 2019. You don't have to look far to see examples of the influence of these planetary vibrations - in taxation and reminders of the need to attend to estate planning and pension arrangements. Many have also experienced sharp reminders of the need for a financial cushion or safety-net. Others though have done exceedingly well by focusing on stocks in companies providing essential services – a trend that will likely continue.

Whereas earlier generations (under the influence of the Earth series of Jupiter-Saturn conjunctions) adopted the practice of saving first and buying later, many are only now regretting the levels of debt that they have built up. They openly acknowledge that they should have saved more. Some are facing the awful reality of poverty in retirement.

The gulf between ‘haves and have nots’ has widened with many people now used to living on the edge. Some traders are aware of financial fault lines opening and fear these becoming chasms – with potentially devastating consequences - whilst others are positioned to take advantage of an altered financial landscape by ‘shorting’ currencies or stocks.

Note that the three planets dominating the January 2020 stellium have been on one side of the Sun for many months. When joined by Mercury and Venus, the pull on our special star will surely be very great. This could lead to rare outburst of solar activity with extraordinary effect on terrestrial weather. No matter the actions of CEOs or politicians, the forces of nature will likely demand us all to rethink our ways of living. Indeed, it could be argued that investing in appropriate infrastructure, clothing etc to work with revised weather systems is as – if not more – important than determining where best to put our savings and cushioning our future.

SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS

The antidotes to the global financial disaster of just over a decade ago were variable. The remedies of austerity as opposed to quantitative easing have each been found wanting. National debt has increased. As Pluto makes its way through the last decanate (last ten degrees) of Capricorn, attention is likely to turn to the bond market where collapse is likely inevitable. This could yet have devastating effect on pensions. The valuation of some companies must also surely be considered suspect and lead to loss in the value of their shares.

It is unreasonable to assume that all banks (Capricorn institutions) will survive and therefore imperative to spread risk i.e. do not exceed protected savings limits. There are thousands of banks in the world. We cannot hope to identify which will fail and which will survive – though we might reasonably hazard a guess that the banks of nations (Capricorn) and whose logo suggests Jupiter in Capricorn (perhaps with an eagle or mountain or regal coloured emblem) will be in the news. This is not to say that these will necessarily fail but that it is their charts that are likely worthy of careful scrutiny.

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If we lose trust in banks and governments, where can we put our trust and savings?

Whilst so much attention is given to the Capricorn end of the zodiac, we should also give thought to its opposite, Cancer. With so much activity on this axis, we are crossing the portal to a whole new world where security is concerned. With this knowledge surely it is wise to give extra attention to basic security in the form of preserving good health as well as internet security and, especially, protection against identity theft.

If we lose trust in banks and governments, where can we put our trust and savings? Self-investment should come high on our list but so too should family and property concerns. Family is more than just blood relatives and includes those to whom we feel soul-tied. We might wish to invest in their businesses or consider investments in small holdings and local transport arrangements. When times are tough, there is no greater importance than friends and neighbours who will help when the chips are down.

VENUS AND MARS RETROGRADES and OUT OF BOUNDS

Both Venus and Mars have retrograde periods in 2020. As in 2001, Venus turns retrograde first in Gemini in the course of May-July. It is absolutely not the case that indices take a downward turn at every Venus retrograde, but is often the case that in the 80 days preceding the retrograde station, that an index loses value. Clearly this factor alone is insufficient information on which to trade. If however, you have some knowledge of technical analysis and can factor this information with that knowledge, then you could perhaps choose to realise profit by selling ahead of the retrograde station.

Venus’ retrograde station on May 13th comes two days after Saturn retrogrades and two days before Jupiter reaches its retrograde station. This 'time-midpoint' is more than a little interesting in that Mars makes Pisces ingress on May 13th. At the very least we should expect a fair ground ride of financial twists and turns during the week beginning May 11th.

In recent years Venus’ Libra ingress has coincided with downturns in many indices. In 2020, this event coincides with Mercury (then retrograde) slipping back into Libra on October 28th – a key stock market anniversary date (1929) and ‘within orb’ of the Taurus Full Moon that coincides with the Sun’s opposition to Uranus. This too could be a trying investment week.

The situation with Mars retrograde in Aries, from September to November, is not dissimilar: once again a fall in indices values is probable after the retrograde station on September 9th. Yes, this is a simplistic view and it is certainly not enough information on which to trade. The fact that we have these potential negative periods though is worthy of consideration. Either period marks potential buying opportunity.

ECLIPSES, THE NODAL AND BUSINESS CYCLES

There is a recognized two decade long cycle that dovetails the nodal cycle of 18.618 years and the Jupiter-Saturn cycle. The former is marked by eclipses which, from the financial perspective, may be viewed as knots in the commercial chain e.g. when an eclipse contacts a company chart, urgent steps need to be taken – usually as a result of crisis.

In 2020 there is a solar eclipse at the powerful 0 Cancer degree on the June Solstice. An eclipse on a World Axis degree is vitally important. Companies, people and countries with zero degrees of the Cardinal signs or 15 degrees of the Fixed signs (45 from the solstice and equinox points) will reach turning points. Obviously much depends on the actual charts involved but, as a generalization, we may say that these will reach a turning point or plateau. This could be particularly true of companies involved in home improvement – or any ‘Cancer’ linked industry: restaurants, care homes included.

If you are invested in these companies, then, from the start of the year, read through press releases carefully, ask questions and take note of where in their chart, the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction at 0 Aquarius will fall. Whilst this need not necessarily be in their research and development department, it is the house in which this falls that might warrant extra investment as regards making use of new developments – most likely in artificial intelligence.

Obviously, to make best use of this new Aquarian cycle, it will be necessary to have capital available to explore new areas. This underlines the need to read company balance sheets carefully to ensure that they are not so debt-ridden that they have limited resources available to explore new areas.

You should also note where this conjunction will fall in your own chart and view this as a seed moment for your own development. Please note that this does not have to include either new technology or anything you believe to be harmful. It could be that you are drawn toward Aquarian (co-operative) ventures that are anti-these developments. It is absolutely worthwhile building your Grand Mutation Financial Pot to fund new adventures. The point here is that this conjunction is a marker for developing and using an alternative financial system or strategy.

OUT OF BOUNDS CONDITIONS

2020 is important in that the Moon, Mercury, Venus and Mars each move out of bounds during the year. Mercury has three Out of Bound periods during 2020. (22 Dec 2019 – 12 Jan 2020, 16 May – 9 June and 12 December 2020 – 4 January 2021). Each of these periods will likely coincide with significant commercial activity. The Moon has out of bounds days every month of 2020 whilst Venus – which doesn’t achieve this status every year – is out of bounds from April 2nd to June 1st. There are dates then when both the Moon and Venus share this condition. Both have connections with money and finance and we might reasonably deduce that on these dates especially there might – at the very least – be panicked behavior around financial matters. History suggests this to be the case. Both the Moon and Venus were out of bounds in May 2002 when the S&P
SKINNER

index achieved a minor high on 17th of that month and from then declined for six months. A repeat is possible.

MARS in ARIES

Finally, Mars makes Aries Ingress on June 28th and stays in that sign for the remainder of 2020. Controlling finances could prove a hard task! Mars will likely burn a hole in the savings pocket. The temptation to spend, spend, spend will surely be irresistible to some (especially those with Fiery Moons). For this group, crisis management may be necessary during Mars’ retrograde period mid-September to mid-November. This could be particularly pronounced if those same individuals began enterprises during Uranus’ transit of Aries (2003-2010). In the same vein technology companies that were incorporated during those years will surely see volatility in their share prices.

It is true that every year brings financial challenge but arguably 2020 will require special care. My personal approach is to avoid calamity, focus on security but also be ready to take advantage of the opportunities likely to present after Mars turns direct (almost exactly coinciding with the Jupiter Pluto conjunction that marks the start of a new wealth cycle) and the Jupiter-Saturn alignment at the December solstice.

Christeen Skinner © November 2019

Christeen Skinner  D.F.Astro,S, FRSA
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www.cityscopes.com

Trustee: Urania Trust, Director Alexandriaibase Project and Chair, Advisory Board, NCG
Holder: Charles Harvey Award 2019
Mars Retrograde in Aries 2020: Passion and Conflict

by Lynn Bell

Mars is our first outer planet. At birth it pushes us out of the womb. Of the personal planets, it is the first, apart from the Moon, to leave the close confines of the Sun and reach into a wider sphere of life. Mars takes us out of familiar territory into the unknown. This is its role, but what happens when Mars is retrograde?

We know that retrogrades are the apparent backwards motion of a planet in the sky. Ancient astrologers were keenly aware of these shifts in motion, and saw them as negative indicators. Mars retrogrades once every two years for a little over two months. The cycle is irregular, not all signs are visited with the same frequency. This year Mars will be powerful in its own sign, Aries, and it will also square both Saturn and Pluto, three times. The stage is set in 2020 for a pushback against the authoritarian forces that have been growing in the world. Success is not guaranteed, but Mars's strength in its own sign will give power to challengers, and hope to insurgents through the summer. However, if things go badly it could increase the brutality of both those in power and their challengers, leading to potentially tragic events. There are times when the madness of violence invades the collective. We must all hope to avoid this, the most destructive face of the god of War. The moment of the retrograde, less than two months before the American elections, can correspond to a loss of traction for the opposition forces.

Mars will retrograde September 9, 2020 at 28°03 Aries and turn direct on November 13 2020, at 15°13 Aries. The shadow period will last from July 24th to January 2, 2021.

This key Mars Retrograde will occur leading up to and during the US presidential elections, which will be examined more fully later in this article. It also has a mirror relationship with the 2014 Mars Retrograde at 27°31 Libra, the opposite sign of the zodiac. Events of that time included the kidnapping of 276 schoolgirls in Nigeria by Islamic fundamentalists, the invasion and annexation of the Crimea, and an Ebola outbreak in West Africa. We can expect conflict in the Sahel region of Africa will expand in 2020 and perhaps break out into a larger war, fuelled by Boko Haram and other insurgent groups. Immense mineral wealth lies in these desolate regions, including large uranium reserves. The dates of this mirror retrograde, which also marked Russia's annexation of the Crimea, were March 1 to May 20, 2014. The Ukraine remains a 'hot zone' in global politics.

Mars retrograde may be considered weak in certain parts of the astrological tradition, but it is still Mars. Things are hectic, intense, fast moving. Whenever a retrograde Mars has activated my own chart, it has brought a surplus of activity, kept me off balance and overactive. I've observed something similar with others. Squares conjunctions and oppositions from Retrograde Mars to natal planets stir things up. They energise the chart, often in a reactive way. During its retrograde Mars may spend six months in the same sign, intensifying a particular area of the zodiac, as opposed to 45 days per sign in regular direct motion. On a personal level it can be exhilarating or conflictual. It is rarely comfortable.

In a natal chart the retrograde of Mars is experienced quite differently, the roughly 66 days of retrograde, can become 66 years in secondary progressions, a slow movement against the signs, which lasts much of a lifetime. This often translates into a trajectory away from the status quo. Conformity is almost impossible for Mars retrograde individuals, as they have difficulty responding to external pressure.

It's important to remember that Mars is always retrograde at the moment it opposes the Sun, and while some see this as a potential for consciousness, it can also emphasis a maximum waywardness and challenge to authority. So we have examples of natal Mars retrograde like the gangster Al Capone, an enemy of society. Mark Zuckerberg was also born with Mars retrograde in opposition to the Sun. He has influenced millions of people to redirect their time in ways that no one had imagined.

This key Mars Retrograde will occur leading up to and during the US presidential elections.

Videos of OPA live presentations are available for OPA members.
redirect the flow. Over a lifetime, retrograde Mars is involved in a process of rediscovery, and the need to find a new relationship between will and authority. The light of the Sun needs to be found internally if conflict is to be avoided.

**Mars Retrograde in Aries: Looking Back**

During the 20th century Mars retrograded wholly or partially into Aries just a few times; in 1909, 1941, 1973, and 1988. I have looked at three of these passages as well as a counterpart to the retrograde; Mars retrograde in Libra in 1935. Each of these cycles has a different arc. They correspond to shifts in power, extremes of aggression, a rebalancing of economic and global influence, and the rise of previously unknown dangers. Conflicts may end, and others swirl into being from unexpected quarters. Some of the differences in how these periods manifest, are linked to the interface with larger cycles.

**Mars Retrograde in Libra square Pluto 1973: Rebalancing World Economic Power**

A certain number of conflicts begin and end with Mars retrograde. The initial surprise of an invasion may give way to quick changes and reversals, as it did in 1973, during the 21 day October War between the Arab States and Israel. Mars began its retrograde at 9° Taurus on September 19, 1973. This cycle is relevant for us today for a number of reasons. Saturn and Pluto were in an exact square at that time, and this is a key cycle for Israel and Palestine, since the conjunction was in effect at the moment of the founding of Israel. Saturn was also conjunct the South Node at that time, as it has been much of 2019. On October 6, 1973, a coalition of Arab countries invaded Israel, making quick territorial gains, especially in the Sinai Peninsula. However these successes were quickly reversed, and Israeli soldiers surrounded Egyptian forces in the Sinai as well as invading Syria. After interventions on opposing sides by the United States and the Soviet Union, a cease fire was negotiated on October 25th. But we must not make the mistake of thinking that all Mars retrograde periods will be met with immediate failure. Such can have larger, more long lasting repercussions. During the 1973 conflict OPEC made the decision to stop sending oil to the United States, driving worldwide prices for oil over just a few months. This triggered a recession, and forever changed the dynamics of global politics.

There was also a new connection between the continents of Asia and Europe made at this time. One day after Mars slipped back into Aries, on October 29, 1973, the Bosphorous bridge in Istanbul was completed. It’s fascinating that this real world connection arrived just as the West could no longer ignore the Arab world, and the larger relationship with the Middle East. Mars Retrograde interfacing with the larger collective cycles works to destabilize existing power structures. The 1973 Mars retrograde also corresponded to important events during the Watergate scandal, including the infamous Saturday night massacre, where a wayward president Nixon was under investigation by Congress. This combination of the Saturn Pluto and Mars Retrograde will be present in 2020.

**Mars Retrograde in Libra square Pluto 1935: A Return to Power in Germany**

Another Mars retrograde with parallels to 2020 began on February 27, 1935, when Mars turned retrograde at 24° Libra 37, in an exact square to Pluto, and opposition Uranus. Just before the retrograde, the industrial Saar region voted to be reunited with Germany, after 15 years under British and French control. This vote gave Hitler access to manufacturing and coal, and the power to build the Third Reich. In the following two months, he would announce the creation of the Luftwaffe, the German Air Force, give the order to build 12 submarines, and reinstate the draft. He openly defied the treaty of Versailles, and reasserted German power and sovereignty under this Mars Retrograde. Hitler’s Ascendent at 26° 41’ Libra is intimately involved with this cycle. A French, British, and Italian coalition was formed to counter Hitler’s aggressions, with little effect. It’s interesting to note that in a previous Mars retrograde, in early Aries in 1909, a 20 year old Hitler left his lodgings in Vienna, and spent several months homeless, in tattered clothes, sleeping on park benches. What happens in one Mars retrograde cycle can be reversed in another. In 1909 Mars retrograded into Pisces, finishing with a square to Pluto in the sky and mirroring the opening Mars/Pluto square in 1935.

**1941 - Mars retrograde in Aries: Barbarism Unleashed through WWII**

On September 7th 1941 Mars stationed retrograde at 23°43 Aries, just 3 degrees from Hitler’s Descendant, and opposite the 1935 retrograde. These six year oppositions are part of the Mars Retrograde cycle. They link two periods in time. In 1935 Germany reclaimed its power, in 1941 it was used to devastating effect. Just days before the retrograde the Nazis first used Zyklon B at Auschwitz to execute Soviet prisoners of war. In September alone, over 70,000 Soviet citizens, mostly Jews, were massacred by German paramilitary death squads (Einsatzgruppen D) in the Ukraine, in the Nikolaev and Babi Yar massacres. During this time the destructive power of the god of War was fully unleashed. Perhaps significantly, Mars is without any major aspect to the outer planet cycles. It may give greater scope for Mars to let loose, without constraint. When working with Mars retrograde in Mundane astrology, the whole cycle is relevant. That includes the shadow period on either side of the retrograde, the moment Mars reaches the degree where it will later make its direct station. After it turns direct the shadow extends to the degree where it originally turned retrograde. Towards the end of the Shadow period, in 1941, Pearl Harbor was bombed and the United States declared war on Japan.

**1988: Mars Retrograde in Aries/ Pisces: The End of Conflict and invisible Enemies**

The 1988 retrograde Mars went from 11° Aries to 29°53 Pisces. Just prior to the retrograde, the ten year Iran Iraq war came to an end, it seemed a cycle of aggression was exhausted. Yet another organisation would spring up; Osama Bin Laden secretly formed Al Qaeda, anticipating the Russian
retreat from Afghanistan. While on the outside the end of the war seemed promising, the warriors who had been trained in jihad vowed to continue. A totally new weapon also came into being with the launching of the first computer virus, the Morris Worm on November 2, 1988. Mars was at 0 Aries square Saturn and Uranus in late Sagittarius. The worm signalled a whole new form of possible warfare. Its inventor, a doctoral student named Robert Tappan Morris, spent 3 years in jail for his out of control experiment.

Mars Retrograde in 2020: Passion and Conflict in the US Elections

Mars will retrograde September 9, 2020 at 28°03 Aries, and turn direct on November 13, 2020, at 15°13 Aries. The shadow period will last from July 24th, 2020, to January 2, 2021.

In horary astrology Mars retrograde is clearly at a disadvantage, and in event charts would be a counter indication for those areas ruled by Aries or Scorpio. Timing is off, and results can come precipitously; they can also be easily reversed. More importantly the motivation of Mars is inconstant, and sometimes can fall away completely. With this placement, we are moving away from a previous desire, an earlier goal, or one imposed from outside that we do not agree with. Mars will be the retrograde ruler of the Scorpio Ascendant as Americans go to the polls on November 3, 2020 at 6:00 am EST.

Mars in Aries calls up courage, gives power to individual outrage. It can sustain us in the face of danger, or spill into wildness and destruction. This Mars retrograde will mark a turning point for all of us. As we have seen in previous cycles Mars retrograde redirects power, and no matter what the outcome of the US presidential elections, authoritarian impulses will be countered and weakened by the courage of a few individuals. This Mars retrograde gives hope in the face of the power grab inherent in the Saturn Pluto conjunction.

While he may not become the candidate, Bernie Sanders’s voice and his ideas will be all over the 2020 elections As a natal Mars retrograde, the return of the retrograde Mars cycle to his own chart indicates a time of destiny.

Bernie Sanders was born the day after Mars went retrograde in 1941, with Mars at 23°42 Aries conjunct his natal Moon. He has always been an independent, and in typical retrograde fashion has succeeded in moving the political dialogue in a counterclockwise direction. The transits to his birth chart are difficult next year, and he had a minor heart attack in October, 2019, which is not an encouraging sign for the rigours of the Presidential campaign. While he may not become the candidate, his voice and his ideas will be all over the 2020 elections. As a natal Mars retrograde, the return of the retrograde Mars cycle to his own chart indicates a time of destiny.

(Bernie Sanders born September 1, 1941, Brooklyn Heights, NY no time, use noon)

The power of the retrograde Mars square to Pluto and Saturn describes a heated, dirty election in the United States. Barbarism will be present and the viciousness of attacks may be head-spinning. On election day, Mercury is also retrograde, and square the triple conjunction of Jupiter, Pluto and Saturn. This is a signature for potential manipulation and propaganda.

President Trump may increasingly lose allies, given the Pluto/Saturn opposition to his natal 11th house Venus/Saturn. While he may well win the election, his coalition could be fissured and damaged. His eclipse-born strength has given him an invulnerability to shadow issues until now. We can expect that he will be significantly wounded after the November elections. While Trump is an incumbent, he still presents himself as an outsider, a usurper of the ‘Deep State’. His strong natal Mars will be supported by a trine from the transiting retrograde, strengthening his chances, despite a fall in popularity.

