Greetings Everyone

It is hard to believe that 2015 is already coming to a close, and as it does, Uranus and Pluto part their ways.

While this year went by so fast, we can look back with great satisfaction and pride about everything we have accomplished at OPA. This has been a rich and creative year with a growing membership, a wonderfully successful Retreat at Asilomar, a great selection of monthly talks and Question of the Month discussions, and of course the newly released book The Professional Astrologer, which we believe will serve professional astrologers well for the years to come.

Looking ahead, 2016 will be absolutely critical for OPA on many levels. To begin with, our new project I-Astrologer is taking its first flight on Astrology Day in March. We are happy to have such a positive response so far, because more than any other event, I-Astrologer paves the way to take the practice of astrology to new levels.

This will be followed by the OPA conference in Greece—a delightful and inspiring event that stimulates the growth of astrology in the region. It will be a first of its kind for OPA’s presence in Europe.

2016 will also be the year of OPA’s next board election, and we hope to continue to have a truly dedicated team who will take forward the important work that has been initiated in these past years. OPA has a lot to offer and is set to expand its role as a vital source for the support and growth of astrology and its community.

Most importantly, we thank you the membership for your involvement and support. Just as you show up for astrology, we want to support your work, and will be pleased to showcase your body of knowledge—remember that you can submit articles, your books for review, or proposals for public speaking.

Maurice Fernandez
President, OPA

The OPA team would like to offer everyone blessings for the festive holiday season, and wishes for a happy, healthy, and cosmic New Year 2016!

The year 2016 will be favored by a strong involvement of Mutable influences from Neptune in Pisces, Saturn in Sagittarius, Jupiter in Virgo, and the Nodal Axis in Pisces/Virgo. Additionally, this year will mark the retrograde cycle of Mars in Sagittarius and Scorpio. Subsequently, Jupiter moving in Libra will reactivate Cardinal interplay of energy with Pluto and Uranus respectively.

On the following pages astrologers share their perspectives on these cycles to come . . .
2016 promises to be a unique year, particularly as it stands out in the midst of the strong Cardinal years that preceded and will return when Saturn and Pluto are in Capricorn together (from 2018).

The Mutable Cross is founded on the formation of a T-Square that includes slow moving planets: Neptune in Pisces (since 2011), Saturn in Sagittarius (since 2014), Jupiter in Virgo (since August 2015), along with the Nodal Axis in Pisces/Virgo (since November 2015). On June 4, 2016, a New Moon with Venus at 14 Gemini will lock in to complete the Grand Mutable Cross.

Cardinal energies are about creating a breakthrough to a new reality and then continuously fluctuating between the old and the new until this breakthrough can be fully birthed. We see this still in process with the Middle East having gone through its revolutions, fluctuating between a desire for new forms of leadership and being held back by old mindsets refusing to let up. In the United States, the change of policies regarding health care and the use of renewable energies are going through this dance between new paradigms and a hold on past formulas. On the other hand, Mutable energy is about distributing what has been created and what is available, globally. Mutable energy is more receptive in nature, rather than active (as Cardinal would be). It is essentially about the general assimilation of ideas, concepts, methods, and resources that must be integrated with everyone and everywhere. There is no separation or individuality in Mutable signs. They are all-encompassing and represent interdependence between all people, countries, and species. What touches one, touches everyone. What is true to one, will be true to all. Mutable influences are about comprehensive assimilation, interdependence, dissemination, and integration.

NEPTUNE IN PISCES

We have felt this Mutable climate strongly since Neptune entered Pisces in 2011 in the aftermath of the Fukushima nuclear disaster, polluting to this day our global food chain through the ongoing radioactive contamination of the ocean, spreading to all corners of the earth. Moreover, since Neptune moved into Pisces, collective awareness of Climate Change and its effects has increased, with extreme weather patterns becoming the norm: among them, droughts and floods, and the alarmingly fast extinction of species. With this transit, nature takes the upper hand and removes control from our grip. Unless we understand nature and dialogue with it, catastrophes are bound to increase. We do not talk about one country going through a bad phase, we are all now facing existential questions regarding the sustainability of our collective existence...as Mutable energy would make it, the crisis is global.

