Welcome!

Blessings on this Equinox, the path of the Middle Way, bringing us from the extremes to a point of balance. We are moving into Spring in the Southern hemisphere and Autumn in the Northern hemisphere, a time for seeding or harvesting.

Interestingly during these coming weeks the North Node is aligned with the Fixed Star Sirius, the brightest Sun in our skies in the constellation of Canis Majoris (the Dog), and a significant marker for many ancient and indigenous cultures, including the Dogon, Egyptians, Persians, and many others. Find the canine within, both gentle hearted, protector and biting when needing to!

In this edition of the Career Astrologer we have focused on a favourite Libra theme: Relationships! Our culture is evolving rapidly and values associated with relationships are changing accordingly. Gender roles now have a much wider spectrum, marriage is no longer a status symbol or a survival necessity, and the divorce rate rises, marking times of strong individuation and an effort of emancipation as we strive to establish equality and social justice. With every change comes risk and loss of security as our old model of relationship and family is deconstructed. We hope you enjoy these offerings.

At OPA we strive to expose our readers to resources available for students or practitioners. In this issue we have listed prominent Non-Profit organizations which serve the cause to elevate, cultivate, and foster the practice of Astrology in different parts of the world. We are glad to have dedicated people who offer their time and expertise to nourish our community and provide a reference point.

OPA WORLD

Two of the OPA Retreat tracks are sold out
- Predictive Techniques with Anne Ortelee
- Physical and Mental Health with Maurice Fernandez

OPAastrology.org
Another track is approaching the maximum as well, so make sure to sign up early in order to secure your spot in your track of choice: See the list of tracks on page 22

2020 Retreat Part II – one last spot available in both Anne Ortelee and Donna Young’s Peer Groups.

ASTROLOGY FUNDAMENTALS ONLINE PROGRAM:
OPA is delighted to offer this program introducing novice and beginners in astrology to the building blocks of Astrology analysis. It consist of 10 videos which you can view and study at your own time. This can also serve those of you who would like to review the fundamentals and solidify your foundation.

To view the introductory video, click this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h-g9iyW8i2I

On a closing note, we wish you all an amazing season. By next edition, Jupiter will have moved to Capricorn. We celebrate this new cycle beginning on December 2nd.

With blessings
Maurice Fernandez
Opaastronomy.org
### September Equinox - December Solstice 2019

**Themes for**

**All Times are listed in BST until October 27th and GMT thereafter.**

**INGRESSES**

**Scorpio – October 8th**

**Sagittarius – November 1st**

**Capricorn – November 26th**

**Aquarius – December 20th**

**Libra – October 4th**

**Scorpio – November 19th**

**Capricorn – December 2nd**

Mercury enters shadow at 11 Scorpio – October 12th
Mercury retrogrades at 27 Scorpio – October 31st
Mercury Direct at 11 Scorpio – November 19th
Mercury exists shadow at 27 Scorpio – December 7th

### LIST OF EXACT TRANSITS

#### SEPTEMBER

- **23** Autumnal Equinox (Spring Equinox in the southern hemisphere) 8:50 AM BST
  \( \odot = \odot, \lambda = \psi \) (Sept. 14–28)
- **24** \( \varphi = \psi \), \( \odot = \psi \) (Sept. 24–26)
- **26 – 27** \( \varphi = \psi \), \( \odot = \psi \) (Sept. 27–29)
- **28** New \( \odot = 5^\circ 17' \) @ 6:24 PM and opposite \( \delta \)
- **30** \( \varphi = \psi \)

#### OCTOBER

- **2** \( \psi = \psi \)
- **3** \( \lambda = \psi \) @ 9:15 AM
- **4** \( \lambda = \psi \) @ 5:22 AM
- **6** \( \psi = \psi \) (at the bendings)
- **7** \( \psi = \psi \) opposite \( \delta \) (Oct. 8 & 9)
- **10** \( \odot = \psi \) (Oct. 9 – 10)
- **11** \( \psi = \psi \)
- **12** \( \psi = \psi \) (Oct. 12 – 13), \( \lambda = \psi \) (Oct. 11 – 13)
- **13** Full \( \odot = 20^\circ 14' \) @ 10:14 PM
- **16** \( \odot = \psi \) (Oct. 15 - 16)
- **17** \( \varphi = \psi \)
- **20** \( \lambda = \psi \) (Oct. 20 – 22)
- **21** \( \lambda = \psi \) (Oct. 21 – 22)
- **23** \( \psi = \psi \) @ 6:20 PM
- **26** \( \psi = \psi \) (Oct. 26–28)
- **27** \( \psi = \psi \)
- **28** New \( \odot = 4^\circ 25' \) @ 3:38 AM
- **30** \( \varphi = \psi \)
  \( \varphi = \psi \) (Oct. 29 – 31)

#### NOVEMBER

- **1** @ 8:24 PM \( \varphi = \psi \)
- **2** \( \odot = \odot \) (Nov. 2 – 3), \( \lambda = \psi \)
- **3** \( \varphi = \psi \)
- **4** \( \lambda = \psi \) (Nov. 4 – 5)
- **8** \( \lambda = \psi \) (exact)
- **9** \( \varphi = \psi \)
- **1** \( \odot = \psi \) Cazimi: 12:19 PM – 6:12 PM
- **12** Full \( \odot = 19^\circ 51' \) @ 1:34 PM
- **14** \( \lambda = \psi \) (Nov. 13 – 14), \( \lambda = \psi \)
  \( \lambda = \psi \) (Nov. 14 – Dec. 13)
- **19** 7:40 AM \( \lambda = \psi \), \( \psi = \psi \)
- **22** @ 2:59 PM \( \psi = \psi \)
- **23** \( \lambda = \lambda \)
  \( \lambda = \psi \) (Nov. 23 – 25)
- **24** \( \odot = \odot \), \( \lambda = \psi \) (Nov. 24 – 25)
- **26** @ 12:28 AM \( \lambda = \psi \), \( \psi = \psi \),
  New \( \odot = 4^\circ 03' \) @ 3:05 PM
- **27** \( \psi = \psi \), \( \varphi = \psi \)
- **28** \( \psi = \psi \)

#### DECEMBER

- **2** \( \psi = \psi \)
  \( \lambda = \psi \)
- **4** \( \lambda = \psi \) (Dec. 4 – 11)
- **7** \( \lambda = \psi \) (Dec. 7 & 8), \( \psi = \psi \)
- **9** \( \lambda = \psi \)
  @ 9:41 AM
- **12** Full \( \odot = 19^\circ 51' \) @ 5:12 AM, \( \lambda = \psi \)
  (Dec. 12 – 16), \( \lambda = \psi \)
  \( \lambda = \psi \) (Dec. 12 – 14)
- **19** \( \varphi = \psi \)
- **20** @ 6:41 AM \( \varphi = \psi \)
The Air that I Breathe

We can finally breathe. Having Venus, Mercury and now the Sun in Libra - there’s air. Those of us with heavy air in our charts have finally been able to go back to rationalizing our feelings: something that went away after Venus took her last gasp of air back on July 3rd when she left Gemini and moved into Cancer. Well hooray! Venus is back in her beloved Libra, Mercury is nearby and the Sun has joined the festivities. Those loving all the fire and water of the summer (winter) may not be rejoicing, but astrology rarely keeps all of us happy at once.

Change is Good – SEPT 21 - 26

We begin the season with Saturn slowly moving forward, Jupiter is separating from a square to Neptune (Sept. 14th – 24th), a potentially self-indulgent time of over extension and perhaps delusions of grandeur. Saturn direct may slap the delusional to their senses quickly and efficiently. Venus square Saturn and the Nodes from the 24th – 26th could create some serious tension between hard work and the desire to luxuriate, but the benefit of the tension between these 2 planets could catapult some of us to great productivity.

Mercury’s square to the nodes may highlight a need for a more intellectual approach to our current collective dilemmas, or maybe even trigger a collective movement in that direction. Rational arguments have been actively suppressed in the recent past, hopefully Mercury square the Moon’s nodes will shake some of the delusion loose, allowing people to see a different perspective.

Finally Letting Go – SEPT 28

This season the lunations are extremely active. On September 28th Saturn will make its final conjunction to the South node in a dance they’ve been doing since April, giving us the opportunity to close a specific door to the past. As Saturn separates from the South Node, the New Moon in Libra perfects. The Sun and Moon at 5 Libra are applying to a partile quincunx to Uranus in Taurus. The ruler of the New Moon, Venus is in its own sign and applying to a partile sextile to Jupiter, also in rulership. The New Moon is Libra quincunx Uranus may bring a crisis in independence versus co-dependence. The aspect allowing and/or demanding adjustments be made, perhaps creating a crisis in order to force one to face the issue. The sextile to Jupiter allows opportunity for a difficult situation to be tackled with optimism, and for the outcome to be favourable if the problem is faced, crises are dealt with and opportunities are taken. Being a New Moon, the outcome can’t be seen yet, but there’s newness and a fresh perspective available. With Jupiter and Venus both separating from their aspects to Neptune, the rose colored glasses are off and situations can be seen for what they are. But remember, with Uranus involved, any solutions will not be conventional.

Take Only Your Valuables – OCT 1

This New Moon is followed by its ruler Venus forming a square to Pluto. Chances are, anything that needed to change and is being ignored will not be avoidable during this aspect. The potential of Pluto square Venus in Libra is for anything of value that’s not necessary being fair game for destruction–what we think we value or relationships that are not truly supporting us may be torn down. There’s extra power in this as Pluto is getting ready to station direct just as this aspects separates.

Shift Your Focus – OCT 2-12

During this Pluto station, Mercury moves into Scorpio. As Pluto slowly moves direct, Mars shifts into the sign of its detriment–Libra. This could usher in a phase of aggressive diplomacy based on a perception of bringing a revolution. But with Mars moving to an opposition to Chiron and Mercury moving into a quincunx to Chiron and opposition to Uranus, there may be a feeling that nobodies looking in the right direction or focusing on the most relevant or pressing issues, and any tactics to fix problems will fail or need to be re-calibrated. All in all these aspects are uncomfortable and awkward, and the news cycle may get extra bizarre and/or confusing and/or contradictory.

Full Circle OCT 6-8

October 6th-8th the Sun will square the Nodes and then Saturn. This is the Sun’s closing square to Saturn. The opening square was the week of April 12th of this year, so we may see a revisiting of events that appeared then. Some key issues from that week were: the extension of Brexit, Julian Assange removed from the Ecuador’s embassy, the Sudanese Dictator was removed, and new abortion bills were...
Transits of the Season

signed in the US - all things to keep an eye out for. October 8th Venus shifts into detriment in Scorpio, so we may all be plunged into investigating and evaluating our values and what we expect from love or money.

Make Love Not War OCT 13
The Full Moon on October 13th involves the Moon in Aries opposing the Sun in Libra applying to the square to Pluto in Capricorn. A cardinal T-square has all the potential of change and movement, but involving Pluto we would anticipate such change on a grand scale- the Moon lighting up what can’t be ignored. Mars is ruling the Moon and Venus the Sun- Venus and Mars are in mutual reception. There is definitely a conversation going on between all these planetary bodies about war versus diplomacy and the need to find a balance between these 2 positions.

The Moon is trine Jupiter- hopefully this aspect brings optimism and big ideas that tip in a positive direction of growth, but the risk is Jupiter can add the element of ideological superiority and then the trine may create an element of justifying horrible acts in the name of religion and ideological disagreements. Anyone with planets around the 20 degree mark (especially cardinal signs) may experience a real shift.

Hard Work Never Killed Anyone OCT 14-16
Mercury is sextile Saturn, so the potential to create a very pragmatic plan is possible, but based on the planets and aspects involved in the Full Moon t-square and having Mercury in Scorpio applying to Saturn, the plan will be intense, potentially cathartic and a lot of hard work. Seize the opportunity if it presents itself. This is all followed up by Mercury applying to a trine to Neptune, so the pressure could lead to more escapism and delusion, or maybe creative inspiration leading to a spiritual awakening. Nevertheless our collective intuition could be through the roof.

Easy Street, but then...
After the Full Moon, we’re blessed with a week of harmonious aspects, allowing us some room to exhale and process what the intense lunation brought into the light. From the 20th - 22nd, Mars is square the Nodal Axis. This may shake up the collective consciousness and potentially bring an urge to confront and separate. Mars in Libra can bring a desire to negotiate and can go as far as trying to achieve peace at all costs.
sent a lot of conflict without resolution, but because Mars is in mutual reception with its ruler Venus and Venus is working with Mercury, I’d say the potential for productive negotiations are in place. However, this will take time and most likely have to be revised. With Mercury getting ready to station retrograde, the possibility of any progress or change implemented at this time will likely have to be revisited. Sometimes when we have a Mercury Venus conjunction, we have a difficult time distinguishing between our thoughts and feelings, we can become dramatic, and there’s the potential for overreacting. Sometimes it works the other way where we are able to rationalize our feelings or put them into words. I suspect that the former will be the case since Mercury is stationing retrograde, and (in my opinion) hasn’t really sobered up since his tango with Neptune back in the spring, so the potential for clear thinking and rational thought taking the lead aren’t good.

Take It Where You Can Get It – NOV 1-5

November 1st Mercury begins its retrograde cycle and Venus enters Sagittarius. Between the waxing Moon and Venus in a fire sign, the vibe should be lighter than it has been. Jupiter is still in its own optimistic sign, so the prospect for brighter spirits is here, giving us at least a day of potential levity before **Mars moves into range of a square to Pluto.** While this has the possibility of being a volatile and destructive transit, there’s also the chance for creative transformation. Bear in mind this is sometimes achieved though conflict, and when I see this combination of planets, aspect and quadruplicity, conflict is the first thing that comes to mind. But maybe with Mars’ ruling planet in Sagittarius, the potential for diplomacy with Mars in Libra will be greater.

Making Dreams Come True – NOV 9

We also have Saturn applying to a sextile to Neptune. The potential for making dreams a reality is the best of this aspect. Creating pragmatic plans out of our wildest dreams is the opportunity in this sextile, and it may be a mitigating factor for the Mars Pluto square. Another possibility of this combination of aspects and planetary placements is conflict in the name of religion, but let’s focus on making our wildest dreams a reality.

Smooth Sailing - NOV 8 - 14

November 8th – 14th we’re gifted with several soft aspects. By November 8th and 9th we have the Sun sextile Saturn and trine Neptune. November 10th Mercury is sextile Neptune and Mars is sextile Jupiter. The 13th Mercury is sextile Saturn and the Sun is sextile Pluto. Opportunities abound so pay attention! In the middle of it all we have a gorgeous Full Moon on November 12th.

Share the Wealth – NOV 11 - 15

With the Full Moon in its sign of exaltation in Taurus trine Pluto while Mars is sextile Jupiter - some of us are being reminded to have gratitude for the comfort and beauty in our lives. There’s a call to generosity in this Full Moon chart - perhaps transformation through philanthropy. This idea is affirmed with Venus square Neptune, but don’t let people take advantage of you. Venus goes out of bounds for the next month, so aspects involving Venus may be unpredictable, or more dramatic than the usual Venus contacts. The houses in your chart ruled by Venus might get some abnormal activity while Venus operates out of the range of the Sun’s oversight.

A Deep Well – NOV 19

November 19th, **Mars moves into its own sign of Scorpio** and once again we have no planets in air. When this happened earlier in the summer, the dominant water sign was Cancer. I saw a lot of air sign clients and talked to friends dominated by air, and the consensus was we were all having a pity party and hating having to sit in our feelings. I predict that although just as uncomfortable, the predominance of Scorpio with the inclusion of Mars could potentially be more ragey. We’ll have to wait and see. For those of you who are accustomed natally to the depth of the watery planets, this could be a very cathartic time of deep emotional exploration. Mercury is stationing direct and will start to move forward on November 21st.

Let it Go – NOV 22 - 26

The Sun ingressues into Sagittarius on November 22nd just as **Mars applies to an opposition to Uranus, and Venus applies to a conjunction to Jupiter.** Mars opposing Uranus can be an explosive transit. There’s the possibility of releasing pent up frustrations, especially in areas where you have felt repressed. Like any opposition, there’s a need to find balance which can cause frustration when none is found. Oppositions can also bring a trend of people projecting their stuff on you, so being aware of what’s actually your issue or responsibility will be important. Thankfully this volatile Mars Uranus transit is happening while we have one of the happiest transits. Venus conjunct Jupiter in Sagittarius no less - brings joy, hope and optimism. People tend to be in a good mood during this transit, and look for things to celebrate. So, this combination of aspects should be interesting and high energy at the very least.

The Old Goat – NOV 26 - 28

On November 26th Venus moves in Capricorn, just before the New Moon in Sagittarius. In some ways this feels a bit like a last hoorah. Jupiter is in the last degrees of Sagittarius, leaving only the Sun in a fire sign. This is the acceleration into the “Grand
Transits of the Season

Capricorn Conjunction*, so enjoy the Sun in fire while you can.

Insomnia – NOV 27
November 27th has Neptune stationing direct, while Venus trines Uranus and Mercury trines Neptune. Venus Uranus asks us to find value in relationships that support individuality while still fostering responsibility and commitment. Mercury trine Neptune stimulates creativity, intuition and spiritual expression. I don’t feel any of these transits support restful sleep mind-you, but I bet we may glean a great amount of insight from writing down our dreams and meditation.

Free Your Mind – DEC 2
December 2nd Venus will conjunct the South Node and they’ll sextile Mars in Scorpio, creating an opportunity to actively release outworn values and old love relationships or outdated romantic ideals. Just let that stuff go. This is a potent aspect, so there’s a possibility that if we don’t make the choice to release these things, the choice will be made for us. Mercury will form a sextile to Pluto which can lead to the unearthing of truth and allow us to access the deeper roots of issues on both an individual or collective level. This can be painful and healing, and if used responsibly can produce dramatic results. It’s important not to get stuck having to be right during this transit.

I once heard a description of a planet in fall being like a badly-behaved house guest. To me, this describes both the discomfort of the planet and the potential for the planet to bring disorder.

DEC 2
December 2nd also brings us Jupiter’s journey through Capricorn. This transition takes Jupiter from being in a sign it rules to a sign where it’s in fall. I once heard a description of a planet in fall being like a badly-behaved house guest. To me, this describes both the discomfort of the planet and the potential for the planet to bring disorder. As Jupiter always has the tendency to make everything bigger, the possibility of an emphasis on wealth and status expanding is a definite possibility. On the positive side, Jupiter in earth gives the potential to materialize and bring the earth the gifts of the Gods and Goddesses. However, we experience it, an increase in hard work and productivity may be the best way to approach this ingress.

Saturn’s in Charge – DEC 7 - 9
December 7th – 8th the Sun in Sagittarius is square Neptune in Pisces. This could be inspirational and intuitive; it can also be draining and leave us in a puddle wanting a glass of wine. Venus will come in to form a sextile to Neptune on the 8th, and since Venus is in earthy Capricorn, this may just be the thing to help us materialize our ideas, giving our creativity form and ground it in reality.

On the 9th, Mercury shifts into Sagittarius – the sign of its detriment. At this point Saturn is the final dispositor with the exception of Mars in Scorpio. With Saturn calling most of the shots we’ll likely be held to task on everything we do. Maybe we’ll see a lot of new rules, regulations and procedures. In my imagination this phase involves board meetings to go over board meetings, and committees overseeing boards that send a lot of memos and draft procedure manuals. Also an increase in task forces to implement the new rules and regulations.

Let the Music Play – DEC 10 -15
December 10th Venus will conjoint Saturn until the 12th. This aspect may bring a strong desire for commitment, or to “legitimize” a romantic relationship. The Full Moon perfects on the 12th just as Venus is separating from Saturn and applying to the conjunction to Pluto, indicating some kind of evolution in romantic and financial values. With the Full Moon at 19 degrees Gemini and it’s ruler in Sagittarius there may be an impulse to divulge all of your emotions or verbalize them. One things for sure, if you have planets between 19 and 20 degrees, you’re most likely going to feel this one. We also have Mars trine Neptune (12th-14th) which can be great for inspiration and intuitive expression, but Mars Neptune aspects are often physically draining, so if you’re feeling this, give yourself permission to take a break. Take advantage of Mars and
Neptune in water and enjoy the water. Music can be very helpful (remedial measure) for mitigating the draining quality of Mars-Neptune contacts. So if you have important tasks to accomplish, it might be helpful to find music that helps you push through the fatigue and accomplish your work.

Work Hard – DEC 17-20

December 17th – 20th Mars is sextile Saturn. This can be an excellent transit for making plans, executing plans, and just generally getting work done. The super bonus of this particular planetary connection is that both planets are in domicile, and they are the 2 planets with the most dignity, meaning they both have the strength to make the most of this aspect.

Just be aware that right in the middle of it (Dec. 19th) Mercury comes in to square Neptune, which can create anything from forgetfulness, to straight-up brain melt. With this Mercury Neptune square there’s a lot of room for error and misjudgements among other things, so just be cognisant that you may need to double or triple check your work, or you may just need to get extra rest that day.

Redefine Relationships – DEC 20

Venus ingresses into Aquarius on December 20th, breathing some air back into the sky. On December 21st Mars will sextile Pluto. This has the potential for you to re-evaluate your ambitions and goals, changing how and why you are driven to do things in your life. Pluto may have to work harder than usual, but the payoff should be there when you’re done. Around this time Venus moves to form a square to Uranus. This aspect can be helpful if you need to see a situation from a new perspective. You may feel the need to get things out in the open or demand more independence. With the 2 relationship planets making aspects to outer planets that tend to shake things up, there’s the potential to make changes in all types of relationships. All of this comes just in time for Capricorn season. Enjoy!

REFERENCES

Tracy Quinlan practices, in Edmonton, Canada. As a hobbyist, she gathered astrological information from her captive audience as a hairstylist. After finishing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and Psychology, she began a focused study of Astrology. Tracy is the president of the Edmonton Astrological Society, writer for the Llewellyn Astrological Calendar and one of the Organizers of the Canadian Astrological Conference. “The joy of astrology is we can’t know it all, but the pursuit can enrich our lives and the lives of others.”

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INTRODUCTION TO
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3 & 4. The Signs – Part 1 & 2: Aries to Pisces - Arian Wise and Geoff Gronlund
5. The Modes: Cardinal, Fixed, Mutable + Dispositor Pattern + Essential Dignities - Geni Picazo
7 & 8. The Moon in Each Sign – Part 1 & 2 - Kay Taylor & Anne Ortelee
9. The Inner Planets: Mercury, Venus, & Mars - Shannon Gill
10. The Social Planets: Jupiter & Saturn - Angela Tiki
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JUPITER IN CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 2, 2019 – DECEMBER 19, 2020

by Maurice Fernandez

Jupiter begins its journey into Capricorn on December 2nd, the start of a seemingly tempestuous ride through the rugged terrain of Capricorn peaks and abysses. The reason this transit will be particularly dramatic is in anticipation for the meeting with karmic titans, Saturn and Pluto.

Soon after its ingress into Capricorn, Jupiter will trine Uranus in Taurus at 2 degrees, and subsequently conjunct the total Solar Eclipse at 4 degrees Capricorn, remaining at 8 degrees Capricorn on the South Node into the 2nd January 2020 Eclipse.

Three subsequent conjunctions with Pluto will occur in April, July, and November 2020. Jupiter the giant conjuncting the dwarf Pluto is a phenomenal affair in dealings of power, politics, and the insatiable drive for resource development. Both are forces of growth and expansion, and together they capture the most extreme forms of resourcefulness. When you think of Pluto/Jupiter, think Mohandas Gandhi (Jupiter/Pluto in Taurus) and Nelson Mandela (Jupiter/Pluto in Cancer), unbeatable spirits who fervently fought the shadows of racist ideologies without bending.

The transit culminates with a conjunction with father Cronos (Saturn) as they both ingress into Aquarius on December Solstice of 2020.

About Jupiter in Capricorn

Jupiter in Capricorn reflects intensely strong ambitions, leadership, and drive for economic growth and power. In its

CHART 1 – Jupiter in Capricorn conjuncts the Solar Eclipse at 4 Capricorn – a powerful alignment that can stimulate ambition and drive, and expose misuse of power.
destructive aspects, it can inflate self-righteousness and engender rigid ideologies and prejudice that risk escalating into the manipulation of religious ideas for political motives. A worst-case example is Adolph Hitler born with Jupiter in Capricorn on his South Node, reflecting his tenacious drive for political power and destructive ideologies rooted in prejudice and dogma. Positively, Walt Disney was born under a Saturn/Jupiter conjunction in Capricorn, building an entertainment empire from his artistic talent in sketching cartoons. And yet, Disney was also known for fervent political ideologies and fervent right wing, anti-communist beliefs.

Positively, Jupiter in Capricorn can reflect the need to restore integrity and ethical standards to confront the abuse of power and greed, or abuse of ideologies. For example, Richard Nixon born with Jupiter in Capricorn was exposed for the Watergate Scandal during a Jupiter return cycle.

A look back at JUPITER IN CAPRICORN

1972
- **Watergate Scandal** (Richard Nixon also born with Jupiter in Capricorn) – the plight of blind ambition.
- **Racial Genocide in Burundi** against Hutus.