Joe Biden’s enduring popularity is reflected by his Taurus Moon and an exalted Jupiter trine Sun Venus and Mercury in Scorpio. Recent attacks on his integrity and especially his son Hunter, are attempts to destroy his likability, to call into question his solidity in the minds of voters. The Pluto/Saturn square Mars will be in aspect to his Jupiter, and can temporarily wound his better self. Uranus transiting his Moon has been a highly destabilising influence, and while the transit will be over before the primaries, it may be too late for Biden to recover.

(Joe Biden born November 20, 1942, Scranton, PA @ 8:30am)
The candidate who seems most involved with the Mars retrograde and the Saturn Pluto conjunction is Pete Buttigieg. Based on astrology alone, I would choose him as a warrior to take on Trump. Buttigieg is born under the 1982 Saturn Pluto conjunction, giving him an inherent instinct for the cycle, as well as the toughness to handle this often crushing combination. As a veteran, a Rhodes scholar and a Harvard graduate, Buttigieg has an admirable record. He is also a gay man from the midwest; he knows what it is like to be both part of and different from the surrounding community. His Sun is at 29° Capricorn in a tight square to the Mars Retrograde station at 28°. Before and after the retrograde, Mars will square his own natal Pluto and Saturn. This coincidence with the collective transits means he can play a significant role in challenging the direction of events during the year.

Capricorn) and Tulsi Gabard (Sun 22 Aries, Venus 24). But the candidate who seems most involved with the Mars retrograde and the Saturn Pluto conjunction is Pete Buttigieg. Based on astrology alone, I would choose him as a warrior to take on Trump. Buttigieg is born under the 1982 Saturn Pluto conjunction, giving him an inherent instinct for the cycle, as well as the toughness to handle this often crushing combination. As a veteran, a Rhodes scholar and a Harvard graduate, Buttigieg has an admirable record. He is also a gay man from the midwest; he knows what it is like to be both part of and different from the surrounding community. His Sun is at 29° Capricorn in a tight square to the Mars Retrograde station at 28°. Before and after the retrograde, Mars will square his own natal Pluto and Saturn. This coincidence with the collective transits means he can play a significant role in challenging the direction of events during the year.

(pete buttigieg born January 19, 1982 no time, South Bend Indiana, use noon)

We will need heroes during the Mars retrograde in Aries - those who are able to stand up to the abuse of power, and redirect our attention, like Capricorn Greta Thunberg. Mars retrograde, after all, is changing its relationship to the Sun, trying to find an inward directness rather than bend to outer authority. When Mars goes out of control it is terrible, when it serves us to change course, to be more aligned with our true purpose, it can work for the greater good.

Lynn Bell is a Paris based consulting astrologer, author and teacher with a psychological and archetypal approach to astrology. Her book Planetary Threads, explores the archetypal patterns that run through families. A long time tutor for the Centre for Psychological Astrology, Lynn now teaches for MISPA online, as well as Astrology University, and the LSA, and guest teaches at the faculty of Astrological Studies Summer school in Oxford. She has lectured and taught at many of the major conferences in the world, from Australia, to Bali, China, most of Europe, the United States, Canada, South Africa, and India. In 2016 Lynn received the Charles Harvey Award for exceptional service to astrology. She is the author of Cycles of Light: Solar Returns, as well as co author of the Mars Quartet. Lynn is particularly interested in connecting ideas from ancient astrology to a psychological and spiritual approach to the individual. www.lynnbellastrology.com

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PART I TRACKS

Track 1 • Shannon Gill • Embodying the Asteroids: Resurrecting the Divine Within
Track 2 • Öner Döşer • Horary Astrology
Track 3 • Arlan Wise • Writing Workshop for Astrologers
Track 4 • Anne Ortelee • Predictive Astrology - Techniques and Analysis - SOLD OUT
Track 5 • Christopher Renstrom • Jupiter and Saturn: The Two Faces of Fortune (Natal and Transit)
Track 6 • Donna Young • The Foundations of Astrology: Integrating Signs, Planets, Houses
Track 7 • Maurice Fernandez • Physical and Mental Health in the Chart - SOLD OUT
Track 8 • Roy Gillett • Astrology, Karma, and Regeneration in the Chart
Track 9 • Monica Dimino • Declinations in the Chart: Exploring a New Dimension
Track 10 • Kay Taylor • Astrology of Relationships: - SOLD OUT
Track 11 • Chris McRae • Planetary Patterns That Challenge Our Soul Growth
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- Giving and receiving readings as we integrate newly refined consulting skills with astrological guidance.

Group Leaders
Kay Taylor and Moon Zlotnick
- max. 18 participants

Astronomy for Astrologers
Learning about the chart through direct connection with the sky.

Sunday April 26
5:30pm-8pm Introduction to naked eyes view of the Night Sky

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
9:30am to 4:30pm Class Sessions

Monday - Theory: Cross of Matter, Circle of Spirit
Astronomical origins of glyphs, Signs versus Constellations, the Three Zoic (Sidereal, Tropical, Constellational), Equinoxes and seasons.

- Tuesday - House Systems Finding the Ascendant and the MC in the heavens
- Wednesday - The Great Year and the Astrological Ages
  The Precession of the Equinoxes and the Astrological Ages, Heliacal rising and setting of fixed stars

Monday, Tuesday
8:30pm Night Sky sessions

Group Leader
Gemini Brett
Interview with Lee Lehman

I.D
Email: lee@leelehman.com
Website: www.leelehman.com
Your family: white US Midwest academic
Religious background and conditioning? Northern Presbyterian – but it didn’t take
Spiritual orientation – Do you follow any specific practice? The practice of kindness and compassion. I’m not always very good.
What’s the worst thing and then, the best thing about you? Anger, and curiosity.
You never tried… wilderness canoeing
You can’t refuse… a good single-malt with a dash of water
Your animal totem? I think when Philip Pullman came up with the idea that the daemon settled into one animal at just after puberty, that he wasn’t thinking about mutable signs. Today my totem (or daemon) is a hawk, because one showed up outside my office window, and so it is communicating with me something about myself. Sometimes, it is a cat. Sometimes, it is an otter. Sometimes it is a squirrel, a fox, a goose, a dachshund, or a heron. I figure it is any animal that I feel in my heart.
Your superstition? That the arc of history bends toward justice.
Your Chinese sign and element? Water snake
Your favorite place on earth? The Duomo in Milan when the organist is playing Bach’s Toccata and Fugue
What would you define is an important evolutionary lesson for you in this life? Evolution is for biological organisms, not spirituality.
Your chart: Triple Virgo, Mars rising in Leo

YOUR PRACTICE
Where do you live and practice? The Red Zone around Asheville NC. But really – my practice is cyberspace.
How long have you been practicing – How did it start? 43 years or so. It started when one of my thesis advisers asked for a reading when he heard I was learning astrology.
Your Astrology teachers? Doris Hebel, Olivia Barclay
Your Astrology hero? William Lilly
3 favourite Astrology books? Lilly’s Christian Astrology; Bonatti’s Book of Astronomy; Ibn Ezra’s Book of Nativities (Sefer Ha-Moladitt)
What do you feel is your greatest accomplishment to date in your astrology career? My students. Whatever we can discover individually is dwarfed by introducing others to the wonder, and sending them on trajectories to discover more.
What made it possible for you to become a full time astrologer? The Millennium. I was a computer consultant, and the fear of what was going to happen to dates come 1 January 2000 was so high that in 1999, I had a banner year converting dates in programs. This allowed me to go into 2000 with a financial cushion.
What is the great thing and the hard thing about being an astrologer? Doing your passion, and sacrificing, because it’s tough to survive financially on your passion.
What are your future ambitions in the field of astrology? Writing, teaching, consulting. Over the last year, I have been doing a lot of individual tutoring, and I very much enjoy it.
What inspires you to be an OPA member? I have watched OPA for a long time, and OPA is committed to bringing people along toward better practice.

Any advice for those who would like to become professional astrologers? First, clear up your debts. You can make a decent living at astrology, and live well, but debts can hold you back. Second, learn as much about life in general as you can - and keep learning. The breadth of your experiences defines the possibilities you can imagine for your clients.
What question do you wish we’d asked you, and what would the answer be? What is the hardest thing about being a classical astrologer? I am answering this for my students, because actually there was no hard thing about me being a classical astrologer. But when I look past the culture wars about this, I feel that one of the biggest remaining obstacles is that many people believe that innovation and creativity have no place in classical astrology, whereas modern astrology is all about these matters.

In actuality, understanding a method within its social, historical, and philosophical concepts is only eclipsed as an exercise of intelligence by the process of truly learning how to apply it in your own circumstances. Paracelsus was completely right about the need to fully understand something through all portions of the mind – intuitive, as well as intellectual, spiritual, and compassion. If you think you need to invent something just to put your name on it, you have completely missed the point. True creativity is understanding something from the inside out.
Book Review
Review by Arlan Wise

THE BOOK OF EARTH
Making It Real

BY STEVEN FORREST

Steven Forrest’s The Book of Earth-Making It Real is a thorough exploration of the unique qualities of the earth element. The earth family consists of the signs Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn; the planets Venus, Mercury, Saturn; and the houses 2, 6, and 10. The work of the earth family is to ground us, to turn dreams into reality, to bring spirit into flesh. Earth accomplishes the “process of sacred manifestation”. It is needed in order for us to succeed in accomplishing our purpose in this lifetime.

Steven writes detailed yet accessible descriptions of the three earth clans. He then demonstrates how to put an earth planet in a sign, in a house, and then “makes it real” by giving more descriptions of those three planets in the twelve signs and the twelve houses. Steven then goes on to show us how to use these planets in transits, progressions, and solar arcs.

Steven’s work shows the evolutionary lesson of your specific chart. He gives us new definitions for the signs which encourage different ways of thinking about them. He provides us with new vocabulary to use with our clients to encourage deeper self-examination. He teaches that Taurus is a sign of silence. Virgo is connected with lineage and mentoring. Capricorn is the survival of the fittest. Saturn is “The planet that gives us the ability to do what we do not feel like doing”. He has an inspiring take on a Saturn transit – that it is “time to take the next step forward.” Since two powerful outer planets are currently in earth signs and will be there for the coming years, this book gives a deeper understanding on what is happening now.

The second half of the book contains much of Steven’s wisdom on how to read and use astrology. His writing has loosened up since the first volume and has become more playful and humorous. He states that we need earth to make good choices, but states that astrology is about knowledge and self-awareness rather than prediction. He writes: “When it comes to specific predictions, we can only set some boundaries around the possibilities. Beyond that, everything else is some combination of guesswork, probabilities, and common sense.”

The material in the book is collected from one of his four-day seminars. It is a gift to those who cannot attend his teachings in person. Steven includes the handout from the seminar as an aid to learning and review. This book is Volume 2 of his Element Series. It follows the Book of Fire, but reads fine as a stand-alone book. Steven states that the series on the four elements will give an integrated, evolutionary approach to astrology. There is some repetition from the first book when he describes astrological concepts; Steven discusses his dilemma in having to make compromises between saying too much and saying just enough in describing the basics in each book.

In the chapter on Saturn returns, Steven calls the second return “the initiation into elderhood, a time to experience the joy of generously giving the gift of wisdom to those who are younger.” In writing this series, we see that Steven has indeed become an elder statesman in the field of astrology, and we are all the more fortunate for it.

We look forward to his books on Air and Water. This is a 5+ star book that you want to own so that you can refer to it over and over again.

—I want my life back

I have enough candy to survive you
The Year 2020

Astrologers share their perspectives on the transit they wish to highlight.

With a wide range of very important cycles activated this coming year, we asked astrologers to discuss the one they would like to highlight the most.

KAY TAYLOR
kaytaylor.com

January 10-12 Eclipse and Pluto/Saturn

The weekend of January 10-12 draws my attention because of the powerful astrological shifts in three consecutive days: A Lunar Eclipse with Pluto, Saturn and Mercury conjunct the South Node, followed by Uranus direct and then the Pluto/Saturn conjunction we’ve been preparing for for two years. This is the launch point for changes we’ve been struggling with individually and collectively with the Lunar Nodes in Capricorn and Uranus coming into Taurus last year. From global warming to exposure of corruption to individual choices to live a more authentic life, 2020 is a turning point. I am advising people to find a serene place to be, even within your own home, and give yourself space to reflect and align with these energies.

December 14 New Moon Eclipse and Mercury in Sagittarius square Neptune in Pisces

December 14, 2020 offers a new Moon in Sagittarius conjunct Mercury and the South Node that squares Neptune in Pisces and trines Mars in Aries, which is also square to Pluto, Jupiter and Saturn in Capricorn—their last dance together just before the Saturn/Jupiter conjunction in Aquarius. What a lead-in!! I can envision challenging events based on extreme beliefs. The North Node in Gemini asks us to question our laws and philosophies, and the sextile of Venus at 29 Scorpio to the Capricorn stellium suggests the fierce power of women is a key to the restructuring of new structures emerging as 2020 draws to a close.

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PLUTO/SATURN/JUPITER

The dramatic stellium of Pluto, Saturn and Jupiter in Capricorn is at its tightest in the second half of 2020.

Here we see the planets on power, mastery and inspiration fused together as a formidable team.

This forceful combination has us dealing with restoration and revival. They break down parts of who you are and rebuild any areas that need new life. This energy can also open our minds to the greater possibilities that lie ahead.

This could feel overwhelming for some and quite a revelation for others. Where in the chart does this play out for you?

The best way to handle this energy is to not resist it. Here is your chance to become empowered by concreting a new vision for yourself.

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The Jupiter/Saturn conjunction shifting from Earth to Air for the next two centuries

Almost every time there is a change in the element of the Jupiter-Saturn conjunctions, the change is followed by a conjunction (or more) in the previous element. This means that these mutations are not a moment, but a transition of typically forty years. A transition that slow means that the generational differences between people born before the beginning of the transition, during the period of movement back and forth, and those born after will be radically different. In a time such as ours when many people live longer than the forty years of this process, these see-saws can result in severe alternation between calm and panic, with different age populations experiencing one or the other at any one point, depending on whether the current conjunction was earth or air-based. So a Jupiter-Saturn element changeover is much more spread out than a sign ingress or outer planet, which merely endures a year or two.

Add to this the fact that the earth-air and water-fire mutations are between elements that don’t share any properties in common (earth is cold and dry while air is hot and wet), and we have a model for the oscillation between generations, as well as the emphasis on this theory of generations at this time. Once the post-Millennials become the dominant generation, this age group emphasis will start to decline, because this particular conflict will die out and so there will be less tendency to make assumptions based on it. This emphasis on generations only began with the Boomers anyway.

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JUPITER/SATURN conjunction for a new Decade

There is excitement as a new decade starts, especially those who have the Saturn-Jupiter conjunction. It feels like one is given permission to leave the old matters behind and look forward to creating the future. And, there is the puzzling question: How did it get to be 2020 already?

My Sun is 3 degrees Leo and I am aware that Saturn will be moving into Aquarius in 2020. The last time this happened, it was whammy, a life changing time for me. My father had a major stroke and died after nine months of being bed bound. At the same time, my husband announced that he was leaving the marriage to go live with another woman.

We learn that the Sun represents the men in a woman’s life. With textbook accuracy Saturn took away my important men. We also know that Saturn tells us what is over and needs to end so that we can con-
Your actions represent the beginning of a new cycle in your life. It is not only limited to you, but it will have opportunities. Your motivation to pay back what you owe personally and professionally is a good start. If you do not feel too restrained, you will need greater freedom to break the chains and expand your horizons. The fated events you experience will bring growth opportunities, both personally and professionally. It is a good time to apply for loans for new business opportunities. Your motivation to pay back will be high! It is not only limited to you! Your actions represent the beginning of a cycle that will last for 180 years!

JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION IN AQUARIUS 21 DECEMBER 2020

It's time for growth and good luck, a higher level in consciousness, a fresh beginning in terms of humanity and its understanding. We may be noticing that things are not as restricted as they were prior. Things which require great responsibility but which are not satisfying, traditions which create pressure and the relationships which are of no use should be liberated now! You will notice that your unnecessary fears and drawbacks prevent your happiness and success and you will shake them off. It is the time for changing the things which cause pressure. In order to climb higher, you need to release your burdens. If you plan enough, you may use this new cycle in a way that sets you free and encourages your creativity. It is the time to break the chains and expand boundaries! Even if you do not feel too restrained, you will need greater freedom and welfare. The fated events you experience will bring growth opportunities, both personally and professionally. It is a good time to apply for loans for new business opportunities. Your motivation to pay back will be high! It is not only limited to you! Your actions represent the beginning of a cycle that will last for 180 years!

VENUS RETROGRADE IN GEMINI AND THE JUPITER/SATURN CONJUNCTION

There are so many significant planetary transits occurring in 2020 it is difficult to pick one that I feel is the most significant. But I will name two that I think are worthy of mention.

The first is the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction (syzygy) on December 21, 2020. This pair comes together every 20 years and influences the 20 year period it announces. The fact that this pair will meet in the first degree of an air sign, Aquarius, has special significance to the principles we associate with Aquarius. This constitutes an elemental shift in the cycle for the pair. They have been in earth signs for the last 200 years, so the shift to air is meaningful and gives great emphasis to the elemental principles of air for the rest of the century.

Adding to the air theme is the Venus Retrograde period for 2020 which occurs from May 13 - June 24 in Gemini. Venus will conjunct the North Node in Gemini, from early April to early August! Normally she spends approximately one month in a sign. This is a period where much information and mis-information is likely to confuse voters concerning the U.S. presidential election cycle, potentially wreaking havoc on the entire process. We will surely be subject to surprises during this period!

JUPITER IN AQUARIUS 21 DECEMBER 2020

2020 is loaded with powerful alignments but what catches my attention most is the December 21st conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn at 0° Aquarius. Why? Because that is my exact Ascendant! With my 0° Aquarius rising, I have always felt a bit like an ‘agent’ of the new age, living on the fringe, trying on for size the new principles of this age of higher ideals.

But aside from the personal implications, I see this alignment sparking this new era in a pronounced fashion. The higher Aquarian ideals will at last begin to concretize the systems and no longer just be considered ‘woo-woo’ jargon. The root systems will take hold, and create new foundations that are holistic and humanitarian in essence. My sense (and hope) is that we will begin to utilize the cutting edge higher technologies available to get ahold of the global ecological crisis, that a return to the communal mindset will become the norm, and that general overall consciousness will elevate as we step further into this age remembering we are one unitive consciousness.

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May 5: The LUNAR NODES move to GEMINI/SAGITTARIUS

June 3: VENUS/SUN Eclipse at 13 GEMINI

The Lunar Nodes will shift in the retrograde motion from their dramatic Cancer/ Capricorn phase where they conjuncted Pluto, Saturn, and Jupiter and reflected deep political shakeups, to a new 18 months phase in Gemini (North Node) and Sagittarius (South Node).

The transiting nodes are extremely powerful in their influence, whether they conjunct natal planets or not. The previous transit with the North Node in Cancer had me yearning to slow down and practice better self-care, even though the heavy conjunctions on the South Node in Capricorn pulled toward career incentives and global responsibilities. What will the Gemini/Sagittarius bring? First, perhaps, more mobility and dialogue in an otherwise very tense Cardinal climate of 2020. With a Gemini North Node we can expect a shift from Nationalism (Cancer NN) to a yearning for diversity and cultural experiences.

**VENUS will conjunct the North Node** from May to August—exact on AUGUST 5 at 27 Gemini, fostering cross-cultural exchange, greater community networking and expansion, and perhaps new alliances.

In the US we are in an election year, and certainly these Nodes will enhance the presence of Gemini/Sagittarius candidates in the race, including Trump who will have a Nodal Return around election day, or Bernie Sanders with his Jupiter at 20 Gemini.

**On June 13 – Venus/Sun inferior conjunction (Venus retrograde) at 13 Gemini, is close to Venus’s own North Node at 1 Gemini!** This highlights the power of this configuration to question existing alliances and possibly make new ones, question personal relationships, and potentially change the course of financial trends.
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Sept – Nov: MARS RETROGRADE in ARIES

One of the potent planetary patterns for 2020 is Mars retrograde in the impulsive sign of Aries. Mars squares off to serious Saturn, powerful Pluto, and expansive Jupiter, all in Capricorn during this cycle. This alignment suggests ‘the right use of power’, both on a personal and collective level.