SATURN IN SAGITTARIUS

As I write this article, we are a few days passed the Paris attacks, and already collectively grieve another tragic public shooting in Colorado Springs, and San Bernardino. The background...
to these attacks seems fueled by fundamentalist ideologies triggering strong controversy about the Muslim influence in the West. The Colorado Springs killer was a Christian fundamentalist who took it upon himself to kill people because of anti-abortion ideologies. Wherever Saturn travels, it reveals misalignments, ethical dilemmas, and what can be gained when we accept the notion that there is a greater universal order (karma). In the sign of Sagittarius, its passage makes us aware of the misuse of religion to justify the terrorist attacks, and we can notice how it triggers strong ethical issues about racism. Right after the Paris events, voices were speaking loud about stopping accepting Syrian refugees, while opposite sides were condemning these measures as xenophobic. These are classic Saturn in Sagittarius ethical dilemmas, and finding the boundary with these questions is a work in progress. But as Saturn would purport, finding the “right way” of doing things would begin with letting go of preconceived judgment patterns, and seeking unbiased truth as a reference.

Along with exposing religious fanaticism, racism, and general prejudice, Saturn in Sagittarius brings to the forefront questions about integrity, authenticity, and Truth. Earlier this year, NBC network reporter Brian Williams was exposed making exaggerated (false) claims about his presence in the Iraq conflict and was subsequently suspended. Similarly, GOP candidate Ben Carson faced scrutiny following statements that could not be verified that his intensely aggressive behavior in youth was healed through religious inspiration. None of his friends or family could remember the Virgo surgeon “misbehaving” as he alleged. On the other hand, fellow GOP candidate Donald Trump has been under Saturn in Sagittarius’s thumb for being too honest for good taste, particularly as his “authenticity” reveals heavy prejudice against the ugly, the disabled, war heroes, Mexicans, Muslims, women, and non-billionaires.

As a mutable transit, Saturn in Sagittarius makes us understand that the Truth is universal and one, and not really depending on racial or religious origins. Therefore, manipulating facts or being honest about one’s narrow mindedness are likely to invite Saturnian consequences.

JUPITER IN VIRGO

Jupiter in Virgo is a powerful engine of production, rallying the united work force to achieve greater goals and development. One of the important headlines capturing the essence of this transit is the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade deal between the United States and Pacific nations, purposefully bypassing big players.
such as China, South Korea, Russia, and Brazil (even though the latter is not a Pacific coast country its influence on trade in the region is significant). This global (mutable) agreement purports to dissolve barriers between the countries (mutable) and boost

...Mutable energies often bring religious wars when misused. Notwithstanding, the real intent of Mutable Influence is not for global distribution only, but for all parties to be empowered, for resources to be shared, and for collaboration to prevail. It is a message of unity, interdependence, and collective gain.

When these planets interact together and lock on the Nodes they dominate the climate and set the tone. Because the Mutable energies bring globalization, parties want to seize the opportunity to gain control and assert their power in a way that can be all-encompassing. Because we speak of distribution and mass effect, whoever manages to speak louder and push stronger can end up setting the tone for everyone, whether this applies to ideologies or trade agreements. Accordingly, it is not surprising that Mutable energies often bring religious wars when misused. Notwithstanding, the real intent of Mutable influence is not for global distribution only, but for all parties to be empowered, for resources to be shared, and for collaboration to prevail. It is a message of unity, interdependence, and collective gain.

In its detrimental expression, Mutable influence can lead to global demise, such as when the breaking of boundaries causes out of control epidemics and contamination, chain-reaction collapsing of crops, or economic recessions.

**MARS RETROGRADE**

Mars retrogrades every second year, and this time it will begin its cycle in the Mutable sign of Sagittarius and then return to Scorpio. Notably, the retrograde degree will be 8 Sagittarius (April 16), close to the royal fixed star, Antares. Synchronistically, this is the same degree that Saturn will station before going direct later on (August 12), right at the time when Mars will return to this degree to form a conjunction with Saturn! Phew...