1984
- Discovery of **AIDS Virus** (Saturn in Scorpio).
- **Famine** in Ethiopia.
- **Galileo** forgiven by Vatican for work on the Earth orbit 368 years after being condemned.

1996
- **China** begins surface-to-surface missile testing and military exercises off Taiwanese coastal areas.
- Massacres of Hutus by Tutsis in **Burundi** take place with more than 450 killed within a few days.

2007-8
- **Stock markets** around the world plunge amid growing fears of a U.S. recession, fueled by the 2007 sub-prime mortgage crisis.
- **Global financial crisis**.
- Satoshi Nakamoto publishes "Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System."
JUPITER IN CAPRICORN

CHART 4 - Federal Reserve’s Jupiter Return opposes natal Mars/Neptune in Cancer, hinting at considerable potential for financial upheaval.

CHART 5 - Jupiter/Pluto conjunct at 24° Capricorn – a powerful meeting of expansive forces, the giant and the dwarf.
Public figures with Jupiter in Capricorn

- Karl Marx – Economist and author of the Communist Manifesto
- Pope Francis – Catholic Pope
- Adolph Hitler – German dictator and instigator of WWII
- Saddam Hussein – Previous Iraqi president during the Gulf Wars
- Bibi Netanyahu – Israeli Prime Minister
- Linda Goodman – Astrology Author of Astrology Sun Signs
- Walt Disney – Founder of Mickey Mouse
- Margaret Thatcher – Former Prime Minister of the UK
- Paul Newman – Actor, entrepreneur, and Philanthropist
- Jack Nicholson – Actor
- Caitlyn Jenner – Transgender male to female socialite
My Evolutionary Approach to Chart Synthesis

by Kay Taylor

My approach to astrology is evolutionary—spiritual and psychological. The focus is on the chart as the roadmap of the soul’s journey, including past life themes and current life evolutionary goals. Through this lens nothing is bad or debilitated. Everything in the chart is exactly right for who you are: gifts, challenges, and specific transformational tasks.

I see the astrologer’s role as a midwife of the soul, guiding individuals compassionately toward necessary growth to embody full expression of the soul’s intent in this life. Most people feel profoundly seen and validated when we illuminate their path in this way. By laying out the big picture, we can next answer the mundane questions of life: relationship, finances, career, family and pets. The practical details nest into the higher vision.

I began this work thirty-five years ago as a clairvoyant channel. I now prefer astrology as the primary gateway in a reading, although I use my intuitive skill to direct me to key areas in the chart, to deepen empathic resonance, and to answer some specific questions.

I also offer healing process work, a blend of psychosynthesis, hypnotherapy and energetic healing. This “Astrosynthesis” is especially helpful when working with the Lunar Nodes and planets in hard aspect to each other. Through guided meditation, a person’s unique archetypal energies or characters are brought to the surface to be seen, felt, and offered healing energy as specifically indicated. The renewed, integrated energy pattern is then drawn back into the psyche as a new template.

In chart analysis, I begin with the Karmic Story—a detailed assessment of the Lunar Nodes and aspecting planets, perhaps with an imagined past life metaphor story, but more to signify core innate energies, gifts, habit patterns that are no longer useful, and the steps of the path forward. Then I look to the luminaries, Chiron and other planets through this lens of karmic patterns and current life tendencies, seeking to understand the potential dysfunctional, average, and goal states of expression. As celebrated astrologer Dane Rudhyar said, we cannot see the consciousness of the person within the chart, so I’ll first need to understand the range of chart expression, then help them shift from where they are now toward their goals.

I prefer to clarify the highest potentials of each transit, progression and Solar Arc well in advance to facilitate proactive co-creation. I believe if we do the necessary work ahead of time to align with upcoming energies, it is possible to experience even the “worst” transits as culmination, aligning with the best outcomes. Naturally there will always be surprises, or challenges for our ego/personality no matter how prepared we are; this is where the cultivation of a spiritual outlook helps weather the storm.

I prefer to keep the astrology simple and the language mostly non astro-speak, believing empathic consulting skills are as important as the astrological analysis.

House System

I use Placidus houses with the Whole Sign template in mind. Whatever house system we use, I think it’s important to remember there aren’t walls and fences in the sky. I use very wide orbs for this type of work—easily 3-5 degrees, using the size of the orb to interpret the strength...
of the effect: tighter means intense—wider means slower, more fluid.

My Inspiration
I love to facilitate the deep understanding of soul path journey that evolutionary astrology provides. I hope to validate people's intuition so they learn to trust themselves. I wish to soften fears, teaching people to live fully in the moment, experiencing life as it arises. The chart reveals the meaning in each unique life, describing turning points and nuanced choices. Through astrology we can develop more compassion and acceptance of others. They too are on their soul journey. Through astrology we learn to evolve and live authentically—unique and connected.

The Chart Reading

Basics: In my first glance at Melanie's chart, I see balance in elements. Water is low via planets but balanced by the strength of the South Node (SN) in Cancer. Everything is within declination bounds except for Uranus on the very edge. Planets near the angles are powerful. Here the Nodes are on the ASC/DSC. Neptune/Uranus are close to ASC. Pluto is close to the MC.

The stellium in Leo in the 7th, Moon/Sun in 8th, SN on 7th cusp implies that relationship is key to karma yet the developmental aim is Capricorn ASC & North Node (NN). Balance of self and partnership is a key. I will keep all of this in mind as I begin.

Nodal Story: Melanie comes into this life with a Cancer South Node on the 7th house cusp of partnership. This describes a soul who likely spent lifetimes in partnership, perhaps being identified by marriage. She is likely to be a natural healer and caretaker with a strong affinity for animals and service (6th house) and an excellent ability to be a loving partner in a chosen relationship (7th house). In the early part of life, she may find she sometimes gives too much and is overly concerned about other people's needs and feelings. Additionally she may have ambivalence about relationship. On one hand she is naturally attuned to connection, but on the other, her evolutionary task is to develop good boundaries, and to make sure she uses her skills wisely to solve larger problems rather than just helping a few close people she cares about. This Nodal challenge expresses the need to develop "loving boundaries" and suggests infusing her innate gifts into a career or accomplishment in the world.

The Moon, ruling the Cancer SN, describes Melanie in the past as well as her current emotional needs. It is in the 8th house (trauma, shared resources and transformation), conjunct and combust the Sun in Virgo.

The Moon, ruling the Cancer SN, describes Melanie in the past as well as her current emotional needs. It is in the 8th house (trauma, shared resources and transformation), conjunct and combust the Sun in Virgo. She was born in an early New Moon phase, a core urge within to start something fresh and vigorous. She is planting seeds. She needs a big project to focus her Virgo skills and to avoid falling into excessive inner critic mentality. The Moon's energy may be used up for the Sun's chosen destiny—perhaps care and concern emanating from lifetimes of healing and service may thrust her directly into action. Virgo and Cancer relate to healing, the harvest and food. We might imagine her working tirelessly over lifetimes (6th house SN) in very difficult situations (8th house Moon/Sun) developing her knowledge of trauma, wounding, transformation and empowerment. Virgo denotes skillfulness in solving these problems and perhaps hidden anxieties.

Pluto is dominant in its own sign in the 10th house, within 10 degrees of the MC, and is sextile to the Sun/Moon. This indicates potential power in her career, a destiny aligned with transformation, and adds to my deepening sense she's seen much of the shadow in prior lives and now carries an inner drive to solve these problems. This is mirrored by the Capricorn Ascendant and North Node; they suggest a goal of mastery of long term projects developed sustainably over time—a "Great Work" or legacy. Along this road she may experience some challenges with the power structure; patience and self-discipline will be cultivated.

The North Node is ruled by Saturn in Aquarius in the first house of self. She is likely to be personally identified with her vision of how the world needs to change, especially given the creative and possibly obsessive quintile connection to Pluto in the 10th. I would imagine she's been somewhat fixated on the problems she sees in the world from a young age.

Pluto in Scorpio is the signature of the Millennial generation, a group I believe is here to expose corruption, using their fierce power to transform the crisis world they've been born into.
Neptune, Uranus and ASC all in Capricorn, and the ruler, Saturn in Aquarius, in the 1st house of self, suggests her driven, revolutionary nature was part of her karmic dilemma and somehow worked against her. In this life she must find balance between being a leader in the cause and nurturing her heart through solid, loving relationship.

**Career:** We know Melanie is a horticultural therapist who designed and manages a therapeutic garden program for incarcerated youth. This is an incredibly wise and integrated use of her natal talents (everything we've just discussed about the soul path, 12th and 8th house emphasis, plus Leo in the 7th). I imagine this is only the beginning as she becomes an advocate for justice, revisioning, and powerful change.

I offer this future potential, supported by Mars in Libra at the 9th house cusp of law, higher learning and teaching, in a square (requires a creative integration) to Uranus in the 12th of spirituality/soul purpose. Uranus is conjunct Neptune suggesting innovative action aligned with compassion for those who are disenfranchised. Her philosophies are not just emotional or theoretical; Capricorn signifies realistic action to create new structures. The North Node ruler, Saturn, is in Aquarius trine to Mars. With Mars trine Saturn there is a flow between the initiating drive and the building of long term solutions, a signature seen in many successful individuals who have launched a project or company. She is drawn to work in alignment with passionate partners (Venus/Mercury/Jupiter in Leo in 7th) to activate, initiate and bring about world changes (Mars/Uranus) through challenge and creative solutions (the square).

**Relationship:** Melanie doesn’t need relationship as much as she needs to focus on being a visionary and changemaker. The South Node at the 7th cusp indicates she’s a relationship expert soul who wants to make sure she doesn’t get stuck living someone else’s version of marriage; she needs autonomy and freedom to live her own life. That doesn’t mean she won’t have both intimate relationship and solid partners to align with.

**7th House:** In fact, with Venus, Mercury and Jupiter in Leo in the 7th, there can be substantial benefit from partners, as well as a need for partners to help her accomplish her evolutionary goals. She cannot achieve her goals alone. It’s important for her to ensure her partners (committed mates, best friends and organization or business partners) support her and encourage her in to live her destiny. Jupiter rules the 11th house of humanitarian aims and long range plans while also ruling the 12th of spirituality. Mercury rules the 6th of work and service as well as the 5th of creative expression and romance. Venus rules both home and family and the 9th of meaning of life where we find Mars, often signifying something about who we’re attracted to. With relationship house planets in charge of many areas of her life, and Cancer ruling the 7th and a Cancer SN, her chart enthusiastically recommends partnerships of all kinds while she forges ahead.

**Pluto square Venus** can indicate a relationship challenge holding potent gifts. The deeper meaning is the capacity to experience profound intimacy that transforms her through the path of relationship. Sometimes with this signature one experiences betrayal or sexual wounding. With this and Sun/Moon in the 8th, it is imperative Melanie chooses partners who meet her needs for depth and intimacy and are also trustworthy. She learns in this life with 7th and 8th house planetary signatures who to trust and how to trust.

As Melanie integrates Venus quincunx the ASC, ruled by Saturn in Aquarius, she learns to relate in unique, non standard

Melanie’s Saturn Return begins in 2020, a three year process of releasing old structures built via cultural and family imprinting to manifest authentic Saturnian goals for the life.
ways in her relationships, coming to believe in her worthiness to have steady soul centered love. It is a healing choice to be alone for awhile to mature and balance.

**Current Cycles:** Melanie mentions powerful relationships in the last three years. The transits are intense and too many to note in this brief assessment but 2016 opened with Pluto conjunct the North Node transforming the karmic/dharma path while activating (trine) to Sun/Moon. Jupiter was expansive as it conjoined Sun/Moon in the 8th. Pluto continued over the ASC, indicating intense transformation of persona patterns, while Saturn began to restructure her expression of Uranus (awakening/freedom), Neptune (soul centered love/ideals), the North Node of Dharma and the Ascendant denoting persona and initiation style. These were power packed years that are still changing her life on every level. Solar Arc Venus also came to the Sun in the 8th three years ago, while Mercury came to the Moon, an indication of intimate relationship. This integration and potential continues for the next four years.

Melanie’s **Saturn Return begins in 2020,** a three year process of releasing old structures built via cultural and family imprinting to manifest authentic Saturnian goals for the life. She will be ready to launch, as much of the inner work has and will be been done through the transits to the Capricorn stellium. Then as Uranus crosses the 4th house cusp I would anticipate changes in her home/family status to support her evolving work in the world. In 2020 Melanie also experiences a progressed lunation— “a New Moon of the Soul.” This is in Libra in the 9th house, joining Mercury and Mars, suggesting the world stage nature of the next 30 years. I imagine Melanie speaking and writing about her work which might include themes of beauty, peace and balance, and how food, healing and ecology intersect with justice. Melanie is at a crossroads, having built a solid foundation. She is about to embark on the next level of her activism as a visionary and policy influencer with the support she needs in primary relationships.


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**THE TRADITIONAL ASTROLOGY PERSPECTIVE**

**by Öner Döşer**

Traditional Astrology’s basic approach is based on the view that astrology is an art of prediction and its techniques give us the ability to describe the objective reality that the native experiences. Traditional techniques are methodical and reliable. If you can use them in order masterly, you can get highly accurate and good results both in delineation and prediction. I mainly use Traditional astrology in my analysis and blend it with a modern approach. This includes the use of Almuten Figuris, Fixed Stars, and Arabic Parts. I focus on objectively identifying the persons primary motivations with an emphasis on predicting all aspects of his life including marriage, children, profession, finances, health, family, and spiritual tendencies. I use generational planets and Chiron in delineation and prediction. I generally use quadrant house system while I sometimes refer to Whole Sign house system at the background. For Melanie’s chart I used Alcabitius houses (Semi-arc).

The delineation of the chart starts with determining the native’s primary motivation. This starts with the Ascendant, planets placed in the 1st house and aspect to the Ascendant, the ruler of the 1st house, the house and sign placement of this ruler and the aspects of it to the other planets and the other reference points. Then I continue finding and reading the specific significators to explore the best potentials of the Native. These crucial significators may be determined through some special techniques, and help us make more precise and detailed predictions regarding the Native’s life.

With the analysis and delineation of Melanie Elizabeth Pepper’s chart, my aim is to introduce you to some of the rules and techniques used by ancient astrologers while determining some important significators in natal charts. I believe that the astrology students who modestly practice these methods and rules legated by these valuable masters will easily determine the significators in a chart and make correct interpretations. So, let’s start with the primary motivations of the Native…

**Primary motivation:** We see Capricorn on the Ascendant (ASC), so the primary purpose in life is to realize the responsibilities she has taken on and financial security. She has a realistic, cautious, down to earth, practical and serious personality with strong self-discipline and control. She is talented in business administration due to the practical mind. She can be successful by working hard and concentrating on a specific purpose. The ruler of ASC, Saturn, is in the 1st house, indicating that the native tries to realize her primary purposes in life by her own efforts and actions. Her personality, character and capabilities help her achieve her purpose. This supports her objectives to realize her desires in life.

Saturn placed in Aquarius will help her provide concrete results, go deep, and research — possibly using science and technology. She has the ability to reconcile the old with the new and can identify the trends of the future. She can be referred to as a humanist in society. She can gain high position in the private sector. Saturn is conjunct the fixed

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Solar eclipses occur every six months, falling in a pair of opposing signs for about a year and a half at a time. As they do, the symbolism of those signs describes where the culture itself is in crisis.
star Altair, which confers a bold, confident, valiant, unyielding, ambitious and liberal nature (Robson). The Native has the power to fight for her ideals and for collective purposes as well.

Spirituality: We should look at following issues to determine the native's spiritual quality: Almutem Figuris, Part of Soul, Part of Incarnation. Almutem Figuris is the planet which is ruler of the whole chart, indicating the divine path that the native should follow and represents a power that dominates the life of the native. It is the key of the native's life, also called the “Guardian Angel.” Almutem Figuris is Mercury in this chart. So, the native will gravitate toward sciences, business, and communication. She always wants to learn something, she is smart and shrewd. According to my Master Zoller, Almutem Figuris is important as it is the gateway to the Universal, but ironically, she needs to let go or transcend the dominant quality that Mercury represents in order to attain these spiritual realms. Sometimes the native has to let go of her logic and mind and learn how to listen to her intuitions in order to achieve the holistic knowledge of the All. Mercury conjunct Jupiter gives a broad perspective on life and the ability to get the bigger picture right. But the Native should avoid self-righteousness and arrogance. Since Mercury is conjunct Regulus, the Native will be honorable, just, popular and make financial gains in her careers (Rigor) and through high position (Robson), but success will come if revenge is avoided. (Brady)

Through Part of Soul and its ruler, we can learn the characteristics of the Native’s spirit, her soul and her purpose. Part of Spirit has tremendous importance because when an astrologer engages in spiritual counselling, he would like to know what this particular individual values above all other things, what she worships and respects. Since the Part falls at 11 degrees Capricorn in an earth sign, the native will look for practical benefit in spiritual matters and the acquisition of practical benefit. The Part conjunct Uranus indicates that the Native has a creative and inventive soul. She will respect radical ideas and original ideologies above all other things.

The signs and the houses where the Pars Hyleg and its ruler are located give us information on the mission of the native on Earth and is used to see the native’s purpose of incarnation. This Part falls in 26 Capricorn to the 1st house and conjunct the Part of Fortune. This indicates that the Native is here to organize, be practical, and facilitate the things she is working towards. She will get the concrete results of her efforts. The ruler of both Parts is Saturn placed in Aquarius in the 1st house, indicating that the Native will realize her life purpose through her creativite, humanistic and idealistic endeavors, New Age sciences and technology. She will accomplish her desired success through her determination and enduring personality.

Finance: To determine the most powerful Financial Significator in the chart we first start with the Part of Fortune (POF). If POF cannot be the financial significator, then we may consider Part of Wealth. Following that, the ruler of the 2nd house and the planets located in the 2nd house should be considered. If one of the rulers of the 2nd house cannot be the Financial Significator, then we should consider Jupiter which is the “Universal Significator of Wealth.” Here, POF is placed powerfully in the first house. Although it is afflicted by Saturn, since he is the ruler of it and in good condition, we can choose POF as Financial Significator. POF is in Capricorn in the 1st house, so the Native may gain profits through management, social endeavors, organizations, governmental issues and positive sciences.

Saturn, as the ruler of POF and the ruler of the second house, is responsible for the finance of the Native. Since Saturn is with POF, the native needs to work hard, take responsibilities and make efforts in order to obtain chances in life. She cares being financially secure, she is anxious about financial issues and she may have some fears about the future. She is lucky in professions related to elder people, ancestors, construction, agriculture, mining, science, real estate, archeology, geology, engineering and pharmacy.

To determine the profession significator, unlike contemporary astrologers, ancient astrologers began with the Ascendant (ASC). First, we should see if there is any planet therein (1st house).
Career: To determine the profession significator, unlike contemporary astrologers, ancient astrologers began with the Ascendant (ASC). First, we should see if there is any planet therein (1st house). If we find none at ASC, only then we may observe if there are any planets in the 10th house. Then we look at the 7th and the 4th houses as the other angular houses. The next step is to look at the positions of the planets relating to the Sun to see if some of them are oriental to it. Then we look at the position of the ruler of the MC and the that planets aspect the MC. Then the Part of Profession and its ruler and the Almuten of Profession. Saturn is the most powerfully placed planet in this chart as he is in the 1st house and its domicile, not afflicted by the other malefic (Mars) although it is retrograde. Pluto is the second powerful candidate as he is placed in the 10th and he is the modern ruler of the MC. Saturn indicates engineers, real estate dealers, farmers, gardeners, horticulturists, geologists, miners, excavators, masons, archaeologists, etc. Since Saturn is in Aquarius we can add creative and scientific works, New Age professions, science and technologies, system analyst, humanitarian works, cognitive therapist, ecological researcher and consultant, future trader, etc. Pluto indicates archaeologist, astrobiologist, bacteriologist, alchemist, insectologist, geologist, chemist, physicist, researcher, psychologist, psychiatrist, therapist, healer, energy expert etc. Since the MC and Pluto are in Scorpio we can add medical profession, apothecaries, pharmacists, chemical laboratories, metallurgist, pathologist, criminal expert, genealogist, gynaecologist, surgeon, solicitor, biologist etc. (Financial Significators, Oner Doser, edited by Benjamin N. Dykes, AstroArt Publishing, 2018).

MC conjunct fixed star Alphenca gives success through helping patients to heal. (Rigor) MC conjunct fixed star Acrux gives the ability to make things practical or give expression to ideas (Brady). and the ability to successfully uncover hidden sides of events (R. Ebertin). Since Saturn and Pluto are in a good state, the Native will be successful in her career and profession. Saturn’s retrogradation may give some delay in success. Part of Profession falls at 10 Virgo conjunct the Sun indicating that the Native will be successful and popular through her work. Profession Almuten Mercury conjunct Regulus indicates success through intellectual abilities and ideas.
My Vibrational Astrology Approach to Chart Analysis

by David Cochrane

Vibrational Astrology (VA) incorporates ideas from modern psychological astrology, Vedic astrology, harmonic astrology, and cosmobiology. Harmonic astrology was developed by astrologer John Addey in the 1960's and 1970's. Cosmobiology is a system of astrology that emphasizes the importance of midpoints and was developed by German astrologer Reinhold Ebertin and became popular around the same time that John Addey was developing harmonic astrology. VA synthesizes these ideas into a very coherent and straightforward system of astrology that has clear rules for chart interpretation. VA has grown from being almost unheard of 10 years ago to gaining a much larger following, and there is now an annual Vibrational Astrology Conference in Gainesville, Florida typically in late March. The first conference was held in 2019 and about 100 people attended. I have made dozens of YouTube tutorial videos, and astrologers like Linda Berry and Clarissa Dolphin now teach online classes in VA.

In VA we consider that zodiac signs tell us HOW a person does things, houses tell us a PERSPECTIVE and REFERENCE POINT, while the aspects and midpoints tell us WHAT a person does. Zodiac signs are especially important in relationships and in relocation. For a natal chart interpretation the aspects and midpoints are especially important because we first want to know what a person is best oriented to doing, and what the strongest motivations and pressures are rather than the style in which the person does them. The aspects and midpoints also indicate proclivities to severe psychological and mental problems like depression, anxiety, etc. Psychotherapist and astrologer Gisele Terry is one of the Vibrational Astrologers who is leading the research and application of VA to people suffering from severe mental and emotional problems. Because this is a natal chart interpretation and also because the reader is no doubt already much more familiar with zodiac sign and house placements than the planetary configurations analyzed in VA, we will focus on looking at the planetary configurations in Melanie's birth chart.

In VA the natal chart interpretation begins by analyzing "direct midpoint structures". A direct midpoint structure may sound like an intimidating term but it is simply one planet half way in between two other planets. In Figure 1 we see Melanie's birth chart with the Pluto conjunct Moon/Neptune midpoint illustrated. In other words, Pluto is at the midpoint of Moon and Neptune. The orb is 18'. When the orb of a midpoint structure is about ½ degree or less, the midpoint structure is so powerful that you can interpret it outside the context of the rest of the chart and be confident that it will make sense to your client.

To interpret the midpoint structure in detail we also see if there are aspects formed between the planets. In the case of this midpoint structure in Melanie's chart, Pluto is in 2/13 aspect to both Moon and Neptune. In other words, Pluto is 2/13 of a circle from the Moon and also from Neptune. Just as a sextile is 1/6 of a circle, a square is 1/4 of a circle, and a trine is 1/3 of a circle, in VA we interpret other fractions of a circle. At first it might sound overwhelming, but in VA we consider aspects that are 13ths of a circle to be very important! Although including so many aspects in your chart interpretation may at first appear to overly complicate the astrological analysis, most astrologers find that VA is actually a simpler and more straightforward system than other systems because the rules for interpretation are very clear and unambiguous.

We see several themes in Melanie's birth chart and they are numbered below. The first theme is this midpoint structure. It is not the most important theme in the chart.

Figure 1. Natal chart of Melanie Pepper, with a Midpoint Structure Illustrated.
but it is a convenient one to begin with. In VA we have very specific meanings for the planets and the meaning of combinations of planets. These meanings are similar to the usual meanings and in this article it is not necessary for us to dive into these details of VA interpretation to understand how the interpretation is done.

The 2/13 aspects and the 4/13 aspect between Neptune and Pluto are what we call 13-Vibration aspects. The 13-Vibration aspects motivate a person to do something that is special and that is outside the norm.

Theme #1: The Moon reflects the past into the present as our moods, memories, and disposition. Neptune inspires us to follow our dreams and anything that Pluto touches becomes deeply passionate and even a bit obsessive or compulsive. Wrap all of these planetary meanings in a 13-Vibration and it means that Melanie has a need for meditation and to experience deeper moods. She needs an ambiance, feeling, and environment that is uplifting and transformative. Living in the normal daily routine of life with the usual daily environment that is uplifting and transformative. Living in the normal environment that is uplifting and transformative.