Mars stations retrograde September 9, 2020 at 29 9’ Aries
Mars stations direct November 13, 2020 at 15 14’ Aries

Mars Retrograde in a Natal Chart
Remember, Mars goes through its retrograde phase when it is opposite the Sun. Contemplate the themes of: action and ego, the right use of will, and taking action steps with confidence.

Questions for contemplation during Mars Retrograde:
• What is worth fighting for?
• Who or what will you defend?
• Where do you want to put your power, passion and energy?

Supportive suggestions for this Mars Retrograde:
1. Remember proper use of will
2. Consider how can I be proactive, rather than reactive
3. Find healthy ways to express yourself, don’t stuff your emotions
4. Make healthy choices in your sex life, understand the consequences of desire
5. Stay open to creative impulses, intuition requires action

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MARS RETROGRADE and ERIS – October 2020

Around Oct 11, 2020 Mars will be retrograde in Aries, the sign it rules, conjoining his sister and companion, Eris, goddess of chaos. Mars will be opposing the Sun in Libra, while squaring Pluto, Saturn and Jupiter in Capricorn, all direct. Neptune in Pisces will be squaring the nodes in Gemini/Sagittarius. And, Mercury will go retrograde on Oct 13, raising reconsideration of our state of affairs.

Personal and political events that have been grinding it out on the battlefield since early 2018 become intolerable, hopefully precipitating real change. The Capricorn trio of planets are all moving direct; there is forward momentum. Yet Mars returns to take aim at the institutions that stand in the way of life itself, particularly regarding human rights and the environment. With Eris close by it will be a messy fight. Subtle and important is the Neptune/Nodal square, inspiring and invigorating all beings to stand up in the spirit of collective well-being. No pain, no gain.

These aspects make fertile ground for chaos and warlike circumstances as powerful organizations and institutions, political and financial, resist release of their grip in addressing overdue and much needed change. This period should prove telling in how the Capricorn energies of this last decade unwind, revealing its gifts and tragedies.

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Feb/March - MARS joins the Stellium in Capricorn

The last week of February through the first week or so of March 2020 is an opportunity to bring to fruition the process ongoing through 2019 of Saturn, Pluto and the South Node in Capricorn.

As Mars joins the energies conjunct the South Node with Jupiter, Pluto and Saturn all in Capricorn, we have an opportunity to break through patterns in our life that we have outgrown.

Uranus in Taurus trines the South Node and allows objectification and understanding of this pattern. It allows consolidation of new values to base our life upon. The Sun conjunct Neptune in Pisces will allow us to listen and create new processes befitting who we want to become rather than acting as we have.

This is a time of fundamental rupturing of crystalized patterns from past lifetimes that were reinforced through childhood and that we are realizing conflict with our evolving truth. Take this time to meditate, grieve for what you are letting go of and celebrate who you are becoming.
2020 Vision

by Michael Bartlett

We have three significant conjunctions in 2020 that will lay the groundwork for the next 200 years. Saturn and Pluto will meet on 12 January, then on 5 April 2020 Jupiter will be conjunct Pluto, and finally, Jupiter and Saturn will conjoin on 21 December.

The Saturn Pluto conjunction is a generational marker which occurs every 32-37 years. When these two planets get together there is going to be some bone crushing, consolidation of power, separation, war, institution of boundaries and division. There are significant statements of independence and authority. During previous conjunctions we experienced:

November 1982: AT&T breakup, Canadian Sovereign Statehood, Falkland War, Michael Jackson’s Thriller.

August 1947: Roswell, New Mexico incident, Sound Barrier broken, Cold War begins, Israel, India and Pakistan independence.

October 1914: Government of Ireland Act, Arch Duke Ferdinand assassinated, WWI begins, Battle of Falkland Islands (interesting theme), Gandhi gains title of Mahatma.

While we have just one pass for this conjunction, we are already feeling the tension building over here in 2019! The 1% will be scrambling to purchase more as the 99% simply sell to survive. Until the majority of the people realize that power in numbers is not just a multitude of zeroes in a bank account, the one percent will continue to grow.

The Jupiter Pluto conjunction occurs every 11-13 years. We will experience it three times: 5 April, 1 July (when they will both be retrograde – great time for internal review) and the final conjunction on 13 November. These two often show themes of union, masses of money, global terrorism to claim power, space exploration, fantasy. What has occurred during previous conjunctions are:


1981: UK Church voted to admit women as vicars (was in Libra), Maastricht Treaty, First Space Shuttle Columbia, The DeLorean, Lady Di marries Charles Prince of Wales.

And last, but not least, is the Jupiter Saturn conjunction that will only happen once on 21 December. These two planets represent the great accordion of expansion and contraction in astrology. Their cycle is known as the great Chronocrator cycle as they were the major markers of time and the outermost planets in the ancient world. Conjunctions between Jupiter and Saturn occur in the same element for about two hundred years. We have just completed the earth cycle. On 22 December these two will begin their new relationship in air in the sign of Aquarius. The themes of these two planets have to do with taking something that is already large and making it larger and more formidable, dealing with justice that comes about in the end, and the ways in which we have taken Jupiter’s ideas and given it Saturnian form as in electronics and programming code. As these two planets move into air, we will see a huge shift in the ways in which ideas, data and privacy are seen, appreciated, and resolved for the common good.

The last two conjunctions in earth resulted in the following experiences:

May 2000: Vermont legalizes same-sex Union, The Tate Modern Museum opens, Bill Gates leaves Microsoft CEO, First International Space Station Crew, AOL/Time Warner “largest merger to date”.

July 1981 (also a Pluto/Jupiter year) Adam Walsh’s son is abducted and murdered, goes onto create television series – America’s Most Wanted, DOS bought by Microsoft, 750 million people watched Lady Di marry Prince Charles, 8/1 MTV goes on the air, 8/3 Air Traffic Controllers went on strike – starting with over 16,000 to just over 4,000 after President Ronald Reagan fired them, 8/4 DuPont Chemical and Conoco “largest merger to date”. 8/12 IBM PC introduced.

Once the year has completed I am sure that we will all feel as if we have gained 2020 vision!

Michael Bartlett focuses on traditional and esoteric astrology while utilizing the skills he learned from Core Energetics. He utilizes this body-oriented process in concert with his highly intuitive nature, three decades of business experience and two decades of astrological experience and understanding. He has an extensively resourced toolbox to provide his students and clients with excellent guidance. Michael is the author of a book about individuals with planets on the chart’s angles entitled: Of Astrological Mavericks: Do you have what it takes to change the world? He is also the co-creator of AstroTheatre AstroCards, an app that represents astrology in a visual manner and is available from Apple App Store. He is the Outreach Director for NCGR. He offers webinars, workshops, intensives, classes, and classes for Kepler College. He can be reached at 505.690.3860 or Michael@CoreMichael.com
Due to the extreme obliquity of Pluto’s elliptical orbit, the periodicity of the Saturn-Pluto synodic cycle varies significantly. Years between consecutive conjunctions of the two planets can be as little as 31 or as many as 37 (see table 1). Students of astrological cycles will note that the 37.2-year period between the Saturn-Pluto synods of 1982 and 2020 is equal to twice the 18.6-year period of a zodiacal transit by the lunar nodes. Hence, we find ourselves at the end of a rare synchronicity between the Saturn-Pluto synodic cycle and the cycles of eclipses.¹

I hesitate to write from the desk of Scorpio Brett, but we cannot avoid the truth that the midpoint of this coincident arrived in 2001, a year when Saturn and Pluto opposed and our liberties began crashing faster than the Twin Towers did. The 9/11 attacks arrived three months after a total solar eclipse that I believe to be the most powerful astrological event of our age. Why? Because we dance on Earth at an extremely rare time within the 26,000-year “great year” of precession in which the solstice points are aligned to the galactic crosses of our sky.²

We dance on Earth at an extremely rare time within the 26,000-year “great year” of precession in which the solstice points are aligned to the galactic crosses of our sky.² This galactic alignment³, which spans from about 1975 to about 2025 was activated by a partial solar eclipse on June solstice 1982 and by a total solar eclipse of June solstice 2001. A third and final such activation will arrive with an annular solar eclipse on June solstice 2020 - these eclipses all take place on the Solstice point of 0 Cancer. This will be the last solar eclipse to sit on Orion’s club for about 26,000 years (see figure 1). I believe this to be the very alignment Jesus speaks of in Mark 14 when he says, “you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.”⁴ The Egyptians taught that Osiris was resurrected as Orion in our sky. The Celts called him the High Man and in India he is known as Kal Purish, which means Time Man. It is high time for a resurrection, my friends. We are called to gaze into the shadows of power (Pluto) and control structures (Saturn) to rebirth the light (eclipse) of truth into our lives. And of course, as it is with all things without, this great work begins within.

REFERENCES


3. Read “Galactic Alignment” by the late great John Major Jenkins


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**Table 1. Periodicity of Saturn-Pluto Conjunctions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Time Between</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.22.1883</td>
<td>30 Taurus</td>
<td>31.5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1.1914</td>
<td>02 Cancer</td>
<td>31.4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.10.1947</td>
<td>14 Leo</td>
<td>32.8 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.7.1982</td>
<td>28 Libra</td>
<td>35.2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.12.2020</td>
<td>23 Capricorn</td>
<td>37.2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.10.2053</td>
<td>15 Pisces</td>
<td>33.5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.8.2086</td>
<td>20 Aries</td>
<td>32.7 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.12.2117</td>
<td>22 Taurus</td>
<td>31.3 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The middle date was selected for synods in which Saturn and Pluto conjoined thrice*
The great conjunctions in Libra in 1981 very neatly mark out the “Fairly tale wedding of the century” of Prince Charles and Lady Diana.

Very interestingly, it is assumed the royal family would have an astrologer working on the wedding. However, it appears the astrologer may have been calculating the great conjunctions using right ascension rather than ecliptic longitude.

The first of the conjunctions took place (using right ascension) on 14 January 1981 when the couple was very much in the thick of serious dating. Charles proposed on 3 February but this was kept secret until the 24 February 1981, just a few days after the second great conjunction on 19 February. Their wedding took place on 29 July, the day before the third great conjunction. Could the astrologer in question have used the wrong information?


Newspaper headlines described the wedding as “perfect” and celebrated the very famous kiss on the balcony. Well we all know the marriage didn’t last and the People’s Princess died before the next Great Conjunction in 2000—the last one in the element of earth for several hundred years.

Johannes Kepler helped us to understand that great Jupiter/Saturn conjunctions (also referred to as “the great conjunction”) occurred in the same elements for a couple hundred years, mutated into the next element before moving on to the next element. Thus the mutations between elements happen every few centuries. The period for which the great conjunctions occur in the same element are known as trigons. It takes about 800 years for the great conjunctions to occur throughout the whole zodiac.

When great conjunctions change element, the degrees repeat where they were in the previous elemental trigon. The next great Jupiter/Saturn conjunction will be on the 21st of December 2020 at 0 degrees Aquarius, within a couple of degrees of where it was in 1226.

The Crusades and the Air Trigon

The great conjunctions in the earth trigon began in 1007 and a notable mutation took place in 1186 in Libra when the third crusade was taking place. By this time, the crusades had been raging for some time. However what sets the third crusade apart from the first two is that it drew in leaders from Rome, France and England (Richard the Lionheart). The Siege of Jerusalem the following year, was a success for Saladin, the first sultan of Egypt and Syria.

This great conjunction was a mutation. The next great conjunction was in Taurus in 1206. In 1226, the great conjunctions stayed in the element of air until 1425 when the great conjunctions were in the element of water.

The Wedding of Charles and Diana and the Air Trigon

Until 1981, the Great conjunctions had been occurring in the element of earth since 1802. As in the case of the previous change of element, the mutation was in Libra, then back to Taurus for one great conjunction before moving into the element of air from 2020 until 2199.
Algol and the Great Conjunctions

In 1206, the great conjunction took place at 25 degrees Taurus. This is within one degree of the current position of the fixed star Algol—a very important point in the charts of the Royal Family: Princess Diana and Prince William have Venus conjunct Algol as did Edward the VIII whose marriage to Wallis Simpson created the abdication crisis of 1936. Queen Elizabeth II has her IC on Algol with Saturn opposing it.

In 1206, King John (himself born under a Jupiter/Saturn conjunction in Capricorn) was on the throne. He was such a disaster that he lost Normandy (1204), was excommunicated by the pope (1205) and the Magna Carta (1215) had to be written to protect English subjects from his well known avarice. King John spent much of 1205 and 1206 securing England from invasion by the French. King John is notable for having produced at least fifteen illegitimate children. He is also remembered as being the main villain of the Robin Hood stories.

In May 2000, the great conjunction again took place within three degrees of Algol. Although a three degree orb is a little too far away from a fixed star, the great conjunction opposed Prince Andrew’s Moon in Scorpio. During 2000, he became entangled with Jeffrey Epstein and is now paying a very heavy price following the scandalous revelations. As the Sun transited his Moon last week, he gave a “car crash” of an interview where he denied having sex with a minor. He insisted he could not have done this as on the night (10 March 2001) he was having pizza with one of his daughters. Saturn was conjunct Algol during this time.

Koo Stark met Andrew near to the time of the great conjunction of March 1981 and Koo, who is just about the only person to have defended him, has Mercury on Algol. Andrew has now been stripped of Royal duties, he has lost many patronages and looks set to also be stripped of military honours.

The fixed star Algol is a very important point in the charts of the Royal Family.

Great Conjunctions in Aquarius

In 1226, the great conjunction took place at 2 degrees Aquarius. During this time, King John’s son Henry III was on the throne. This year saw some more adjustments to the Magna Carta, giving the document more authority to prevent the monarchy from stepping on the rights of commoners. This year was also the death of Francis of Assisi who is notable for trying to bring an end to the crusades in 1219.

The Great Conjunction of 21 December 2020 will occur at 0 Aquarius. This is a change to the trigon of air so the great conjunctions will remain in the element of air until 2199. The three main players in the succession of the royal crown of England are the Queen, who has her Sun at 0 degrees Taurus, Prince Charles who has his Moon at 0 degrees Taurus, and Prince William who has Jupiter at 0 Scorpio. I think it’s also worth mentioning that the Uranus of the abdication crisis was at 6 degrees Taurus—exactly to the degree it will be during the next great conjunction.

The change of trigons has long been seen as times of change. The current Queen is of such an advanced age, it seems inevitable she will soon pass the crown to her son who has waited a long time to become king. But is he and his consort up to the job? How long before William takes the crown?

In another article, I have said that I think that 2020 could be the fourth time in British history that there have been three kings on the throne in one year. I based this reasoning on the current British Royal family’s connection to Algol. If you’d like to read more, please go to this link: https://alextrenoweth.co.uk/algol-and-the-house-of-windsor/

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Crafting a Future with the Centaurs' Cosmic Sandpaper: 2020 Transits of Chiron, Pholus & Chariklo

by David Leskowitz

The third decade of this millennium begins with conjunctions between Jupiter, Saturn, and Pluto. When Saturn and Pluto conjoin, not only do they close one 36-year cycle to start another, they serve to link our inner and outer spheres of experience. When Saturnian limitations are exploded by Plutonic force, who would you call but the Centaurs? It is these cosmic wanderers who traverse between the reality of Saturn and the transcendental realms of Uranus, Neptune and beyond. Astrologically they help us to fathom these great leaps out of our comfort zones that some call evolution.

The years 2019-2020 are conditioned by two major Centaur aspects: the square between Chiron and Pholus, and the conjunction of centaur Chariklo (Chiron’s wife) with Saturn-Pluto around 23-4° Capricorn. Saturn was recently dredged by a long dalliance with the Moon’s South Node: we approach the future feeling lighter, having already pressed the ‘release’ button on our waste hatch through this intensely karmic aspect. On January 10, the first Lunar Eclipse of 2020 (at 20° Cancer) will remind us of this process and help draw attention to the year’s stellium.

Centaurs in Myth

I like to approach the Centaurs as they are today, not only based on myths from when we met them long ago. Myths are a starting place, though. The daughter of Apollo, Chariklo is a naiad (fresh-water nymph) and wife of Chiron. In one of her myths she is a temple priestess of Vesta. Meaning “Graceful Spinner”, Chariklo relates to our sense of personal space, subtle body, and astral travel. Astrological Pholus can give catharsis; Chiron’s skilled hand manages the healing process.

Chariklo relates to our sense of personal space, subtle body, and astral travel. Astrological Pholus can give catharsis; Chiron’s skilled hand manages the healing process.

The Chiron-Pholus Square

Over the last four years Pholus has dipped into Capricorn, only to travel again in Sagittarius, and back again. Through much of 2016 and 2017 Pholus skirted the edges of the Galactic Center, at 27°
LESKOWITZ

Sagittarius: “Sanding and sanding a sculptor is carefully modulating and refining a curve.” (Pleidian Degrees, version of Sabians by John Sandbach). The symbol feels right for a centaur like Pholus. Imagine a cosmic sandpaper that grinds away at karmic rough spots: it hurts, yet we become smoother for having lived through it. What curves did life artfully, if gratefully, modulate for you through this period?

In 2019-2020, Chiron and Pholus reach the quarter phase of their cycle, first from mutable signs (Pisces/Sagittarius), and now in cardinal signs (Aries/Capricorn). Rather than acting antagonistically, these two are friends. They both want to help us reach spiritual healing. Blending their keywords gives us a process of “healing catharsis,” which does not always feel nice, but moves toward relief and clarity.

In late 2019 we experienced a final cardinal Chiron-Pholus square, before the Saturn-Pluto conjunction of January 12, 2020. This grand astrological occurrence is part of an exquisite stellium of Pluto-Saturn-Ceres-Sun-Chariklo-Mercury, within a couple days. It’s an alignment of the largest asteroid (Ceres) with the largest centaur (Chariklo), with what we can call the first Plutoid (pairing well with the Ceres/Demeter myth, underworld Pluto), all conjoining the Lord of Time himself. A strong mood of reset and realignment will prevail, on the heels of the new Mercury synodic cycle. This may actually be kinder than the rumor-mills have us believe.

Recent History of the Chiron-Pholus Cycle

Centaurs are eccentric: they weave weird webs for our world. Their sense of time is not steady, like our even-keel around the solar zodiac in twelve segments. From our geocentric point of view, the Centaurs make paths that are both elliptical and off-center around the Sun. This makes their travels through the zodiac hard to track, especially when looking at the relationship between two centaurs like Pholus with Chiron.

A Little Book of Coincidence in the Solar System (Wooden Books) includes a surprise end-plate: notice the beautiful symmetry between Saturn and an outer planet, compared to Chiron as it blends with others. (Figure 1, Martineau.)

Squares, like the waxing Chiron-Pholus phase that we find ourselves in now, are never easy. We can find perspective by seeing how this part fits the whole. The twentieth and twenty-first centuries happen to host especially weird centaur cycles. If we are trying to understand the current Chiron-Pholus cycle (healing ancestral karma), this is important to consider. Where did this cycle, which now reaches its opening square, begin? What kind of history does it trace?

Robert van Heeren’s research is an ideal start to learn the pedigree of this cycle. He’s plotted the paths of the centaurs at ken-}

Squares, like the waxing Chiron-Pholus phase that we find ourselves in now, are never easy. We can find perspective by seeing how this part fits the whole.
and do the whirl-y-gig dance of healing from then on out.

On the graph, we see the regular 100-year dip marking the centennial conjunctions of the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries, each with quick returns up the scale toward an opposition.

Chiron & Pholus Influence in the 20th Century

Here is one 100-year section, from the mid-twentieth to mid-twenty-first century. One reliable conjunction, in 1956 (Aquarius); then in the 1990s there was a close-but-no-centaur conjunction, before they stretched way up toward opposition in a short few decades:

• 1939 Opposition, mid-Cancer/Capricorn
• 1956 conjunction in Aquarius, before which they spanned 180 degrees in a few years;
• 1956-(1992)-2019, waxing into the slower opening square we find ourselves in today (with a first part of phase concluding in near-conjunction).