Mars going direct is like a catapult force that releases a great deal of powerful energy, sometimes aggressively so. Mars/Saturn conjunctions never fail to stimulate military action and defense rhetoric. Since this post-retrograde conjunction occurs in Sagittarius, can we expect more religiously inflamed military fervor? We can anticipate that.

On a personal level, Mars retrograde brings a need to reinvent ourselves. This is usually a time for career transitions, relocation, or severance from our current attachments (jobs, relationships). We redirect our course of action and create new goals, sometimes starting over with a completely blank slate. Along with the Mutable cross influencing global markets and vocational choices (Virgo/Pisces in particular), this may be a time when people make important decisions in their career path. On a personal note, we can say that OPA synchronistically rode that wave, releasing the new book *The Professional Astrologer*, and creating the I-Astrologer event to enhance the profession of astrology and support practitioners in their success—timely for Jupiter in Virgo!

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**Activated Degrees**

- **Mars Retrograde:**
  - 8-9 Sagittarius (April)
- **Mars/Saturn conjunct:**
  - 9 Sagittarius (August)
- **Solar Eclipse:**
  - 9 Virgo (September)
- **Neptune conjunct South Node:**
  - 9 Pisces (November)
- **Mutable Cross:**
  - 12-14 Mutable (June)
- **Mars Direct:**
  - 23 Scorpio (June)

**GENERAL THEMES FOR THE COMING YEAR**

**Destructive:**
- mass extinction, crop failure, climate catastrophe, pandemics and global contamination, religious and spiritual intoxication, ideological wars, racism, dishonesty

**Constructive:**
- development of markets, creation of jobs, vocational growth, spiritual growth, stepping into the teacher’s role, returning to simple values and getting closer to nature, respecting nature, collaboration and the sharing of resources. ☺
The Saturn Neptune Jupiter
Mutable T-Square
by Anne Ortelee

There is a major T-Square forming right now in the mutable signs. Its energy will be with us for about a year, from the fall of 2015 through the fall of 2016. T-Squares are tense configurations of energies that demand we take action in the signs and houses that the planets of the T-Square fall in.

This mutable T-Square is comprised of Jupiter in Virgo, Saturn in Sagittarius, and Neptune in Pisces.

Jupiter enters Virgo every 12 years. He dislikes being in Virgo. It is the sign of his detriment, because Jupiter is a sky god. Jupiter doesn’t want to deal with all the details of earth. Jupiter rules Sagittarius and co-rules Pisces: the heavens and the oceans, both vast, uncharted, and untamable. When Jupiter is in Virgo, he has to come back down to earth, do the dishes, clean the bathroom, worry about his diet, and walk the dog. When he is in Virgo, he teaches us how to be apprentices, how to serve appropriately, and how to navigate our lives in a world of technicalities.

Every 12 years, as Jupiter wanders through Virgo, people seek to restart and create new lives. Jupiter in Virgo often indicates mass migrations or diasporas among the people here on earth—perhaps due to war, famine, or natural disasters.

Saturn in Sagittarius burns as he asks us to envision the life that we want to create, something that inspires us, compels us, and drives us to action. We seek illumination and express our karma-dharma. Saturn returns to Sagittarius every 29 years—the last time was between 1985 and 1988, and before that, from 1956 to 1959. Saturn is never thrilled to be in Sagittarius because he is essentially a cold earth planet. He doesn’t enjoy fire and passion.

Neptune swims into Pisces, the sign that he rules, every 165 years. Neptune is the most at home of the three planets in this mutable T-Square. The energies of both Neptune and Saturn help us ground the dream, prioritizing the most important elements of it. Do you prefer a Jacuzzi or ceramic tiles in the kitchen? An in-ground sprinkler system or a finished basement? Saturn wants helps Neptune get clear and concrete about how and what it takes to build his dream.