In VA and also in harmonic astrology, harmonic charts are very important. Another term for “harmonic chart” is “vibration chart” and in VA we use both terms. The words “harmonic”, “vibration”, and “frequency” all refer to the same thing. A trine aspect, for example, can be called a 3rd harmonic aspect, a 3-Vibration aspect or a 3-Frequency aspect. A harmonic chart provides a visualization of aspects in a vibration. We will not go into the technical details of harmonic charts in this article but you can use this very simple rule: clear aspect patterns in a harmonic chart make that harmonic important for you. Melanie’s 29-Vibration Chart is shown in Figure 2. There is a stellium of 4 planets that spreads 10 degrees, a grand trine, etc. These large aspect configurations mean that Melanie is on the 29 wave length. She resonates to the 29-Vibration and she resonates specifically with the planets in this planetary configuration and in the specific planetary configuration in this chart. In this article we will not go into extreme detail in how we interpret this configuration, but you can see it is very important for her.

The higher prime number vibrations influence more transpersonal areas of our lives in a similar way that outer planets are more transpersonal than inner planets. The 29-Vibration gives a sense of evolution, of collective progress, and an attunement to the interplay of different forces that strives to move life forward in a progressive and evolutionary manner. People with strong 29-Vibration aspects have an innate sense of life as an evolving process and this inclines them to be progressive and a bit entrepreneurial and what we might think of as similar to the zodiac sign Aquarius.

If we were to introduce all of modern psychological astrology, Hellenistic astrology, or Vedic astrology in one lesson, we would completely overwhelm the reader. The same is true with VA, and most likely you have correctly guessed that we look at many vibrations. There are rules for what vibrations we look at but we will not go into those details here, but in Theme #2 below we mention some additional vibrations to give a sense of how an interpretation in VA is done.

Theme #2: In Melanie’s 8-Vibration chart there is a tight Sun-Saturn conjunction in hard aspect to Neptune which gives sincerity and a need to do something of real importance in the world, and also a Jupiter-Neptune conjunction square Pluto. This Sun-Jupiter-Neptune configuration inclines to expansiveness. The theme of expansiveness also shows up in her 11-Vibration chart where there is a Sun-Jupiter-Saturn configuration and a Sun-Venus-Jupiter configuration. Melanie may wonder why Sagittarius does not figure more prominently in her chart, and it is these planetary configurations that give a similar effect. These configurations indicate that Melanie is likely to step outside the life style, habits, and customs that she grew up with and reinvent yourself to some extent.

Theme #3: A beautiful and impressive planetary configuration in Melanie’s chart is the planets Saturn and Neptune and also Moon and Jupiter which are resonating to the 108-Vibration. You may recognize the number 108 as an important number in many religious and spiritual traditions. The combination Jupiter-Saturn-Neptune
symbolically is the priest or priestess. Her work with a therapeutic garden program for incarcerated youth is an expression of this planetary configuration.

**Theme #4:** In Figure 3 below right is Melanie’s 13-Vibration Chart. Notice the extremely strong Moon-Pluto conjunction and the equally strong Venus-Uranus conjunction. By strong I mean that the orbs of these aspects are very small. Also notice that there are red lines connecting these conjunctions and connecting them to Saturn. You can see that Saturn is square the Venus-Uranus conjunction and the other red lines are also hard aspects that are used by some astrologers and are considered important in VA. As you can imagine, a Moon-Pluto conjunction is challenging. An area in life in which some finesse is needed to manage some tricky issues is romance and sexuality. There is a need for something intense and transformative in a romantic-sexual relationship and also a desire for something special. Dissatisfaction with partners with average or compromised spiritual aspirations, involvement with a person of great stature or kind of guru or being in that role yourself.

**Theme #5:** To save space we will not show this harmonic chart, but the 91-Vibration chart is important for Melanie. The number 91 = 13 x 7 and has a combination of the transformative qualities of 13 and the introversion and stillness of 7. Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Uranus form a powerful pattern in Melanie’s 91-Vibration Chart. The use of music, dance, and sound as part of a spiritual path are very likely. The potential for involvement in chanting or musical discipline to connect with a strong spiritual lineage and spiritual path is strong. At a minimum, going beyond casual listening to music and diving deep into the effects of sound and rhythm is a good path for Melanie.

**Theme #6:** In Melanie’s natal chart Mars is conjunct the midpoint of Venus and Pluto and these 3 planets are in the 25-Vibration. This planetary configuration is exactly the same kind of planetary configuration described in Theme #1 but the 3 planets are different and the vibration is different. The number $25 = 5 \times 5$ and indicates a potential for unusual creativity. There is a need for passionate creativity. Melanie needs to pour her heart into something and it can be as simple as cooking a very creative meal to an appreciation of unusually expressive art of all kinds.

**Theme #7:** In Melanie’s 7th harmonic chart there is a strong symmetrical aspect pattern between Sun, Mars, and Saturn. There is also a Mercury-Jupiter-Saturn stellium that spreads 20 degrees and is reinforced by Mercury conjunct the Jupiter/Saturn midpoint with only a 3° orb and other midpoint structures (Ura cnj Moon/Nep, Mer=Sun/Nep in what is called a midpoint isotrap configuration). The 7-Vibration gives stillness and depth. Meditation, esotericism, and discipline are important. A pursuit of astrology and/or sacred geometry is almost inevitable. Melanie also has a great capacity for training and practice in athletics.

David Cochrane is the founder of Cosmic Patterns Software, and Co-Founder of the Avalon School of Astrology. He has been a professional astrologer since 1972, is the author of two books, past President of the International Society for Astrological Research, head programmer of the Pegasus, Kepler and Sirius Software, instructor at the Avalon School of Astrology, a speaker at astrology conferences for 40 years, the developer of over 100 free youtube tutorial videos, an excellent speaker, expert in quantitative and qualitative research methods, expert in the astronomical foundations of astrology, mystic, songwriter, has conducted advanced research that suggest that astrology really works, and developer of an innovative system of astrological interpretation which he refers to as Vibrational Astrology.

Melanie’s 13-Vibration Chart shows an extremely strong Moon-Pluto conjunction and the equally strong Venus-Uranus conjunction. Also notice that there are red lines connecting these conjunctions and connecting them to Saturn.

![Figure 3. Melanie’s 13-Vibration Chart](image-url)
Analysis Using the Venus Star Point

by Arielle Guttman

The method I am using to discuss this chart is based on the Venus Star Points, which is not familiar to most astrologers. It involves the planet Venus and the pentagonal relationship she forms with Earth as they move around the Sun. In this model, there is a 5-pointed star formed by each Sun/Venus conjunction which, over time slowly transits clockwise (retrograde to us) around the zodiac. I will discuss both thenatal position of the Venus Star Point (VSP) and the transiting position of the 5 points as they move through the houses of the chart.

The VSP is strongly tied to what we think of as synchronicity. Astrology itself is based on that principle, but the VSP adds the punctuation point. When the VSP, either natal or by transit, lines up with important natal positions, a great synchronicity occurs and one feels like they are in flow with the cosmos. It’s exhilarating and we don’t always feel it or acknowledge it, but when it does happen, there’s no denying it. The VSP is not a “mind” energy. It’s a heart energy. The mind has no authority to question or doubt when the heart is beating so vibrantly. It truly knows we have arrived at that junction or intersection of synchronicity that seems given by powers much greater than our own.

Melanie Pepper’s Chart

Melanie was born just after the cazimi (exact conjunction) of Venus and Sun at 29 Leo, while Venus was in retrograde motion. From this interior conjunction, Venus emerges as a Morning Star (MS). This makes her a VSP Leo-MS. Think of this VSP as a Sun-Venus conjunction, because technically that’s what it is. There is a laser beam of light (Sun) and love (Venus) combined into one point—the Venus Star Point.

While we normally think of Venus as the vehicle describing one’s relationship life, this VSP does that and more. The VSP acts as a strong motivating force behind everything we undertake in life. The desire for relating, but also the desire to give our life a heart-centered and passionate meaning. What is the true motivating life force behind an individual? It can often be found embodied in this VSP.

For Melanie, it is in the 8th House of intimate connections and subconscious desires. It is an aspect that adds a great deal of fire, motivation and vitality to a house that is normally subdued and reserved. The VSP adds luster and spark to this house, a house where there is already a Sun-Moon conjunction (New Moon birth), plus Jupiter Mercury and Venus. Additionally, this is the degree of the fixed star Regulus (29 Leo-0 Virgo), or the heart of the Lion. There is a tremendous amount of passion contained here, as well as the implication she will achieve fame and recognition for important accomplishments in life as punctuated by Jupiter there as well.

With her natal Sun trine Neptune, she has big dreams and ideas resting in the unconscious that motivate her. Will she be able to bring them to fruition? No matter the temporary hardships and setbacks from time to time, those dreams will remain powerful beacons to guide her through life. Transiting Neptune in Pisces is just completing an important connection to this configuration and will soon form a life-changing aspect to her Moon, 7th house ruler, which will bring in an important personal relationship.

The VSP at 29 Leo, in close personal relationship to natal Jupiter by conjunction and Saturn by quincunx, speaks of rising to an influential position in life where she will make a difference by managing a project or undertaking that attracts attention, inviting investors and funds to implement her vision. In this arrangement both Jupiter and Saturn will play a significant role in Melanie’s life. With all three points occurring at the end or beginning of a sign, we have a merging or blending. Jupiter in direct motion, shortly after her birth, entered Virgo. Saturn in retrograde, shortly after her birth, entered Capricorn. And the VSP, 16 days before her birth, entered Leo.

Planets occurring at the very beginning or ending of a sign bring with them the knowledge of the past carrying with them a vision of the future. Interestingly, both Jupiter and Saturn, one moving direct and the other moving retrograde, progress into earth signs, where they will remain for the duration of her life. This intensifies the element of earth which is already powerfully stated in the chart. The overall chart signature is earth, with the preponderance of earth and fixed, is Taurus. Although Melanie is Virgo Sun and Capricorn rising with no planets in Taurus, the overall signature is Taurus. Planets in the element of earth need to get things done. It’s not just about dreams and visions or ideas and talking—it’s productivity—with the notion that time is of the essence and there’s not a lot of it to waste!

Another important feature of this chart is the Ceres-Pluto conjunction in Scorpio at the MH in Scorpio. Both Ceres and Pluto have a strong relationship to Scorpio, derived from the mythology of the underworld and upper-world journeys that both engaged in, especially for Ceres (Demeter), in the process of retrieving her abducted daughter (Persephone) by Pluto (Hades). Ceres is the earth mother goddess. Here in Scorpio she is bringing up material from the underworld, energies that literally speak of resurrection, transformation, healing and awareness. This is truly the mother goddess coming to the aid of her children by providing either food, comfort, rebirth, healing and/or all of the above to what she does in life.

It is not just that they are conjunct the Midheaven—they are also conjunct one other of Melanie’s natal Star Points. There are 5 points on the 8-year pentagram.
**GUTTMAN**

that Venus forms during her cycle – and for Melanie they are as follows, shown in the illustration below: 29 Capricorn (Foot) – 9 Scorpio (Hand) – 29 Leo (Head) – 23 Gemini (Hand) – 12 Aries (Foot). Thus, these points will also resonate strongly to planetary transits and relationship connections throughout her life. The position of natal Midheaven, Ceres and Pluto in Scorpio are tied closely to the VSP hand and will factor into her life in a prominent way.

This is a dynamic time period for Melanie. Her natal Venus is at 21 Leo, exactly edging the importance of personal and emotional dependency plays into the relationship dynamic of her life. It’s not just a coincidence that the Leo point and the Capricorn point are both in the 8th and 12th houses, with so many planets in both, suggests situations where a safe environment is needed to help communicate secrets and buried feelings and bring them into conscious awareness. This need is satisfied by helping others do this and by helping others, one becomes more enlightened to one’s own inner nature and unconscious drives and motivations.

Based on the above conditions, it is quite fitting that Melanie is currently running a therapeutic horticultural program for those in a detention facility. This combines the healing and rehabilitation noted by the VSP Hand of Scorpio conjunct Pluto, Ceres & MH — in fact it couldn’t be a more perfect undertaking for this signature!

**The current 5-points of the Venus Star for our time period are: 18 Capricorn—3 Scorpio—21 Leo—13 Gemini—6 Aries.** This brings the 18 Capricorn star point, right on Melanie’s natal ASC, North Node and Juno, into high focus for these coming years. It is time for her to emerge from her underworld cave and consider coming out into the light by acknowledging the importance of personal and life-changing relationship at this time.

The first pass of the VSP at 18 Capricorn occurred in January 2018. It will repeat that degree in January 2022. During this window, Melanie is having Venusian experiences that include new awareness about herself, a new opening to partnership, coupled with the current VSP on natal Venus, an affirmation of how she is contributing to life in a huge way.

That’s not to say there haven’t been some hard issues and experiences in this time of all the Capricorn planets on her ASC. With Pluto having transited recently, Saturn and the South Node transiting now (2019) there certainly have been moments of doubt and questioning whether she is on the right path and whether her efforts are producing the results she is looking for. But here is where the VSP comes forth to shine. Behind the zodiac, hidden to us, the Venus Star is working its magic and will provide Melanie with the opportunity and synchronicity that she is in the right place at the right time.

**With the Nodal axis involved there is also the idea where passion meets purpose. With North Node in Capricorn being transited by the South Node in Capricorn, there is a reversal pattern occurring. Melanie is now self-aware enough to commit to a partner thru having learned how to set personal boundaries and not give herself away to others. The nodes on the ASC/DSC axis are like giant magnets in the sky that attract whatever floats by. Sometimes what is floating by is celestial magic, other times it is space debris. Her life-long challenge with these nodes, is to know when to open the door to the arriving visitor and when to close it up and say good-bye. She is also examining how emotional dependency plays into the relationship dynamic of her life.**

With natal Juno (marriage) and natal Venus (love) being activated by two of the five current Star Points, it is time for Melanie to consider a committed partnership. This is the synchronicity factor at work. It’s not just a coincidence that the Leo point and the Capricorn point are both operating on her two primary relationship planets at the same time. Could we conclude that it is time to open the door?

**Arielle Guttmann,** founder and director of Sophia Venus, brings 42 years of experience in using the language of astrology to people seeking answers and guidance about life’s questions. Arielle believes the language of the cosmos, together with earth wisdom are the beacons of light necessary to guide us to the future that we as individuals and we as a species seek to create.
The acclaimed TimePassages™ Astrology Desktop App is an incredible tool for both beginners and professionals, alike. Whether you are studying and using the point and click interpretations to learn more, or you are a seasoned astrologer in need of all the bells and whistles, or anywhere in between, TimePassages has got you covered. Created by Henry Seltzer in 1995, and bringing the wisdom of the stars to your fingertips ever since!

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OPA RETREAT 2020

ASTROLOGY
Bridging Science and Spirituality

Zion National Park, Utah
PART I APRIL 23-26 | PART II APRIL 27-29, 2020

PART I TRACKS
(Small Group Learning – Max 12 per track)

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: Gifts, Challenges, Integration
Track 11 • Chris McRae • Planetary Patterns That Challenge Our Soul Growth
Track 12 • Russell Ohlhausen • Astrology: The Sacred Science
Track 13 • Laura Nalbandian • Uranus: Karmic Trauma and Individuation

PART II IMMERSION
Become a Better Astrologer
Astronomy for Astrologers
Consulting Skills Training
Peer Groups

"The OPA Retreat was a Stellar Experience" – "Being in Zion felt like a Spiritual Experience"

2020 Faculty

Sign up now before your favorite track is sold out!
Consulting Skills
The art of communicating the chart in most impactful ways
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
9:00am to 5:00pm Sessions
- Handling sensitive topics, emotional involvement and challenging client situations.
- Developing clarity, mindfulness and effective communication skills. Exploring unconscious bias, stereotyping, and cultural diversity issues.
- 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 Zodiaks (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

Peer Group
Practicing astrologers meeting to learn from each other and enhance their practice.
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
9:00am to 5:00pm Sessions
Day 1 – Discussing the challenges of astrology practice
Day 2 – Reading each others’ charts, discussing techniques.
Day 3 – Marketing, business plan, manifesting our vision for our practice.

Group Leaders
Anne Ortelee, Donna Young, Susan Falk
- 4 participants per group – book early.
Interview with Edward Snow
Managing editor of the Astrology News Service (ANS)

I.D

Ed Snow is the managing editor of the Astrology News Service (ANS). In 2010, several Astrology associations addressed the need to proactively improve astrology's image by educating the public about astrology’s believability and value to society. The organizations agreed to work together to create the Astrology News Service (ANS), a non-profit news and information agency for the astrological community.

http://astrologynews.com/
Edsnow37@att.net

My family:
Married to Bing with two grown daughters and two semi-grown grandchildren.

Religious background and conditioning?
I was born in the South (Alexandria, LA) and most of my mother's extended family members were Methodists. I was baptized in this faith but had a lot more fun when I hooked up with an Evangelical Church group for young people in San Francisco at age 11 or so. We sang our hearts out, memorized and recited long Bible verses, listened to harrowing and sometimes frightening stories about people who died without being saved, and generally had a great time driving to and from Bible class gatherings in Fergie's ancient pre-war Dodge sedan. Somehow he managed to stuff nine or 10 kids into the car; as I recall we were all over each other. I left the “believe or be damned” business behind me before reaching high school, but at some point I took Jesus into my heart as I was directed to do and have never been inclined to undo this simple act of faith. So, presumably, He's still there.

The worst thing and then the best thing about me?
I'm not very adept when it comes to dealing with electronic devices. The best thing about me is when I'm able to ignore this glaring deficiency; I feel better about myself in these moments.

I've never tried…
Climbing tall mountains.

I can't refuse…
Any reasonable request as long as I get to decide what's reasonable.

My Chinese sign and element?
Ox and Fire

My favorite place on earth?
Probably San Francisco. I've been away for a long time but when I've returned I always feel a special connection with the place. With Golden Gate Park, the Golden Gate Bridge, Market Street, street cars and cable cars, Twin Peaks tunnel, Lands End, The Cliff House, Sutros and other less famous places I haunted as a pre-teen and teenager.

An important evolutionary lesson for me in this life?
In my birth chart, a 5th house Venus in Gemini makes major or minor aspects with every other planet in the sky save Saturn. So I'm reasonably certain that at least one important evolutionary lesson for me in this life has had to do with communications and/or information sharing in some way. It is my belief that astrology is involved in a significant (for me personally) way. More on this in a moment.

My chart
I was born July 30, 1937 in Alexandria, Louisiana, at 6:17 pm CST.
final two years of college writing news and sports for local daily newspapers in the San Diego area. I took the only class SDS offered on public relations at the time and, upon graduation, moved to Los Angeles to seek work in the field. In LA I landed a job in the public relations department for a large regional bank that was expanding in the market. Subsequently, I was hired by General Electric Co. for a position in the company’s West Coast News Bureau in LA, and wound up managing the Bureau’s LA office before transferring to Chicago. I was working for my third PR agency (it’s a restless business) when I encountered astrology for the first time in my mid to late thirties.

My experience with astrology – How did it start?
I responded to a newspaper ad for a computer-generated astrological report. When it arrived, I was immediately impressed because I could see it provided a reasonable, causal explanation for our multi-faceted personality swings through astrology’s animal kingdom and the other signs. I discovered the Old Astrology Shop on Chicago’s Clark Street and signed up for a reading with astrologer Neil Marbell. Shortly thereafter the infamous “Objections to Astrology” statement crafted by founders of the CSICOP organization was published in the Humanist Magazine. Neil asked me to come up with a local PR response to the skeptics. The PR effort went very well and, among other things, included setting up a live, on-air TV debate at a local station between the astrologer and George Abell, a UCLA astronomer and a spokesperson for the skeptics group.

During the TV debate Neil was able to get the UCLA astronomer to commit CSICOP to a joint research project, but the skeptics later pulled out when preliminary testing results by the group of astrologers Neil organized to do the study started to produce positive results. Neil was able to successfully finish the study with statisticians at the University of Wisconsin and these academics were able to validate the results. But the skeptics group was able to bury them with profound indifference. I came away from this and subsequent experiences with a keen awareness of the difficulties involved in turning public opinion on this topic but also with a motive for making the effort. As a public relations professional I could not imagine a more difficult or worthwhile challenge.

My astrology teachers?
Early instruction was with Marbell, David Horowitz and Ingrid Williams at the Old Astrology Shop, but since then I’ve done a lot of independent study, and have attended many lectures at various astrological conferences. My goal has never been to become a certified astrological consultant. Rather, the hope was that my experience in the public relations industry might prove useful to the community in some way.

Three favorite books?
The first book on the subject I read was Alan Oken’s The Horoscope, the Road and its Travelers, and it was a real eye-opener. I’m also a huge fan of Grant Lewi’s Astrology for the Millions and anything written by Steven Forrest.

My greatest accomplishment?
I’m especially proud of the fact that actions I undertook with others helped lead to creation of the Astrology News Service (ANS). Obtaining support for a jointly sponsored public information program was a major accomplishment and further demonstrated that astrological organizations can pull together when it counts.

My vision for ANS?
It’s all about helping to change public perception. Content on the ANS website – and stories sent electronically to the media – is written for an informed general audience and broadly deals with themes related to believability and astrology’s under-appreciated value to society. You may agree with us that every astrologer has a responsibility to help improve astrology’s public image by being the best exemplar they can be. An ability to share knowledgeable information is a strategically important part of this process. Ideally, the ANS website is creatively utilized by astrologers to support their own individual efforts to better inform the public.

Advice to up and coming astrology writers?
Explaining astrology to others can be challenging. Astrologers writing for an informed general audience can’t assume the reader understands anything about the subject; astrological terms and concepts must be carefully explained and jargon held to a minimum. The writer can’t allow him or herself to be daunted by the challenge but is well advised to study the format before jumping in. If you have an idea you believe will work in the ANS format contact edsnow37@att.net
ASTROLOGY of RELATIONSHIPS

The Wisdom of Relationship Astrology

by Kay Taylor

No matter what type of relationship we are considering, we begin with the natal chart signatures of each partner. This clarifies the personality, needs, and evolutionary goals of each individual in the relationship. We see the potential pitfalls and how to remedy that, and prevent crisis scenarios by identifying where there is a need for personal work so that we may live more comfortably within family, collegial, or other relationships we feel compelled to stay in. The chart may also suggest that we learn to move on to develop better relationships with more compatible partners.

Next with Synastry, the comparison of two or more charts, we can assess the energetic interaction between the individuals to analyze the flow and easeful connections and the likely challenges. How do we affect each other, why are we together at all? Do we fit each other’s pictures? Or do we press each other’s buttons?

Finally, through the Composite or Davison Chart we discover the deeper meaning of the relationship itself. We can watch the relationship unfold and develop through transits and progressions.

If you work with clients, you know these are the kinds of questions they ask: “I just met a new person on this app. I’m wondering if we’re compatible?”

“I’ve been dating a Scorpio for a few months and it’s going great, but my ex was a Scorpio and it didn’t work out so I’m thinking this probably won’t work either.”

“I’ve been married for twenty-five years and unhappy for at least half that. Is it time to get a divorce?”

“My partner and I have been together for seven years. We’re in therapy and thought it might be a good idea to see an astrologer to learn more about our strengths and weaknesses as a couple. Can you help us with that?”

I love the couple who comes in with the last question. This is where astrology shines—in the container of conscious relationship. Yet the truth is most people will come in with the first three questions.

Ethics First

As astrologers we will need to find the balance between the astrological analysis and an answer that does no harm. We need to consider if it is okay, or even worthwhile, to do compatibility analysis between two people who met online and haven’t even met yet face to face? Should you tell someone to leave a marriage or stay in it?

Once you are clear on your own beliefs and philosophies about how to be helpful and not harmful, then you will need the relationship astrology analytical skills to answer the questions wisely.

Relationships can be a dynamic path of fulfillment, growth and evolution—or, more often than not, a thorny path of misplaced projected emotions burdened by old patterns, repeated again and again.

Relationship astrology gives us a powerful tool to clarify the root cause of any potential patterns. With an evolutionary approach to analysis, we can get to the root causes of potential problems, and discover and employ new choices or healing tools to ultimately create more conscious, and healthier relationships, rather than accept dysfunctional patterns as our fate.

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Once you are clear on your own beliefs and philosophies about how to be helpful and not harmful, then you will need the relationship astrology analytical skills to answer the questions wisely.
Another important ethical question is whether it is okay to look at the chart of someone who is not present in the room. Some astrologers decide absolutely not, some will look at another person’s charts with express permission, and some will read other people’s charts in the context of helping the client understand their own part in things.

What choice feels right to you?
In my own work, I always imagine the other person is in fact in the room (or they will one day hear the recording) so that everything I say is objective and kind and could be meaningful and healing to them too. Our purpose is to help them both in this process. I find it important to look at both charts (or more charts in multiple person relationships) and not rely solely on the client’s chart to understand the deeper dynamics between them.

Once you are clear on your own beliefs and philosophies about how to be helpful and not harmful, then you will need the relationship astrology analytical skills to answer the questions wisely.

The chart patterns show us the path of fate, while the consciousness and choice of the clients express free will. I have seen great astrological connections in relationships that ended in divorce or disconnect, and long-standing relationships built on complicated, challenging planetary configurations. It’s helpful to hold a very open perspective about all the ways people could possibly create relationship together. It’s never as simple as it looks on the surface of the chart patterns.

Regardless of astrology connections, we are drawn together through the magic of soul connection:

Soul Love - There are certain beings we know and love. We recognize them the moment they walk in the room. They may be completely incompatible with us in the real world, but we have drawn them into our life as family, friends or mates.