If Chiron-Pholus together 'process our stuff' then the decades between 1954 and 1990 were more dense than average with work to be done. The opening salvo to an Aquarian Age. As the quicker of the pair, Chiron began to move ahead of his friend only to return to a near conjunction in 1991. The years of 1992-1994 were colored by this long-lasting but never-perfecting conjunction, always within a few degrees (in Leo and Virgo).

A Future Foretold by Centaurs

Pholus moves quickly in the signs of Leo and Virgo, with about a three years transit, versus a solid slog of 20 years in Capricorn, where every 92 years he reaches aphelion at 24° Capricorn. Through the 2040s, Pholus will live out the stay in Capricorn which he just now began. This exit won't happen without lots of action, though, in the form of reaching two phases in his synodic cycle with Chiron: Chiron and Pholus wax to opposition by 2041, in the last degrees of the Cancer/Capricorn axis (Aug 2041). Then, by late August 2048, Pholus and Chiron quickly reach the waning square of this cycle.

The present Chiron-Pholus cycle concludes in 2060, at the end of Aquarius. This centauric Age of Aquarius begins and ends in the sign of the Water Bearer, a worthy symbol for Pholus, holder of visionary ambrosia. This Centaur's function in both myth and in life is to safeguard what is most potent and valuable, for when the time comes to pop the cork on that emergency bottle and drink deep from life's mysteries. These are times of sudden initiation, breakthrough, and spiritual crisis.

It is significant how our present cycle began in the '50s, when the Aquarian Generation of Baby Boomers took birth. The Gen-Xers, Millenials and Gen-Z’s have inherited a crisis, as all next generations do. Today’s waxing square is the deep work of ancestral healing—even healing those 'ancestors' who still live. We heal the part that is in us: in our genes, habits, thought patterns, actions. It's the ‘Harmony is Strife’ phase of the cycle, as told by Heraclitus.

Chariklo, Cosmic medicine-woman & The Stellium of 2020

When the infamous Saturn-Pluto conjunction strikes, Chariklo is there to lead the way forward as natural guide of boundaries. As a Centaur who orbits beyond Saturn and in resonance with Uranus, Chariklo represents the expansion of self that can follow the process of individuation. Through her 62 year cycle, from the Neptunian state before birth, to the Saturn Return and individuation — she leads us again toward Neptune, via Uranus.

The Saturn-Neptune process is itself mediated by Pholus, as weaver of orbits and holder (Saturn) of precious elixirs (Neptune). While Chiron and family traverse only the Uranian sphere, Pholus reaches Neptune's more distant realm at his place of aphelion, farthest from the Sun.

This year finds Chariklo transiting Pholus' aphelion at 24° Capricorn, where her healing infusion conjoins our innate ability to hold power (Pholus). Pholus' aphelion marks a crisis of bravery, where we are distanced from solar potency and must rely on inner soul power to plumb our solar system's far reaches.

During the present dynamic tension between Chiron and Pholus, in 2020 Chariklo sweeps in and inhabits the zone where Pholus regularly stretches out to his most frigid. Pholus was there in 1946 and will return in 2038 (to aphelion). That's just a few years before his present cycle with Chiron reaches the opposition (2041).

That culmination of this present Centaur cycle will align with the planetary Nodes of both Pholus and Chariklo. These happen to stand a degree apart, across the cusp of Capricorn-Aquarius: Pholus’ South Node in the last degree of Capricorn, Chariklo’s North Node in the first of Aquarius. The transits of 2041 will activate their evolutionary potentials together, since their nodal axes align.

The times we find ourselves working together begin something important and rare, and maybe wonderful. We can see, through the cycles of Centaurs in relationship to the outer planets, how the changing of the guard, designated by the Saturn-Pluto cycle, can prepare us to integrate what we now consider transcendental.

David Leskowitz has worked with the Centaurs ever since he started learning astrology ten years ago. Researching their role in visionary and spiritual breakthroughs across history, he found unique ways to work with them in astrology, astral magic, and in healing. Now he leads events which open us to their energy and guidance. He offers healing sessions and astrological consulting in the Pioneer Valley of Western MA. Find his work at www.centaurs.space
Aquarius, the sign of the water bearer in opposition to Leo?

Bees have always been connected to spiritual awakening rites, to the souls of the dead, to the transmigration of the souls, and according to Porphyry, due to its sweetness, honey is the pleasure that draws souls down to be born.

In Egypt, honey and wax were used for religious as well as practical purposes. Sacred animals were fed cakes sweetened with honey, such as the bull at Memphis (Taurus), the sacred lion at Leontopolis (Leo) and the sacred crocodile at Crocodilopolis (Scorpio) and Mummies were sometimes embalmed in honey.

It was also said that when the Sun - God Ra, creator of the earth and the sea, wept again, the water from his eyes flowed to the ground and transformed itself into working bees. They worked in flowers and trees of all kinds creating honey and wax from the tears of RA (passage found in the Salt Magical Papyrus). Ra's right eye was the Sun and his left the Moon, and he caused the Nile to flood. In Egypt the Bee was considered the King of the Lower Egypt.

Beekeeping was a Minoan craft, and the fermented honey drink, mead. was an old Cretan intoxicant (not an alcoholic drink). Zeus used it to intoxicate Kronos. Honey was the ambrosia of the gods.

The rites of Mithraic initiation consisted of three important stages:

The first stage is self-purification. Here the candidate received a golden crown and was instructed in the hidden mysteries of the power of Mithra Ormuzd.

In the second stage he was given his intelligence and purity armor and control over the animal nature of Ahriman.

After Mithraic initiation, the candidate was considered as someone who rose from the dead and who was instructed in the secret learning of the mythical Persians.
In the third stage he was given a layer with the zodiac signs and other astronomical symbols.

After his initiation he was considered as someone who rose from the dead and who was instructed in the secret learning of the mythical Persians. These initiates were called lions and they were marked with the Egyptian cross.

From the structure of the miter it can be assumed that the faithful would have gathered for a common meal along the recliners that line the walls. It is worth noting that most temples could contain only thirty or forty individuals. According to Cumont’s work, the members apparently ascended through seven degrees of initiation, each aligned with a symbol and a god.

Archaeological evidence suggests that the initiations involved three tests: heat, cold and hunger. All members were expected to progress through the first four ranks, while only a few would pass to the three highest ranks.

1. Corax: The Crow - Mercury
2. Nymphus: The Fourth / Bridge - Venus
3. Milex: The Soldier - Mars
4. Leo: The Lion - Jupiter
5. Perses: The Persian with the Moon
6. Heliodromus: The corridor of the Sun or messenger of the Sun
7. Pater: The Father with Saturn

The first four ranks represent spiritual progress. The new initiate became a Corax, while Leo was an adept. The other three would have been specialized offices. Since Páter was the highest rank, it is mentioned more frequently in the inscriptions, but becoming a Lion seems to have been very important, since it is considered a milestone in authority and responsibility within the cult.

Through their association with Jupiter, the Lions aligned themselves with the fire and, therefore, it would not have been appropriate for them to be initiated with water. Instead, honey was used, which was also placed on the tongue of the initiate to symbolize his pure and purifying words.

It is thought that the rite recreates what is known as the ‘Miracle of Water’ in which Mithra fires lightning at a rock and from there the water sprouts.

So, to become a Lion, you have to get purified with the food of eternal life, Honey.

Understanding the rites of passage from Mercury to Jupiter, and then Saturn, we can hope that with the upcoming Jupiter/Saturn conjunction in the sign of Aquarius in December 2020, humankind will become more aware of the power and importance of nature. Let the Water bearer give more awareness and empathy to all the living creatures. Protect the lions and the bees as they symbolize the Solar force – the spiritual awakening.

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The Year 2020

Moon Nodes Shift in 2020: A Call For Solidarity Sagittarius/Gemini Nodal Axis

by Eda Ocak Zakaria

When I came across this sentence from Thich Nhat Hnh, I suddenly had a glimpse of the meaning of the North Node of the Moon in Gemini. Sangha is a Sanskrit word that means “association,” “assembly,” “company” or “community.”

In the related article Thich Nhat Hnh explains more and he says that “It is possible that the next Buddha will not take the form of an individual, but may take the form of a community. A community practicing mindful living, understanding and lovingkindness. The practice can be carried out as a group, a city, or a nation.”

The nodes of the Moon will change signs from Cancer/Capricorn to Gemini/Sagittarius, on the 5th of May, 2020. Moon Nodes are like a compass to show us where to go and what to do. South Node of the Moon is about the past that we need to leave behind. North Node of the Moon is the future path that we need to follow.

If we look at Gemini and Cancer archetypes as a path to follow in 2020, we need to understand their position in the zodiac. Both of the signs are in the lower hemisphere and in the first two quadrants. The lower hemisphere of the zodiac is more personal and internal. Life is about one’s close circle of family and friends. If we connect this symbolism with our current global problems, what Thich Nhat Hnh said would make more sense.

Today’s global and individual problems are so much linked to the fact that we don’t have a connection with our close environment anymore. We eat vegetables that we don’t know how, or by whom, they were planted, and wear a jacket that comes from the other side of the world. Globalism created more intercultural communication, but we lost an intimate and deep connection with nature and the world around us. This situation reminds me of the Gemini/Sagittarius axis. The Gemini archetype seeks connections with things around us. It is all about here and now.

It represents the flexibility of the mind and how it can adapt to any circumstance. At the same time, it is through Gemini that we see the creative potential to make new social circumstances. I believe creating new social circumstances would be crucial since we are heading towards a serious climate crisis. For that, we will need to focus our efforts and explore our abandoned neighborhoods, our close circles, and find a way to reconnect again. In this sense creating a loving and self-sustainable community

Globalism created more intercultural communication, but we lost an intimate and deep connection with nature and the world around us.

“The next Buddha may be a Sangha.”
might be our life savior. Loneliness, disconnection, alienation, and depression are diseases of our time. That's why it is essential to make the connection between 'I' and 'others' which is one of the predominant Gemini qualities.

As a mutable air sign, through Gemini we learn how to communicate without any judgment. Since the south node of the moon will be in Sagittarius, we really need to improve our communication skills. Because the shadow side of Sagittarius is becoming fanatic about one's language, nationality, beliefs, etc., the antidote of this problem is Gemini, which is a curious mind rather than stuck in prejudices.

Gemini also represents hands, which are our limbs, that in modern times have been reduced to a single function. Apart from using them on the keyboard or the driving wheel, we can also go back to manual work to remember that it has functions. In an era where everything is consumed fast, it can be an important step to go back to meeting some of our needs using our own hands. I think it is important for us to develop our very basic hand skills by learning how to repair or make our clothes, learn more about gardening, carpentry etc.

Since the beginning of 2019, the Cancer archetype has been inviting us to take a closer look at our own nature and cycles rather than goals. Because the nodes of the Moon always go backwards through the zodiac, before it reaches the Gemini/Sagittarius axis, we'll still have Cancer/Capricorn energy until May 2020. For this reason, we need to add to our interpretation north node of the moon in Cancer in order to have a complete picture.

The Moon's Nodes in Cancer/Capricorn point from the goal-oriented world to the inner world, from work to family, from ambition, discipline, and rigidity, to softness and flexibility. Cancer carries the archetype of the Holy Mother. It has a powerful message here on our return to nature, to Mother Earth, to Pachamama.

Being goal and business oriented are one of the reasons that we had to cut the connection with our cycles and this important transition in life. The Cancer archetype can be an example & model for us to balance the goal and work-oriented states that are symbolized by the Capricorn archetype. For this reason, it is important that we develop features such as progression according to your time, and enjoying the process and taking time for anything needed. These features are symbolized by the Cancer archetype.

In an era where everything is consumed fast, it can be an important step to go back to meeting some of our needs using our own hands.

The Cancer archetype is also linked to nostalgia, past and ancient values. This bond exists in Capricorn, but it is more about maintaining traditional methods at all costs. The Cancer archetype, on the other hand, bridges the values that we have felt strong belonging to in the past. At this point, I think about the fairy tales, ancient rituals developed in fire gatherings by our ancestors and nurtured by the stories, the warmth, and relevance we feel in our small tribe. Adding Gemini energy, which will take place in May, remember Gemini is a storyteller; rediscovering our ancient heritage we can rewrite our story. Combining Gemini and Cancer archetypes, maybe it's time to create our communities where we can raise compassion towards each other and other beings. I believe 2020 will be a year of community development rather than personal development. This may be a start, and eventually as Thich Nhat Hanh said the next Buddha may be a Sangha.

SOURCE: https://www.inquiringmind.com/article/1002_41_thich-nhat_hanh/

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2020: Intimations from Lady Sovereignty

by Vanessa Couto

“Seen mythically and psychologically, this old world is a wise old woman or sage old man; it knows how to return to the origins of life and nourish its own roots when things become torn down or worn out.”
- Michael Meade - Why the World Doesn’t End

Why the World Doesn’t End’ by renowned storyteller, and mythologist Michael Meade came out in 2012, a year that inundated us with predictions for the end of the world as predicted by the Mayan calendar, but also the square of Uranus and Pluto. The unraveling didn’t start then, but looking back, we can see that for the past decade, since Pluto entered Capricorn, the cracks in our foundations have made themselves powerfully known.

2019, the preamble year to the seminal year of 2020, only escalated the collective and individual transformation that is sweeping the world like a tsunami. Accompanied by the ecological crisis, amongst all the others, consciously or not, we are grappling with our fears of death in its many permutations. Despite more positive perspectives of hope under the guise of words such as transformation, renewal, and rebirth, the truth is that before we can cross the bridge to the other side, we have first to do our shadow work.

Alchemically, Saturn represents the prima materia, the lead from which we start our opus in transforming base materials into gold. Since Saturn entered its domain of Capricorn, accompanied by the Lunar South Node’s journey through the Goat’s realm, we have individually and collectively come up against all the negative characteristics of this planetary archetype and sign.

According to Michael Meade, the archetype of apokalypsis, which means to reveal, uncover, disclose, and discover, is activated during times of radical change, because the center can no longer hold. Intense oppositions and liberalizations overtake even the most rational and levelheaded individuals. It’s within the end that the beginning is concealed - the beginning rises from the ashes of the end. As we witness the end of many of the things that we have held dear either for security or unconsciousness to the intimations of the new, we are overwhelmed by the work that lies ahead of us.

The triple conjunction in Capricorn of Jupiter, Saturn, and Pluto has an element of creative endurance and effort, words often associated with Capricorn. However, instead of giving in to fear, it’s best to approach this seminal time through the healing powers of myth and imagination to guide us.

Why is the way through these transitional times via the imaginal?

More than being Homo Sapiens - we are ‘Homo Storytellers,’ Stories are our connection to the archetypal world that informs and is interwoven with our world, and astrology is one of the most potent of mythic languages. As we discuss the myriad of possibilities of the triple conjunction of the heavy-hitters Jupiter, Saturn, and Pluto in Capricorn, we are giving ourselves to the power of stories, either by bringing old myths to bear or adapting them to our modern ears.

In the words of astrologer Alice O. Howell, ‘archetypes are really verbs’: They speak through us, and the more we can bring our presence and consciousness as we engage with them, the more we can creatively participate in the unfolding of our evolution. One of the many ways we engage is through storytelling.

Lady Sovereignty comes to awaken us to the call of the earth. The triple conjunction in Capricorn can be seen as her full unveling onto the stage of our collective consciousness.

During transitional times, when the first shoots of the new epoch start to show themselves, images from the outgoing age get denigrated. It’s the ‘sunset effect’ as explained by author William Irwin Thompson. The old images go to seed as the new ideas burst forth. This happened when the rise of the sky gods and its patriarchal system came into being. The goddesses were pushed aside, and the gods took hold. Now, we can see the reversal starting to take place, as across the world, we witness the continuing rise of the feminine in its many permutations.

These epochal transformations don’t take place in a few years but stretch themselves through many years, decades, if not centuries. It’s through the use of myth and the work with the imaginal in our own lives that we can navigate these liminal times, without falling prey to eschatological fears. For at the end of each age, a new challenge appears and sets the tone for the incoming age.

Reflecting on Capricorn within the context of myth and explorations of some Celtic myths and their approach to the figure of the goddess, the aspect of Lady Sovereignty comes to mind. The manner in which Capricorn is often spoken of reflects how we have made it stand for the shadow of what we understand patriarchy to be. Going back to the polarity of the signs, Capricorn is a feminine sign, and I believe that the figure of Lady Sovereignty can be seen as one of its representatives - one for our times.

The incoming age gifts us the challenge of bringing balance and restituting the union of both the masculine and feminine, yin and yang, in a way that is about coming together, not power over one. In the words of Lama Tenzin Rimpoche:

“The masculine provides skillful means; The feminine provides wisdom. Both come together in the enlightened being.”

Lady Sovereignty comes to awaken us to the call of the earth. The triple conjunction in Capricorn can be seen as her full unveiling onto the stage of our collective consciousness.

Lady Sovereignty - beautiful maiden or loathsome hag?

Lady Sovereignty, in many of her permutations in Celtic mythology, is a personification of the land. She was their embodiment of female power and authority, but also of
the earth’s abundance and plenty. To the Celts, kingship was male, but sovereignty was feminine. For one to be taken as the rightful king, it meant that he would have to be chosen by Lady Sovereignty.

Their union with Lady Sovereignty meant that one was not just receiving the crown, but also marrying the land. True authority came from the marriage of masculine and feminine, as seen through hierogamy - the sacred (hieros) and marriage (gamos). The concept was much older than as seen in Celtic myths, for in Sumeria, the king would mate with Inanna, Queen of Heaven and Goddess of Love and Fertility on New Year’s Day.

As the feminine was pushed under as patriarchy took hold, the identity of Lady Sovereignty became more fluid, and often denigrated. She would often show up as an old hag/crone, loathsome in her appearance, and she’d ask of the intended hero to be king either a kiss or sexual favors. Once she receives love from the hero, she then transforms herself into a beautiful maiden.

Two views exist on why she would show up as an ugly hag to a young prince who has reached maturity. One is that her ugliness is representative of a curse, and she is the deliverer of death. The second is that the responsibilities of true sovereignty are frightening until they are embraced and mastered. In reflecting on the union of Saturn, Pluto in Capricorn, we can see both sides of Lady Sovereignty showing up to our collective situation. We do face the death of our old ways, and we can even see how we have cursed ourselves through our ignorance.

But we can also see that the work ahead will take creative endurance and effort to be accomplished, and it’s not for the faint of heart. Those who fear the hag’s loathsome face will not be gifted sovereignty and mastery over their own lives, a gift that is akin to Saturn’s hard stance on how we show up to the opus of our lives.

In one of her stories, she’s also the guardian of the well. The sons of a local king need to be tested on who will be the rightful heir. As part of their test, they go hunting for a wild boar. They manage to kill the boar, set up a fire for the night, but soon realize that they have no water. Each goes their separate way in search of water, and each encounters a hideous hag who guards the well. She will only allow them to drink water if one of them agrees to kiss her. In turn, each flees, except for the youngest.

He agrees not only to kiss the loathsome hag, but also to sleep with her. Soon after he kisses her, she transforms herself into a beautiful maiden and tells him that she’s Lady Sovereignty. She commends him on persevering in the face of her hideousness and allows him to drink from the well. She, now in her maiden form, gifts him the cup that is the symbol of his rightful kingship.

What’s interesting here is that the element of water is part of rightful rulership. The well is representative of the abundance and rights of our psyche and connection to the imaginal world. Water makes for abundance in the land, as well as our soul. No rightful sovereign should rule without connection to the soul of the land.

Anima Mundi - the Soul of the World & Capricorn
Lady Sovereignty shows up in many forms. She’s not a passive archetype, but a transformative catalyst and shapeshifter. As a beautiful young maiden, she invites us to step into our rightful rulership. As a mother figure, she empowers us on our journey. But as the loathsome hag, she both guides and warns us. As such, she is the ultimate messenger, for both beauty and ugliness are potent heralds of the needs of the time.