In August, September, and October of 2015, we saw Jupiter the Architect meet with Neptune the Client, and together they drew up the plans for a new house, or dream you want to build in your life. In November and December 2015, Neptune met with Saturn the Contractor, who estimates costs and brings us down into reality. Saturn helps us ground the dream, prioritizing the most important elements of it. Do you prefer a Jacuzzi or ceramic tiles in the kitchen? An in-ground sprinkler system or a finished basement?

In January and February of 2016, we order the supplies that we need to build the house or create our dream. Each planet does his own thing, as the intense T-Square temporarily dissipates and loosens in the sky. Jupiter connects with Node of Destiny and gets the Funding or additional inspiration for the dream.

In March and April, Saturn the Contractor and Jupiter the Architect come together in a tightening square to argue, again, about how to start building the house or the dream: price-consciousness versus dream-consciousness. We negotiate about the quality of craftsmanship and the kinds of parts that will be used. Do we choose a Viking stove, or one from Sears? (No offense to Sears.)

When Jupiter is in Virgo, he has to come back down to earth, do the dishes, clean the bathroom, worry about his diet, and walk the dog.

Pisces are all about the dream, the ideal, the wish, the inspiration, the redemption, and all the other places where we seek and find heaven on earth. In the T-Square struggle, Neptune wins. So whenever you are feeling overwhelmed by energies, go to the Neptune place—the Pisces house in your chart and/or the ruler of the Twelfth. Hang out with Neptune. Make time for activities that put you in the rapture, that allow you to disconnect from time and space, to float on a raft carried along by the swirling currents, enjoying the scenery and not worrying about where you’re going.

Jupiter and Saturn—the two outermost planets that are visible to the naked eye—represent the expansive-ness and the limitations of the collective. Because Jupiter takes just a year to pass through a sign, he ties us to our own age group, our band of fellow travelers in life and shows us how and why we want to relate to the larger world. Saturn, typically taking 2.5 years to go through a sign, breaks us down into subgroups within a generation, and points to our group’s karma and work in the world.

Neptune spends around 14 years in each sign. He represents that which inspires us during the different phases and chapters of our life.

These three planets, arguing in the heavens, are inviting us to create and manifest a new dream, something that we will live and work with during the upcoming 12-year, 29-year, and 165-year cycles.

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Counseling
In this time of the Mutable emphasis
by Arlan Wise

When we get to May 2016, Neptune comes back into the mix of the T-square. As the client, Neptune gets the final word in the argument between Jupiter and Saturn. He gets to say, “This is MY dream and this is how I want it.” A dynamic agreement is reached between the three planets.

During May, June, and July, the three planets come together and get down to work with much tension, compromise, aggravation and inspiration.

They build the house or the dream. By August, Jupiter the Architect has completed his part of the story. He takes off, while Saturn and Neptune continue to build and put the final touches on the project or dream.

Neptune will be ready to move into his new house – the manifested dream – by late September or early October of 2016 when he has his final square with Saturn the contractor.

Think about the dream you want to build in your own life. Use the analogy of building a house. It is going to take about a year. Above is the approximate delivery schedule of your dream. If you get overwhelmed, go to Neptune in Pisces. Focus on what gives you transcendent joy. Use that to reconnect with why you are building this dream in the first place!

It is going to be a wild and crazy year with a wild and crazy mutable T-Square, inviting us, inspiring us, stretching us, and helping us climb to new heights to creatively manifest our dreams on this earth.

Mutability knows about impermanence, and this gives us a direction to lead our clients when we talk about spirituality, helping each finding the system, or systems, which work best for each individual while knowing that it is fine to embrace more than one system. This can be a time of much spiritual benefit. While Jupiter and Neptune, both rulers of Pisces, are connected in opposition, the spiritual energy will flow freely. It will become easier to learn to surrender one’s ego to the greater good, the greater self, and to what ever metaphor you use for God energy. I often ask my clients if they meditate and if they have a spiritual practice. These questions open up a way to talk to the client about their spiritual life and how to see the chart from the viewpoint of a soul’s journey through life.