Karma - We have unfinished business with some souls. We sense they died or were lost to us and we’ve been looking for them—or we betrayed them and want to make it up—or some other deeply intuitive storyline.

Dysfunction or Self Karma: We have personality/ego issues to work on. Any number of individuals will have matching self karma pictures. In a relationship we might work on these challenges. When we’ve healed we might move on. Not all relationships are meant to be lifelong. Maybe one of us is controlling and the other gives up their power, for example.

A perfect match!
When we do relationship astrology, it helps to remember there are probably millions of individuals with compatible charts with ours. So only when we feel that soul connection to connect in relationship, or circumstances draw us there, does it make sense to analyze the planets.

Natal Chart Analysis: It Starts With You
Each sign in the symbolic language of astrology provides a continuum of related qualities. When we listen between the lines of the client’s questions, we can discern where they are operating within these levels. From this awareness we can offer relevant healing strategies.

For example, Mars in the 7th house of partners may indicate (from lowest to highest expressions):

- A mate who is angry and selfish – lots of arguing or fighting (in the dysfunctional stage)
- A need to define one’s own autonomy and desire nature (key element of the healing journey)
- A relationship that is passionate and physical (moving toward higher expressions)
- A relationship where both partners feel comfortable expressing their true needs and feel alive and free within a committed, secure bond (coming into trust and wholeness of expression)

By explaining how the natal chart indicates “susceptibilities” to relationship challenges and describing the pathway toward healing and integration, we encourage the client toward their highest relationship potential, regardless of the chart of the other person.

Assessing the Natal Chart
Here are some of the major relationship factors we’ll want to assess in each person’s natal chart:

- Venus Signatures: Venus in aspect to Saturn, Uranus, Neptune or Pluto
- Moon Signatures: Moon in aspect to Saturn, Uranus, Neptune or Pluto
- Relationship houses: 4th, 5th, 7th & 8th houses, their ruling planets and any planets within them
- The Lunar Nodes, their rulers and aspects planets
- The nature of the overall chart: Sun, Mercury, Mars, Jupiter, elemental balance, day or night chart…
- Asteroids, Fixed Stars, Black Moon Lilith and more

Venus or the Moon in aspect to the outer planets indicate potential challenges in relationship but also the potential to experience conscious spiritual relationship through transformation of the energies.

For example, Venus in aspect to Neptune may indicate a tendency to fall in love with unavailable mates. The powerful energy of
Astrology of Relationships

Taylor

Neptune connected to Venus allows one to feel deep soul connection and often overlook practical realities, and so the starving poet artist who is already married and lives across the country seems like a viable mate, if only they would answer their email! And yet with integration, Venus and Neptune together offer soul centered connection, philanthropy, artistic expression and awesome counseling skills. This is where it is a legitimate skill to see the soul of another with compassion.

The 5th house shows us the nature of romantic affairs and the 7th house suggests the path of marriage and partnership. The 8th house indicates the capacity and style of intimate bonding, a deeper level of partnership and trust. The 4th house of home and family is worth analyzing too—it often expresses a subtle question in the early phases of relationship. Is this a good person to create a family with? Would they make a good father/mother (to children, pets or houseplants)?

The Lunar Nodes indicate very powerful tendencies to explain relationship style, gifts, challenges and core needs. Here we see the karmic gifts, patterns and evolutionary goals that motivate us.

And finally, everything in the chart connects to the many types of relationship we find ourselves in. We determine the most significant motivations and then move beyond the segments into a holistic view.

Synastry

Synastry is the process of looking at the interactions between two or more individual charts. We create a bi-wheel with one person’s chart in the middle and the other’s planets around their wheel, or a grid showing aspects, and then swap the charts to look at the relationship from the other person’s perspective. Will trines and sextile indicate they flow with ease? Are there a couple of conjunctions to indicate that feeling of “getting” each other without words—intuitive alignment? Where will they trigger each other? Will Saturn allude to obstacles and blockages to work through? Does one person see the other as their ideal partner—while the other feels it to be just friends?

I find looking at synastry of the progressed charts is relevant to current relationship compatibility. Additionally, relationships coming together (either meeting or committing) are often as one person’s progressed chart aligns with the other’s natal.

The Lunar Nodes are essential to help people understand and support each other, no matter what kind of relationship they have. The South Node sign indicates our prior life experiences (or deepest inner gifts and habit patterns if you prefer to leave reincarnation out of it). The positive aspects of the sign of the North Node represent the necessary healing medicine, and the qualities we yearn to develop to evolve and create balance. The negative qualities of the North Node represent what blocked us. When our partners have planets at our North Node they naturally guide us toward our destiny, a combination of ideal model to emulate and perhaps some of the challenging qualities we rail against. When their planets are conjunct the South Node, they often feel like an old soul friend, but sometimes hold us back in repetitive patterns. Yet if we have no planets conjunct the other’s North Node, we can choose to support the other person consciously in their evolution. This is where the consulting astrologer’s guidance can be potent in working with couples.

An example might be one partner having a Moon in Libra conjoined the other’s South Node in Libra with no planets lighting up the Aries North Node. There is likely to be a deep subconscious memory of connection and unconditional love with this Moon placement, but as the South Node person reaches out for more independence and freedom through the Aries North Node calling, the Libran Moon person might naturally try to encourage the relationship orientation of Libra-land. Despite what feels like a risk, the Libran Moon person will need to support their partner in their destiny to develop courage and independence while also valuing the positive charms of Libra connection.

If, in this relationship, the Libra Moon person also had Venus in Aries, they would be both soothing on the Libra level, but through their fiery, independence in love, would easily encourage the Aries development of their partner at the same time.

Composite or Davison Relationship Charts

Once we fully understand the individual natal charts, we turn to the chart of the relationship as an entity. Most often this is calculated as a Composite — the midpoint of each planet and the angles and cusp lines. We can also calculate a Davison Chart, which adds time and space to the midpoint calculations, creating a midpoint latitude and longitude and a midpoint date and time for the birthday of the relationship. The primary benefit of the Davison is that it allows us to easily calculate transits and progressions to the chart, mapping the cycles and unfoldment of the relationship itself.

Beginnings & Endings

Transits and progressions to the individual’s charts or to the Davison illuminate the nature of a new relationship emerging, or the need for change, healing or moving on in an established bond. Simplistic astrological interpretation will create fear of transits like Saturn or Uranus into the 7th house of partnership, while the proactive approach is to understand and make mindful choices based on unique inner needs being expressed with each time cycle.

In summary, there is an endless wealth of information we can calculate to help clients (and ourselves) understand the nature of each of our relationships. When done skillfully, this wisdom encourages evolution and growth through connection. Balancing the astro data with consciousness and compassion, relationship astrology becomes a significant tool on the evolutionary healing path.

Kay Taylor will be sharing an evolutionary approach to Relationship Astrology at the OPA Retreat in Zion National Park, Utah. We will look at some famous charts and work with our own charts to explore in depth:

- Natal chart analysis of relationship gifts & challenges
- Healing pro-active strategies
- Synastry and compatibility analysis
- Composite & Davison charts
- Relationship beginnings & endings
- How progressions affect relationships
- Counseling individuals and couples about their relationships

If you have questions about this track, please contact Kay at kaytaylorwisdom@gmail.com or to learn more or sign up.
When the needs are met in the relationship: Goddess Juno

by Eda Ocak Zakaria

Today, we turn to one person to provide what an entire village once did: a sense of grounding, meaning, and continuity. At the same time, we expect our committed relationships to be romantic as well as emotionally and sexually fulfilling. Is it any wonder that so many relationships crumble under the weight of it all?

Can astrology help us find a way out of this complex issue presented by author and psychotherapist Esther Perel? I believe it can! Knowing what we want in a relationship takes time and experience. We sometimes get confused about what we need in a relationship and demand more than what one person can provide. Astrology can give us an entryway to understanding our needs, desires, and tendencies in relationships.

There are some indicators in the natal chart that tell us specifically about relationships. Asteroid Juno is a significant one that shows what we want from a partner and long term relationships. We can check Juno in our chart, synastry and even composite charts.

Juno, a Roman goddess, was Jupiter’s wife. She and Aphrodite were the only two women officially married among all goddesses. **Juno was the patron goddess of marriage, childbirth, and women’s sexuality.** In Greek mythology, under the name Hera (Juno), she was known to be a loyal spouse unlike her husband Zeus (Jupiter). She was portrayed as a respected, beautiful and noble woman because of her loyalty to her husband.

She was the initiator of women into the rites of marriage. The month of June, when many weddings take place, was actually named after the goddess Juno, with a slight twist.

Juno and Jupiter had an on and off relationship. At some point Juno was fed up with Jupiter’s disloyalty and had an agenda to take revenge. When she acted out her revenge, Zeus became angered and punished her every time. This tension between them was the main dynamic of their marriage.

From this perspective, Juno resonates with Scorpio and Libra archetypes, but mostly their shadow sides. Juno, as a jealous and vindictive wife, reflects a Scorpio energy. Even though she was frustrated by her husband’s disloyalty, when she compromised, she used Libra’s shadow side.

If we look at Juno from these mythological archetypes, Juno shows a need for an honest, fair and deeply connected relationship, but it also shows neurotic complexes and pain created from the lack of such a partnership.

Juno’s sign, house placement, and aspects in a natal chart, show us what we need in a relationship and how we project this to our partner. Juno’s effect is more significant when it is conjunct with or opposed to another planet. **When conjunct in the synastry chart, it can mean that the couple has the same expectations from a relationship, so it makes it easier for them to be together. However if it is opposed to or square, then they need to put more effort to fulfill their expectations.**

Let’s see how Juno plays a role in **Salvador and Gala Dali’s charts.**

We see **Juno is in Scorpio and conjunct with Uranus in Gala’s natal chart.** This tells us that Gala expected loyalty and intimacy from her partners, and a deep connection in the relationship. A conjunction with Uranus says that her partner might be extraordinary authentic, or even weird. I believe she could not have found a more extraordinary man than Salvador Dali.

Having Juno in Scorpio could mean that sexuality is one of the key factors for her to be happy in a relationship. Juno in

A conjunction with Uranus says that her partner might be extraordinary authentic, or even weird. I believe she could not have found a more extraordinary man than Salvador Dali.
conjunction with Uranus means that there might be something unusual about sexual tendencies. When they became famous as a couple, many rumors were spread about their sexual life. Some used to say that they didn’t have a sexual life at all, some used to say Gala had many young boyfriends. Once Salvador Dali said that he is gay. Even though we may never know the truth, we know that the rumors surrounding them were much more unusual than other famous couples. Rumors about Gala having boyfriends actually fits Uranus–Juno symbolism, because it requires freedom from all social taboos about marriage.

So we can say that Gala should have expected her husband to let her live her sexuality freely. Actually, this aspect is not only about free sex, but it is about being accepted as an individual. Juno – Uranus conjunction shows that Gala might have wanted to have her own life outside their relationship. We can see this aspect of her life when she started to live in a castle. After Salvador Dali bought a castle for her, Gala stipulated that her husband could visit the castle only if he had received a written invitation.

In Salvador Dali’s chart, Juno is in Aquarius and conjunct with Saturn in the 8th house. Because of Gala’s Juno inconjunct with Uranus, we can say that their Juno has the same vibration as an Aquarian. So this combination shows that Dali also expected a unique partner who is extraordinary and independent. The relationship should have some Aquarian qualities such as freedom and authenticity. A Juno–Saturn conjunction tells us that the partner should be someone who is in charge and has rules. Other than being the inspiration of Salvador’s art, Gala was a boss and had the authority to decide over his works. It seemed that she had a pretty strong influence as a woman in the Paris art community. Among her lovers were many surrealist painters. Once the painter Diego said that Gala was a woman who knows exactly what she wants for herself and others. Being a little kid inside, Salvador found the authority for which he sought. Saturn symbolizes seniority and Gala was 10 years older than him. Sex is again emphasized because of the 8th house. A Juno–Saturn conjunction in Aquarius in the 8th house shows the potential for an unusual approach to sex in a relationship. Dali once said that he was a virgin. This might be true because Saturn contacts are likely to have sexual frigidity. Gala, on the other hand, triggered his fantasy world. In his paintings, he portrayed Gala with eroticism, in line with the 8th House symbolism.

In synastry, there is a square between Gala’s Juno in Scorpio at 15 degrees and Salvador’ Juno at 17 degrees in Aquarius. This also shows that at some point they may have difficulty in meeting each other’s needs. I think this tension also triggered the creative energy of the duo.

In the Composite chart, Juno is in Capricorn. As I understand, Juno in composite charts describes the nature of the...
couples’ relationship. The Dali couple’s composite Juno in Capricorn explains the business-oriented structure of their relationship. Gala was a businesswoman who knew how to attract gallery owners while keeping Dali away from people she distrusted.

Moreover, A Juno-Neptune to Venus opposition shows that the nature of this work contains artistic and mystical energy. Salvador Dali painted Gala as a holy woman in some of his works and he was often inspired by her. After she died, he isolated himself in the castle that he bought for her.

As we see in this example, Juno is prominent indicator of relationships in astrology along with Venus and 7th house. It adds more information to our understanding about our needs in a relationship. In addition to our reflective observations, Juno is also very useful for us to understand what our partner expects from a relationship.

**Sources**
- Esther Perel, Mating in Captivity: Reconciling the Erotic and the Domestic
- Salvador Dalí’s chart from www.astro.com (Rodden rating AA)
- Gala Dalí’s chart from www.astrotheme.com (unknown birth time)

Eda Ocak Zakaria is a practicing astrologer based in Turkey. She majored in Turkish Language and Literature and has a master degree in Western Art History. She worked as a teacher and taught Turkish Language to students from all over the world for ten years. She initially studied Astrology with Öner Döşer for three years, with a Traditional to Modern program and then she continued with Aleksandar Imsiragic studying Hermetic & Karmic Astrology. She is a member of OPA. She is one of the speakers at IVC 2020, in India.

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An Astrological Look at Relationships

by Maggie Kerr, AAT

When I ponder the story of western society’s progress over the past four thousand years (Age of Aries and Age of Pisces), my sense of the quality which is most precious, and the source of inspiration, is the drive to ‘individualization’. This was the foundation stone of Greek philosophy and the rights of the individual live at the heart of the ‘humanitarian principle’. Wars and revolutions are fought for this. Astrologically speaking, we can say that we have been Solar or Sun driven, and this is primarily secret men’s business. Secret women’s business has involved birthing heroes, nurturing them, sacrificing for them, and waiting for them to come home!

The male impulse is also Mars driven, so men have fought for peace (in itself a huge irony!) and stashed away their softer feelings as they raged and conquered. They left them at home with their women. Consequently we see that our ‘his’tory (not herstory) has involved repression of the “feminine”, women, and consequently the Soul generally in western culture.

Over the past 100 years we have experienced a major acceleration in human evolution as we pass through the transition from the Age of Pisces and prepare for the Age of Aquarius (the next 2,160 years). The Spiritual seed planted 2,000 years ago with the birth of Christ and other avatars who founded world religions has been the essence of this Piscean age, which actually began a new 25,600 year Great Year or cycle of the ages. Aquarius is the 2nd stage of a process which began 2,000 odd years ago and requires that we develop the “Spiritualising Principle” by taking it to the next step i.e. beyond idealism through conflict.

It comes as no surprise that during the past century there has been a process of re-integration of feminine essence and power. This received a huge jolt in the 1960s, when the modern feminists began their fight for equal rights and inclusiveness. Humanity instinctively goes about the business of evolution you see, and somehow deep within our collective memory and purpose, we know that if we are to evolve into more Spiritually motivated people, we must re-kindle this Soul quality lost along the way. The ideas that live at the heart of most spiritual traditions tell us that our quest in life is to unite our left and right brain function – the yang and yin – Spirit and Soul – the Sun and Moon – the conscious and unconscious parts of our nature.

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Astrology and The Whole Person Process

When we apply modern psychological ideas to the astrological framework we see the planets as the many ‘voices’ that make up our psyche. The psychologist Carl Jung called these “Archetypes” or “patterns of emotional and mental behaviour” and we are all driven by these as both individuals and as a group. Each voice in our...
psychological makeup must be ‘well’ and functional, if we are to ever aspire to become a “conscious individual”.

This illustration of the Planetary Tree (below) is how I perceive the relationships between the planets on a psychological level. As you can see there are the male and female “lines” with the neutral or mental planets between them. Space does not permit an in-depth analysis, however a brief outline goes along the lines of:

The potential for wholeness within us requires that we integrate both the yin and yang lineage of archetypes within us. The yang path to individuation of the Sun must be supported by the energy of the ‘safe’ will (Mars), the capacity for self responsibility and authority (Saturn), which in turn leads to true empowerment both on an inner and outer level (Pluto). Ultimately for the true Spiritualisation of our Solar ego the Plutonian “Higher Will and Purpose” must be brought into alignment.

The yin path within the wholeness process requires that we become “Soul Centered” and learn to respond to our true intuitive feelings (Moon), and become “safe” in them, so we may link with and nurture the authentic Self (Sun). This requires clearing and healing our lower emotional nature, where we are at the mercy of our old, unsafe emotional reactions. Venus serves the Moon by attracting relationships so we can learn to love and be loved, and this allows our sense of worth. Jupiter brings us opportunities for growth based on our sense of meaning and faith in ourselves. Arising from this then, Neptune offers inspiration and clarity so we may have a true relationship with our Soul (Moon - the Soul memory is stored within our Moon sign) or Higher Self.

Mercury is the “messenger” who links the male and female aspects within the whole person. Chiron contains the crisis which leads to Uranus’ awakening of our potential for conscious evolution. This forges the link to the transpersonal or Spiritual energies of Neptune and Pluto in turn. Ultimately, we are here to open the Solar Heart Centre, so we may feel the Lunar Soul essence and feel and express love and compassion! So, there you have it! The potential for wholeness in a nutshell. If only it were that easy!

So How Does This Apply to Relationships?

Until recently our cultural conditioning impelled us to play out some of our planetary voices and deny others. Men are ‘yang’ so are expected to enact their Sun, Mars, Saturn and Pluto as a natural expression of their maleness. However, women also have these planetary drives but were not supposed to express them. We expected our men to do it for us. Conversely, women are “yin” so instinctively express the Moon, Venus, Jupiter and Neptune, and men have

THE FEMININE SIDE OF JUPITER

The Jupiter connection here includes themes of ‘belief’ and ‘meaning’. If we don’t feel worthy enough (Venus) to be in the world safely (Moon), then we are not going to believe the world is a very safe and nurturing place. So meaning goes out the window! I have had a number of people question why I have ascribed Jupiter within the feminine line, as we are familiar with him mythically as a more Heroic archetypal function. I do not debate that within a certain level of the Greco/Roman mythic tradition he indeed fulfills a more animus orientated function. However, this tradition is primarily patriarchal and not particularly Soul Centered, so in my simple energy system I see him in a more feminine role.
by and large expected their woman/wife to express or take care of these for them!

My point is that in recent decades women are beginning to take back their right to express their own Sun potential to be an individual, as well as to be assertive (Mars) toward their own goals (Saturn) and have their own personal power (Pluto). The outcome here also implies that women are now expecting their men to take responsibility for their own Moon (feelings and self-nurture), Venus (meeting their own emotional security needs), Jupiter (providing their own sense of faith and optimism), and Neptune (responding to their own instinctive and intuitive nature).

Hence the popular term SNAG or Sensitive New Age Guy. Many women expect this of men now, as they go about the business of living their own interesting, exciting, adventurous (and exhausting) lives in their own right! Our men are supposed to be able to cook and clean and care for the kids, and power dressing women are quite the norm. The trouble is that many women have become quite tough as a result of this drive for autonomy and freedom. My experience in counselling practice, shows that many women are also very much in need of healing back into a gentler quality, so they can remember that we are essentially compassionate, protective and nurturing creatures.

My sense of our current time within the drama of human evolution tells me that we are in the midst of a ‘great experiment’, as we all attempt to reconcile these two sets of energies within our natures. This applies to both men and women!

So How Do We Do This?

What is required to open and synthesise the feminine or Yin lineage of planetary archetypes? Well let’s have a look. With the Moon as the ‘light’ focalizing this energy system, the essence here is feeling. We cannot know the joy of the creative heart (Sun) unless we can feel it, unless we can feel the joy of the creative heart (Sun) unless we can feel it, and yet over all the years of my counselling work the issue of feeling lies at the heart of most people’s unhappiness. So many of us received messages when we were small telling us not to feel - it is too dangerous to feel because there’s a good chance we will have to admit to our feelings of loss and grief and despair and so on.

In the Transactional Analysis model illustrated below (Eric Berne), we see the Child Ego state is ruled by the Moon as this is the part of us who feels and has needs. So, feeling and needs are inextricably interwoven within the expression of our “inner child”. If we received messages from our parents telling us to “think with your head not with your heart”, and “stop that sookie crying - get up and get on with it” - and so on, then we not only closed down our ability to feel our grief and pain, we also can’t feel our joy and passion and excitement! We closed down our ability to allow ourselves to need, or meet our own needs, let alone ask for them to be met by others.

From this point we obviously don’t feel very valuable and worthwhile. So, our Venusian voice is undervalued, and operates dysfunctional as unconscious obsessive compulsions (there is a link here to Neptunian addictions), rather than free choices being made by us, based on Venus’ capacity to go out and serve the Moon to get her needs met. In the T.A. model Venus also lives in the Child Ego State. When we were small (beginning from age 1 at the first Venus return) we began to comply and adapt within our environment to try and get our needs met.

How we learned to do this will be based on our Venus sign and house and aspects. Venus is the “Adapted Child” who learned to “please them to get along around here”, and many people (especially women) are still trying to “please them” to get stroked and loved. But guess what - it doesn’t work! And then Mars, the “Free Child” who also lives in the “Child Ego State”, becomes angry and frustrated, because all our attempts to comply and please are not bearing fruit! So, our dysfunctional Mars, Saturn and Pluto voices kick in, and we try all our power and control games to get our needs met!

An important aspect of the healing to wholeness journey requires that we become aware of our compliance patterns, and begin to learn to meet our own needs or cleanly ask with our ‘functional’ Mars will, for our needs to be met. This is obviously primary theme territory for very Libran and Taurean types, as both these signs are ruled by Venus.

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Particularly when we recognise his dualistic relationship with Saturn, I can’t help but relate to these Lords of Karma as offering us Yin and Yang polarity. I believe that...
the getting of Wisdom (Jupiter) is primarily a very feminine affair, as wisdom arises from nurture and nature, not from any man-made creation. It is not until we have a degree of Soul awareness that we are able to gently reassure ourselves that our Saturn tests contain our path to wisdom (Jupiter). It is also from this point that we are able to ascertain the truth that there are many paths to the Self, and we must find our own path, not just blindly follow someone else. The dissemination of knowledge (Jupiter) is also a feminine affair, and the wise teacher nurtures the pupil who is ready, rather than inflicting their version of truth upon all and sundry whether they want it or not!

Without a sense of meaning and purpose for our Souls' work, we cannot take the final step out to Neptune, and open to the true faith and compassion that lives in the feminine. Neptune is the connection through the Crown Chakra that invites inspiration from the Higher Mind (Uranus on the Mental level) and is the source of our relationship to the Divine. Neptune is the part of us who seeks to merge with something greater than our limited self, knowing that the very nurture so essential to the Self, must be found within ourselves, before we can ever project outside of ourselves and find it in the world of relationship.

Neptune is also the higher octave of Venus, so when we are unconscious and still playing out the Venusan compulsion to "please them to get loved", we will send Neptune out to bat, to dream up our "divine lover" in an attempt to create this merged state we intrinsically need. The trouble is Neptune is the master of illusion and deceit, and how many of us can relate to the sense of frustration and confusion when the "perfect" new lover turns out to be merely human, and also invested in getting us to fill them up and make them whole! "Wait a minute that was what you were supposed to do for me! Now I'm angry with you because you are not what you are supposed to be", says our Venus.

Neptune and Venus get together and participate in the Prince and Princess myths, replete with their need to be saved, or to save. Most of our western culture is still immersed in co-addictive and codependent relationship for this reason. Thus one of the tasks in healing this aspect of our Moon centred feminine, requires coming out of this illusory energy system, and beginning to live as whole people within our own right.

Neptunian emotional themes contain issues about 'boundaries': What is my personal myth about myself? Remember what your favourite fairy story as a child was and this will give you great insight! Who am I when I am alone and not under the influence of someone else's projection onto me, of who they want me to be for them? Do I act only under the influence of others, or am I self assertive and inspired? Do I try and rescue 'victims' and helpless others? Or am I acting out 'poor me' and 'victim' roles? Opening the door to let the light of truth on to these questions is very important, and if you are still the type of person who feels lost, lonely and needy when your partner is not around, and who feels like you have lost your sense of meaning, then you have a little work to do on your Venus, Jupiter and Neptune facets of your psychological makeup!

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Neptune is also the higher octave of Venus, so when we are unconscious and still playing out the Venusan compulsion to "please them to get loved", we will send Neptune out to bat, to dream up our "divine lover" in an attempt to create this merged state we intrinsically need. The trouble is Neptune is the master of illusion and deceit, and how many of us can relate to the sense of frustration and confusion when the "perfect" new lover turns out to be merely human, and also invested in getting us to fill them up and make them whole! "Wait a minute that was what you were supposed to do for me! Now I'm angry with you because you are not what you are supposed to be", says our Venus.