When we think about all that’s unfolding in the world, the challenging and potent aspects of the archetypes of Saturn, Pluto, and Jupiter all in Capricorn, we can see how Lady Sovereignty has already revealed herself. Amid the unraveling of the old paradigms, new seeds for a creative new world are sprouting. This is not a guarantee that polarization between conserving the old ways, and the birth pangs of the new epoch will not swing to more fundamental and traditional views.

At its core, Lady Sovereignty is one of the many embodiments of the Anima Mundi – the soul of the world. During the Renaissance period, there was a revival that everything was connected to and through the soul of the world. It’s interesting to notice that the opposite and complementary sign of Capricorn is Cancer, ruled by the Moon. It lends to reason that this triple conjunction in Capricorn also activates lunar ruled Cancer and its rulership of the archetype of the mother.

While we have polluted and disrespected the mother of all mothers – Earth - through the projections of our collective fears and shadow, it’s now time to listen to lessons and desires of Lady Sovereignty, however, she shows up in our individual lives. It all starts with our own conversation and acknowledgment of these powerful archetypes in our lives first.

Looking at the Imaginal to guide us.
Mythology allows us to envision our times from a perspective that links us back to our ancestors through the ages. It’s through the words and deeds from the past that we can find the hidden treasures to help elevate and strengthen ourselves for what is to come.

Our culture has largely failed to perceive not only the Anima Mundi and the Unus Mundus, the ‘one world’ that our mystics have spoken of in our sacred texts and mythologies. We have lost the perception that there is another world, and it’s within this very one we inhabit. The way there is through the imaginal road of stories and a relationship with the cosmos.

2020 is a year that carries potent seeds for the future of humanity. Each one of us has a place in the weaving of this collective fabric. The new year and decade upon us will definitely educate. In the words of Alice O. Howell, “the ‘drawing out’ of the wisdom that is latent in us all.”

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The PLUTO/ SATURN Conjunction In EACH HOUSE

by Maurice Fernandez

The long-anticipated Saturn/Pluto conjunction at 22° Capricorn will be exact on January 12, 2020. A brief study of past experiences with this synodic cycle reveals its transformative caliber of colossal proportions! Pluto/Saturn cycles create the narrative for history in the making. It has destroyed empires, reversed fortunes, redrawn world maps, shaken the earth, and brought in pandemics and plagues, to name some of the prominent challenges brought upon humanity.

Both Pluto and Saturn are uncompromising in their influence; if we were to personify them, they would not hesitate to play the devil’s advocate, test our integrity while intoxicating us with power and riches, and then have us walk in sewage. For what?

To understand the right use of power (to begin with). Because this influence penetrates so deep, it can fix and recover what is rotten and corrupt. This tough love approach comes in waves, mostly every 15 to 20 years, each time these planets conjunct or oppose each other. While many of our authors this edition have provided extensive analyses on the mundane/collective influences of this cycle, let us examine how they may affect us more personally. How will the Saturn/Pluto conjunction, later to be joined by Jupiter, influence our charts by house placement?

Pluto/Saturn are exactly conjunct at 22° Capricorn in January.

Pluto/Jupiter are exactly conjunct at 24° Capricorn in April.

The three planets will be in tight proximity to each other throughout the year, with the strongest activation between 20 – 25° Capricorn.

Identify where that lands in your chart and if planets are within those degrees in the Cardinal signs.

Some KEY CONCEPTS

• Redistribution of Power – Turning the tables.
• Rise to power with test of Integrity on how the power is used.
• Enhanced ambition and drive.
• Temptation for corruption.
• Potential karmic retribution and fall from grace.
• Deconstruction of existing structures to fix or completely rebuild.

Following are simplified descriptions of the possible expression of this transit per house. If this applies to your circumstances, be sure to explore these themes more deeply.

1st HOUSE

In an angular house, we can expect a need to start a new chapter in life, possibly through an identity crisis. You may feel empowered to take charge of your life, cut ties, and re-write your script.

Key for success: Have the courage to break away from what is dysfunctional in your life. Now is the time.

Risk: Power struggles and loss of trust. Choose the battles really worth fighting for.

2nd HOUSE

Important changes in resource management. Possibility for significant gains, but be very careful about integrity issues around finances. Money may come with strings attached, is it worth it? A time to recalibrate your self-esteem, there is a need to deepen your values and surround yourself with those who can share those values.

Key for success: Focus on wealth distribution, empower others as you empower yourself.

Risk: Mismanagement of resources can lead to losses – be careful of gluttony.

3rd HOUSE

Find the true masters, those who possess true knowledge. If teachers fail you, is it perhaps your time to gain mastery? Potential new leadership in educational structures, and redefinition of your course curriculums.

Key for success: Words are powerful, use them wisely and touch people’s soul.

Risk: Be mindful of copyright issues – cite your sources and quote your teachers, ask for the same from those around you.

4th HOUSE

An angular house affecting the foundations of our lives. Important family changes may occur, perhaps through separations or through a relocation. If this is the case, uprooting can be emotionally demanding, and yet, it can provide an opportunity for an rewarding new chapter.

Key for success: Stay true to yourself as you step outside your comfort zone. You can do this!

Risk: Resistance to change and holding on to the past can make things more painful than necessary.

5th HOUSE

This is a time for great achievements, even manifesting a large-scale vision. Feed your ambition, you may be called to take on an important leadership role or birth your magnum opus. Your children will draw attention and may go through a developmental crisis. Find the right balance between support and tough love.

Key for success: Keep your heart open and show up for what you are called, small or large scale.

Risk: You may feel justified to take full control, but beware of forcing your agenda. No matter how benevolent one may be, a dictator is a dictator.

6th HOUSE

Bosses may push too hard at work, increasing performance demands. Ask for proper compensation if this is the case. There may be a change of leadership in the workplace altogether, requiring adaptation and recalibration. Take good care of your bones, teeth… collagen, mineral supplements on the menu.
Key for success: You can work hard and succeed, but make sure to avoid wasting time trying to fix what must be eliminated in the first place.
Risk: Pushing your body too far, worrying too much. Chiropractic and massage support in order.

7TH HOUSE
You may want to test the boundaries of your relationships, or be tested by circumstances. Trust issues may arise, but if the case, look deeper. What needs to change? The relationship can go deeper if you open up emotionally, be completely honest, and admit vulnerability.
Key for success: Opening up to new perspectives can bring a refreshing wind into your life. Let others lead, without losing yourself. [236x428]K
Risk: That powerful stranger can challenge your otherwise intact morals.

8TH HOUSE
A deep introspection into values of power and success. This is a time for deep revelation, perhaps inconvenient truths, and purging. Something in your life may need to be relinquished. Your sharp perspective may go deep. This may be of greatest service to people around you in crisis.
Key for success: Muster the courage to walk alone, and the right alliances may manifest down the road. [417x374]K
Risk: Legal matters involving foreign trade and travel may need to be addressed.

9TH HOUSE
This may be a time when new revelations put existing beliefs into doubt. An academic or spiritual path you follow may lose credibility, and prompt you to change course. This is a time for radical authenticity and integrity, so any form of dishonesty must be confronted. You may be confronted with prejudice and bigotry, another opportunity for the truth to come out.
Key for success: Your vision for expansion must be grounded because it will have to pass tests of credibility. Build a solid case to support growth and expansion. [236x539]K
Risk: Legal matters involving foreign trade and travel may need to be addressed.

10TH HOUSE
There is a change of guard, and you are either called to ascend to a higher status or retire from an existing position. An authority vacates his or her place. While you may be promoted to a new position, you may attract scrutiny, testing your capacity and integrity in this capacity. Take it one step at a time.
Key for success: Walk your talk, practice what you preach. People are starving for reliable leaders. Be the change you wish to see!
Risk: Worthy causes may justify manipulation. Do not accrue negative karma.

11TH HOUSE
Your social life is under scrutiny and you may need to filter out friends to focus on more genuine ones, or in a broader sense, revisit your ties to your community. Possible scandals and trust violations may arise to stimulate necessary change. This may be a time when you take a leadership role in your community, start your non-profit.
Key for success: New solutions may be found in older wisdom. It is a time to move forward with those who share your vision. [417x539]K
Risk: You want to elevate your standards, but be mindful about becoming inapproachable and exclusive.

12TH HOUSE
This is a time to step it up as you may need to show up for a greater cause. If so, remember this is not about you, and you may need to sacrifice personal comfort for that service. Let the universe guide you and you will find out you may be stronger than you thought.
Key for success: Remember the big picture, why you are here do what you do. Trust the higher intention. [436x341]K
Risk: Resistance and need to be in control may lead to stagnation in your life, step out of self-pity. Be cautious about those in position of authority who offer more than they can provide and can be deceiving.

Everyone prefers me! LEO

whatever! VIRGO

Celery Juice will keep my mind clear LEO

whatever! VIRGO
a conservative routine. Yet his sparkling mischievous eyes announced a boundless youthful enthusiasm for astrology, and a determination, in spite of his then eighty years, to do all he could to have it understood and used.

This driving force of his life’s work enabled him to author over 50 books. The Urania Trust writes of him: “He became an active member of the Centre International d’Astrologie from its inception in 1946 and served as its Vice President from 1953 to 1967. Later he began to pioneer computerised horoscopes to the public under the name Astroflash and founded the magazine L’Astrologue in 1968.” In these years, he met Carl Jung, corresponded with the great British pioneer Charles Carter and advised Charles Harvey on the content of the seminal book Mundane Astrology.

His passion for mundane astrology was an unrelenting, systematic study of how planetary cycles connect to world events. He explains this clearly in Chapter 7 of his L’Astrologie Certifiée [English translation title The Value of Astrology]

“I came to astrology at a very young age and I suffered a major setback which profoundly shook my initial faith; my disillusionment made me more critical, and since then when undertaking experimental forecasts I never do things the easy way. When undertaking an experiment, the moment of truth is when a particular type of result occurs at the completion date of the configuration being tested, and likewise all the way along the same continuous series. I had to rid myself of any illusions. My method was, if possible, to shut myself away in a remote faraway place where I couldn’t guess at what was going on in the world, and depending only on the astronomical ephemerides, assign dates to history sometimes years and even decades in advance, the forecast thus becoming a gigantic leap in anticipating the future. It was the ultimate high-risk strategy!”

The shaking of his faith André refers to was the failure of astrologers to anticipate World War Two. By applying the rigour André describes above, he was able to anticipate the death of Stalin, track East-West-China relationships, and much more in the decades that followed. Many years before it happened, he projected the endgame of the Soviet System in 1989 and called 2010 for the 2008-09 economic crash.

André’s example is a clarion call to astrologers, in all branches as well as mundane, to realise astrology’s incredible ability to inform our understanding to make better decisions. Providing we apply ourselves with objective vigour that is! Then, like André, we will experience the clear light of childlike enthusiasm that we have got it right. To see what I mean, watch André talking at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFFZvaGJDA&t=5s.

Read André’s books in English – available online, at shops, or via https://www.astrologicalassociation.com/shop/books/index.php.

ENDNOTES
1 Mundane Astrology Baigent, Campion and Harvey [Pub. 1984 Thorsons Harvey Collins Publishers]
2 Page 122 The Value of Astrology André Barbault [Pub. 2014 The Astrological Association]
Andre Barbault
by Lynn Bell

When Andre Barbault first opened his door to me, I was immediately struck by his keen intelligence, his humor and openness. He was vibrant, électrique, curious and questioning. A great astrological mind, constantly studying and researching the foundations of the art, yet wielding a distinctly modern pragmatism. What works? What gives results? He championed a shift in practice towards transits and the integration of the outer planets both in individual work and in his brilliant discoveries in Mundane astrology. Andre left school at the age of fifteen, due to his parents financial constraints. But nothing stopped his appetite for learning, and under the tutelage of his older brother Armand, he dove into astrology. He was only fourteen or fifteen in 1936 when he first voiced questions about the upcoming Saturn Neptune opposition. Armand’s suggestion to look at the previous conjunction soon led to his research into cycles, and the development of a whole new approach to astrology. He followed the Saturn Neptune conjunctions, squares and oppositions back to the mid 19th century and saw powerful correlations with the rise of Marxism and the Russian Revolution. Over time he understood this planetary combination as an impulse to work for the good of the collective (often at the expense of the individual). He understood the Saturn Uranus cycle as an equally powerful movement towards individualism and capitalism. He developed the planetary cycles like a jeweler, elaborating the semi-squares, sextiles and trines, as well as the powerful squares and oppositions, linking each phase to the intricacies of French political life, as well as larger world events. All his life, he called himself a ‘student’ of Urania, and of history.

Andre Barbault left us the evening of October 7, 2019, a few days after his 98th birthday. He followed his wife and lifelong companion Jacqueline, who had died that same morning, a rare boon granted to this exceptional Libra. He had a life rich in reflection, ideas, collaboration, encounters, consultations and above all, writing. He had only stopped consulting in his early 90’s.

Andre Barbault was born October 1, 1921 in Champinelles, France at 5.00 pm. He rectified the time to 4:54:21 pm.

He was a great innovator, not surprising given his Aquarian Ascendant coupled with Uranus in Pisces, a singleton in the first house, opposite both his Sun ruler, Venus, and Mars. As a Uranian, he was responsible for many ‘firsts’ in astrology — writing the first computer interpretations anywhere. He did these for Astroflash (1968), to great success, and to some enmity within his own community who felt the very idea of a ‘machine’ horoscope was a betrayal of the art. Working with programmers opened up access to thousands of years of planetary cycles, till then unavailable. Before the computer interpretations, Andre had written many serious astrological works, as well as a bestselling collection on the zodiacal signs for Seuil Editions (1957), which is still in print to this day. He integrated images from the past into those wildly popular books, as well as notions of psychology, mostly from a Freudian perspective. When I interviewed him for the AA in 2005 he had lost track of the number of books he had published — “fifty, more or less” was his estimate. His textbook of astrology “La Traite Pratique d’Astrologie” (1961) was on every French astrology student’s shelf, and it was translated into many European languages.

His keen perception and the persuasive power of his pen, a reflection of a Mars and Mercury in mutual reception, brought a whole generation to astrology.

Andre was a friend to astrologers and always had time for young people who made their way to him. I am grateful to have known him.
By looking at the chart for the question, the astrolger may simply inform the querent if the answer for the question is "yes" or "no", or may advise on the best way to solve a problem. William Lilly gives some examples on this practice in his famous book Christian Astrology and approaches the question on how to analyze it; he advises when to act in order to reach the desired result.

For example, we explore Lilly's question “Will I purchase Mr. B's house?” You see the chart which is cast by William Lilly for this question below.

Before we start to analyze the chart according to Lilly's notes in his book Christian Astrology, let's speak about some Horary Astrology rules.

First of all, we should find the main significators of the one who asks the question, and carefully consider the person or the thing which is asked about in order to answer the question at hand.

The one who asks the question is called "Querent". The person or the thing which is asked about is called "Quesited".

Significators of the querent are the Ascendant (ASC), the ruler(s) of the ASC, the ruler of the intercepted sign in the 1st house if any, and the planets within the 1st house.

If there is more than one significator within the 1st house, then the one which describes the querent best should be used. With a few exceptions, the ruler of the ASC is always the primary significator of the querent, so the house it is in within the horary chart should be taken into consideration. The house where the ruler of the 1st house is placed tells us the area that the querent focuses on. Along with the house placement of this planet, its dignities and debilities indicate the general condition of the querent related to his/her question.

The power of a planet is its capacity to perform the things it represents naturally or accidentally. A powerful planet is one which has the ability to affect the results. The power of a planet is determined by its essential or accidental dignity in the chart.

As you see in this chart, the querent is asking about the house he wants to buy. The ruler of the Ascendant, Venus is placed in the 7th house, which is the house of bargaining and negotiations. 7th house is also the house of other people, and when the ruler of the 1st house is placed in the 7th, it is likely that the person who is asking the question is dependent on the conditions of the other party. This is like a football team who is playing away!

Secondly, we should pay special attention to the aspects of the ASC ruler in the chart as this planet represents the querent. If the planet which is the ruler of the ASC is strong by its house placement, not afflicted by the malefics, and has domicile or exaltation rulership, then it provides the querent the ability to reflect his authority and easily reach good results related to the question. If it is not strong, afflicted, and has no essential dignity but debility, then it...
Since it is in the opposite sign it rules, Venus's conditions are dependent on the other party Lilly is in contact, or bargaining or negotiating with. On the other hand, it is good to see Venus received by the Sun which is a significator of sympathy between the seller and buyer.

cannot provide the querent the ability to easily reflect his authority and reach good results related to the question.

As you see in the chart, Venus is in her detriment in the sign of Aries, afflicted by combustion of the Sun, but applying to good aspects with Saturn and Jupiter. It is strong by its house placement, since the 7th house is one of the strong houses, but since it is in the opposite sign it rules, its conditions are dependent on the other party he is in contact or bargaining or negotiating with. On the other hand, it is good to see Venus received by the Sun which is a significator of sympathy between the seller and buyer. The Sun is the ruler of Aries by Exaltation, and Venus is applying to a conjunction with the Sun, so the Sun is receiving Venus by Exaltation. That means the seller may behave generously to Lilly in their bargain.

A planet without major dignity (considered peregrine) which has a strong house position, is not conjunct or in a bad aspect to a malefic planet, is direct in motion and free from combustion, has the power to realise its purpose, but with some difficulties. In this chart Venus is not afflicted by the malefics but is afflicted by the Sun through combustion. She is not retrograde, and is in an applying trine to Jupiter which is a benefic.

If the ruler of the querent is peregrine, its success depends on the ruler of the sign it is placed in. A planet in such condition is like a person who needs others. A peregrine planet has difficulty to realise anything without the help of its ruler. If the ruler of this planet makes a positive aspect to it, is in good condition by sign and house placement, and is not afflicted, then it supports the planet and helps it. Of course, we need to look at the aspects of a peregrine planet; any support from benefic planets can increase its power.

If the significator of the querent is afflicted by a malefic planet, the house where this malefic planet is placed or houses that are ruled by it indicate the difficulties which prevent the native from realising his primary motivations.

If the ruler of the querent is supported by a benefic planet, the house where this benefic planet is placed or rules show where the supports and benefits are coming from. In this chart, Venus is about to apply to the greater benefic Jupiter. Jupiter is placed in the 9th house and rules the 3rd and 6th houses. So, beneficial things will come from foreigners or educated people, neighbours or close friends, servants etc.

Let's come back to the combustion of Venus. When a planet is within 8.5 degrees of the Sun either way, then it is combust. If the significator of the querent is combust, it indicates that the querent is in great fear or overpowered by some great person which is symbolised by the Sun in general. A combust planet is invisible, behind the rays of the Sun. It has no power as a significator. When the benefics are combust or under the Sun's beams they cannot realise their commitments because the Sun deactivates their virtues. They become invisible under this power and brightness.

According to the ancient astrologers, being combust is the worst affliction for a planet. On the other hand, there is an important difference between applying to the Sun and separating from the Sun. Applying to the Sun brings big problems, while separating from the Sun lessen these problems in time. A planet applying to the Sun is like a person who is getting ill while a planet separating from the Sun is like a person who is recovering from illness. A planet which is moving away from combustion but still under the Sun's beams is getting its power back some. Ancient astrologers compare a planet under the Sun's beams to a person in prison.

Aspects are directed from the faster planet towards the slower planet. A planet first applies to an aspect, then forms the aspect. After it is exact, it starts separating. Separating aspects indicate an effect which decreases. They are very important in horary astrology as they indicate the situations which occurred in the past. According to the ancients, a planet separating from an aspect is like a native who changes his mind about a particular subject. For example, the Moon is separating from Mars in this chart. So, the last thing the querent faced was struggle and anxiety about his finances and bargaining with the seller because Mars rules the second and the 7th houses.

Separating aspects of the ruler of the ASC indicate what the querent did in the past and what happened to him; applying aspects of the ruler of the ASC indicate the possible situations that the querent may meet. In this chart, the ruler of the ASC, Venus, is applying to a conjunction with the Sun, will then trine Saturn, and lastly will sextile Jupiter.