With this mutable emphasis in the sky, know that no decisions are written in stone. What one chooses right now does not have to be permanent. Saturn has us make hard choices. But at this time, he allows us to make choices that are not going to last for years and years. It is a time to focus on the immediate without worrying that we are making the “wrong” decision.

What I see in counseling clients in this time of the mutable cross is to tell clients: Do what you love, but don’t give up your day job. Stop worrying –Virgo – keep working – Saturn, and learn to trust in the universe – Neptune and Jupiter.
Saturn in Sagittarius
by Katharina Westblikk

E soteric astrology calls Saturn “the dweller on the threshold”. This planet is our teacher; it knows what kind of patterns we are repeating. Many people think karma is punishment or reward for something we have done. It is really the kind of energy we send out in the universe, and what we send out is, in turn, what we will receive. We will always get what we deserve in the sense of growth and understanding.

The placement of Saturn in our natal chart shows an archetype (the sign) and that will require focus in this incarnation. It shows us what needs to be dealt with to reach into our soul. Yes, the descendant is the archetype that we should integrate to get closer to the soul, but first you have to get passed Saturn, who is the dweller of the threshold, the gatekeeper, and the teacher.

Saturn is the ruling planet of Capricorn, both on the exoteric and the esoteric level. Capricorn is the sign where we have an opportunity for an initiation. As we develop more and more as a living soul in form we go through different initiations. You can call it the evolution of the soul.

In an incarnation we go through three Saturn return cycles:

• **Age 28-30.** The first Saturn return is about our personality. We learn who we are and who we want to be in this incarnation. We have the opportunity through these cycles (and the crises often involved) to become a more robust personality in this incarnation and be less controlled by past life experiences and patterns. At the first Saturn return you are waking up to a new incarnation. You are becoming a grown up.

• **Age 58-60.** The second round is about reaching in to your soul and becoming a more service-oriented person. It is time to think more about the big picture and not just your own immediate needs. The more your light shines, the more you will inspire others around you. The crises involved will be about truth and embracing your second point of life. It is a time to relinquish fear of becoming older, and to cherish this exciting part of your life. You are wiser now, and you have come so far. Let this second part be about something real.

• **Age 88-90.** The last one is not a cycle everybody gets to experience. Here it is all about the spirit, the way back to God, the creator, the one we don’t speak of, or what else you want to call this energy. The body is getting ready to go back to earth and the soul is getting ready for its transmission out of the animal body once again. Here we no longer have anything to lose. A lot of people wait this long to say what they really mean or do something other than what they are told. Here you are the wise one, the older one, and the one with experience. You have many stories. You have lived a long life and you are getting ready to go back to your true form as a soul in spirit and no longer a soul in form.

This is the personal life cycle of Saturn.

The world will also be greatly affected by Saturn entering a new sign. Both in a collective sense and as a transiting effect on all natal charts as well.

The last three years Saturn has been transiting trough the sign of Scorpio. (6.October.2012 23.December.2014) (Retrograde period from 14.June.2015-17. September.2015). Saturn in Scorpio was about reaching into parts of our self that were unconscious or buried. We have been dealing with things from the past, emotionally, psychologically and also physical meetings from the past that had affected us and showed up again as Saturn moved through Scorpio. But it was also about revealing secrets. Everything that lies below the surface came up. Things were being revealed in our private lives, and collectively and politically and it was often a very hard energy to deal with for many people.

Now Saturn is transiting through the sign of Sagittarius. We said a final goodbye to Saturn in Scorpio on September 18, 2015, after a retrograde period back between June and September. We are going from the emotional past to the fiesty future in Sagittarius. Saturn, being the planet of limitations and boundaries, has entered the most freedom loving sign of all. Saturn in Sagittarius is all about freedom, the freedom to be who you really are. It shows what makes you unique and asks you to be able to take responsibility for that. With real freedom comes a lot of responsibility and that is what Saturn is trying to tell us for the next three years.

The first thing to consider is our belief system. Where does yours come from? Have you learned it from others, or does it really come from your own heart? Do you believe, or do you know?
We are all unique souls on earth granted special talents and we all have a place here in this world. We have a great opportunity to inspire other people when we shine our own light. To learn and live our souls purpose is the greatest gift to us and to others.