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Choosing Wedding Dates That Work
by April Elliott Kent

Years ago, across a full Jupiter cycle, I carved out a niche for myself choosing dates for couples to marry. I studied the astrology of wedding elections carefully, even mounting a research project examining literally hundreds of charts.

But astrology was the easy part. The real challenge was coping with the anxieties and expectations of couples preparing to take one of the most important steps of their lives. Be it the food, the flowers, or the wedding date, nothing short of perfection would do.

I’ve got planets in Virgo, so perfection mattered to me, too. The problem is that there are no perfect wedding dates, because there are no perfect marriages – and that’s because there are no perfect people.

I’ve long believed that you can tell a lot about a couple’s chances for marital success by how easy it is to find a good wedding date for them. With some couples, it’s like rolling off a log; with others, it’s more like getting thrown from a bull. They begin by saying, “Oh, we’ll get married any day you say, really.” And then, “Well, any weekend day of course. I mean, a Saturday, obviously. A Saturday evening. In June.” See how quickly 365 days are whittled down to four?

But then there are couples who are really happy and relaxed. They stroll in and say, “Hey, we’ve decided to get married. When’s a good day?” You crack open your ephemeris, and in about three minutes you’ve found a lovely date.

I think of wedding elections as a ritual, one of many traditions, symbols, and superstitions associated with getting married. When we or our clients approach these rituals with fear, terrified to invite the gods or anything spontaneous into the ritual of marriage, the universe will reciprocate by stubbornly refusing to cooperate with good dates.

Begin with a Questionnaire

I realized it was my job to outwit my perfectionism, anxious clients, and the universe. My first step was a questionnaire designed to help me get to know the couple and what they needed. It included:

- During which months, days of the week, and times of day would they consider marrying?
- Were they willing to marry on national holidays, their birthdays, their parents’ birthdays, their ex-spouse’s birthdays, their children’s birthdays, 9/11, Pearl Harbor Day, etc., etc. (Couples rejected dates for a dazzling array of reasons.)
- Were they on the same page about money, children, their families? How were their careers going? Anything else they’d like to improve in their relationship?
- Once we’d outlined these parameters, I was ready to get to work. Next stop: my Big Book of Wedding Dates.

As the ruler of love, Venus deserves the best. Traditionally, she’s strongest in Taurus, Libra, and Pisces and is less happy in Aries, Virgo, and Scorpio. I put an orange proceed-with-caution X on the calendar for the days when Venus was in those signs.
The Big Book of Wedding Dates
At the beginning of each year, I generated transit searches for the coming 12 months (including the Moon’s sign ingress, aspects, and void-of-course periods), narrowed down the dates and times I felt were the absolute best for three U.S. time zones, London, and Sydney, and put it all in a big binder with divider tabs for each month.

Personally, I didn’t take synastry with the couple’s charts into account when choosing the dates. A good wedding chart is like a good house - solid, integrated, and built to last. There usually aren’t enough truly great dates in a given year, still fewer Saturday evenings (many couples’ only choice), to tailor the date to two natal charts. But I could usually find a few in my Big Book of Wedding Dates that were somewhat sympathetic with their birth and composite charts.

I compiled the three best dates in a report with text I’d gradually written over the years and saved as paragraphs in rtf files (Venus in sign, house, aspect, and so on), which I customized for each couple. (If you’re not fussy about formatting, you could simply create a report file in Solar Fire for this.) Couples appreciated some insight into the pluses and minuses of each chart.

Choosing the Date
Let’s say your client is planning to marry sometime in the next year. Let’s further imagine that she’s willing to forego such considerations as weather, national holidays, and the day of the week, with astrology her utmost priority.

First of all, your client is a unicorn.

Secondly, 365 days are a lot to look at. How can you begin the process of elimination?

I began by printing out a calendar for the year and putting a big red line through the dates when Mercury and Venus were retrograde. Weddings are contractually, logistically, and communicatively fraught, and are not the best undertakings for a Mercury retrograde period. I’m not dead-set against it, but I tried to avoid it.

I drew the line at Venus retrograde, however. Venus rules marriage, and when she’s retrograde it suggests the couple might be ignoring warnings from friends, family, or their own inner voices that they’re making a bad decision or their timing is off for non-astrological reasons.

Together, Mercury and Venus are retrograde for only about 208 days out of any given two-year period. That leaves an average of almost nine months each year when you can have Mercury and Venus working for your marriage instead of against it.

Honoring Venus
As the ruler of marriage, Venus deserves the best. Traditionally, she’s strongest in Taurus, Libra, and Pisces. She’s less happy in Aries, Virgo, and Scorpio — I put an orange proceed-with-caution X on the calendar for the days when Venus was in those signs.

I noted Venus’ approaching sextiles and trines with Mars (sexual compatibility) and sextiles, trines, or conjunction with Jupiter (fortune and optimism). I tried to avoid dates when Venus was approaching difficult aspects to other planets. However, I was taught to use whole-sign aspects in electional astrology; from the moment the faster-moving planet enters the sign where it will eventually aspect another planet, that aspect is considered to be in orb. It’s challenging, then, to avoid all difficult aspects to Venus; usually, I had to choose my battles.

Good Aspect Between the Sun and Moon
Venus and Mars symbolize sexual chemistry, but the Sun and Moon represent overall compatibility — what’s left between you when the physical passion becomes less compelling. Waxing lunar phases are considered better for weddings, but a good Sun/Moon aspect takes priority. Personally, I avoided the Balsamic, Full, and Gibbous phases. Quarter Moons were okay if I could get the First Quarter Sun/Moon trine or Last Quarter sextile. Clients often requested a Full Moon date, but while it looks romantic in the night sky, it’s not the happiest phase for relationships. New Moons can work, but avoid Solar Eclipse days!

The Moon and Daily Rhythm
The Moon in the wedding chart describes both the rhythm of daily life and how the marriage will unfold over time. The Moon is considered strongest in Taurus and Cancer and disadvantaged in Scorpio and Capricorn. For a wedding, she also does nicely in Libra, the sign of marriage (I usually avoided Moon in Aries, its opposite).

But most important was a good flow for the Moon. As she continues to travel through her sign, she should have mostly friendly aspects with other planets. Contentious lunar aspects reflect daily frustration, like walking through a beautiful house but tripping over loose rugs and hitting your shin against tables with sharp corners. Pretty soon, you don’t even notice the lovely view of the lake.

Most importantly, the Moon’s last aspect before it changes signs should be a sextile, trine, or a conjunction with a friendly planet (ideally, the Sun, Mercury, Venus, or Jupiter). That way, even if there are some bumps and bruises along the way, the couple eventually kiss and make up.

The Sun
The Sun symbolizes the animating force, the heartbeat, the raison d’être of the marriage. A wedding chart with a strong Sun in good aspect to other planets symbolizes a marriage with a strong life force. Given popular times to marry, it will usually fall between the 11th and 7th houses (clockwise). I preferred the 9th house (the Sun in its joy, mid-afternoon) or 7th (house of marriage, a couple of hours before sunset), and tried to avoid the 8th house and 6th houses.

I avoided difficult aspects to the Sun if possible, especially squares to Saturn. Marriages that begin with that aspect often seem to struggle to flourish, like a flower planted in hard, arid soil. I’d draw a red line through the dates between the Sun entering the sign where it will square Saturn, through the date when the aspect is complete.

Timing
In selecting a time for the chart, I considered the moment when the second partner said “I do” to be the beginning of the marriage (up to that point, either person could change their mind). If a couple wanted to marry privately and later have a public ceremony with family and friends, the first
legally-binding ceremony was the one that counted, astrologically. If my clients wanted children and suspected fertility could be a problem, keeping tough planets out of the 5th house became a priority. If they disagreed about money, I did my best to build harmonious 2nd and 8th houses. I made sure there was a good aspect – or at least, not a bad one - between the planets that ruled the Ascendant and Descendant (representing the couple), and kept all planets except the Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, or Jupiter out of the 7th house (the marriage house).

And of course, it all needed to come together on a Saturday evening in June, between 5 and 7 pm!

Non-negotiables

I mostly retired from doing this work in 2013—partly because I had started fantasizing about choosing dates for divorces rather than marriages, but mostly because it was getting harder to find dates I could happily recommend. My process hadn’t changed over the years, but the skies were conspiring to make harmonious, satisfying wedding charts scarce.

That’s when you have to know which compromises to make. Here were my non-negotiable requirements for wedding charts:

- Venus cannot be retrograde
- Sun and Moon must be in good aspect
- No Sun/Saturn square
- Moon’s last aspect in its sign must be harmonious

Agreements with Time

Astrologers believe that what happens at a particular moment in time has the qualities of that moment in time. But I’m not convinced that it works in reverse, that making something happen at a particular time will magically confer upon it the qualities of that moment. The sky only reflects our circumstances, it doesn’t create them. A good wedding chart doesn’t make a good marriage any more than a bad chart ruins a marriage.

I believe that the soul forms certain agreements with time, and we can divine these agreements from examining the time in which the agreement naturally and organically manifests. Our role as electoral astrologers, I think, is to translate the soul’s agreements with time.

Thousands and thousands of couples will marry this year, with Saturn conjunct Pluto. Our fearful astrological monkey brains protest: ‘Ack, not that!’ But isn’t it likely that these are couples whose birth charts – whose destinies – are closely aligned with what society needs from Saturn and Pluto? I can just about guarantee you that in their birth charts, you’ll see a strong Saturn, Pluto, or Capricorn signature, or a critical connection between the conjunction and their angles, Nodes, Sun or Moon. This is their moment, you see. They have a pact with this moment in time.

I’ve seen beautiful marriages that began with horrible looking wedding charts. I’ve seen bad marriages last too long because I’d given a shaky couple a chart that was perhaps too good. At the end of the day, it’s the love, intention, and determination of the couple that makes or breaks the marriage. Their fate lies not in their stars, but in themselves. But the stars have good advice, too – and it doesn’t hurt for us to pass that along.

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, NCG, and AFAN. She serves on the AFAN Steering Committee and as president of the San Diego Astrological Society. She lives in San Diego’s Normal Heights neighborhood with her long-suffering husband and demanding cats. Her website is www.bigskyastrology.com.

Using Inclusive Language in Couples Compatibility

by Moon Zlotnick

In the early 1970’s when I first was interested in astrology I took a class from a well-respected astrologer who taught us that the Moon in a man’s chart was the symbol for his wife, and the Sun in a woman’s chart symbolized her husband. I was twenty-five years old, a budding lesbian feminist, and found that statement confusing. Clearly, I wouldn’t have a husband, so did that mean I’d be missing part of my identity? I’d already learned the Sun was central to personality, purpose, and consciousness. Did that mean the brightest planet in my chart, the center of the solar system was for someone else? I knew deep in my soul that couldn’t be right. Besides I found the descriptions of my Sun sign to be uncannily accurate.

This same teacher went on to clarify how Mars, an indicator of attractive men in a woman’s chart, was masculine, and symbolized all things male, action, assertion, and sex, while Venus, the woman men found attractive, was feminine and symbolized receptivity, diplomacy, and romance. According to this teacher I was doomed to an unhappy love life because Venus and Mars were square in my natal chart. When I looked at that Mars square Venus I thought about how I changed the oil and spark plugs on my car, went on strenuous outdoor adventures while still loving to cook and feed my friends and make jewelry. Couldn’t I inhabit both my Mars and Venus? Find a place for both of them in my life?

Fast forward to 1977 and my introduction to Zipporah Dobyns, the original researcher of the “first four” asteroids, Ceres, Pallas, Juno and Vesta. With the help of her sons she created the first ephemeris
for them and later worked with Demetra George who wrote Asteroid Goddesses. By that time, I was doing birth chart readings for people I knew, always chafing against the idea that most of the planets were masculine, and the earth and water signs or feminine zodiac signs were emotional, receptive, needy and passive. Finally, I thought, the feminine was represented in the horoscope if only as Mother, Wife, and Priestess. There was Pallas, a warrior goddess, but she was given legitimacy because of springing full grown from her father Zeus's head.

We live in a very different world now, and it seems unlikely that any astrologer would see the Sun and Moon, Venus and Mars so simplistically, but I believe there is still unconscious bias, and because of that an unconscious use of language. Certain planets are referred to as masculine and feminine, still called “he” or “she” even though ideas about gender are becoming more fluid these days, and astrology works well just focusing on the energy of the planet rather than putting a label on it.

The basic assumption that everyone is monogamous and heterosexual still prevails and that can create discomfort for clients, putting the “onus” on them to come out. Rather than asking a female client if she has a boyfriend, you might ask about a romantic partner/s, or you might simply ask what type of relationship they are in. Some people are polyamorous, engaging in multiple intimate relationships. As astrologers we need to be conscious of these personal choices and treat them with respect.

During any comparison chart between individuals it serves us well as professionals to ask about both sexual and gender identity, along with the couples’ expectations about their relationship. While monogamous heterosexual relationships might still dominate our client base, many young people are working hard to change old ideas and assumptions of what constitutes a romantic relationship. Within the queer community there are non-binary, or gender non-conforming people who don’t identify with the traditional dualistic male/female view of gender, but rather see it as fluid, and use pronouns like “they”, “zie” and “hir”.

As astrology keeps evolving, it seems important to use inclusive language; language that affirms people of all different identities. Using the natural world where the Sun is associated with our external day time activities and the Moon with private night activities brings as much understanding and awareness to the planets as labeling them. Venus is naturally receptive, while Mars likes action. Using language outside of the male/female dichotomy is a bit more work for the astrologer, but a great deal more inclusive for the client.

Moon Zlotnick: I’m an artist and writer, a long-time lesbian feminist, a wife and mother of two children, a cat lover, a lover of Food Network, a lover of travel, a spiritual seeker and practicing Jew, a motherless daughter and Twinless twin. I bring a relational, empathetic, practical and perceptive ability to each astrology session. Building on four decades of experience with clients I am a “master astrologer” and embody the “wise old crone”. I began practicing astrology in 1975 and then got formal training with Zipporah Dobyns through her Los Angeles school CCRS in 1979. Since then I’ve worked with clients’ full time, taught astrology to beginners and seasoned students alike, participated on the board of Prasig, OPA, and STARS, and have been to many national and international conferences. I have currently been certified through OPA and work with them as a Peer Group Trainer and Consulting Skills Trainer.

https://astrologybymoonrabbit.com/
Each death is a terrible loss, but to lose a twin in midlife is a grief that most of us cannot imagine. Linda describes this pain to us. As Linda is an astrologer, her memoir includes astrology as an integral part of the narrative. She has written a book that is of value on many levels, for those dealing with the loss of a loved one, for those who have become “twinless twins”, for astrologers who want to learn about the evolution of her death chart work, and for astrologers or writers who are astrologers who want to see how seamlessly astrology can be written into a book that is not per se an astrology book.

Linda Zlotnick, aka Moonrabbit, is a highly regarded professional consulting astrologer. She has an astrology school in Minneapolis that takes students from beginners and turns them into professional astrologers. She has served on the board of OPA and on the NCGR Twin Cities group. She shares her chart in the book, along with that of her twin, Lou Ann. We see that the writing in this book about death and life and transformation comes from the depths of a Moon-Pluto conjunction that has Saturn involved to make it useful.

The book is divided into three sections – the Shared Path, the Divergent Path, and the Solo Path. It is an elegant way to describe the journey of her life up until now. It describes a major theme in the book, that of learning to be alone. How the two were one and then only Linda was one. This is a universal issue but different when one has always had a twin beside them since being in the womb. This book is about growth and the transformation that comes through surviving a terrible loss. It is inspiring and will be helpful to others who are mourning a loved one.

Linda brings in astrology from the first chapter, telling us how in her grief she ran the chart for the time of Lou Ann’s death and the insight she received from that chart. She then brings the story back to her childhood, actually the moment when the doctor and her mother discover that there are twins. When astrology enters her life, it enters the book. It’s good astrology and spoken so naturally that it fits right in. Astrologers may want more astrology but will appreciate the wisdoms that are there. Non-astrologers will find the use of astrology appealing and easy to understand since she explains all the terms she uses. She is educating readers in the value of astrology. She shows how astrology has an important role in health and healing, both for her clients and for herself.

Although this is not a standard astrology book, there are benefits for the astrologer who reads it. Astrologers receive insight into the special relationship between twins. This is important to know when a twin comes in for a consultation. Reading this book we follow the path of a successful professional astrologer and learn how to become one. Since we have Linda’s chart, we can understand her mother’s behavior (Moon-Pluto – Saturn) and read the book at a deeper level. We learn how she created the technique of interpreting death charts (which is not predicting death) and how they became a tool for counseling clients in grief. She is specific in saying “I don’t think there’s a way to tell when someone will die from their chart. It’s a map of potentials, not outcomes.”

“Death charts were important for me because of Lou Ann, but as soon as I began doing them, I sensed they had a deeper service. If someone could be reassured about the reason for a death, as seen in the charts, and know aspects of this mystery as best as I could read them, perhaps their suffering would be eased. This has happened with the few readings I’d done in the last few months and I’ve felt grateful to have this new tool to offer those left behind.”

This is a beautifully written book touching on what was once a taboo subject. It’s sad yet joyful and hopeful, and is a story of true transformation. The astrological descriptions and images are wonderful. “I read these charts like archeologists read hieroglyphics.” It is a story of how astrology helped her through a crisis. It is an inspiration to those who will find out that astrology can be of help and a validation to those of us who are astrologers that our art is truly of value.

Star Sisters is a joy to read. It is an important addition to the volumes of astrological literature.

It is a 5-star book

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Quantum Leap of Faith: The Divine Pattern

by Russ von Ohlhausen

“The reason the pattern in the stars is repeated in the pattern of your life is because there is only one pattern to begin with.”
- Terence McKenna on Astrology

What will it really take for just the possibility of a theory of celestial correspondence to be considered by the worldly academic scientific community? What conceptual leap will be required of the upcoming generation of astrologers to help root astrology’s practices and understandings, once again, into the mainstream discussion, discipline and doctrines of global culture? What new mix of languages, lexicons and symbols will be required to integrate the complex conversations evolving now in this pandemic transformative conscious discourse?

‘A Revolution of the Way of Thinking’

In 1787, in the preface of the second edition of his *Critique of Pure Reason*, Immanuel Kant used the phrase ‘a revolution of the way of thinking’ to describe what we refer to now as a ‘paradigm shift’. Kant was describing the shifts in collective thinking brought about by the Hellenistic mathematician-philosophers and the radical changes introduced into physics and industry by the then new Newtonian laws. The drastic disturbance in the direction of science represented by quantum mechanics as it has completely redirected and downsized the dominion of Newtonian physics, is nothing short of a transnatural revelation of an evolutionary metamorphic coalescence of intelligence and insight, the obvious and the abstruse, and of reason and faith.

For a moment, I would like to take you on a thought exercise to help shift some generic perceptions of how you may think about astrology and science, and to expand the boundaries of what you already innately sense about the structures functioning at the core of the unconscious mind. In the brief moment we have in this article, let’s take one eye’s view inward for a closer look at astrology’s fundamental expression and the other eye’s view outward to perceive how it connects to the external reality, in order to grasp an integrated third eye’s view of the scalarized meta-cosmos at work.

I Am THAT I Am

Forget about any preconceived notions of astrology, of science, or of spirituality… As you read each of these words, try to forget that words exist and focus only at the potentials of what each word could mean - for words also separate one thing from another. Feel for the unified truth resonating behind the possibilities of these words. Clear the ideas of any and all separations or distinctions from your mind and

For a moment, I would like to take you on a thought exercise to help shift some generic perceptions of how you may think about astrology and science, and to expand the boundaries of what you already innately sense about the structures functioning at the core of the unconscious mind.
thoughts. Find that place outside of time where there is only union, only one everything. At this level of awareness there is no pattern, for there is nothing other than a primordial that, the Vedic elemental dhaat(), the Kabbalist da’ath, which knows no opposite. This is the place, the state of being, the unifying principle spoken of and referenced in all religions and spiritual precepts, through all cultures and even at the heart of all science. This is the condition past the limitlessness of the heavens and beyond any confines of the hells; an uncommitted and unbiased condition that some might call nirvana.

**Binary Primary**

Then, there is a dividing of the original that; how, when or why this division is or came into being is irrelevant—just that it is. We can call this idea the ‘primary binary’, the supreme opposites. You can visualize this as black and white, that which is both everything and nothing; the sound and the silence, which must coexist in order to fully experience the other. This primary pair of opposites composes the core language of the Universe. Because this essential separation of ultimate reality requires a new spatial quality, something akin to what we think of as time and space also emanates forth for the acknowledgment of this differential. You might think of this as dimensionality, the ‘place’ where the infinite and the finite emerge together entangled, appear to dichotomize, and eternally reflect this collaborative state of existence embracing nonexistence. This quality is simultaneously contraction and expansion, the eternal cosmic breath. The breath of the hamsa mantra; hamsa meaning, ham — “I Am” and sa — “That”.

Within the space of this eternal breath exists... existence. Bifurcation of never-ending opposites interfacing at all angles constitutes the holographic actuality of a reality of this existence, one that is expressed by the infinite bound within finite space, and that which is finite forever attempting to fill the infinite within. Natural order sets a pattern of interacting repetitions within this space... some patterns oscillate as light, some oscillate as sound, and some oscillate as matter and all phases in between, depending on each pattern’s vibratory field. Within this field, composing and decomposing through infinite complexity of the vibrations of sonoluminescent energy, relative frequency and duration of these interactions become amplitude and spin, which support the illusion of time and space. Raw creation dances with each new found experience of itself. It perpetually bursts forth from a single basic pattern and resolves itself into every imaginable intrinsic structure contemplatively passing through all levels and evolutions of omniparient light. This is a place where God eternally explores the divine coupling through every conscious particle in the Universe - collectively, archetypally and individually, experiencing infinity.

**The Immeasurable Else**

From the two supreme opposite states or forces, everything else arises. Even before there is spacetime, the proto-pattern for what is to come already exists. The fundamental scheme of all natural shape and form which underlies everything expands and evolves into the space created for creation. This fundamental pattern is what I refer to as the “cosmological simplex”, the blueprint, imprint, fingerprint and voiceprint of God. As astrologers we call this root archetypal pattern around us the Zodiac.

From this simple order of duality, nature divines subtle reflective polarities of condition and behavior. This ecumenical template is expressed through countless qualities. The template morphs into and out of every conceivable and inconceivable configuration. Consisting of yin curves intersected through yang lines, of one dimension hyper-expanding into the next, which manifests all degrees of male and female union within energy and form. This primary zodiacal pattern functions at every phase, scale and relative magnitude, creating the energetic framework of reality. Upon this limitless frame, every manner of energetic form and function is devised, shaped and cast into this substantive holographic phenomenon we call subjective existence. We are woven into every divine quantum fiber of this vast inter-connected immeasurable else.

**What State Are We In**

The fundamental co-generating principle of complementary opposites flows through all the central axes of creation, threading through the nuclei of microcosms to the spinal cords of macrocosms. The zodiacal field emanates from every planet, person and particle, from every blackhole, star and galaxy, and through the very center of the Universe itself. It brings forth all life on Earth and organizes the flow of energy between individualized units of the internal components of the phases of light. The subatomic realm supports the atomic; the atomic creates the material. Atoms form elements and in turn support the molecular and chemical phases of the cosmos. Chemistry brings forth biology, and biology reveals the subtlety of psychology, which is the study of behaviors of the mind. This union of cosmic mind and essential matter is a deep professing of the complex behaviors of light energy. Within every photon of light, all information and knowledge exists, and we are here to express our quanta of this infinite knowing. A simple truth, that light is within everything.

Feel what it is to be a cell for a moment, to know what a sunflower knows for an hour or what Earth experiences in an epoch. Each is involved in the creative template at work, as well as the transitory uses of its components within this cosmic master plan; each has its inner knowing, this gnosis, of the divine pattern. This connective pattern is merely the primary recognizable structure underlying nature itself; it was not invented, it was discovered. It is the fundamental principle upon which “astrology” is established. Biology lives within astrology and astrology lives within biology. Organic matter, any matter, for that matter, exists within these forces and matrices, and are subject to the entangled correspondences of these energies and geometries. We are all of this one thing interacting through all states of being. Currently, the fields of our energetic and material systems are all aligned and yoked with the state of being human.

**The Sacred Seed: Nature’s Pattern**

The preconditional pattern originates with ‘the everything’ becoming two complementary yet opposing things. These two things diometrically divide and separate by all of their infinite opposing qualities, so that the antithetical aspect of one would always be found directly opposite the other. To better distinguish the changes in the qualities within, each of the primary opposites mirrors the other as the exponentially duplicating pattern expands and contracts, either by multiplying or dividing
Quantum Leap of Faith

the two forces as polarizing waves of energy. One phase of this pattern composes complementary harmonizing angles in balanced trinaries. Another dimensional phase manifests opposing trinities to complement the first harmony. Yet, where there is harmony, dissonance must also emanate synchronously. The principle of one is synthesizing (conjuncting), the principle of two is contrasting (opposing), the principle of three (trine) is harmonizing and light, the principle of four (square) is gradating and dense. These first basic counteracting principles are expressions of the elemental core of nature.