If the applying aspects, especially to malefics, are negative, then the querent meets some difficulties and problems. If the applying aspects, especially to benefics or planets that are strongly placed, are positive, then the querent meets positive developments and his chance for success is high. In this chart, the conjunction of Venus with the Sun is an indicator of affliction for the querent. But the trine to Saturn and sextile to Jupiter are positive, especially as applying to Jupiter is the greater benefic. Plus, there is no frustration in these aspects since Venus will not be retrograde soon and these two planets will make good aspects and not change signs before these aspects are completed.

In Horary astrology, applying and separating aspects of the Moon are very important because they help us understand how the native's life started and how it will develop in the coming years. A planet contacted by the Moon seems to be dignified. Also, it is considered that the Moon has good connection with the planet it separates from. Not only the Moon, but all of the planets are associated with the planet that they are in contact with through applying aspect. A significator which is applying to an aspect is more important.
HORARY / ELECTIONAL

than the others due to its detrimental effect.

The Moon indicates the conditions that change rapidly, indecisiveness, instability and deflection. As the Moon is a celestial body which moves fast and is reflective, it translates the light of the planets to each other. In this sense, the Moon maintains the communication between the natives represented by the planets she aspects to, and the connection between the issues and subjects ruled by these planets. The placement (house and sign) of the Moon and the Moon’s aspects help us understand how things will improve.

In Horary astrology, generally the Moon is the co-significator of the querent and represents the desires and feelings of the querent at the moment of the question. The mind is where the Moon is. In some special cases, the Moon may be the significator of the quesited (person, object or animal).

The Moon represents the general course of events until it leaves the sign it is in. If the Moon is free from applying aspects before changing signs, it is Void of Course. The Void of Course phase of the Moon is quite important in Horary astrology. It may indicate that the answer to the question is negative or that the question is invalid. Some astrologers state that the answer for the questions which are asked when the Moon is Void of Course means that nothing positive or negative will happen.

In this chart, the Moon is very close to the cusp of the 12th house, has dignity only by triplicity, is separating from Mars and applying to Saturn with a square aspect. This indicates difficulties relating to the question asked about whether to buy the house or not. Saturn is the ruler of the house which Lilly is eager to buy since it rules the 4th. This makes the situation very difficult for the querent related to his question. The querent has to make more efforts to achieve what he intends to enterprise and it will not be so easy to get the result he wants to get! A Horary astrologer may give a negative answer relating to this question. But of course, before we judge, we should see the main significators of the quesited.

Now, let’s learn something about the significators of the quesited, the person or the thing which is asked about. First of all, what the question is about should be considered. The planets that rule the related house, the rulers of the sign in the 7th, and the planets within the 7th house are the significators of the quesited. If there are many significators within the 7th house, the one which describes the quesited best should be used as the significator. So actually, the Sun is the best significator we can use because it is in the 7th house, and is the exaltation and Almuten ruler of the 7th as well. We can use Mars (ruler of Aries) as significator for sure, but he is in another house and does not show the situation of the seller, instead it gives information about money conditions of Lilly which is not adequate at the moment.

If it is more powerful than the sign ruler, the Almuten of the sign which intersects the house representing the quesited, or the issue, may be considered as the primary significator of the quesited. In this chart Saturn is the Almuten of the Ascendant. But it is not more powerful than Venus since she is angular and Saturn is cadent, in the third house. Cadent houses are considered weak, generally speaking.

The Part of Fortune (POF) indicates the issues that the querent is emotionally and instinctively attracted to. These issues will be earthly affairs rather than spiritual ones as the Part of Fortune is associated with earthly chances, opportunities or desires. Based on the house it is placed in, Part of Fortune indicates in which life area the querent may gain benefit from, make profit and be lucky. This ‘good luck’ is not only limited to financial benefits, but it also covers all types of benefits and luck. The key to interpret it is the house where the Part is placed. In this chart Part of Fortune is placed in Pisces which is one of the luckiest positions according to William Lilly. When POF is placed in the signs of Taurus or Pisces, it is allowed five points, the highest score in his table.
and defiant native.

Before judging a horary chart, the natural significator of the question should be determined. This significator should be naturally ruling the related person or issue. Natural significators sometimes help in judgement more than the ruler of the related house. Additionally, natural significators also indicate if the question is radical or not. For instance, the Sun is the natural significator for male authority figures. In this chart Lilly is using the Sun for the owner of the house. By the way, Lilly was hopeful that he could buy the house since the Sun is also the ruler of the 11th house which is the house of hope and wishes!

In any case, dignities and weaknesses of the planets should be considered. Well placed planets are advantageous in exerting developments in their nature. On the contrary, weakly placed planets are inadequate in bringing a conclusion as they are like a person that is in a place where he is not comfortable. In this chart the Sun, who is one of the significators of the house owner is placed very strong. First, because it is in the 7th house, the house of the seller in this question and secondly, because it is in its exaltation in the sign of Aries.

If a significator is retrograde, then it is passive and it has difficulties in realising its commitments. This is an indicator of misfortune, damage, mismatch, disagreement and inconsistency. According to ancient astrologers, a retrograde planet indicates hostility and damage and is like a rebellious and defiant native.

If the significator of the querent is retrograde, then the querent or the key person of that issue may back down. The person represented by the retrograde planet (especially Mercury) may be harmed or he may be returning to an old situation, reuniting with someone or reviewing an issue. In this chart Mars, which as the ruler of the 7th house, represents the seller, and as the ruler of the 2nd house represents Lilly’s financial conditions, is retrograde. This is a problem both for negotiation and finding the money necessary for Lilly.

Moving fast brings advantages to the planet: it is a kind of power indicator. When the planets move fast, then they are quick in taking action and manifesting their behaviours. So, faster planets indicate affairs which resolve quickly as well as quick people. On the other hand, a slow planet indicates immobility, slow actions and sluggish people. In this chart Venus is fast since she is travelling 1 degree and 14 minutes, slightly over her daily average motion. This is good for Lilly, since Venus is representing him in this question.

TIMING for the QUESTIONS ASKED

Now, let’s learn something about timing! The aspects between the planets and/or conjunctions and aspects with the house cusps should be considered for predicting the time when the matter asked about will occur. To determine the time, the indicators listed below should be considered:

- The aspect between the significator of the querent and the significator of the quesited
- The aspect between the Moon and the significators
- The distance between a significator and the nearest house cusp
- The number of degrees that is needed for the Moon to change signs (especially when the Moon is at the last degrees of a sign)

There are two scales regarding timing; one of them is symbolic and the other is ephemeral timing. Both methods are seen in all ancient texts.

In this chart, Lilly is using both methods as we will see a bit later when we learn the story about this question.

A planet may be in the last degrees of a sign. This means the things represented by this planet are about to reach culmination, things will be completed and a new phase is coming up. It is also important that the planet which will enter another sign be dignified and become stronger, or conversely lose its strength and weaken. If a planet is strong in a horary chart, it has power over the issues it represents. In this chart, there is no planet who is in the last degrees of a sign it is placed. But Lilly is waiting for Venus (his significator in this chart) to change signs from Aries to Taurus to increase his advantage to make a move. Additionally, he is waiting for the Sun (the significator of the seller), to leave Aries where it is exalted, and enter Taurus where it is peregrine, but also under the disposition of Venus which is Lilly’s significator. This way, he is trying to empower his personal significator both by dignity and disposition and take the advantage before he starts bargaining with the owner of the house.

In questions about buying land or houses:

The Ascendant and the ruler of the ASC represent the querent, the 7th house and its ruler represent the respondent (buyer or seller).

The Moon, the 4th house, and its ruler represent the house or the land that will be bought or sold.

The 10th house and its ruler represent the price of the house or the land. In this chart the buyer is Lilly, Venus is his significator; the seller is Mr B, the Sun being the natural significator is placed in the 7th, with Mars as the ruler of the 7th house.

The house itself is signified by Saturn as the ruler of the 4th.

The price of the house is signified by the Moon as the ruler of the 10th.

If there is an approaching compatible aspect or conjunction between the ruler of the ASC and the ruler of the 7th house, then the buyer and the seller reach an agreement. If there is not an approaching aspect between these two, but, if the Moon is translating light between these two significators (by a conjunction or a compatible aspect with the one and applying to conjunction or a compatible aspect with the other), the same thing is valid. If the approaching aspect between the ruler of the ASC and the ruler of the 7th house is an incompatible one, then the buyer and the seller cannot reach an agreement.

If there is a conjunction or a compatible aspect between the ruler of the ASC and the ruler of the 4th house, or a compatible aspect between the Moon and the ruler of the 4th house, then the querent buys or sells the house that he asks the question about. Venus, as the ruler of the 1st, is applying to a trine to Saturn, which is the ruler of the 4th as the quesited, the house which Lilly wants to buy. This is a good sign for Lilly that he could buy the house!

Comparing the Horary chart to the natal chart of the Querent

We understand from Lilly’s statements that he has wanted to purchase this house for a long time and realize that he is not objective in answering this chart. The
answer for this question does not seem in the querent’s (Lilly himself) favor while it is in favor of the new buyer. (See Chart 2, following page.)

Libra on the Ascendant of the chart is conjunct Jupiter in Lilly’s natal chart. Lilly thought that this was a good sign as Jupiter is known as the greater benefic. Actually, the Moon which is placed at 14 Capricorn in Lilly’s chart falls very close to the cusp of the 4th house of the Horary chart as well. This is another sign in my opinion. And the degree of Mercury is very close to its position in Lilly’s Natal chart too. We also see that he has a Sun-Venus conjunction in his chart as well as in the Horary chart. These positions indicate that this house will have an important place in his life.

Venus, being the ruler of the Ascendant, represents Lilly for this question and it is placed in the 7th house which represents the seller. This position shows that the querent (Lilly) should depend on the terms of the seller; it is difficult for the querent to control the situation or to direct them.

Venus, representing Lilly, was applying to Saturn to make a positive aspect. Lilly also thought it was a good sign because Saturn being the ruler of the 4th house was representing the house he wanted to purchase.

On the other hand, Venus is combust representing that the querent and the buyer (Lilly) is not in a strong position and may have difficulties in reaching his aim. As the Sun, strongly placed in Aries, is also the exaltation ruler of the 7th house, it is the seller – the owner of the house – who is in good terms in this purchase. The nature and the strong position of the Sun and Venus which rules the 8th house of the chart placed in the 7th house shows that the seller demands a high price for the house and may get the price he demands.

On the other hand, although Venus was combust and in detriment, the Sun it conjuncts was in a powerful position and also ruled the 11th house which represents the hopes and wishes. Lilly thought that he could reach the result he desired. Lilly also thought that he was the only buyer as Venus, the planet that represents Lilly, was very close to the cusp of the 7th house - and there was no other planet there except the Sun. Lilly thought that he was lucky as there was no one who wanted to buy the same house.

Venus, representing Lilly, was applying to Saturn to make a positive aspect. Lilly also thought it was a good sign because Saturn being the ruler of the 4th house was representing the house he wanted to purchase. He also thought that as Saturn, the significator of the house was in retrograde...
motion; the trine would be a stronger one. The Sun was also applying to make a trine with Saturn. As Saturn was the second ruler of ASC and as it also represented Lilly due to its aspect with ASC and as it was in trine with the Sun, Lilly thought that his relation with the seller would be fine.

On the other hand, the Moon (which represents how the events would progress), was separating from Mars (which as the ruler of the Aries 7th house represents the seller), and about to carry its light to Saturn through a square. Lilly thought that this aspect showed him that there would be some delays in reaching the result; he would only reach the result after meeting with many other sellers. He interpreted Sun's applying sextile to Jupiter as a person with a Jupiterian nature who will help him in this matter. However, as Jupiter was in detriment in Gemini and in a cadent house, he thought that this person would not be really supportive. The Sun in the 7th house of the chart is the ruler of the 5th house to the 7th house (the 11th house). The daughter of the seller (the 5th house beginning with the 7th house) was Lilly's friend, so Lilly thought she would contribute to this matter and help him buy the house.

Lilly saw that Mars, the ruler of the 2nd house, was retrograde and interpreted it that he did not have enough money to buy this house. Jupiter, the ruler of the Part of Fortune, is in Gemini and is in detriment.

All those significators showed that his money was not sufficient to buy the house. The astrologer might give up seeing all these significators. However Lilly did not do this. Through the Ephemeris he calculated when Jupiter entered Cancer where it was exalted, and when Mars turned direct. He found out that his finances would be better 12 days after Mars turned direct. Indeed, one of his friends lent him 500 pounds on that day.

As mentioned earlier, Lilly also waited for Venus to enter Taurus and get stronger, because at the time of the question Venus, the ruler of the querent, was in a weak position in Aries. This would happen on April 22, 12 days later, and for the Sun to enter Taurus, to weaken the seller's significator. This would happen on April 25, 15 days later.

He started negotiations only after then, and when the Moon was also in Taurus. Mars, which represented the financial situation of the querent, also turned direct by that time. As a result, he bought the house and reached his objective. (See Chart 3 below.)

Being a talented astrologer, Lilly does not act quickly under those challenging and negative conditions but instead acts when the conditions are in his favor and reaches the result that he desires.
HORARY / ELECTIONAL

Being a talented astrologer, Lilly does not act quickly under those challenging and negative conditions but instead acts when the conditions are in his favor and reaches the result that he desires. This horary sample is very important as it signifies the importance of making effort and planning to act on the right time. The result, of course, depends on the will of God however the native also made an effort to do the best he could. Although there were challenging elements in the horary chart, the astrologer depended on the potential but few positive factors; used his mind and talents and instead of giving up he made an effort to reach his aim. This horary chart is also a good example for Electional Astrology practice. We may reach the desired result through pushing the limits and displaying our individual potentials. This is the will of God as a result of our efforts and using our individual wills in a correct way.

Öner DÖSER is a leading Turkish astrologer with a large network of followers and students, including 22 million internet TV viewers. He studied astrology with Hakan Kirkoglu and Robert Zoller, earning his AMA degree. He founded AstroArt School of Astrology in 2005 in Istanbul where he trained more than 1300 students to date. He has 21 books published, 3 of them translated into English. Since 2012, he has organized the International Astrology Days in Istanbul with international astrologers, with a 9th event planned for March 2020. Öner has ISAR Cap and is the Turkish Satellite for OPA and is OPA certified. www.onerdoser.com

Oner will lead a track at the 2020 OPA RETREAT IN UTAH on Horary Astrology
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It's not Fair!  Yep!  I know who pays you!  I know who you're f...ing.
The emphasis here is on modern. Astrology evolves to keep up with the changes in the culture. This book reflects the new concepts of sexuality and gender we are becoming familiar with in the 21st Century. All kinds of relationships, not just the old binary ones, are now common and this book addresses that fact. It also reflects that people now meet in different ways using social media, online dating sites, and dating apps.

Another difference from the old astrology love and compatibility books is that Annabel writes on the premise that any two signs can get along if they want to. She instructs you how to approach another sign and what to expect and how to act while she explains what kinds of inherent differences there will be. It is inspiring to read positive descriptions of how two signs get along. We learn how to do it, not how not to do it.

Annabel writes very good astrology. There are complete descriptions of each sign which give the personality traits at their best and worst. She talks of first impressions, the best flirting techniques, the dating style, how to approach, and of course, SEX – the turn ons and turn offs, which signs are comfortable with PDA (public displays of affection), and what kind of kink each prefers. The book moves on to discussing each sign with others signs with no mention of gender. Gone are the days of reading about a Leo woman with Capricorn man.

She has written different descriptions for each combination – If you are a Leo you read how to get along with a Capricorn in your chapter, but when you go to the Capricorn chapter, you read a different paragraph on how the pair get along from the Capricorn point of view.

The information in this book is empirical, not theoretical, based on material collected after many long conversations with friends, colleagues, and clients. There are wonderful images introducing each sign which show gender fluidity – Virgo the maiden is portrayed as a male youth with long hair and wings.

Annabel is of the Pluto in Scorpio generation and it shows in her outspoken approach to writing about sex. She breaks the old taboos and uses four letter words (it is the first time I have seen the word fuck used as a verb in an astrology book). The book is delightfully explicit in talking about how the different signs enjoy sex, including how a sign behaves in a group sex situation and sex parties. It is the first X-rated astrology book to my knowledge.

The Astrology of Love and Sex is #1 on the Goodreads list of New Astrology Books 2018-2020. The book is written so that people with no knowledge of astrology can pick it up and learn from it. Seasoned astrologers will enjoy the descriptions and the daring information and will also learn much from the book. Buy it - it’s a fun read.

This is my Visual representation of the coming transits of 2020.

The earth has seen many cycles of our outer planets over time and is being held in the caldron of Pluto the great transformer. Saturn is in conjunction sitting on the globe filled with the children of the future who are pressured to mature very quickly in these times of transition.

Great civilisations have had their rise and fall over many millennia. From the dinosaurs on the base ring to our modern days - We are now being reminded about the threat of extinction.

Ancient wonders such as the Pyramids, Stone Henge, the indigenous peoples of the Americas, Australia and of the whole world represent the integrity of ancient wisdoms from which our current civilization rose and keeps growing.

The great transformations that have taken place over the last centuries are on the inner ring of Pluto. From the industrial revolution and the great wars that changed the planet and humanity, to the rise and fall of the stock markets causing us to re-evaluate our values.

The symbol of Democracy barely hanging on. The big egos playing monopoly with our future. The butterfly’s flying high to remind us all that there is great beauty in the work of deep transformation in our lives. We all need a higher perspective and to continue to change, grow and transform ourselves within and with out ... above and below.
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Details at OPAastrology.org
**December Solstice is December 22 at 4:20 AM GMT**

**INGRESSES**
- December 22nd Ω → ☿
- December 29th ☿ → ☿
- January 3rd ☿ → ☿
- January 13th ☿ → ☿
- January 16th ☿ → ☿
- February 7th ☿ → ☿
- February 16th ☿ → ☿
- March 16th ☿ → ☿

**JANUARY**
- 2 ☿ → ☿
- 3 ☿ → ☿, ☿ → ☿ at 9:39 AM, ☿ → ☿ (1° applying from Jan. 3 – Jan. 11)
- 4 - 6 ☿ → ☿
- 6 - 7 ☿ → ☿, ☿ → ☿
- 8 ☿ → ☿
- 10 ☿ → ☿, ☿ → ☿ (Dec. 30-31st).
- 31 at midnight Ω → ☿, Ω → ☿

**FEBRUARY**
- 2 ☿ @ 28 ☿ passes through its pre-shadow, ☿ → ☿
- 3 ☿ → ☿, ☿ → ☿ at 8:04 PM
- 4-5 ☿ → ☿
- 6 ☿ goes slightly OOB (until March 2)
- 7 ☿ → ☿ at 8:04 PM
- 9 Full Ω @ 20:2000 at 7:34 AM
- 10 ☿ → ☿
- 16 ☿ → ☿ at 11:34 AM
- 19 ☿ → ☿ at 4:58 AM, ☿ → ☿ (Feb. 19-21)
- 20 ☿ → ☿ at 20:20 (Feb. 20–22)
- 22 ☿ → ☿, ☿ → ☿ (Feb. 22–28)
- 23 ☿ → ☿, New Ω @ 4:29 at 3:33 PM
- 24 ☿ → ☿, ☿ → ☿
- 25 ☿ → ☿
- 26 ☿ → ☿, ☿ → ☿
- 28 ☿ → ☿

**MARCH**
- 4 ☿ → ☿ at 11:09 AM, ☿ → ☿
- 5 ☿ → ☿ at 3:08 AM
- 7 ☿ → ☿ (Feb. 7–8)
- 8 ☿ → ☿
- 9 Full Ω @ 19:2037 at 5:49 PM; ☿ → ☿
- 10 ☿ → ☿
- 16 ☿ → ☿ at 7:44 AM
- 19 ☿ → ☿, ☿ → ☿ (March 19-20)

Happy Equinox!!
‘Tis the Season

This quarter is marked by some exciting astrological signatures. (Chart 1) In the Capricorn ingress chart (Solstice) we see that the Sun and Jupiter are applying to a conjunction with the South Node, and Saturn is applying to a conjunction with Pluto which will finally perfect in January. The Sun conjunct Jupiter usually brings levity and joy and is a lovely way to start the season. In the sign of Capricorn it’s bound to be more practical and grounded, so for all the holiday celebrating frugal generosity is the theme of the season. On Christmas eve and day, the Moon is Balsamic, just ahead of the Solar Eclipse the following day (Dec 26), as the Sun is about to form a conjunction to Jupiter (Dec 27). It is a time for humility, assessing how we can bring meaning to our practical goals and ambitions.