The first thing to consider is our belief system. Where does yours come from? Have you learned it from others, or does it really come from your own heart? Do you believe, or do you know? Many people grow up with a reality. It can be the reality of their parents, the reality of their church, country, and so on. Very often, we accept realities from others as our own. We don't bother to check where it comes from or get a deeper understanding that is our own. We may of course share their reality, but everybody should take the responsibility for himself or herself to get educated on a subject before we accept it as a reality.

If you have a belief system that has been your reality your whole life, and you suddenly find out that it wasn't true after all, the world can seem terrifying. Some will get depressed, some will try to hold on to old beliefs that are disappearing and in worst-case scenario, it will become fanaticism, causing fights and wars. We will see that themes like religion, nationalism, fanaticism, racism, and the other isms will come under the loop of Saturn in Sagittarius.

The whole education system will go through some kind of change.

We have the chance to educate our self in most parts of the world. It is important that we do this as much as possible. Not to judge others but to educate yourself about the how and why of things as they are. Educate yourself in what you, as one person can do to inspire more light to the world. It does not necessarily mean that you have to have a higher education, but check sources, try to see all sides, show empathy and acquire information before having strong opinions about a subject concerning groups, races, religion, education systems, politics, economy, personal freedom, etc. To think and educate ourselves before we pass judgment is an important meaning of this transit. In order to get a better education system we need to talk about it. Maybe Saturn in Sagittarius will make the way for a better education where people can study what they really want and love, and not just for the power and the money. If we are not able to follow our own heart in our own life, how can we have a society or a world that is healthy? Again, we have to start with ourselves and this is the time to make that decision.

What can YOU do, to change your world perspective into a loving one?

You have to take responsibilities for your own life and your own freedom. Don't stay in a house or a job or a marriage because you are afraid of changes or feel that you don't deserve better. When you take the responsibilities for your own life, the universe will help you. What you send out is what you will receive. And the truth is the most important thing.

If we look at the symbol of the Sagittarius we see that the centaur is half human and half animal. As a soul we are born into a body that is an animal. We suddenly feel needs and wants and instincts. These instinctual desires make keep us identifying our self with the form/body.

In Sagittarius we decide what we want to aspire towards in the world. Our goal is to find the way to walk this path towards freedom and individuality. We can't really help anyone before we help ourselves. We take the bow and arrow and shoot it in the direction we want to go. The path is not so dark anymore because the arrow is burning, it lights up the way. We find the goal in Capricorn.

Now that we have a mixture of these two archetypes, the way and the goal, we have the chance to find something real, something that is truth. We just have to be brave and trust that we are taken care of as long as we actually take responsibilities. If we want change we have to begin with ourselves. If we want change in a society we can't sit back, or run off and let it all develop itself. To change a structure we must do it from the inside. When it comes to both our selves and society, Sagittarius is about the people coming together as one tribe, speaking for truth and knowledge. The esoteric ruler of Sagittarius is the earth itself. And that makes it important to understand the deeper meanings of Sagittarius.

So much was revealed when Saturn was in Scorpio, and now is the time to find a way to deal with it. For this to be possible, we have to be honest with ourselves and with the people around us. Saturn says that we need some change around here. If you truly want to be free, what is hindering you? What can you do about it?

In the myth of the cave of Plato, we see the shadows on the wall as reality until we turn around and see that was only an illusion, only our own shadows, cast from the light of the fire. If we look at the Tarot card of the devil (since the devil can also be associat-
ed with Saturn sometimes) we see a scene where a man and a woman seem to be trapped. They are in chains but if we look closer, we see that the chains are hanging loose around their necks. It is an illusion. If they become aware, they can remove their chains and walk away. This is how it is if you live in an unhappy marriage, have a job you hate or converted to a religion because someone told you to. You can have a feeling of being trapped. But you are not, Saturn says. You just have to take the responsibility for your own freedom and not wait for somebody else to do it for you.