In God’s Image

In the 1980’s, the advent of modern computers led to many profound insights into nature by viewing patterns of simple yet complexifying mathematical equations calculated and pixelated into images. The mathematical images, derived from fractal patterning, gave us a new vantage into the component diagrams of the mega-cosmos. One of the fractal pattern images that emerged is known as the Mandelbrot Set, a set of infinite self-similar continuous patterns of coordinates, exhibiting an increasingly elaborate boundary of recursive fractalization. This mathematical patterned set represents the concept of a newly recognized natural law, that declares that nature is self-similar across all scales. If nature resonates an archetypal construct on one level, it will reuse that construct on another level. You can see this in how particles orbit around within the shell of an atom, similarly to planets as they orbit around within the heliosphere of a star. So the atoms too must be in an intricate corresponding relationship with the planets, with or without the existence of a human level reality.

Likewise, our understanding of astrology is based on these polar patterns of elaborate energetic correlations, which function as archetypal frequencies. In the future, instead of practicing natal astrology to track your life path from above (without), one could employ natal atomology (studying paths of systems of particles) utilizing laws of potential averages to determine the path of these correlations from below (within). Theoretically, this practice would be possible, yet the deeper someone peers into the complexities of reality, the more analysis and calculation is required to bring that knowledge to life, and to understanding it. I suggest that with mental calculation alone this would not be possible, yet it is possible with the ‘mathematics of the heart’, which naturally computes the irrational equations posed by innate foreknowledge. Regardless, this step in moving from mere intellectual reliance on how we perceive creation, towards an integration of intellect with intuition in order to better look directly into the heart of God, is part of our quantum leap of faith.
Study of the Heavens

“Astrology is the study of the heavens.”

Now think about what we take for granted in that statement. We immediately perceive a point of view of ‘looking up’ observing the celestial lights, pondering their meanings and wisdoms from a human perspective. What about the point of view of the heavens? Could it not also be conceived that the conscious heavens are conducting a study of all the patterns of light? And that also from this heavenly study, planetary bodies materialized in correlation with people, their qualities and habits of behavior? Could the heavens not argue that people, planets and their reflective resemblances are merely spiritual byproducts of this ‘experimentum magnum’, this greater overarching divined experiment?

Any new approach to truly understanding the relationships of the internal celestial mechanism will require a shift towards creating a re-envisioned transdisciplinary holistic modality within astrology. The new astrology will require us to go beyond an interdisciplinary approach and to truly take tools from other fields of study for assimilation into a reimagined branch of meta-scientific knowledge. Astrology is already a dense and rich divergent field, yet it is asking more of us in order to break through this dualistic split paradigm which has evolved between science and spirituality. We are being asked to take on the ever-expanding roles of scientist and sage. This discipline, when better understood, will once again occupy vast portions of the social intellect and common purpose as it once did in the ancient world. Our forbears knew full well the importance of the subtle yet potent fields of vital life force that operate around us and through us.

“The key to the validation of astrology will be to look outside of ‘astrology’ in order to comprehend it.”

Science, art, and spirituality are virtually separate concepts in our time, but in the ancient world they were considered integral aspects of a single holistic pursuit. A closer look reveals that there was essentially no separation or distinction in these modalities within the lives of those who were a part of most every culture. Johnathan Anthony West, famous Egyptologist (who was also an astrologer), once said of these disciplines, “…they were inextricably entwined … so that there was no art that wasn’t religious (spiritual), no religion that wasn’t philosophical, no philosophy that wasn’t scientific, no science that wasn’t art…”

Still, many ‘spiritual astrologers’ do not consider astrology to be scientific, merely meant to remain a meaningful mystery; while there are ‘secular astrologers’ who feel astrology to be only a method of designating space-time within a machine void of spiritual meaning. We are again meeting at the crossroads of the height of a technological advance and the revelations of a truth resonating at the center of the ancient wisdoms.

Any new approach to truly understanding the relationships of the internal celestial mechanism will require a shift towards creating a re-envisioned transdisciplinary holistic modality within astrology.

The Taste of Truth

“Science, for the pre-modern mind, cannot be divorced from the study of ultimate metaphysical truths, and thus can only be preparatory to mystical union.”

- Angela Voss

In a sense, the physicist is a mage and seer, as one investigates the hidden mysteries of reality, learns of the universal interrelatedness, and seeks to see the world from the perspective of source and origin. To this end, a scientist is also a cleric, a priest, a monastic—by one’s actions of refining mental methods, physical operations, and agreed-upon collective rituals of practice allowing one to peer deeper into the constitution of Creation and to bring forth a quanta of truth. Within empiricism, a hypothesis is evidence of faith. A hypothesis is a supposition made on the basis of limited evidence as a starting point for further investigation and rigor. Is not some degree of faith first required to initiate every pursuit of a scientific endeavor? …a faith fueled by a passion to pursue the magnificence within the minute and the minute within the magnificence? Is there not also a desire for a measure of truth beyond reason, only to be found in the meso- and the meta-, the places in-between and beyond?

The Reason for Faith

I would like to be able to say that every person on the planet has some degree of conscious faith but that would not be an accurate statement. Many who are very bound in secular society are vehemently opposed to the concept of faith. In fact the ‘philosophy of faith’, referred to as fideism, derived from the latin fides is viewed as negative by most of the scientific and secular world. Faith is considered to be the enemy of reason. Yet, in religion, faith is a requirement. Just as there are those ‘extremists’ who only recognize a material reality devoid of purpose or meaning, there is the polar opposition of those who operate solely with what is called faith and choose to exclude all practicality and rational thought from daily life.

Both of these schools of thought would have you believe that faith and rational thought are incompatible. This would appear to be the essence of the deceptive nature of the Age of Pisces, which we have passed through the last 2,000 years or so. When one looks at the broader view of the sign of Pisces during an age, the image itself gives us clues of this separation of matter and spirit, this division of reason and faith, the segregation of mind and heart. The image of the two fish headed in opposite directions bound by a thin golden cord symbolizes opposite extremes connected always by symmetric reflection; they represent limitless concepts taken as...
far as they can go into the realm of limited human consciousness. The traditional ruler of Jupiter expands all to its furthest possible ends; and the modern ruler (co-ruler) Neptune deludes boundaries, taking us to the borders of madness.

To look on the face of god is to know madness. We have come to the boundaries of our individuated and collective conscious minds and we find ourselves face to face with our delusions. The recognition of one delusion staring into the face of another staring back at itself sparks our insight, that it is into the chaos we must take the keys of heaven to go inside and unlock the origins of all our current afflictions. We must go into this chaos to collapse the existing order which is already crumbling through misguided faith. Out of this madness will arise a new mind and a new order of nature - ordo ab chaos - and the seeds of a new science and a new spirituality will be cultivated.

Sine Qua Non

Without which… nothing, is a classical Aristotelian expression. The sentiment of this ancient Latin phrasing can be translated as “…without a specific condition, element or essential action, there is/I am nothing”. What we are finding out is that ultimately spirituality and the study of science are inseparable; the truth of the universe cannot be known if one is devoid of the other. The quintessential paradox is that without a measure of faith, one cannot stand on reason and also leap beyond it. One shall not know God through reason alone; it requires faith as one’s conviction to seek ultimate truth.

As astrologers, we are members of the scientific priestly class. At source, the sacred and the scientific cannot be separated; therefore, empirical scientists are unwittingly our allies. Matter and spirit now turn again to align and enfold with each other, as we in-the-know, prepare for the impact of their full embrace. Matter is nothing without spirit, as spirit is no-thing without matter. The patterns within one are the same patterns in the other. As students and devotees of the heavens, we take it upon ourselves to uphold the truth of the fundamental principle of divine pattern. Without which nothing - exists...

The transformation from a more materially reasoning knowledge into an intangible energetic gnosis requires confidence in one’s internal awareness; hence the axiom know thyself. As the Aquarian Age begins to take hold of us, the technical and intuitive mind states will gradually find integration in the realigning collective perception. The Piscean mantra is - I believe; the Aquarian mantra is - I know. We are at the crossroad canyon of these two epochs of time and quality, standing at the edge of belief, preparing for the running leap of faith to cross over the chasm of quantum chaos; closing our eyes and finding ourselves already landed and beyond the other side of the illusion, heading ever forward on the healing path of the actual knowledge of source.

Russ von Ohlhausen, is a research astrologer & consciousness catalyst. Having lived briefly in Tibet, his work echoes a spiritual undertone synthesized with a lifetime study of science, religion, myth, metaphysics & most importantly–nature. His work on, Celestia Mathematica & The Fibonacci Zodiac, is currently being taught as a foundational theory of astrological mechanics. Russ works with the concept of celestial embodiment through “head, heart & hands”, rooted in sacred dance & ceremony. Creator of Zodiac Faces: Planetary Physiognomy, The Holy Myth, Zodiac Image Project, & the ARC-Research Database Initiative. He is co-creator of Rhythm Sanctuary-ED3 and Astram- Astrologers Alliance, with partner Shannon Gill.
As the momentum for astrology gains traction and increasingly more people find value, inspiration, and meaning in astrology, we recognize the importance of astrology organizations to unite the community, foster exchange and growth, but most importantly, to establish references for ethical and professional standards of practice, provide protective references, and develop opportunities for aspiring students and practitioners.

We have compiled here some of the leading Non-Profit Astrology Organizations to provide readers with some reference to their contribution and role in the community.

- **AA** – Astrological Association
- **AFA** - The American Federation of Astrologers
- **AFAN** - Association for Astrological Networking
- **AYA** – Association for Young Astrologers
- **NCGR** – National Council for Geocosmic Research
- **OPA** – Organization for Professional Astrology
The Career Astrologer

www.astrologicalassociation.com
Links from above home page to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

Original Founders
John Addey and Roy Firebrace, backed by Charles Carter, Joan Rodgers, Margaret Hone and Ingrid Lind.

Today’s Board
Roy Gillett (President), Nick Campion (Vice-President), Wendy Stacey (Chair), plus nine Trustees.

Chart

Location and Reach
Based in the UK but worldwide membership. By attending conferences all over the world and liaising with their organisations, it works internationally to raise the standing and understanding of astrology.

Objectives
The advancement of the education and cultural understanding of the public and astrological community by the critical study of astrology in all its branches, their history and contemporary value.

Intentions
To advance education of the public by the critical study of astrology in all its branches; to encourage and draw together all stu-

Prominent programmes
• Annual conferences have been held every year since 1969
• Research and Event Days
• Publication of the Astrological Journal together with Correlation a research based periodical and the Medicine Newsletter
• An archive of all publications (some issued continually since 1958) are available to members online as pdf files
• Recordings of sessions given at the Association’s Annual Conference since 1983 are listed online and available for purchase
• Database with thousands of astrological data on people and events
• Extensive Astrological Library accessible to members

Upcoming events
Kepler Day November 2019
Conference – 26-28th June 2020

Membership costs
From as little as £37 per year. Many hundreds of paying members.

Membership benefits
Website access to publications and chart database.

Use of the library, attendance at annual conference and event days, supporting the Association’s objectives in informing the general public through the media and other responses to groups and individuals, so astrology is better understood.

Original Founders
Ernest Grant and Catherine Grant
Current Leadership
Dave Campbell, PMAFA, President plus 7 Board members

Inception Chart
May 4, 1938  11:38 am  Washington, D.C.

Mission Statement
The purposes of the American Federation of Astrologers as stated in its constitution are to:

- Encourage and promote the science and art of astrology through research, teaching, lecturing and practice;
- Advocate freedom of thought and speech concerning astrology and to develop and promote a correct professional status for astrology;
- Assist all persons engaged in educational, scientific or humanitarian efforts, such as teachers, graduates, lecturers or writers on astrology, whose work is beneficial and who are duly qualified as adjudged by the Federation and who are not acting in “willful offense against public policy”;
- Develop ways and means of eradicating illiteracy and disassociating those whose work in the name of astrology is misleading to the public;
- Establish as high a standard of professional ethics for legitimate astrologers as now exists in other education professions.

List of prominent Programs
Our research program, which has special membership, and we have a research director who oversees the high standards we have in research, and compiles the research journal. We also have our very successful correspondence course(s). The main correspondence course is also now available online, and at your own pace. We also have additional correspondence courses in Horary, Relationships, Asteroids, all of which are very successful. We also produce and print quality astrology books.

Membership costs
Annual
- US - $45
- International - $60.00
Discounted rates for seniors, and a package for couples.

Research membership $67.00 USA and International.

Membership Benefits
Benefits include:
- Monthly journal, Today’s Astrologer, which features news and articles written by members
- Book discounts - 20% on most titles
- Priority shipment of book orders
- Member-only specials
- Regional examination/accreditation program
- Educational resources for learning astrology
- Sharing and exchange of astrological information and knowledge
AFAN
ASSOCIATION FOR
ASTROLOGICAL
NETWORKING

Original founder(s) and current leadership
• **AFAN founder:** Johnny Lister
  AFAN was formed as the AFA Network at 11:52 pm, August 31, 1982 in Chicago. It was definitely the action of a group of people among which were Jeff Jawer, Jay Jacobs, Angel Thompson, Connie Grippo, Jim Lewis, Neil Michelson, Jan Kennedy, Johnny Lister, Jeffe Anders, Jeanne Green, Rosie Harris, Cynthia Searcy, Joanne Wickenburg, Jean Sanders, Sheryl Gamble, Marion March, Ted Wilkinsen, David Horbovetz, Jack Taube, Marcia Starck, Michael Erlewine, Joan Kendig, Doris Hebel, Karen Johns, Jeannne Long, Sylvia Sherman, Lori Luck, Doug Pierce, Ray Merriman, Phillip Sedgwick, Teddy Connors, Robin Armstrong, Brian Clark, Buz Myers, Lillian Huber, Toni Imhoff, Eugene Benedetto, Noel Tyl, Richard Idemon, Kathy Bremer.
  There were representatives from 39 separate states/areas represented. Johnny Lister was there but soon after was quite ill and died in January 1983.
  • Current Steering Committee: [https://www.afan.org/steering-committee-2/](https://www.afan.org/steering-committee-2/)

Location and reach
Global and supporting local groups

Mission Statement
AFAN’s global mission is to enhance, protect, and validate the important role astrologers and astrology have in today’s society.

Media accountability and public information are top priority, on-going projects for AFAN. Through Media Watch, AFAN monitors the press and responds, correcting inaccurate or biased print and electronic media accounts. Members are the lifeblood of AFAN, they provide the ideas, energy and the reason for AFAN’s existence.

AFAN is a lively network, designed to provide helpful resources and material, including legal information, and the AFAN Legal Information Kit. AFAN’s Legal Information Committee has been extraordinarily successful in changing laws restrictive to the practice of astrology. AFAN works with other organizations and individuals to provide funding for various astrological projects, grants and scholarships. Additionally, AFAN surveys existing sources in astrological education, sponsors International Astrology Day and co-produces with other astrological organizations the United Astrology Conference (UAC).

Prominent Programs
**AFAN Scholarships and Grants:** [https://www.afan.org/scholarships-grants/](https://www.afan.org/scholarships-grants/).
  One of AFAN's premier programs, we give annual scholarships and grants for astrological study and tuition and expenses to attend astrology conferences. The breadth and flexibility of educational scholarship is unique among astrological organizations, recipients may select to apply the scholarship or grant to the study program or conference of their choosing.

**International Astrology Day:** [https://www.afan.org/international-astrology-day-iad/](https://www.afan.org/international-astrology-day-iad/).
  In 1993, AFAN founded International Astrology Day, an outgrowth of Astrology Awareness Weekend.
  IAD is celebrated on the Vernal Equinox, or the first day (in the Tropical Zodiac) of Aries. The new holiday was brought into being with the hope it would expand networking opportunities and promote positive aspects of astrology both within the astrology community and to the public at large.
  Over the years IAD has grown into a powerful and festive event, with gatherings held in countless locations across the globe. IAD celebrations can be found in shops, educational centers, and public spaces. Some events are held on the day itself while others take place on the weekend before or after the day in honor of the holiday.

**Mentoring & Study Buddies:** [https://www.afan.org/mentoring-program/](https://www.afan.org/mentoring-program/).
  In AFAN’s spirit of networking and building community, our advisors strive to help other astrologers and to preserve our fine astrological traditions as we experience the 21st century together.
  We have highly qualified mentors available, some of whom number among the world’s most prominent astrologers. They
establish an interactive relationship with their assigned protégé using phone, email, and/or when possible, face-to-face contact. This is a program that crosses the boundaries of all associations and organizations, as well as national borders.

Media Watch: https://www.afan.org/media-watch-and-public-info/. AFAN’s Media Watch supports astrologers making contact with media and responds to inaccurate and misleading stories.

Town Hall Meetings: https://www.afan.org/town-hall-meetings/. In support of our mission to promote connections between individuals and communities within the broader astrological world, AFAN is launching a series of Zoom Town Hall meetings! These offer opportunities for individuals to connect with each other in a virtual space and get involved in the work of AFAN. These town hall meetings are open to everyone, from beginning astro enthusiast to seasoned professional! They’re also open to non-AFAN members.

Legal Support: https://www.afan.org/legal-info/ AFAN works to protect the constitutional and legal rights of astrologers everywhere, overturn anti-astrology ordinances, and inform astrologers of their legal rights and responsibilities. We also maintain archives of trials concerning astrologers and others prosecuted under fortunetelling and other statutes.

Prominent Programs
- Dinner and drinks - our monthly free online gathering is a casual conversation with our guest of honor
- Lecture archive - our members can access a free archive of lectures, webinars, and Dinner & Drinks recordings on our website

Conference events
We organize and host events for young astrologers at conferences

Membership costs and benefits
MEMBERSHIP LEVELS
- Membership: 1 year (new or renewal) [$30.00]
- Membership: Students and Seniors [$25.00]
- Membership: Three Years (discounted) [$80.00]
- AFAN Lifetime Membership [$350.00]

Upcoming events
Upcoming Town Hall Meeting - Monday September 23 at 5pm PDT. https://www.afan.org/town-hall-meetings/
International Astrology Day - Yet to be scheduled, around the Vernal Equinox 2020

Visit our website to learn about the next Dinner & Drinks online gathering (the topics and featured guest astrologers are being selected on a month-to-month basis)

Membership cost
$20 per year

Membership benefits
Discount on classes at Kepler College, Access to the Archive of free Recordings, Discount on OPA annual membership
ISAR is incorporated in California and has no formal office.

Email contact: info@isarastrology.com or isarastrology@gmail.com

Mailing address is ISAR, P.O. Box 358945, Gainesville, FL 32635-8945, USA
Tel: 800-731-9456

Mission Statement

The International Society for Astrological Research (ISAR) is dedicated to advancing Astrological education and research, promoting high standards of ethics and competence, and sponsoring the exchange of ideas amongst astrologers worldwide.

What are the intentions of the organization, and what does it do to actualize those objectives?

Specifically, for the last 50 years, ISAR brings together astrologers in 47 countries to share astrological knowledge through articles, videos, weekly webinars, and scholarly journals three times per year.

ISAR involves itself in other countries by selecting a Global Director and working with those directors to meet or surpass the goals and objectives ISAR holds for each of its Global Directors. In turn, the Global Directors promote ISAR to support and be aware of any portion of ISAR’s certification program in their country, regardless whether the Global Director is directly involved in organizing or sponsoring the training or not. All staff, appointees, Global Directors and board members actively engage members of the group and to promote ISAR’s weekly Star Club Webinars.

Programs

ISAR Certification: ISAR Certification requirements are divided into five main sections: (1) Fundamental Course Requirements, (2) Ethics Training Course and Test, (3) Consulting Skills Training Course, (4) Supplementary Requirement of three elective courses, and (5) the ISAR Board Competency Exam. Upon successful completion of all requirements, applicants will be granted ISAR CAP (Certified Astrological Professional) status.

Weekly Star Club Webinars: The webinars are free to members and a nominal charge to others. Each webinar features prominent astrologers worldwide providing their newest material.

ISAR Affiliated Schools: The purpose of the ISAR Affiliated School Program is to create an educational resource for astrologers worldwide. In addition, ISAR recognizes schools of astrology whose curriculum enables students of astrology to acquire the high standards of knowledge necessary to receive an ISAR C.A.P (Certificate of
Astrological Proficiency). Currently ISAR has 19 Affiliated Schools worldwide.

**Conference Providers:** For 40 years ISAR has provided upscale, large international conferences drawing 500+ attendees. These conferences are a major forum in education and for networking. ISAR is also a major contributor of financial resources and organizing expertise to UAC.

**Upcoming events**
- ISAR Certification trainings and exams in Italy, Turkey, Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Portugal, and the United States.
- **ISAR 2020 Conference September 6-15, 2020** for the ISAR 2020 Conference (the main conference dates are September 10-14, 2020) to be held in Westminster Westin Hotel, located at the midpoint between Denver and Boulder, Colorado. Stay tuned on our website for more news about this conference that you will want to attend. Stay updated about the conference [https://isarastrology.org/conference/](https://isarastrology.org/conference/) and the speakers’ [https://isarastrology.org/conference/speakers-2-4/](https://isarastrology.org/conference/speakers-2-4/)

**Membership costs and benefits**
- $59.00/year; $136/3-years; and $795/Lifetime

**Benefits of membership:**
- Three online issues per year of The International Astrologer
- Free webinar/lectures in ISAR Star Club series
- Access to our growing ISAR Media Library
- A personal “Member Only” 24/7 online access to our private website.
- An option to receive three soft-bound copies of The International Astrologer per year
- Discounts at certain events and conferences, such as the ISAR Conference in 2020.
- Weekly E-zine networking magazine
- Eligibility for special research grants and scholarships
- A chance to network with astrologers all over the world
- Access to searchable archives of past journal articles and newsletters
- Education about astrological research and the opportunity to do research
- Access to members-only discussion groups
- Eligibility to receive scholarships to further your astrological education
- Become an ISAR Certified Astrologer, recognized worldwide

**Current leadership**
- Armand Diaz: President
- Ramya Krishnamurthy: Clerk
- Linda Wilk: Treasurer

**ELECTED DIRECTORS**
- Shirley Prisco: Membership Director
- Leigh Westin: Chapter Affairs Director and SIGs Coordinator

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**Original founders**
NCGR was founded by seven men and women during a meeting at the home of Harry F. Darling, M.D., in Wareham, Massachusetts, on March 6, 1971. The official signing of the Articles of Incorporation took place at 9:02 pm. EST, and Darling became the first Chairman. The founders included astrologers, medical professionals, scientists and scholars, all interested in exploring astrology as it related to other disciplines.
OPA's Quarterly Magazine

The Career Astrologer

Inception chart
Wareham, Massachusetts, on March 6, 1971. The official signing of the Articles of Incorporation took place at 9:02 pm. EST

Original founders
OPA had its birth as a special interest group of NCGR. Its childhood name was ProSig. Bob Mulligan and Monica Dimino were the founders. Its original mission was to give those who were working as astrologers a place to share information on the intricacies of being a professional astrologer and receive support from other astrologers.

The birth data for ProSig is Oct 27, 1989 @ 3:51 pm, Rosslyn, Va. In 1994 ProSig held a conference called Astrology at Work in Annapolis, Md. It was the first of its kind – a conference dedicated to the many facets of being an astrologer as opposed to learning astrology. Marion March said it was the best astrology conference she had ever attended and encouraged Prosig to do more of these kinds of conferences. Prosig continued to hold conferences oriented towards professional work and then, in 2001, began to hold retreats, modeled on peer group work. The idea was to create a safe container for deep communication among astrologers.

In 2000, when Prosig’s progressed Sun came to conjunct natal Pluto, ProSig left the mother ship of NCGR and flew on its own to become The Organization for Professional Astrology

OPA’s presidents have been Bob Mulligan, Monica Dimino, Alexandra Karacostas and Maurice Fernandez.

Mission Statement
The National Council for Geocosmic Research, Inc. (NCGR) is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising the standards of astrological education and research. Along with its U.S. membership it includes a growing number of international members and sponsors 30+ local Chapters in 20 U.S. states and 4 countries. Its Special Interest Groups (SIGs) foster dialog on various astrological specialties and its online education and educational conference bring astrologers from around the world together to grow and to learn together.

Our sister organization, NCGR-PAA, allows students to leverage their astrological education into professional certification.

What are the intentions of the organization, and what does it do to actualize those objectives?
We are an organization dedicated to education and research. Through webinars, classes, journals and newsletters, NCGR seeks to increase astrological awareness in the world. We offer educational opportunities and encourage and promote astrological research through our print vehicles. https://geocosmic.org/research/

Membership costs and benefits
$55 per year, $150 for three years lifetime for $900.
Please visit: https://geocosmic.org/about-ncgr/benefits-of-membership/ for full list of benefits.

Inception chart
Wareham, Massachusetts, on March 6, 1971. The official signing of the Articles of Incorporation took place at 9:02 pm. EST

Location and reach
We have an international board and local chapters around the world.
https://geocosmic.org/chapters-and-sigs/

NCGR
• Michael Bartlett: Outreach Director
• Christeen Skinner: Advisory Board Chair
• Jackie Slevin: Education Director
• Maria Wander: Social Media Director

APPOINTED DIRECTORS
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Please visit: https://geocosmic.org/about-ncgr/benefits-of-membership/ for full list of benefits.
OPA’s chart has a 9th house which holds the Sun in Libra and Mars in work oriented Virgo. In 2015, Maurice Fernandez moved OPA into taking on its 9th house role and expanded OPA internationally, forming satellites in various countries. OPA continues to have retreats and has held a conference in Greece in 2016, as Jupiter travelled through OPA’s 9th house.