Shake, Rattle and Roll

Leading into the New Moon and Solar Eclipse on the 26th (chart 2) we have the Sun trine Uranus which asks us to try something out of the ordinary. We need to shake things up a bit. This can be an exciting time of self-discovery and self-expression.

The Sun square Chiron can generate friction, but any changes you make can lead to deep healing or expose wounds that need to be tended to.

Venus is square Uranus so there’s potential for getting things out in the open, especially if you’re looking to shake things up in relationships or any area that Venus rules in your chart. Examine what needs to be upgraded in your relationships.

Mars sextile Pluto provides an opportunity to excavate stuff that needs to be examined, while Mars can give us the courage to work with it. Try not to get stuck in past hurt- let it go. This is an opportunity to dig deep and discover the desire and drive to transform what needs it. It won’t be easy, but very worthwhile.

Reality Check

This is a South Node solar eclipse at 4 degrees 6 minutes of Capricorn. This eclipse focuses on credibility, business of all sizes, and highlights issues with those in authority. It can foster a collective look at responsibility and clearing away what’s not working. South Node solar eclipses can bring public exposure and the uncovering of information. There can be a connection to religion. Jupiter conjunct the South Node can be nostalgic, bringing a craving for previous days of grandeur and gluttony—a feeling that we can still live in excesses and nothing will suffer.

With the Sun shining the light exposing the true nature of Jupiter in Capricorn, we may be faced with our fears around lack and scarcity, and we may see those issues exposed on a global level. With the South Node involved we may have to look harder at what we need to let go of in order to improve our situation. This feels like the final elimination before Saturn and Pluto meet with Mars in Scorpio, we can’t lie to ourselves any longer.
Transits of the Season

Planetary Pile-Up

In chart 2 for the eclipse we see Saturn conjunct the midpoint of the lunation and Venus. The chart is a bowl pattern, almost entirely below the horizon except for Mars, and the North node alone on the other side. This Capricorn New Moon can be about emotional restriction or denial in its difficult side. Positively, this can be a time when we become clear about our ambitions, and especially with Jupiter, muster the strength and support to achieve new goals! Your New Year resolution list is likely to triple in length with Jupiter on the lunation!

Saturn conjunct the Sun and Venus midpoint can indicate an moment of truth in relationships, potentially leading to needing to take mature decision, perhaps leading to a separation from loved ones. Mercury is in Sagittarius and out of bounds, and gone unchecked can create arguments. In Sagittarius Mercury is already honest, perhaps painfully so. There can be a moral superiority here that “knows no bounds.”

The Giant Heart of the Sun

This is followed by the Sun conjunct Jupiter (Jupiter cazimi) for most of the day. The Moon in its new phase will conjunct Saturn and Pluto in the afternoon. These planetary contacts can put an exclamation mark on issues that need attention. Since the Sun conjunct Jupiter brings optimism and good feelings, this can be an opening to find the positive or a solution to issues that were illuminated earlier in the week.

On December 29th Mercury goes into Capricorn. Mercury usually has a hard time seeing new possibilities while in this sign, but it has ideas on efficiency and responsibility and while it is still out of bounds, progressive innovation and innovative ideas in these realms are possible. As Mercury forms a trine to Uranus on December 30th and 31st, this combination of stellar events could make Mercury in Capricorn much more adventurous and non-conforming than it usually would be.

Truth Seeking Missile

On January 3rd, Mars ingress into Sagittarius where it's on a mission to find and assert the truth. We may notice people actively defending their positions while a proponent of another view actively works to convert them over to their side. We'll most likely see strong battles over ideologies. The ingress is marked with the Moon in Aries making this an emotional and reactive time. The Moon is in its opening square to the Sun which is also an indication of struggle and conflict. Jupiter and Mercury conjunct the South Node expressing more of the energy from the eclipse. /
No Going Back

Another noteworthy feature of this chart is the absence of retrograde planets - even the Nodes aren't retrograde (common in eclipse season); Uranus and the nodes are stationing. Perhaps the events surrounding this time will be handled with little restraint or examination or may be met with little to no resistance. We also have three partile conjunctions within the sign of Capricorn: Jupiter conjunct the south node, Mercury conjunct the Sun, and Saturn conjunct Pluto. Saturn and Pluto will simultaneously be working to destroy and rebuild, as Mercury and the Sun may be engaged in structured negotiations while trying to shine light on the issues highlighted by the Moon. Jupiter will be facilitating a South Node release of outworn rules and archaic ideas. With the concentration of Capricorn energy, we know that issues and projects will be approached with a ruthless ambition. Because we’re talking about the Cancer/ Capricorn axis, solutions proposed will likely lean towards nostalgic longing.

A Grand Conjunction – The Big Day!

On January 12th we have the Sun, Saturn, Pluto, Ceres, and Mercury all within a degree of each other, and there has been plenty said about this configuration (chart 4). What I find notable is that this grouping doesn’t perfect nor will all four planets be partile. Mercury will speed by before Saturn has completed the conjunction, and the Sun won’t catch up until Saturn begins to separate from Pluto. This may mean that the themes of this conjunction will not actually take form, or because the Sun is late to the game, we can’t see what the Saturn/ Pluto conjunction actually reveals until some light is cast on it.

January 13th the Sun is conjunct Pluto, and Venus ingress into Pisces - its sign of exaltation. Here it can drape a dreamy veil of optimism over situations the previous days bring. Venus in Pisces can shift the focus to spiritual values and a desire to see the beauty in things, and can help loosen the boundaries so tightly wound by all the Capricorn emphasis.

Mercury beats the Sun into Aquarius on January 16th. Mercury here can bring new ideas and shifts the focus from structured Capricorn and moves it out to group consciousness. Once the Sun joins Mercury on January 20th this awareness will be further emphasized as the Sun is placing more focus on the collective rather than the needs of individuals.

Chinese New Year: New Moon in Aquarius – (Year of the Metal Rat)

The Chinese New Year New Moon on January 24th is at four degrees Aquarius. This will be a very busy balsamic phase for the Moon as it must pass the South Node, Jupiter, Pluto and Saturn before being void of course in Capricorn, then changing signs and finally meeting the Sun. There’s a feeling of closure to this series of contacts during the ending phase of the Moon. Perhaps some issues dredged up in all the build up to the Saturn/ Pluto conjunction can finally be resolved, or there could be closure to issues faced during the year-long dance between Saturn and Pluto. The New Moon brings fresh starts and new beginnings, and in Aquarius it can be about fresh ideas and a different point of view; Perhaps we’ll see new innovative solutions to old problems. This New Moon phase may have us analysing our relationship to society and how we fit in it.

Foggy with a Chance of Dreams

From the 25th - 28th of January Venus will square Mars then conjunct Neptune where they’ll both square Mars. These aspects can be delusional and exhausting, or inspirational and meditative depending on your resonance to this mutable energy. It may bring dreamy romantic connections or an intense need to take a nap. Either way - it’ll pass - so don’t bet the bank on things that come up during this aspect until after the fog of Neptune clears and you wake up from the dream.

Mercury passes through its pre-shadow on February 2nd the day before it ingresses into Pisces. This can give you some clues as to what the retrograde will bring. Mercury is in detriment and in fall in Pisces. In this sign, Mercury may reflect difficulty focusing on details and there may be a lack of reason and objectivity. Communication can be a challenge as things seem unfocused, and too broad to be analysed. The positive side of Mercury in Pisces is in the ability to adapt and go with the flow.

Fiery Goddess

Venus moves into Aries on February 7th, so we’ll have another planet in the sign of its detriment. Venus in Aries has the fire to go after what it wants with relentless vigor. It will not consider anyone else in the pursuit, and can tend to ignore the feelings of others: but finally having more fire in the sky will ignite some enthusiasm and energy, after the long dark Saturn season.

Fierce Pride

The Full Moon on February 9th is at 20 degrees of Leo at exactly sunrise in Greenwich. This lunation can shine the light on issues surrounding personal ego and the importance of the collective, or the effects of personal ego on the collective. The Leo Moon can show us that it’s okay to be fiercely proud of what’s important to us, but the Sun in Aquarius reminds us that the pride can’t be at the expense of the group or society. Venus moving to form a conjunction to Chiron shows there can be healing in standing up for what we value.

My Bloody Valentine

On the beloved commercial holiday that is Valentine’s Day, Venus in Aries is square the nodes and the Moon is in Scorpio, indicating that these might be particularly intense Red Heart days.
Transits of the Season

Determination and Drive
Mars moves into Capricorn, its sign of exaltation, on February 16th. This may provide us with more focus and can impart a practical drive that allows us to make progress on goals set forth by Saturn, as Saturn in rulership is Mars's task master now—this just in time for Mercury to station retrograde. Mercury retrograde in Pisces is usually disruptive with logistical matters. As this is a sign Mercury doesn't enjoy traversing through in the right direction, it tends to be quite tempestuous when heading in the retrograde motion. Think outside, no box required as far as Pisces goes!

Knows No Boundaries
The Sun moves into Pisces on February 19th, perhaps emphasizing values of compassion and empathy for each other. By the 22nd the Sun will form a sextile to Uranus and then Mars. The Mars aspect will last for six days as the two move at similar rates. The Sun in Pisces sextile Mars in Capricorn can bring some fantastic opportunities to revive (move forward with) some of your more creative and inspired ideas, bringing them down to earth and driving them ahead.

The Dreamer’s Moon
On February 23rd we have a New Moon in Pisces. This lunation with the Sun and Moon sextile Mars also features Jupiter sextile Neptune and square Venus. Raven Kalderra calls this “The Dreamer’s Moon”. There’s plenty of inspiration paired with the determination to make use of it, but you need to be on the lookout for the right opportunity. At the same time the hard aspect between Jupiter and Venus sparks enthusiasm and gives us a swift kick in the pants to take action. Jupiter/Venus aspects aren’t typically action oriented but more self-indulgent, but having them in active signs and in hard aspect to each other shifts the planetary energies in an active direction. Watch the sugar and the spending.

Hey! You're Going the Wrong Way!
On the 26th the Sun and Mercury form a conjunction as they drive past each other with Mercury going in retrograde motion. They’ll take turns forming a sextile to the Mars/South Node conjunction. This may give us another opportunity to revisit old creative ideas we’ve left on the shelf for a while, or maybe discard ideas we’ve been holding onto that are taking up space and will never come to fruition. This comes while we’re still in a New Moon phase, so making room for new beginnings by getting rid of what’s outdated is appropriate.

Put Up Your Dukes
On February 28th, Venus square Pluto shakes things up and perhaps injects some transformative energy into our value systems. With Venus in Aries this could be a rather combative transit, so think before you speak. Mercury’s in Pisces and retrograde, so communication can be confused, misinterpreted, or misdelivered. Make sure you mean what you say and are prepared for the consequences. Feelings can definitely be hurt.

It’s a leap year, so there’s a 29th day of February and we’ll be inspired with a Mercury/Uranus sextile which can bring us the chance to think about new solutions. They can reflect a spark of intellectual itch, and because Mercury is retrograde, it can point us in the direction of an old problem or logical challenge being addressed.

Think Before you Act
Venus in Aries forms a square to Saturn in Capricorn on March 3rd and could have us re-evaluating our commitments — especially romantic ones. This contact could have us questioning our relationships and weighing the cost benefit ratio in our lives. There’s a whole lot of cardinal energy in the sky right now without much fixed energy to hold things in place; this could bring rapid — even hasty — change. So think hard before you make any serious decisions. The zodiac mix of things is just right for some of us to make impetuous and maybe unfortunate choices — things we may need to revisit when Mercury gets through its post shadow phase.

I’m Back!
March 3rd and 4th, Mercury ingresses back into Aquarius while Venus ingresses into Taurus the next day. With two planets moving into the fixed signs, this shift in modal energy becomes more balanced. This change can bring some stability to the sky. Venus loves being in its own sign of Taurus, one could even say it languishes there. Now we have no planets in the fire element. This can lead to a more passive time for introspection.

The Virgo Full Moon asks you to be of service to yourself and others with a full and open heart.
Earthquake

Venus is conjunct Uranus on the 7th and 8th shaking the foundation of the otherwise stable Venus placement. This could have us questioning our relationships or financial situation. On the other hand, you could end up enjoying some unexpected excitement and perhaps new acquisitions. On the 8th, the Sun conjoins Neptune, potentially warping reality and distorting our sense of self. This stellar combo could leave people with a wobbly sense of reality. Positively, we may find tremendous inspiration for our creative expression. Relax and let it in; it is not time to try to control what is larger than self.

Open Your Heart

The Full Moon at 19 Virgo on March 9th involves a Neptune opposition. It is the last lunation of the season. Venus is separating from Uranus and the Sun is separating from Neptune as the Moon perfects this solar opposition. The Moon’s ruler, Mercury, is stationing direct so the action will slow for a beat, perhaps leaving us with cosmic sea legs, making it the perfect time to assess and discard that which is not serving you any longer. The Virgo Full Moon asks you to be of service to yourself and others with a full and open heart. The light shining on the Moon from the Sun has the filter of Neptune there, and with it we can see through the lens of spirit and connectivity without the usual physical boundaries of Virgo.

Out with a Bang

On the 16th, Mercury goes back into Pisces where we can pick up where we left off before the retrograde. Hopefully the backwards cycle combined with a Mercury in detriment hasn’t left anything permanently damaged. We end the season with Mars conjunct Jupiter in Capricorn on the 19th and 20th. This aspect brings us extra energy and vigor. Enjoy it! The only warning, which is always the case with Jupiter transits, don’t take on too much or over estimate your capabilities - definitely a possibility with Jupiter conjunct exalted Mars in industrious Capricorn.
PART FOUR: COMMUNICATING WITH THE FUTURE

Quick – which house of the horoscope rules communication? If you answered the third, you’re not wrong. Along with Mercury, this house and its ruling planet in your birth chart give strong clues about how you make yourself understood, and how you learn and use information.

But other houses are associated with communication, too. For one-to-one communication like client consultations, look to the seventh house. The first, fifth, and ninth houses tend to be performative: planets there might indicate a love of public speaking. The ninth house is also associated with publishing of a scholarly nature, while the third house lends itself to research and essays.

So which house of the chart describes broadcast and media? In my opinion, it’s the eleventh house, where we connect with people we’ve never met and find our natural audience. It describes the potential for us to touch distant audiences – even in the distant future - in ways we’ll never know.

That’s the territory we’ll cover in this final installment of the Communicating Astrologer – the world of social media, broadcasting, and publication.

Social Media

Social media is, by definition…sociable. Are you? I know I’ll never be a big social media star, because I don’t much enjoy it.

That said, I’ve managed to amass a reasonably sizeable Facebook following, and my Instagram audience is growing (and I do at least maintain tiny outposts on Twitter and YouTube). The basic formula for building a social media audience seems no different from building a website/blog following when I was starting out. Just post interesting things on a regular basis and encourage your audience through promotion and by interacting with them.

Regardless of the social media platform they use, astrologers who excel at social media are better than the rest of us at two things: attracting attention and building community. In addition to creating engaging content, they give their audience the feeling of being part of a group. Social media rock stars encourage comments, answer questions, acknowledge their audience members by name, and offer contests and discounts. And they share their colleagues’ work as well as their own, strengthening the larger community.

That said, social media can easily become a time-wasting distraction from other work. And it encourages the toxic tendency to compare ourselves to others. Somehow, scrolling through post after post of people doing amazing things conflates in your imagination to ALL of these people doing ALL of these things, every day, while you can barely manage a couple of posts each week!

If social media is uncomfortable for you but you know it’s important for promoting your business, consider hiring a social media manager. I work with a divine lady who repackages my articles and images into posts. I pop in every few days to handle any questions or important comments. Best money I’ve spent on my business in ages!

Social media is an excellent communication tool and useful in defining your business and your brand. But think of it most importantly as a tool to build and cultivate a community. It’s 11th house territory. And if you do it well, it can be an entry to most other forms of media as well. Including…

Publication

I’ve published three books with three different publishers, and I can say with confidence that without my website and social media audience, none of them would have happened. You never know who’s reading (or watching) what you’re putting out there; occasionally, they’re gatekeepers who approach you to write for them.

Now, what I’m about to say here may seem obvious. But the fact that publishers are always a bit shocked when I send them what I promised, when I promised it, and in usable condition, tells me that what should be common sense…isn’t.

Whether you’re writing for a magazine, a website, a journal, or a book publisher, the entire project is easier if you actually have something worth saying! It’s also important to recognize whether your idea would be better as an essay, an article, or a full-length book. Create an outline. If you think it could be a book, create a table of contents and a full sample chapter. If you still feel confident in your topic, it’s time to send out queries.

Querying. Magazines and journals are not secretive about how to submit topics or articles for publication. Simply look on their website for submission guidelines, and (here’s the important part) follow them! Don’t send a full article if a few sample paragraphs are requested. Don’t send paragraphs if you’re asked for two-line topics. And by the way, most publications want original material that hasn’t been published elsewhere and hasn’t been submitted to any other publication at the same time.

Preparing your manuscript. If you hit the jackpot and a full article or even a book is requested, send the cleanest manuscript you can. Yes, your work will be reviewed by an editor. Make their job easier. Stay within the agreed-upon word count, use your spell checker, and enlist a Virgo friend to check your grammar. If an editor sends you feedback and requests for changes, attend to it immediately. And remember,
it’s their job to make you look good. I’m the thinnest-skin person around, except when it comes to editors – I love them, because they make my work better!

**Submitting final materials.** You will be given a deadline for submitting for final materials. This deadline is not a suggestion. It’s your obligation as a professional to meet this deadline. It might be six months in advance of the issue in which your article will appear – but you have no idea of everything that has to be done and considered in advance of publication.

Now, real life can occasionally throw us curve balls. An illness, a death in the family, any number of unexpected developments can put you behind the 8-ball. If you really, truly have encountered one of these and need an extension to your deadline, let your editor know the minute you can.

**Book Publishers**

Most traditional publishers are not interested in anything astrological that isn’t accessible to a mainstream audience. Some will accept unsolicited manuscripts, and some won’t. Some (fewer and fewer) require that you submit through an agent. Again, the publisher’s submission guidelines should be posted on their website; be guided by them!

Once you have a publisher’s attention, you stand a much better chance of getting published if you have a strong social media following or a platform in conventional media (interviews on television, in mainstream magazines, etc.). In my experience, publishers care less about your content than about your audience. They want to know there is an audience eager to buy your book and a platform from which to market it. (And marketing your book, whether you self-publish or work with a publisher, will in most cases be almost entirely up to you.)

**Self-publishing**

As I mentioned, most traditional publishers – even some with a long tradition in metaphysical titles - have very limited interest in astrology books. They simply can’t afford to publish anything that isn’t simple and sun-sign oriented.

And so, more and more astrologers are self-publishing. The fact that this is so much easier these days is fantastic and makes it possible to publish on more specialized topics. Companies like Ingram Spark and Amazon-owned CreateSpace offer printed books on demand as well as E-Book options.

Just understand that everything a traditional publisher would do for your book is something you’re going to need to be prepared to do – or pay for – yourself. This includes editing, layout, and design services. Self-publishing isn’t free if it’s done well.

And of course, you will need to market your book, which really will be easier if you already have a strong social media presence, good connections in the astrological community - and a great book.

In short, your ideas may be brilliant, but if your book is riddled with spelling and grammatical errors, is poorly organized, and has an awful cover, most readers are going to give it a pass. And if you have no audience at all to market it to, they’ll never find it in the first place.

**Traditional media**

When I met with the alleged publicist assigned to my second book, I told her I would do virtually anything to promote the book except appear on television. The first promotional opportunity she brought to me was an offer to appear on a local morning television show.

I refused, she never spoke to me again, and I almost lost my agent.