Look for where Saturn is transiting your natal chart and see where you personally have to take a serious look. What I see as the biggest thing this transit has brought us is the refugee crisis in Europe. This is one of the biggest crises since WWII and the holocaust. We are being tested when it comes to other cultures and religions. There are a lot of different reactions. Remember, we are all humans.

Like an infected wound has to get cleaned out for before healing can take place, so it is with what is happening now with Saturn in Sagittarius. In order to make change we must see more of what we are moving away from. We must see the actual problem before we know that it exists. Sometimes we don’t see the problem before it is right in front of us. Saturn does not back off, and will continue to give us challenges, until we are ready to see the problem and deal with it.

Are you ready?

In esoteric astrology we have a sentence for each sign that we call a seed thought. We use these sentences in meditation. Every sign has one sentence related to the personal level and one to the soul level. The sentence related to the soul level is the one we use in meditation. The sentence for Sagittarius is: **I see the goal. I reach the goal and then I see another.**

Point that arrow towards something that really matters, something that is true and comes directly from your heart, and let it go.

**Important transits:**

- Saturn square Neptune  
  November 26, 2015 at 7 Sagittarius  
- Saturn square Jupiter  
  March 26, 2016 at 16 Sagittarius  
- Saturn trine Uranus  
  December 24, 2016, 20 Sagittarius  
- Saturn square Chiron  
  December 28, 2016  
- Saturn sextile Jupiter  
  August 27, 2017 at 21 Sagittarius

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Book Review
By Arlan Wise

THE SOUL SPEAKS
THE THERAPEUTIC POTENTIAL
OF ASTROLOGY
By Mark Jones

If you are a consulting astrologer you want to read this book. If you are thinking about doing consulting, you want to read this book. Mark Jones presents a holistic approach that blends the solar cognitive way of looking at the psyche with the lunar approach of astrology. He does it well.

He is writing from a perception that an astrology reading is a de facto counseling dynamic. Stating “one of the core aims of this book is to raise awareness about the client’s point of view in an astrological reading…to make the case for the conscious application of therapeutic awareness within the natal reading in order to enrich the experience for both the client and the astrologer, enhancing our perception of the soulful encounter, and acknowledging the process with the respect and awe it deserves.”

He confirms the fact that it is not just an astrologer and a client in the session, but that the unconscious of both the astrologer and client come into play in the session. “Any inherent insecurity within the profession of astrology create the potential for collusion between the complex core anxiety and potential insecurity of the client, and it’s resulting compensatory drives within the astrologer.” Mark gives good advice on how to stay grounded in the work and maintain one’s authenticity. He speaks to the astrologer who is giving a one-time session and to those who do ongoing work with clients.

Mark starts with an in depth explanations of psychotherapeutic concepts and moves to the spiritual dimension of the work. He shows how to use these concepts as we do our readings. He gives good precise definitions of complex concepts, such as the defense systems one may encounter in a client. And he confirms what one may already intuitively know, like “Sometimes silence is the most powerful healing space…Short silences to digest powerful insights or to allow powerful waves of emotion are therapeutically valid, even essential at times.” He stresses the importance of continuously working on oneself.

The book then moves to a discussion of astrological archetypes as seen from the viewpoint of counseling and what happens in the counseling room. There is a chapter on the Saturn and Uranus cycles and how important they are in one’s life and how to work with clients at these major turning points.

Mark Jones is a student of the psychologist Assagioli and tells us his personal story of how he went to see Assagioli’s workroom and found files full of charts. He talks about how both Jung and Assagioli worked as astrologers as he explains Assagioli’s theory of psychosynthesis, which is the system he is trained in and uses.

The whole book is full of good advice for the astrologer who sees clients or who wants to. It is deep and meaty, with no fluff or extra meaningless words. It is well written, with clear explanations of key psychological concepts. Mark gives good references by naming books and authors to further flesh out the concepts he mentions. It is like being in a session and receiving referrals. He gives a great book list at the end. This is one of those books where you feel yourself growing and changing as you read it. The Soul Speaks fills a gap in the astrological literature. I give it 5 stars.