Arlan Wise

Current Leadership
President Maurice Fernandez
Vice President Arlan Wise
Treasurer Anne Ortelee
Program Directors - Outreach Carol Dimitrov and Geoff Gronlund
Membership Director Geni Picazo
Event Coordinator Angelina Gronlund
Recording Secretary Shannon Gill
Publication Director Donna Young
Non Board Leaders
Education Director: Kay Taylor
Liason: Alexandra Karacostas

Mission Statement
Accessibility – Providing a platform for astrology enthusiasts and professionals to expand their knowledge and opportunities within the field of astrology.

Credibility – Working internally to elevate standards of practice and ethics. Analyzing arguments made against astrology to adopt critical thinking and better understand our practice. Encouraging research.

Sustainability – Make astrology a financially and spiritually sustainable profession. Helping professionals and potential consumers better understand the value of investing and charging adequately for astrology services. Encouraging younger generations to become professional astrologers and make a comfortable living.

What are the intentions of the organization, and what does it do to actualize those objectives?

OPA offers several programs for these different purposes:

Peer Group Session and Consulting Skills – For professional astrologers to receive peer review on their client work, enhance their consulting skills, and support their practice.

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Planets in natal charts: Importance of hemispheres, quadrants and aspect pictures
by Ferhan Çeçen

When looking at a natal chart for the first time my attention is always drawn to the distribution of planets. In my opinion this factor is nearly as important as the signs of Sun, Moon, Ascendant and their rulers.

The main aim of this article is to show that much information can be gained about the basic inclination of a person by examination of hemispheres, quadrants and aspect pictures.

1. HEMISPHERES

The area under the AC/DC axis (Figure 1), the northern and lower hemisphere, is below the horizon and is therefore in the dark. In accordance with this analogy, it is associated with the unconsciousness in a person. The planets here are usually expressed unconsciously. Persons having most of the planets lying below this axis are regarded as more introverted. They may derive their energy not from outside, but rather from their inner world and own values. On the other hand, planets lying above the AC/DC axis, namely in the southern and higher hemisphere, are visible since they are in the light. By analogy they are in the conscious realm of a person, therefore the person has a good command of them. Those having most of the planets above the horizon axis are regarded as more extroverted. Their activities may be more observable by the public etc. (See Figure 1 below.)

Similarly, the MC/IC axis divides a chart into an eastern and western hemisphere. The eastern hemisphere is considered to be the “I” side. Persons having most of the planets there value their own standards, they rely on their own power, they want to act independently and expect others to follow them. On the other hand, the western hemisphere belongs to “You”. If most of the planets are located in this region, contact with others becomes crucial in the life of a person. However, he may rely too much on others and expect much from them. He may be forced to follow others or be influenced by them.

2. QUADRANTS

Since AC/DC and MC/IC are points derived from astronomy, they may be considered as one of the most objective indicators in a chart. Since quadrants are formed as a result of their intersection they can also be considered as objective. Whatever house system is used, the quadrants and their meaning remains the same. Therefore, it is advisable to look first at the distribution of planets in quadrants rather than houses.

Quadrant 1: If most of the planets lie in the 1st quadrant this may indicate a person who has a strong will to build himself. Bruno Huber called it the “Drive” quadrant. The main drive of the person is to sustain himself. In the extreme case the person may be unaware of their surroundings, or be too self-inclined resulting in egoism. Since one of the fears here is to surrender and to lose himself, the person wants to protect and defend himself.

Quadrant 2: If most of the planets lie in the 2nd quadrant, the person explores the environment by relying on instincts. B. Huber named this as the “Instinct” quadrant. The person is usually conditioned in early years by the norms of his family and the environment. This conditioning then shapes his attitude toward others. The person behaves involuntarily out of instinct and reacts to an action. The main attitude of the person is offensive and emotional.

Quadrant 3: The 3rd quadrant was called the “Thinking” quadrant by B. Huber. If most of the planets are found in this quadrant lying in the conscious hemisphere, the person wants to explore the environment by conscious interaction with
others. In general, he aligns with the surrounding by using his mind. He relies rather on his intellect, and not on his instincts. He is not shaped by the environment as in the 2nd quadrant. He is rather interested in what he can do by himself and how he can contribute to others.

Quadrant 4: This quadrant is about “Being”, the existence. If this quadrant is emphasized, the person wants to realize himself and reach individuation, but this time consciously since this quadrant lies above the horizon. The person is not anymore led by drive (1st quadrant) or instinct (2nd quadrant). Although this quadrant lies in the “I” part of the chart, unlike the 1st quadrant, the person is not self-centered, but is much more willing to share his resources. Thus, individuality and universal consciousness merge in the same person.

3. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHART SHAPES AND HEMISPHERES/QUADRANTS

Formation of certain aspects is enabled in some chart shapes only. Thus, chart shapes and aspects depend on each other. For example, in a chart having the bundle shape, only aspect patterns without opposition would be of interest. This may indicate a strong focus on an area, but also a reduced objectivity if other factors support this. Thus, both the presence and absence of an aspect would carry a meaning.

However, formation of shapes (locomotive, bowl, bundle, splay etc.) does not depend on quadrants. For example, a bundle may be located in any quadrant, it may even spread across two. Chart shapes are also independent of hemispheres. For example, some part of a bowl may be located below horizon, the other part above it. Depending on the occupied quadrant and hemisphere its meaning would change.

4. ASPECTS AND ASPECT PICTURES

4.1 Aspects and the meaning of colors:

Aspects between planets are very important in the evaluation of a person. In the aspect analysis developed by using the Koch houses, the Huber school considers only 10 planets and the North Node without using aspects to the angles. To get to the very essence of a person, very strict orbs are used (1), resulting in much fewer aspects compared to a standard analysis. The red, blue and green aspects are interpreted as shown in Table 1, upper right. The ideal ratio of green, red and blue aspects is regarded to be as 2:4:6.

4.2 Aspect pictures

According to the Huber method, first a holistic look at a natal chart is necessary before studying the single red, blue and green aspects. As shown in Figure 2, above, a chart consists of five layers. The overall graphical impression that is visible at first sight (Aspektbild) can be translated as the “Aspect picture”. Aspect pictures lying close to the core of a person are
Planets in natal charts

thought to delineate the main character, consciousness and basic motivation.
Correspondence between colors and aspect pictures:
As shown in Table 1, each aspect picture corresponds to a color. If a chart consists rather of independent lines, we have a linear aspect picture corresponding to the cardinal energy shown by red (Table 1). Triangular aspect pictures are recognized by triangles, they are similar to the mutable energy shown by green. If the chart shows a picture consisting of four or more corners, we are dealing with a quadrangular aspect picture. It resembles the fixed energy shown by blue.

Aspect pictures and aspect patterns are different. The latter term is usually used for single aspect structures like the trine. As a result of year long experiences many linear, triangular and quadrangular aspect patterns have been defined by B. Huber and his followers (1,2). For example, there are a high number of learning triangles and many quadrangular patterns like irritation and righteousness rectangles consisting of different colors.

4.3. Orientation of aspects and aspect patterns towards axes:
Inclination of aspects/aspect patterns to the four angles is also important. If aspects are rather aligned in vertical direction (IC/MC axis), the person seeks individuation and self-demonstration (1,2). This is because the region around the IC (place of Cancer) corresponds to the collective. The term is used in the sense that the person is initially influenced by family and roots and is not an individual yet. The region around MC (place of Capricorn) belongs to individuation which can only be achieved consciously above horizon. The AC/DC axis represents the encounter with another person. Therefore, if most of the aspects are aligned along this axis or horizontally, the person seeks relationship and adaptation rather than individuation.

4.4 Coherency
Coherency means that there are connections between the individual aspect patterns in a chart. For example, planets in a t-square may lie below the horizon, but they may not be connected to the upper part, resulting in an incoherent chart.

Absence of coherency may have different meanings. For example, the person may show contradictory attitudes under different circumstances.

5. EXAMPLES
Using the following examples I would like to demonstrate the application of some of those criteria. To study a person, we may begin with aspect pictures before dealing with single aspects or aspect patterns. After an analysis of aspects, we can add the meaning of planets, signs, and houses to arrive at a synthesis. Any contradictions
between aspects and the rest have to be taken into consideration.

**CHART 1:** See Figure 3.
This chart belonging to a young male has a grand trine in water and consists of blue color. This indicates a person who primarily seeks harmony and peace. The whole look of the chart is triangular, showing the mutable and adaptable character. Although no green color is present, strongly triangular forms serve the function of green (Table 1). Although not shown here, the single red aspect would be a square from Mercury to Pluto. According to Huber orbs this is a one-way aspect. Such a square may show a person with a penetrative mind who learns through intense experiences. But due to the lack of strong red aspects, he may not have particularly ambitious goals and be content with the existing situation. Further, the dominance of the western hemisphere, Virgo-AC, Pisces-DC, Pisces-North node and Pisces-Sun in the 6th house all suggest that he is inclined to serve and sacrifice for others.

**CHART 2:** See Figure 4.
In this chart belonging to a young male most of the personal planets lie in the southern hemisphere, pointing to a rather extroverted nature. At the same time, most of them are located in the east, suggesting that he will direct his life with consciousness and self-confidence. For this person, his own standards and ideas are more important. The placement of the Sun and other planets in the 4th quadrant indicate his belief in universal values and concern about societal systems. The verticality of aspects points to individuation. On the other hand, the aim of individuation is not self-profit, but contribution to society. The green aspects forming the Yod may point to some inner uncertainties which can be overcome by directing the attention to the outside world (apex Venus in 10th house in conjunction with Sun). He is likely to be occupied with an intellectual field leading to concrete achievements (Gemini-Sun, Virgo-AC, ruler Mercury in 10th house). It is very likely that from his early years he had a great interest in learning and languages (Gemini, South node-Mercury conjunction, learning triangles). The dominance of blue and the presence of many triangles point to a sensible, adaptable and harmony-seeking person.

**CHART 3:** See Figure 5.
The chart belongs to the Nobel prize winner physicist Marconi who invented the wireless telegraph and radio signal transmission, and discovered the radio magnetic detector. The verticality of aspects and location of most planets in the eastern hemisphere suggests a clear consciousness and an interest in self-development. An extremely linear aspect picture is recognized, pointing to a cardinal nature (Table 1). The emphasis of the 4th quadrant suggests a strong will to serve the community in an individualistic and pioneering way. The presence of red and blue colors and absence of green may indicate ambivalence between energy and rest or some kind of black and white thinking.

**CHART 4:** See Figure 6.
In the chart belonging to the poet Rainer Maria Rilke the emphasis of the...
Planets in natal charts

northern-lower hemisphere points to a rather introverted nature. Further, the emphasis of the 2nd quadrant (conditioning through family) and the conjunction of Moon and Saturn there may symbolize the problematic attitude of his mother who raised him as a girl. Then at the age of seven she sent him to military school which caused a trauma in him (Moon-Uranus opposition). A grand cross is seen in the chart. It is a very strong quadrangular pattern corresponding to blue color (Table 1). The person seems to have experienced both the intensiveness and rigidity of this structure which consists of three strong planets, Pluto, Uranus and Saturn. The presence of a separate triangular pattern composed of Neptune, Venus and Mars adds some softness. This may explain his great intuition and his very creative poetry. But, the presence of too many red aspects indicates extreme stress. He suffered frequently from depression in his late years.

CONCLUSIONS:
The above discussion shows that before studying other factors in a chart we need to have a holistic view and combine the meaning of hemispheres, quadrants and aspect pictures, meaning of hemispheres, quadrants and aspect pictures. Such an approach can reveal much information about a person.

Following this, a deeper insight will be provided into chart shapes, aspect pictures and aspect patterns by combining them with the information gained from midpoints and harmonics.

REFERENCES:

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Goodbye Tem

by Steven Forrest

Tem Tarrikta, the beloved publisher of The Mountain Astrologer magazine, passed away last July 8th. He had thyroid cancer. In the Age of Facebook and Instagram, most of you reading this probably knew of his illness and his heroic battle against it over the past many months. Likely, you knew of his passing within hours as well. Astrology is a small world, and at times such as this, our field and all of us who comprise it feel like a family. Death draws us all a little closer to the ancient hearth-fire.

All the standard things one might say in the face of such a loss remain true, even though familiarity might weaken them to the point that they sound like cliches: Tem will be sorely missed. Our hearts go out to those he left behind. We will always remember him. We know he lives on in spirit and in his legacy of great work.

He gave me the impression that his total start-up budget for The Mountain Astrologer might feed a family of four for a week or two, provided they really liked pizza.

As we got to know each other, Tem confirmed that “wing-and-a-prayer” impression by admitting that he was saving money by sleeping under his table at the Trade Show. He would wait until Security turned its back, then he would duck behind the bunting at the end of the day. He couldn’t afford “a room at the inn.”

Of course I appreciated Tem’s rebel spirit immediately – his massive dose of Leo energy lit up my Aries Moon. And I also knew that with that kind of determination and chutzpah, The Mountain Astrologer was going to make it despite the odds and all reason.

And “make it” it did. Two hundred monthly issues later, it is still going strong. All reports are that the magazine will continue to be published despite the loss of Tem. With the current exponential expansion in public interest in astrology, I suspect it will thrive. If pride exists in the
There has always been much to love about The Mountain Astrologer: the best part, to me, has been the way it has functioned as a kind of collective “watering hole,” where partisans of all the different, fragmented branches of our craft could come together as equals and possibly even learn something from each other.

There has always been much to love about The Mountain Astrologer. The best part, to me, has been the way it has functioned as a kind of collective “watering hole,” where partisans of all the different, fragmented branches of our craft could come together as equals and possibly even learn something from each other.

That inclusiveness addressed a major intellectual problem we astrologers face — trying to maintain some kind of common bond of shared language in the face of our enormous diversity — but more importantly to me, Tem’s wide-open welcome mat addressed a spiritual problem: that is simply the risk of division shattering our community. Blithe affirmations that “we are all doing the same thing” may politely diffuse arguments — and such affirmations are soul-miles ahead of anyone condemning the other person’s house system or zodiac, thus sowing seeds of pointless competition and suspicion.

Still, the various astrological systems are in fact quite different from each other, and truly listening “across the aisle” has never been easy. In the words of U2, Tem always reminded us all that “we are one, but we are not the same.” Tem, in other words, did not make the issue of fragmentation any easier than it could honestly be made, but by creating common ground where we could all meet, he at least made addressing it possible.

Of all Tem’s many gifts to the astrological family over the past three decades, it is that one for which I am most grateful. I salute his great soul for bringing that living example of inclusiveness, generosity, and respect for diversity to us all. Perhaps more than any other figure in the landscape of current astrological practice, he embodied the notion of rising above our differences and affirming that we all live under one sky.

I just called this inclusive message Tem’s “gift,” which is correct. But I also call it his challenge to us — a challenge to which we are still rising as a community.

As synchronicity would have it, I am writing these words at the Omega Institute for Holistic Studies in Rhinebeck, New York, where I am currently teaching a five-day class. At the moment, I am sitting in the quiet upstairs of the Ram Dass Library, which has the finest collection of 20th and 21st century “consciousness literature” I have ever seen.

Omega is a dozen years older than The Mountain Astrologer, but it is cut from the same cloth. Like the magazine, it too is part of a quiet spiritual revolution that has transformed the world. Like Tem, the founders of Omega did a lot more than simply “have a vision.” They acted on the vision and made it real. They created a force of individual transformation that has endured — and will endure, just as The Mountain Astrologer will endure, long after the founders are gone.

Standing back even further, Omega and Mountain Astrologer metamorphose into individual stars in a far larger cultural galaxy. Conscious yoga, all the various emerging body-mind-spirit therapies, Buddhism coming to the west — they are all part of the same synchronistic wave.

For all the daunting problems that assail the modern world, it is a far more conscious society today than the one into which I was born. Back then, “boys were men and women were girls.” Being gay was a disease — or a crime. Atomic tests happened in the open air. The environment existed to be exploited, no questions asked. And our collective spiritual advice boiled down to “be good and you’ll go to heaven.”

It is hard to convey the magnitude of the awakening that has happened in the past half-century.

My point is that, without Tem Tarrikar, this awakening would have been diminished. He played a part in it, and I salute him for that. I am aware that my words might seem hyperbolic — fear not, this not a hyperventilated call to beatify “Saint Tem” . .
I mean, I remember this guy when he was sleeping under a table, hiding from security. But over the years he has touched the lives of many thousands of people, myself included. He has offered countless human beings real hope and practical guidance in times of genuine personal darkness. No one could fully catalog his good works since most of them happened in total privacy – someone, perhaps someone on the edge of despair or worse, sat reading an article in TMA, and perhaps gaining life-saving perspective and some faith that there might just possibly be a future worth living.

We can only surmise about these very private mysteries. But we know they are there. How could it be otherwise, given the quality of the magazine, its healing content, its many readers, and three decades of publication?

Astrologically, Tem was Mr. Leo – a solar Leo with Leo rising and a Leo Moon. His Sun was just a degree and a half above the Ascendant, his Moon conjunct Pluto in the first house, along with a Mercury-Jupiter conjunction in Virgo in the first. Leadership, power, creativity, language – it’s all there in simple astrological terms. He made no secret of his chart, so I feel free to speak of it here.

In deeper evolutionary terms, there is implicit in Leo a need to recover from an ancient trauma of rejection, or worse. In a prior life, saying that “Tem was burned at the stake,” while probably not literally true, is a metaphor that at least gets us going. His personal healing path lay in expressing his soul honestly and in a spirit of vulnerability – and in hearing some applause for it this time around. It took real spiritual courage, in other words, for him to stick his neck out “again” by launching The Mountain Astrologer. I honor him for that. He could have been an executive in any industry and hidden his soul safely inside a suit.

Tem’s lunar South Node was in Gemini in the 10th house. Always, once you get used to the evolutionary perspective, you see the same, reliable pattern: the karmic past leaves a fingerprint on the present life. In a prior life, Tem was known publicly (10th house) for what he had to say (Gemini). Ditto in this present life, obviously enough. That is how it often works.

Mercury rules that South Node from its strong position in Virgo and the 1st house, Leadership, power, creativity, language – it’s all there in simple astrological terms.
conjunct Jupiter. That means that in the karmic past, his voice was impactful. He was a leader. He experienced some degree of success, applause and fame.

But Saturn in Scorpio and the 4th house opposes that South Node and squares that Mercury. In that prior life, he hit some kind of “brick wall of reality,” probably one of a dark, treacherous or secret nature – that’s where Scorpio enters the equations. The betrayal may have even come from his own family (4th house).

Mercury (ruler of the south node) squaring the south node implies that he did not see any of this coming. He was powerful and successful, and then suddenly cut off and silenced.

Sound familiar?
He thus entered this world in 1956 as a powerful, eloquent voice that had been shocked and traumatized into silence.

Tem took birth to heal that wound. His North Node lies in Sagittarius in the 4th house. Thus it is ruled by his Jupiter – which, interestingly, is conjunct his South Node ruler, Mercury. This is a classic case of “getting back on the horse that threw him.” He came to this earth with a soul-intention of reclaiming his voice, of being heard again – but doing it a little differently this time. With the North Node in Sagittarius, he came here to “reclaim faith” – but faith in what exactly? A big part of the answer lies in the 4th house – family. (Remember: in the prior life, he was probably betrayed by his own family. That hurts!)

He could not heal this wound alone. I am on thin ice here, with much that I do not know, but kudos to Tem’s beloved wife, Kate Sholly, for the soul-healing she offered him by being his loyal and loving companion for, I believe, an entire Saturn cycle.

In a spirit befitting a 4th house North Node, Tem’s deepest evolutionary work in this life was mostly internal – private, secret, and intimate. We will never know about it, nor should we.

And out of that deep well of healing emerged an ancient, powerful voice, made stronger by what it had endured, rising from its own ashes, and touching the souls of three generations of astrologers. Thank you for all that, Tem – and godspeed.

-Steven Forrest
https://www.forrestastrology.com/
Listen to the podcast version of this tribute.

Make a donation to support Tem’s family: https://www.gofundme.com/support-tem

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The Man, the Mountain: Honoring Tem Tarliktar, The “Magazine” Astrologer (TMA)

by Rae Sapp
Operations Manager of The Mountain Astrologer

Perhaps we are all just stories and star-dust, and if so, Tem has left quite the celestial wave of words in his wake. My time with him and the magazine has been short, less than a full Mars cycle. Yet, what we have been through together has felt awfully mighty. It has given new definition for what it means to me to have Venus in Scorpio in the 12th house ruling both the 6th and 10th. Our team has shared many tender, honest moments working with one another the past year— the kind of moments not meant for public exposure but to be kept within the “work” family. These words (that are really concepts), “work” and “family,” conjure Capricorn/ Cancer images for those of us versed in the language of astrology. To me, they really bring home how much opposite signs actually blend together, rather than repulse or separate. I believe that it is our job as astrologers to talk about the tough stuff, and it seems that, with the current nodal configuration, this is being brought into our sphere of awareness “ready or not”–style.

Four of us were in the TMA office when we got “the call” telling us that Tem had departed. It felt comforting to have each other around at that moment. We gathered together in Tem’s office, held hands, shed tears, and chanted “Akaal,” a traditional Sikh ritual done when a loved one passes away. It is said that the sound of this mantra creates a vibratory frequency that assists the departing soul to travel through the ethers and find final liberation — or the best space to incarnate next.

I once asked Tem if TMA felt like his child. He said, “No, not exactly. TMA is more its own entity that I have had the pleasure of getting tangled up with.” I could feel that. I often get the sense that TMA is a she, though. Kind of like how Richard Tarnas has referred to astrology as “Sophia.” Although the magazine was a common guest in my childhood household, getting behind her covers as an adult has indeed revealed to me the enchanting community of voices that have created her. In Steven Forrest’s recent tribute, he captured her essence well, referring to TMA as a “local watering hole” for the multitude of astrological dialects to come together in respectful salutation of one another. This, more than anything else, is Tem’s legacy: creating a space for astrologers to celebrate and share. Leo light at its best!

If any of you currently are or ever have been in the proverbial “woo-woo closet,” you may also understand the feeling of relief when you find people you can share your “strange” with. Working at TMA has felt like coming home. It is a place where we fluently speak a language deemed more than just “foreign” by most, and there is at least one magazine for every year I have been alive.

I don’t think words can give proper justice to the kind and humorous genius that Tem was, nor do I think I have the capacity to capture it as beautifully as many of my counterparts have. However, I am happy that I was offered this opportunity to try. I spent many hours with Tem in the final months before he passed, trying to learn as much as I could from him. It is a precarious place to be, hoping for recovery but preparing for the worst. In one of our last exchanges, when I still had a trillion questions, he said, “Carry the torch, my friend.” He wanted just two things: to ensure that Kate was taken care of and that TMA...
The Career Astrologer

continued. So, it has been particularly inspiring to see Kate emerge from her own health journey and take the reins here at the magazine! Luckily, we are surrounded by a community that supports our mission, and we work with incredible individuals who are putting so much time and love into keeping the TMA train on track. About a week after Tem left his earthly body, I sat in my yard admiring our golden plum tree. Having harvested what was ripe, I gathered the split and broken fruits and arranged them in a pile. I offered up this summer bounty to Mercury and Jupiter, and asked that they ferry our dear Tem safely and smoothly to the other side. The next morning, I pulled a book of poems off the shelf at my favorite coffee shop and found this on the page I turned to:

“I’m very sorry
To have to die
At this time
With Plum Trees in Bloom”
— Raizan

My eyes welled with tears while a huge smile spread across my face. Bibliomancy has always been one of my preferred means of divination, and I enjoy believing that everything talks to you when you remember to ask — and listen. So, as I took a sip of my favorite morning elixir, a Foxhound breve cappuccino, from my celestial ceramic cup, I whispered, “Good morning, Tem. Thanks for letting me know you got the plums. I hope the ride is equally as sweet.”

When death arrives quietly against the backdrop of your daily grind, it feels eerily surreal. You wake up, and time seems to slip through its normal succinct motions while you silently hope that someone, somewhere hits the snooze button for you. The peace of what I assume the pause button of life feels like seems as out of reach as sleep on the night before battle. Yet, fire must be stoked to keep the flame alive, and the fires of life are so much more delicate than we often think. While we rest when we can during our many hours of grief, our goal as a team at The Mountain Astrologer is to continue to foster a sense of community among all ages and types of astrology. We want to hold a unique space for astrologers to gather in mutual appreciation of this timeless or perhaps “time-full” art.

Tem Tarriktar
Aug 6, 1956-July 8, 2019
by Alexandra Karacostas

This July we lost a bright shining star in our astrological family. After caring for his wife, Kate, during her health crisis, all along managing the publication of TMA with his usual attention to every detail, Tem was diagnosed with thyroid cancer last fall.