However, I stand behind my decision. If you aren’t comfortable in a medium, you won’t do your best. The publisher offered me media training, but the problem wasn’t that I lack poise or things to say: it’s that I’m simply not happy being on camera.

Obviously, camera-friendly astrologers have an enormous advantage in the YouTube age. Television and radio stations alike are desperate for poised and articulate interviewees whenever the latest rehash of the 13th sign “controversy” arises, a big eclipse is happening, or a national election is coming up. If you feel television or radio are your wheelhouse, get to know these predictable topics inside and out, as well as how to give a concise and lively analysis of the year ahead. Put together a few 5-minute audiovisual packages on these topics and upload them to your YouTube channel.

Work on your Google rankings. Treat yourself to a couple of hours with a media consultant. Then, get in touch with your local media outlets to let them know that you exist. Believe me, they’ll be looking for you.

**Media Kit**

Whether you’re promoting your book, your podcast, your YouTube show, or your services as a media expert, you’ll need a professional media kit.

It should include a high-resolution (ask your photographer if you don’t know what that means) head shot, a one-page PDF with highlights of your experience and expertise, and a sample of your work – links to your website and social media accounts, a short clip from a media appearance, a lecture recording if you’re applying to speak for a conference or group. Prepare a one-sheet of sample interview questions about your book or topic. The idea is to make it as easy as possible for the media to contact you, interview you, and promote you.

**Communicating with Astrology**

Whether we specialize in counseling, research, writing, or social media, astrologers are members of a communicating profession. As I pointed out in my first installment of this series, we’re in the business of decoding the language of the sky and translating it for others. That’s true whether you never speak before an audience, create a YouTube video, write a book, or counsel a client.

The medium you use for your astrology work is, in my opinion, a lot less important than the way you use it – and far, far less important than what you have to say. If you’re particularly good at writing, focus on that; you’ll communicate better there. If you’re fantastic on camera, YouTube and Facebook/Instagram Live await you! And if you love to get up in front of an audience, use teaching and lectures to get your message across.

Regardless of how you communicate, remember that astrology is first and foremost a conversation between us and the sky. As we share its language, we owe it to ourselves and our audiences to communicate as clearly, concisely, and creatively as we can.

**April Elliott Kent** has practiced astrology professionally since 1990. She’s the author of three books, a popular lecturer, and a member of OPA, ISAR, NCGR, and AFAN. She serves on the AFAN Steering Committee and as president of the San Diego Astralological Society. April graduated from San Diego State University with honors in Communication. She lives in San Diego’s Normal Heights neighborhood with her long-suffering husband and their cat, Spike. Her website is [www.bigskyastrology.com](http://www.bigskyastrology.com).
The Moon in Jyotish, as in many other astrology systems, represents our connection to life. While we receive the life energy from the Sun via the father, it is our mothers who receive that intent and provides a container of flesh and blood for it. In Jyotish, the Moon represents the blood and all our blood relations in general, the most significant of which (and the first) being that special blood connection to the mother. In the astrological sign of Cancer, we see the tidal push and pull of the exchange of blood in the womb: receiving nutrient-rich blood and the removal of wastes via the blood as well. The moving waters of Cancer represent the duality of this blood exchange with the mother in the darkness and sanctity of the womb. Here we received the body with its inherent ability to replace old cells and heal.

This constant-flowing in and out principle of Cancer in the womb is essential for the life of the body, but the very same push and pull and flow is essential for the health of the mind too. The Moon in Jyotish, therefore, best shows the mind-body connection in its flowing or animated aspect. Its shows how we move and flow through life based upon our subjective preferences.

The Moon is exalted in the sign of Taurus (ruled by Venus) and is debilitated in the sign Scorpio (ruled by Mars). Therefore, Moon-Venus combinations indicate high-pressure and immune diseases, whereas Moon-Mars combinations indicate low-pressure and loss of blood. In Jyotish, the connection between Moon and Mars, and Moon and Venus in the chart tell us a great deal of information about the built-in health dynamics of the physical body, as well as the flow potential of the mind. Mars, the controller of fire, is not welcome in association with the cooling waters of the Moon (mind). Tense affictions between the two can indicate mania and schizophrenia. Saturn in its rulership of Aquarius shows the slowing down of the mind, and tense connections between Saturn and the Moon can indicate deterioration of memory and alzheimers or dementia.

Jyotish recognizes the deep connection between food and the quality of the flow of the mind. This is because the Moon is exalted in the sign of Taurus, the natural second house of the zodiac related to ingestion of food into the physical body. The 2nd House also is the face in Jyotish, because it is from here that all sensory stimuli are centralized and “ingested” by the mind-body connection. Sensory hedonism is what gives the mind and heart its peak delights, the Moon is exalted in this area of activity.

THE FLOW OF THE MIND

So we can understand the priority for the Moon to flow. There are however some restrictions to this flow. This manifests at a chakra level as well, and in depth psychology in Jyotish this plays a great role. The Moon functions best when there are no planets in the same sign as it, because these planets (and their agenda) tend to ‘sit on the mind’ a lot, forming a subjective bias override, and therefore restricting the full free-flow of the mind through life.

The Moon also functions better if there are planets in adjacent signs. A happy Moon is one that has made connections in the past (planets in the sign before the Moon sign), and that will make connections in the future (planets in the sign after the Moon sign).
The Moon is our connection to life, our spiritual and material plug alternating with each other in the see-saw dynamic of duality.

WAYS TO STRENGTHEN THE MOON

These are simple day-to-day practices that help strengthen the Moon within you and around you.

- Wear more white or pastel coloured clothes
- Keep your clothes neat and tidy and stored considerately.
- Wear fresh clean clothes everyday. Don't wear clothes repeatedly from day to day
- Eat clean, homemade, fresh food. Don't eat processed or stale food or food that has been stored for more than a day.
- Take time to write your emotions and feelings in a journal, and pause to digest the emotions and connect with them. It helps to speak to a friend you trust.
- Share food with people you care about and who care for you
- Donate food and clothes to orphanages and fertility centres.

CONCLUSION

In this way, Jyotish assesses the flow capacity and healing capacity of the mind-body system, pointing out issues to be remedied in its flow, and strengthening bonds of delight for the mind to flow ever forward, receiving the intention of the soul Sun on its evolutionary journey.
Part 4: Using Astrology to Develop your Daily Business Goals

In the final article of this four-part series we will explore utilizing Astrology as a tool to determine goal setting and business planning. To increase your chances of succeeding in your practice, I would advise to pre-plan your progress as much as possible in order to focus your efforts where they will give you the biggest bang.

Movement

One suggestion is to keep a log of your planetary cycles and how your chart, as well as your business chart, is activated so you have this information at your fingertips. You will be able to quickly identify where the strong and weak points are.

Where to begin

Secondary Progressions (SP) are a great starting point as they will provide long-term markers that will show a significant shift in energy and growth for yourself and your business. SP movement is most prevalent as the business (or business owner) matures. The planets to watch are the Sun, which moves just under 1 degree per year or more or less three signs per lifetime; the Moon moves 12 to 15 degrees per year which translates to approximately 30 years to move around the entire chart; Mercury needs to be watched closely as it has erratic retrograde and direction motion that can have a significant impact on writing, advertising, websites and other communication; Venus moves around 1 degree 12’ per year (unless it goes retrograde) and indicates financial management and opportunities. Mars moves .5 degrees per year and refers to strong developmental patterns, breakthroughs or setbacks.

You may see a shift in the Social and Collective planets (Jupiter to Pluto) if the natal planet is close to moving direct or retrograde from birth. Additionally, keep your eye on a natal planet if it is at the end of a sign as you may find it moving signs by SP; and finally you may see a change in house placement. These markers will prove to be significant in the functioning of the planet’s essential nature and evolutionary growth of the business (or business owner). When a SP planet makes an aspect to a natal planet, it will certainly have significant and longer-term effect.

The next step is to focus on transits. Start with the slow planetary movements of Pluto, Neptune, Uranus and Saturn as these will activate fundamental issues. Look for new transits to significant houses and tight aspects to natal planets. Most often the transit over the natal planet is a long process with a triple effect. This is when the transiting planet contacts the Natal by an exact degree, three times due to retrograde and direct motions.

Pay particular attention to transits, progressions that will influence 2nd (finances) 6th (work), 7th (partnership), and the 10th house (Career), and if you have international clients also consider the 9th. Don’t forget to work with the rulership planets of those houses and any significant players in the chart like final dispositors, foundational energy and chart ruler.

Here is an example snap shot from an upcoming transiting Pluto & Saturn conjunction in January 2020 for a business in its 9th year. See bi-wheel charts on the following pages.

Comb through the chart to see what major shifts are coming up, then set goals by making a list of upcoming projects like web-design launch, new type of offerings and projected launch dates, speaking engagements and financial concerns.

The chart gets pretty messy when you are using multiple movement techniques, just take them one at a time in order to dissect the meanings and aspect connections to the natal chart, (remember that they need to have a connection directly to the natal chart in order to affect the business).
Example chart - Here are a few of the standout secondary progressions and transits for January 2020.

TRANSITS: Outer transits – Neptune is Squaring the natal Nodes; transiting Nodes sextile/trine natal Sun, transiting Venus applying to Neptune and separating from an opposition to natal Mars; transiting Uranus conjunct natal Jupiter; transiting Chiron conjunct natal Uranus.

Saturn Pluto Sun Mercury conjunction in Capricorn is sextile the business Ascendant and square the natal Saturn in Libra.

(Chart 1, below)

SP: Ascendant has shifted into Sagittarius (now activating Jupiter); Mercury and Venus at 7 Sagittarius are Semi-sixtiple natal Sun at 7 Scorpio; Moon in Aries in the 5th house opposing natal Saturn.

(Chart 2, following page)

Formulating a Plan and Business Goal setting based on the Astrology

This is a successful multifaceted business owned by our previous test subject chart, the entrepreneur has a wide spectrum of jobs that she takes on such as construction management, job safety programs, Reiki, massage, and astrology.

The business is at a potential crossroads and needs to balance between what has been offered in the past with the new vision currently being developed in order to align the company with its future potential. There may be a conflict between wanting to forge ahead with new innovative products and old ways of operating without the structure, organization and finances to support the business model. The reputation of the business is at stake here – so this is something that really needs to be considered when rolling out new product offerings during this time period.

The 2nd house of finances with day to day operating capital has the transiting Capricorn stellium moving through, transiting Nodes (initiating and energizing the path) in Capricorn/Cancer (Initiating visionary ideas) activate natal Pluto/Moon (creating lasting change in patterns and ability to use earnings in the transformation process), Transiting Mercury in Capricorn square natal Saturn in Libra (the need to listen to others or seek out advice that will balance the old and new ways of building better business goals) (this encompasses a transiting Uranus conjunct natal Jupiter which ties into the transiting Nodes/Jupiter conjunct natal Pluto/Moon and Natal Sun is activated, there is also a semi-sixtiple/Quincunx secondary progressed Mercury/Venus also transiting Mars infusing with energy)

- There should be a review of long-term goals (especially related to finances) to ensure they still meet the current vision. The company/owner should continue to set innovative and cutting-edge goals as it looks toward creative new frontier products that may enhance or support the current and future patterns.
- Continue to make adjustments as the company explores value added products highlighting the business’ ability to communicate its problem-solving skills.
Goal Setting for your Astrology Practice

• Seek professional advice on...
  • expanding the business model and revisiting the business organizational structure...
  • expanding the business through outsourcing (web-design, marketing, etc)
  • finances

The business may start to take on a more optimistic outlook along with a wider range of clientele. (SP Ascendant has moved into Sagittarius activating Jupiter, expanding the business through outsourcing (web-design, marketing, etc)

There may be an opportunity for the (Astrology) business to become more mainstream (transiting Chiron conjunct natal Uranus in the 4th house ruled by Mars in the 9th house of publications, higher education activating the SP Ascendant)

• Set goals on marketing or speaking engagements that will reach a larger audience

The business should guard against unrealistic expectations of clients and ensure that the business does not promise more than (the business owner’s) skill-set can actually deliver. (natal Saturn opposite Progressed Moon square the transiting stellium in Capricorn in the 2nd house, also bring in the Natal Mars opposite Neptune/Chiron activation by transiting Venus.)

• A great goal might be to seek out (truth) knowledge or mentorship for new product offerings.

The Next Step

Now you can take the owner/entrepreneur’s chart, and go through the same process as you did with the business chart. Look at cross over information that might provide focus to areas of conflict or where one chart might balance out the other, especially in areas of finance, product development and client relationships.

I hope you have enjoyed this series of business goal setting. Wishing you the very best in your professional practice.

Tamira DK McGillivray is a Professional Astrologer & Teacher currently living in Dartmouth NS (Halifax) Canada. Holds a BA in East West Traditions in Astrological Studies (Kepler College) 2003 – 2007 & Certified NCGR III, Currently working toward MA, University of Wales, Cultural Astronomy and Astrology. Vice Chair Kepler Board of Trustees and Kepler Admin Council, also Kepler College Core Course Teacher, A practicing Usui Reiki Master (1996) and a Registered Karuna Reiki® Master through the International Center for Reiki Training. Studied with Dolores Cannon as a QHHT Practitioner (certified level II) RYT Certified Yoga Teacher Roots & Wings Yoga Studio (Vista California), Specializing in Yoga for Meditation … utilizing Sound.
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**PROCESS**

- Participate in 3 Peer Group Processes successfully.
- Participate in the Integrative Consulting Skills program (OPA or ISAR Programs valid)
- Join the In-person or online Astronomy for Astrologers training.

**EVALUATION**

- **Competence in Analysis:** Astrologer can fluently and accurately analyze charts in their own system of choice.
- Astrologer demonstrates care, tolerance, compassion, ethical and responsible behavior toward their client. They maintain healthy boundaries with their client and demonstrate healthy control of the session. They are able to discuss difficult challenges or issues, while making practical suggestions to manage those challenges and empower their client. They have adequately conveyed chart content without intimidation, cynicism, self-righteousness, or over-identification with the client’s situation.
- Management of practice – the astrologer can show vulnerability, humility, and admit mistakes.
- Astrologer has a vision for their practice and for astrology as a whole. They aspire to grow and take practical steps to manage and balance ambition and self-care.
- **Astronomy for Astrologers** - astrologer demonstrates an understanding of fundamental planetary mechanisms, the Precession of the Equinoxes, the difference between the three zodiacs, among other Astronomy references.

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- Astrologer must remain professionally active as an astrologer and remain involved in educational programs (be aware of conferences, workshops attendance, etc…)
- Must maintain ethical standards of practice.
- Certification will be reassessed if any formal complaints have been filed against the astrologer.
- Astrologer must renew their certification after seven years by participating in a Peer Group within that time frame.
The 2020 US Election Candidates
by Maurice Fernandez

In the midst of an impeachment process and ongoing campaign for a Democratic nominee, a lot of water will run under the bridge before we really know who is actually running. However, we can take this new year opportunity to glance at some of the astrological favourites for the elections.

MAJOR ASTROLOGICAL ACTIVATIONS TO SUPPORT A WIN FOR THE ELECTIONS:

- **Nodes in Gemini/Sagittarius** favoring candidates with strong elements around 20° Gemini/Sag. (+10 points if exact)
- Including a **Moon in Gemini on the North Node** on Election Day
- **Eclipse** at 0° Cancer on June Solstice. (+5 points if exact)
- **Pluto/Saturn/Jupiter cycles** around 22-24° Capricorn. (can be both supportive or detrimental)
- **Jupiter/Saturn leadership cycle** at 0° Aquarius (+10 points if exact)
- **Inauguration Sun** at 0° Aquarius
- **Mars Retrograde 15° Aries** on Election Day (can be both supportive or detrimental)
- **Election Sun** at 12° Scorpio (+5 points if exact)

Note: we do not have a birth time for most candidates, making this study limited in its scope and precision.
Donald Trump
Name: Donald J. Trump
DOB: 14 Apr 1946
Time: 21:30 PM
Place: San Diego, CA
Type: Natural

SCORES

Trump: +20 -10
Warren: +20
Biden: +12
Buttigieg: +32 -5
Sanders: +21
Bloomberg: +3
Booker: +16

I will label you both dwarf planets

Whatever!

I decided you don't exist

Whatever!
OPA
SOUTH AFRICA
December 2019

OPA monthly meetings in Johannesburg with Satellite representative Elena van Baalen!

Special OPA Meeting in Cape Town about the YEAR 2020, with presenters Theo Naicker (Vedic Perspective on the new year), Marietta van der Werff (the last leg leading to 2020), and Maurice Fernandez (Saturn/Jupiter/Pluto and the Mars Retrograde cycle).

Solstice Celebration with a growing OPA Community in Istanbul, Turkey

With Oner Doser, Çağla Ercanoğlu, Burcu Çakır, Dilara Efeoglu and the whole OPA Turkey tribe!
OPA, The Organization for Professional Astrology, is dedicated to promoting Accessibility, Sustainability, and Credibility for astrologers. Incorporated on October 4, 2000 at 1:45 pm EDT in Tallahassee, Florida, OPA provides members with opportunities and tools to study astrology and establish or improve their astrological practice. Membership is open to any level of expertise. Among the benefits: free presentations and panels by top notch astrologers, opportunities to be published in The Career Astrologer magazine, and being part of a global community of astrologers through conferences and online discussions. Annual dues are $60.00.

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**UPCOMING Astrology CONFERENCES**

**MARCH 2020**

27-30 **Vibrational Astrology Conference**, Gainesville, FL  

**APRIL 2020**

23-29 **OPA RETREAT**, Zion National Park, Utah  
[www.OPAastrology.org](http://www.OPAastrology.org)

**MAY 2020**

5-12 **Astrology Rising Conference** in Costa Rica  
[www.astrologyrisingcostarica.com](http://www.astrologyrisingcostarica.com)

**AUGUST 2020**

7-9 **Astrology, Consciousness & The Great Shift**, Sponsored by OPA at Omega Institute of Holistic Studies, Rhinebeck, NY  
[www.eomega.org/workshops/astrology-consciousness-the-great-shift](http://www.eomega.org/workshops/astrology-consciousness-the-great-shift)

**SEPTEMBER 2020**

10-14 **ISAR Conference**, Westminster, CO  
[www.isarastrology.org/conference](http://www.isarastrology.org/conference)
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SUNDAY, JANUARY 12
BOAZ FYLER (Israel)
A new Gender Paradigm for Astrologers

SATURDAY, JAN 25
MONICA DIMINO (MA)
The Chinese New Year of the Metal Rat

SUNDAY FEB 8
ONER DOSER (Turkey)
Traditional Ways to Find Significators

SUNDAY FEB 23
CHRISTOPHER RENSTROM (UT)
Relationships: Step Away From the Seventh House

SUNDAY MARCH 8
LAURA NALBANDIAN (WA)
Ceres in the Chart

SUNDAY MARCH 22
MARC LAURENSON (Australia)
The Intermission of the Soul - The Neptune Square Neptune Transit

SUNDAY APRIL 5
ZEYNEP YALCI (Turkey)
Annual Profections and Solar Returns

SATURDAY, MAY 9
APRIL KENT (CA)
Using Your Birth Chart to Market Yourself

SUNDAY MAY 31
MICHELE FINEY (Australia)
Metonic Magic and Mystery

SUNDAY JUNE 14
RONALD TIGGLE (MA)
Calculating Secondary, Tertiary and Solar Arc Directions

SUNDAY JUNE 28
MICHAEL BARTLETT (NM)
Maverick Planets: Do you have what it takes to change the world?

SUNDAY JULY 12
GAYE ALKAN (Turkey)
Aristotle's Hamartia In the Charts

SATURDAY JULY 25
RACHEL LANG (CA)
Asteroids in Love: Incorporating Asteroids in Relationship Charts

SUNDAY AUGUST 30
LYNN BELL (France)
TBD

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20
OMARI MARTIN (IL)
Electoral Astrology

SATURDAY OCTOBER 4
EDA OCAK (Turkey)
Astrology in Sufi Tradition & Alī Ibn 'Arabī’s Mystic Approach to Astrology

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8
GRACE MORRIS (IL)
How a Business/Financial Astrologer Works!

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 22
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