His passing rocked our community. Tem was respected and loved by those who personally knew him, but also by many whose lives he touched through the magazine. Our deepest sympathy and condolences go out to his family and loved ones. Words are not adequate to express his loss.

I first met Tem in 1989 at the UAC Conference in New Orleans. He was there introducing and getting support for the magazine, which at that time, was more of a flyer. Trying to save money, he didn’t have a room at the hotel, but was using the trade show area as his space. My sister and I had two beds in our room, so we offered him one and our room to share. Thus, began a long friendship though our paths only crossed at various astrological gatherings. In 2009 I started writing for TMA and given our relatively close proximity in northern California we began to get together more frequently as I developed a close friendship with his wife, Kate.

The Mountain Astrologer will survive and grow as it has these last three decades. It continues to be a source of astrological information, wisdom and knowledge honoring the various traditions of our profession. It has an excellent staff with much talent on board who help make TMA what it is, and we hope and trust that this transition will be a smooth one.

Tem was a quiet man, deeply insightful, perceptive with a terrific sense of humor who appeared to be a pillar of strength. Sadly, he lost his battle to cancer. He will always be remembered for his big heart and generosity of spirit. We will miss him dearly, but his light will continue to shine within our hearts. Until we meet again, Tem... so long for now.

We will miss him dearly, but his light will continue to shine within our hearts. Until we meet again, Tem... so long for now.
Mars doesn't like being in Libra, he can't do what he wants. So much to balance. So much diplomatic communication. Having to take other people's opinions into consideration. Finding time for relationships while trying to measure his needs versus everyone else's. He feels weighed down with so much stuff from the past and so much pressure for the future.

Mars likes to move fast, on his own. He never asks for help. Saturn wants him to slow down and think about what's next. The moon's nodes are about weighing it all up… family versus career… commitment versus freedom… what to do?

With this mars transit we are all being asked to be patient when dealing with others. We can't be at war with ourselves any more. We have to find a new way of being with conflict and resolution. We can't be passive-aggressive, we must be compassionate and loving with ourselves and others. There is an inner beauty in masculine strength that can build a new way of being.

By Deborah James

What a busy year Venus has had. Underworld journeys, mars meetings and even some eclipse action. She is about to join Jupiter in Sagittarius. She will be expanding her horizons. This is great time to open our hearts and minds to new possibilities. Examine our values and learn new ways of loving ourselves and following our dreams. We could be tempted to blow our budgets on stuff we don't need or be extravagant, even gamble on a whim. Our self-worth void can be as big as Jupiter; fill it with self-esteem and love. Jupiter has a lot to give us. Be grateful and be ready to share the wisdom we learn on this trip.

By Deborah James
PART THREE: COMMUNICATING WITH AN AUDIENCE

I serve on the board of a local astrology organization and attend a couple of astrology conferences each year. That means I spend many hours in meeting rooms large and small, listening to astrology lectures. Some of them are superb marriages of solid information and engaging, polished presentation skills.

Most, I’m sorry to say, are not. Not many - most.

I’ll admit to being a tough audience. Like most everyone reading this, I’ve spent many years studying and practicing astrology – and I also spent several years studying communication intensively in college. Just as you wouldn’t have much respect for an astrology lecturer who doesn’t know what an ephemeris is, I squirm through lectures that are disorganized, flat, or filled with rookie public speaking mistakes. Because it’s completely avoidable.

I’m biased, but I believe it’s important for all professional astrologers to be able to stand in front of an audience and represent themselves, their ideas, and astrology with professionalism. Not everyone has the gift of show biz razzle dazzle, but each and every one of us can and should learn to make more effective presentations. It begins with…

KNOWING YOUR MATERIAL

You should arrive for a presentation with a knowledge of your material so thorough that you could, in a pinch, deliver it without any notes. You should be so well versed in your topic that you could summarize its main points for an absolute beginner. Most importantly, have a well-defined point of view about your topic. As a presenter, your job is not only to communicate what you know, but to add context and perspective that helps us understand it, too.

PREPARING YOUR MATERIAL

Our group once hosted a lecturer who spent a good portion of the evening grumbling that there was not enough time to deliver their information, even though they had signed a speaking agreement that stated exactly how much time they would have! In fact, we find that most speakers don’t make it through all of their material before their time is up. Again – not many. Most.

Are you a time realist, or a time optimist? If you’re often late for appointments because you think you have more time than you do, you’re a time optimist – and an audience’s worst nightmare! A good presenter knows exactly how much time she has for her presentation (ask!) and builds a presentation that will deliver what she promised in the amount of time agreed upon. If you’ve promised to deliver a 90-minute lecture on a topic you previously developed as a 3-hour workshop, please respect your audience and your material enough to spend some time adapting it for the new format.

Include breaks

Studies show that the ideal length of time for a presentation is 18 minutes. After that, an audience becomes fidgety. (Incidentally, this is the reason all TED talks are limited to 18 minutes in length!) I’ve started to think of my own lectures not as a 70-minute talk, but as three 18-minute talks, separated by a change of pace – a story, engaging the audience with questions, summaries, or quizzes - every ten minutes or so.

Ask yourself, what’s the single most important thing you want the audience to learn from your lecture? In his book “Talk Like Ted” (2014, St. Martin’s Press), Carmine Gallo recommends condensing the main point of your lecture in a “Twitter-friendly” headline. Then, because the human mind prefers information in groups of three, explore the lecture around three main sections, and where possible, limit slides to three bullet points.

Visual aids and handouts

The purpose of slides is to illustrate and punctuate the main points of your lecture, not to serve as your lecture notes. Limit the amount of text, use a minimum 24-point type, and emphasize visuals - images or charts that sum up what you’re saying. Long paragraphs of text belong not on a PowerPoint slide, but in an article or on a handout.

And by the way, 99% of astrology lecturers: I can’t see your charts! I’ve been in the front row, wearing glasses, and been unable to decipher a natal chart because it was too small, too fuzzy, or too crammed with symbols to be legible. If your audience can’t see what you’re talking about, they’ll become bored and frustrated and will tune out.

If your lecture is heavily dependent on charts – particularly complex bi-wheels or tri-wheels – I strongly recommend that you provide them as handouts. Yes, it’s an added expense and more work. But most of us deliver the same lecture more than once, so invest the time and money to design and print a handout. If you’ve prepared your slides properly, they can serve as your outline for a handout. Mind you, printshop fees are injurious; if you lecture often, consider investing in a laser printer.

Timing and Practicing

Whether you’re a brand-new speaker or someone who’s been lecturing for thirty years, please time your lecture. Set aside an afternoon and rehearse the whole thing, complete with your slides, until you’re comfortable with it. Set a timer, and be sure
you can finish in the time allotted less five or ten minutes. Again, you'll be giving this lecture more than once, so it's worth an investment of time to make it polished.

Real talk: If you think you are doing your best work without practice, you're probably kidding yourself. A tidy handful of presenters in our field are blessed with extraordinary natural talent as speakers. I'm not one of them, and the law of averages suggests you probably aren't, either. Practice, practice, practice!

PRESENTATION SKILLS

Getting it seen

If your presentation depends heavily on visuals, have a backup plan. Bring a copy of your presentation on a flash drive (make sure you save it with fonts embedded), so you can load it on another machine if necessary. And slip that flash drive into someone else's laptop well in advance to make sure there are no surprises. Ask your host exactly what kind of projector you'll be connecting to. Always travel with your own adaptors.

You may not be able to anticipate how far you'll have to stand from your computer or from a power source. I travel with an extension cord for my laptop and with a clicker to advance my slides. Mine is a neat little number that also includes a laser pointer. Practice using it until it's second nature.

Getting it heard

Amplification won't always be available. If you show up and your hosts just had their microphone stolen or the amplification system is on the fritz, it's the minimum requirement of a professional speaker to make yourself heard. I've never heard anyone complain that a lecturer was too loud, but I've heard plenty of complaints when he couldn't be heard from the back of the room.

If you have a naturally quiet speaking voice, or if you've been told your delivery is a bit underwhelming, consider getting some vocal coaching if you plan to do a lot of public speaking. Don't be satisfied with thinking, “Hey, that’s just how I talk.” You can learn to do it better. Your material won’t be best served unless your audience is engaged - or at least awake!

Getting it done

Besides a lack of rehearsal, interruptions from the audience are the biggest threat to finishing your lecture on time. I'm a friendly type and love to engage the audience, but I don't trust myself to stay on track if things get chatty. I usually ask at the outset that the audience hold their questions until the end. If a few people threaten to derail you with questions, you owe it to the rest of the audience to take control of the situation. “That's interesting, I'd like to hear more about that after the lecture,” is a good, all-purpose tactic.

BE A WELCOME GUEST

The financial realities of local astrology groups being what they are, you're unlikely to do better than break even if you travel to speak. Your priorities are your own, but if I can't afford to lose money on a speaking trip, I don't go. And because my mother raised me right, I'll do my utmost to be prepared, pleasant, and cheerful once I'm there.

When you speak for a group or conference, you can take the attitude that you are doing them a favor, or you can enjoy yourself and make the best possible contribution to the event. This means being knowledgeable and prepared, but also behaving professionally, without drama or excessive demands.

The group needs time to promote your appearance, so return any materials that are requested from you in a timely fashion. If your host doesn't provide all the information you need, be proactive about finding out:

- The exact length of time available for your presentation.
- Information about AV equipment provided.
- Approximate number of attendees expected.
- Exactly how you'll be compensated.

My group offers to help out-of-town speakers with lodging recommendations or, if possible, a member’s guest room or a lift from the airport. But it's usually going to be up to you to spend a little time with Expedia, Airbnb, and Lyft to make sure you know how to get around and where to stay in your host city.

Also, leadership in local groups changes constantly, and you may not be introduced by the person who booked you, or even by someone who knows anything about you. Usually they can read off their own website, or yours, in a pinch. But consider carrying a one-sheet bio with highlights of your experience and credentials in bullet form, which can simply be handed to the person introducing you.

CONCLUSION

In the days of the Hollywood studio system, actors were trained in every facet of stagecraft. It wasn't enough to simply be a good actor; one was also trained to sing, dance, ride a horse, engage in swordplay, and convincingly pantomime the playing of a musical instrument.

A career as a professional astrologer is similar. Yes, first and foremost you need to be a skilled astrologer, with a solid command of the craft. But the best in our profession can also write, lecture, and create audio-visual content. You may never be the best at any one of these things, but you owe it to yourself to develop at least some competency in all of them. As a lecturer, take your responsibility to your audience seriously - and give your best effort to presenting the material you’ve worked so hard to develop.

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 Astrological 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 demanding cats. Her website is www.bigskyastrology.com.
In the previous column, we discussed a viewpoint of the Nodes of the Moon and what that means for the zodiac signs. Let’s talk a bit more about the zodiac signs and their controllers.

The Sun Signs

All astrology originated with the observation of the stars and the planetary movements in the night sky. So ancient forms of astrology were sidereal in nature. We are essentially intimately connected with the starry sky; scientifically we now know that every resource or material element was originated in space. Our daily and yearly time cycles are nothing but dynamics in our awareness due to the spatial relationship between the Earth and its closest star, our physical Sun.

A growing field of Cosmobiology is the understanding of the link of natural biological systems with the stars. There is a lot we are still learning about our connection to our neighbourhood.

The word used to denote a zodiac sign in Vedic Astrology is rāṣī. One meaning of the word is an indication of an “accumulation of something”. The Vedic paradigm follows the theory of transmigration of souls i.e. beings have descended into the various localized solar system via stellar gateways for evolutionary experiences. Since the descent of the soul has happened through stellar gateways, the stars are lights indicating the various karma “packets” or “quanta”. The sidereal signs therefore are conceived of as holding or indicating the accumulation of karma or action-reaction dynamics coincident with that descent. The planets are simply functions which trigger these as experiences with respect to time.

We can liken the twelve signs to a physical body, which also accumulates and holds food substance within it. The body also has energy and vitality and there is an animation to the body that is operated by the power of will. So there must be some way to denote that. What is enlivening the karma? What dictates the direction of the willpower which animates the karma?

We also understand that the power that is animating the physical body is also an indication of the individual or the self seemingly within the body. So, the energy that is activating the karma of the signs also gives an indication of the nature of the self behind the karma, its intentions and priorities for how the material energy covering it is directed through life.
important, because it’s not helpful to just know that you’re going to have a tough time at work in the next two years, but it is helpful to receive the knowledge about how to optimize or better that situation and also receive the energy and willpower access in order to carry that out efficiently.

I am using the English names of the zodiac signs so that it is easier to follow. But do bear in mind that in Vedic Astrology, the terminology is quite different. Here is a short list of associations of each Āditya. The full set of techniques of using Āditya in assessing the energy level, willpower, and direction of life is one of the first topics studied in traditional Vedic Astrology.

- **ARIES**: Savitṛ Āditya. Creative, idealist, leadership.
- **TAURUS**: Aryamān Āditya. Lineage, marriage, family, traditions.
- **GEMINI**: Mitra Āditya. Friendship, intellectual, agreements.
- **CANCER**: Varuna Āditya. Law and order, enforcing norms.
- **LEO**: Indra Āditya. Showmanship, politicking.
- **VIRGO**: Vivośvān Āditya. Devotion, service, purity.
- **LIBRA**: Pūshan Āditya. Counter-culture, business ventures, travel.
- **SCORPIO**: Parjanya Āditya. Research, occult, revival, espionage.
- **SAGITTARIUS**: Amshumān Āditya. Spirituality, justice, fairness.
- **CAPRICORN**: Bhaga Āditya. Industrious, unyielding, having “the good life”.
- **AQUARIUS**: Tvashtr Āditya. Unique skills, diplomacy, innovation.
- **PISCES**: Vishnu Āditya. Wisdom, fantasy, creativity, covert.

Other Important associations of the Sun

Now we can move on to discuss one important aspect of the Sun: its connection to Time.

During its diurnal motion from sunrise to culmination and sunset each day, the Sun appears to travel in a reverse manner through the astrological houses. This motion of the Sun causes pronounced temperature changes in the world, especially when it transits three (fire) houses: the first house, the ninth house, and the fifth house.

The Sun transiting the first house indicates the first appreciable temperature of the day as the Sun heats up the world of the local horizon in overcoming the cold inertia of night. This is resonant with the archetypal Aries, traditionally where the Sun is exalted (literally, rising up).

The solar transit through the ninth house marks the time in the day exhibiting the highest radiation (the archetypal “fire arrows” of Sagittarius).

And finally, in the fifth house where the Sun goes to its archetypal home Leo, the energy and heat of the day finally gives way to the overcoming cold of the night.

These three houses (ninth house, first house, and fifth house) therefore strongly resonate with the solar pulse.

We also know that the spatial relationship between Earth rotating on its axis around the Sun gives us the perception of a day. The spatial relationship of the Earth in its orbit around the Sun gives us the perception of a year. So, the Sun as an archetype has a major signification on our experience of time. This is why in Vedic Astrology, the houses resonant with solar energy signify the past (ninth house), the present (first house), and the future (fifth house). Therefore, the ninth house shows our forefathers, the first house shows ourselves, and the fifth house shows our children.

In the next journal, we will introduce some fundamental concepts in traditional Vedic Astrology concerning the Moon.

Theodore Naicker, DMA., DAS. is a practicing specialist Western and Vedic astrologer based in South Africa where he teaches astrology and runs holistic retreats and workshops. He has a background in the petroleum engineering industry, and is interested in cultural anthropology, military history, Ayurveda, and yoga. Find out more about Theodore’s background, qualifications, and events at [https://www.spicastrology.com/](https://www.spicastrology.com/)
influences to better time our moves and goals. The most common movement techniques that will be utilized here are:

- **Transit and Electoral charts**, showing current planetary movements reflecting a moment in time based on the movement of the planets and stars.
- **Secondary Solar Progressions**, which incorporates the art of interpreting the evolution of an individual or event over a lifetime.
- **Solar Arc directions**, which is utilized for timing. This is where all the planets are moved the same distance as the Sun’s movement.

Of course, there are many other astrological movement and forecasting tools available from ancient, medieval to modern so choose the one(s) that work best for you.

**Starting with the Best Possible Business Chart for your Practice**

Utilizing the knowledge of planetary movements to find a good starting time for your business start-up is essential in order to meet your goal-setting needs. As a sole-proprietor business, your business birth chart should highlight the strengths of your natal chart and bring forth your natural abilities to shine and prosper. Work with your natal, the movement charts (Transits, Progressions, etc…) and identify an impactful electoral chart to birth your professional practice. You are aligning your business to who you are and what you want to accomplish.

You create your business chart by **electing the most auspicious day and time** from current and future transits at the time you wish to launch your new project (birth of a business or event). On that chosen time, you submit your business application to the governmental institution of your area. It can be challenging to find the perfect chart, but it is important to take the time to match the goals you have determined to be most important from the natal chart with the **business chart**. If you have already started your business but do not have exact times (which is a common situation) you can go back through your notes or contact the government institution where you have registered as a business, they often time-stamp documents. If you do not have a birth time for your business or the time and day do not match your goal setting needs you can always plan a re-birth by **re-inventing the business with a new name, logo, website, or roll out a re-birthing event** creating a new launch date from this point.

You create your business chart by electing the most auspicious day and time from current and future transits at the time you wish to launch your new project (birth of a business or event).

If well studied and an auspicious time is available, your business chart can enhance, support or help you remediate problem areas in your own natal chart, however, donote that if something is not promised in the natal chart or adverse to who you are and your natural state, it may be a struggle to keep the business going or stay motivated to work.

**There is no “perfect” election chart - challenges will most likely exist.** If you are set to open your business and cannot avoid some challenging signatures in the chart, make sure that you work closely with the time so you can time it to have those more difficult planetary signatures in a house that is not prominent to the success of your business.

**Be at the top of your game: Physically… Intellectually … Spiritually**

Signatures you are going to look for are very similar to the basic work you have been doing with your goal setting expeditions. The following planets and angles in your business chart must align with the personal goal setting work you have already done.

**Pay attention to planets and signs on the Angles, particularly the Ascendant and MC.** The angles are very important in the chart as they will lend strength and stability to your business. (The angles are created by the start time.)

Planets found in and ruling the 2nd and 8th houses for finances, 7th and 11th for clients and your connection to society and speaking engagements (potential clients). You will want these planets, houses & signs to work with your natal goal setting planets.

**Venus, Mars and Jupiter** – reflect what you wish your business to attract.

**Saturn** – reflects the longevity, stability, structure and organization tools, as well as the authorities, you as the leader, and/or the legalities associated with the business.
Mercury – reflects commerce. If you are writing or involved in public speaking, this may be one of the most important tools.

Moon – reflects how your public sees you and the patterns that you will want to create in your business

Sun – your business identity and its vitality.

Short Term Planning with the Transits

After you have launched your business, you will want to continue to utilize movement charts to pick the best possible dates and times for purchasing new equipment or launching videos and new classes and the finances associated with these areas.

Although you will want to keep your eye on the social and outer planets for long term trends, it is important to track inner planetary transits for the best day and time of the week to see clients and do your writing.

Use the movements of the planets to influence and elevate your passions as they light up different parts of your natal chart … ride the wave. Another potential for these forecasting tools is to increase client work by arranging speaking engagements or launching videos and new classes and times for purchasing new equipment.

Look for planets that move direct or retrograde from their natal position in the progression chart, as this marks a most significant time period with a change in planetary out-put.

Long Term Planning with Solar Arc Directions and Solar Progressions

For long term planning and goal setting you will want to incorporate techniques such as Solar Arc directions and Solar Progressions. These techniques will allow you to look at major shifts and timing patterns for both you and your business.

SECONDARY PROGRESSIONS

As a new business the Solar Progressions will not show very much in the short term, this will be utilized more for long term planning. The Solar Progressions in your own natal chart however will be much more revealing. Perhaps even showing “why now?” … in your business planning.

Look for planets that move direct or retrograde from their natal position in the progression chart, as this marks a most significant time period with a change in planetary out-put.

Note any shifts into a new sign, this will mostly affect the inner planets as they have the greatest movement.

The Moon is the fastest planet in progressions with an approximate 2 ½ year stay in each sign and 28 to 30 years for a full cycle around the chart, providing significant opportunities to create changes in our daily approach. We can use the progressed Moon phase to cycle through different stages of the business. Watch for connections or aspects to the business and natal charts.

The personal planets (Sun to Mars) will progress over time into different houses and signs, creating depth, uncovering talents and tools that will slowly awaken.

These progressions mark a time of learning skilled behaviours to add to your personal and business persona.

SOLAR ARC DIRECTIONS

This technique is also utilized more in long term planning, and will have a bigger impact when compared to your natal chart. This technique is utilized for timing of events. The biggest impact will be when the Solar Arc planets aspect the angles (MC, ASC, DSC, IC).

The orb to use for Solar Arc is very tight as each degree of directed planets refer to one year of your life.

Look for tight aspects to the angles. Watch for zero (0) degrees ingressess that forecast significant new abilities and new starts.

Look for aspects to natal and business charts which can be utilized for major timing and shifts to your personal and business ventures. Note if you have a Solar Arc planet directly touching your natal configuration.

In summary, when you are looking at future cycle charts, you are looking for longer term events that are activated with present day movement.

When searching for the electional date and time of your individual events don’t expect to find the perfect chart, but do your best to align your personal goals with your business goals. Remember there is no “bad” planetary configuration … just skilled and unskilled behaviours as you step up to meet any challenges presented. Work on the deepest level of understanding of your own behaviours, patterns and goal setting signatures. Now match that with an awareness of the planetary influences as a catalyst for growth and alignment with your best life. Success is yours for the taking.

Until next time.

Tamira

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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.
OPA’s Certification process is becoming a leading reference to add credence that astrologers are competent and effectively provide quality service.

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- **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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OPA Peer Group Process – bringing consulting astrologers together to enhance their practice.

Peer Group Athens
August 2019 in Athens, Greece with group leaders Alexandra Karacostas and Arlan Wise.
Consulting Skills with Kay Taylor, Sedona July 2019

The Consulting Skills training in Sedona was an awesome event. Each astrologer’s comfort and skill level improved dramatically, no matter how long they had been practicing. The communication expertise plus the timing and fluidity of weaving in the astrological wisdom, creates confidence and much more powerful readings than the detail of astrology alone. And of course, the Sedona red rock setting was healing and restful. We bonded through shared meals, long hikes and midnight talks in the pools.

Peer Group Baltimore
with Anne Ortelee

Peer Group Canada
with Donna Young
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

APRIL 2020
23-29 OPA RETREAT, Zion National Park, Utah. www.OPAastrology.org

MAY 2020
5-12 Astrology Rising Conference in Costa Rica. www.astrologyrisingcostarica.com
21-25 NORWAC Seattle, WA. www.norwac.net

AUGUST 2020
7-9 Astrology, Consciousness & The Great Shift, Sponsored by OPA at Omega Institute of Holistic Studies, Rhinebeck, NY

SEPTEMBER 2020
WELCOME NEW OPA INTERNATIONAL SATELLITES

We are delighted to introduce our new OPA Satellites who will help introduce and share OPA’s gospel to the local astrology communities. We are pleased to see interest about astrology and OPA programs growing across cultures and continents. Blessings for a fruitful work together!

Alice Thomas Suhr
CHILE
Email 66.alice@gmail.com

I’m a clinical Psychologist and Astrologer. I learned astrology in 1991 and focus on psychological Astrology. In 2007, I created an astrology study program to train new astrologers, enhancing the acquisition of psychological skills and abilities that allow the student to work better in a context of help. Since then, I have continued to train astrologers.

I have participated in local media such as radio programs, congresses of psychology, congresses and colloquiums of astrology. Recently, I have organized local celebrations of equinoxes hoping to gather and strengthen the bond among the community of Chilean astrologers even more.

I co-wrote a book on Transpersonal Psychology called “Nostalgia Del Infinito”, in which I added a particular chapter about Astrology and Integral Consciousness.

Katharina Westblikk
NORWAY
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I’m an esoteric astrologer from Bergen, Norway. I completed my astrology studies at Herkules Astrology school (4 years) in Norway and have been working as a full time astrologer since 2012.

I’m the founder of Arhat Senteret, an esoteric center for studies, workshops, yoga classes, music therapy, spiritual concerts and more.

I’m also the principal of the Polaris Astrology school that is an education through 3 years of study.
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2019

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13
MICHAEL OFEK (Israel)
The Rulers of Life - Epikratetor, Oikodespotes and Kurios

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27
ROY GILLETT (UK)
Astrology Karma and Reincarnation - The Science of Personal and Social Responsibility

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10
PATRICIA WALSH (FL)
When Planets Square the Lunar Nodes

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16
LORI SMITH BUETTNER (AZ)
Esoteric Astrology

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1
MOON ZLOTNICK (MN)
Bereavement Charts

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8
ONER DOSER (Turkey)
Traditional Ways to Find Significators

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 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

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ZEYNEP YALCI (Turkey)
Annual Profections and Solar Returns

SATURDAY, MAY 9
APRIL KENT (CA)
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2020

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12
BOAZ FYLER (Israel)
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 25
MONICA DIMINO (MA)
The Chinese New Year of the Metal Rat

SUNDAY, MAY 31
MICHELE FINEY (Australia)
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SUNDAY, JUNE 14
RONALD TIGGLE (MA)
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