Visit us online at www.OPAastrology.org
Interview with Roy Gillett

I.D.

Email: roy.gillett@ntlworld.com
Website: www.crucialastrotools.co.uk

Your family: Have been married to Carolyn for 39 years. I have several grown up children and grandchildren.

Religious background and conditioning? Anglican Church of England Choir boy until 15 years, and then this morphed into radical secular humanist until, after Uranus/Pluto on MC and Neptune on Asc. personal crisis years, I discovered I-Ching, Tarot and Astrology.

Spiritual orientation – Do you follow any specific practice? Tibetan Buddhism since 1978, especially serving the Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition.

What’s the worst thing and then, the best thing about you? Worst… others may have different ideas, but in my head it is not giving enough quality time to the personal sensitive side of my nature and when I find myself over-explaining and not listening to other people. Best …. understanding the essential organizational needs of a situation and, from this, finding ways to encourage others and working with them to serve the greater good.

You never tried… being totally mean and self-interested.

You can’t refuse… trying to help when requested.

What is playtime for you? Stepping outside my responsibilities and observing the world’s personal relationships, social trends and issues, history, other lands and cultures, politics, through drama, newscasts and documentaries, knowing ‘what’s going on’ and seeking the very root causes. Also, I am moved by a wide range of music and dramatic tragedy and comic irony. Like to know what is going on in sport, but rarely wish to watch a whole event.

Your animal totem? Don’t identify with any particular animal or animal symbol. This role in my life is fulfilled by a wide range of Buddhist images that represent and invoke compassion, clear thinking, incisive action and the Lamas who teach such things by example. These are my ‘totems’.

Your superstition? Important to let go of attachments that lead to insecurity and hence turning to superstition.

Your Chinese sign and element? 10th Feb. 1938 = Tiger - Earth

Your favorite place on earth? Macleod Ganj, near Dharamsala, Northern India in the late 1970s, plus many beautiful places in temperate and warm dry climates. I have visited 44 countries in all continents, except Antarctica.

What would you define is an important evolutionary lesson for you in this life? Meeting His Holiness Ling Rinpoche, the Senior Tutor of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

YOUR CHART

0230 10th Feb 1938, London, UK
Clear focus of air with 4 in Aquarius and important trine Sun/Venus to Moon in Gemini in 7th. Moon square to Neptune in 9th …hence mission to confront and develop tools that can break through misunderstanding and ignorance.

YOUR PRACTICE

Where do you live and practice? Live near Farnborough, which is 35 miles SW of London, but practice is national and international. As well as writing, lecturing and organizing on astrology, On the web, I support hundreds of astrologers in the use of Solar Fire and other Astrolabe software, help organize The Astrological Association, the Board of Jamyang Buddhist Centre in London and Stonehenge quarter day access.

How long have you been practicing – How did it start? Since 1972, full time since 1976. By realizing my own and others’ charts worked!

Your Astrology teachers? Self-taught from books and a two year pilgrimage travelling overland from UK to New Zealand, keeping, experimenting with and learning from an astrological daily diary…giving and learning from client feedback during thousands of interpretations…attending and organizing scores of astrology conferences and event days….. 40 years of studying world and financial
INTERVIEW - ROY GILLETT

developments against astro-cycles.... Constantly adjusting by comparing my expectations to what happened, always adjusting, learning. In addition to the ‘heroes’ mentioned in next question, from books by Reinhold Ebertin, Ronald Davison, Alexander Ruperti, Alan Oken, some key esoteric ideas from Alice A Bailey, Rob Hand/ Bill Meridian's AstroAnalyst software.

Your Astrology hero? Scores of colleagues all over the world are engaged in heroic service for astrology, so difficult to pick out. For sheer devotion Nicholas Campion, Robert Hand, André Barbault and Bernadette Brady come to mind and, of course, Charles Harvey and so many other souls who have passed before us.

3 favorite Astrology books?
1. Alexander Ruperti 'Cycles of Becoming'
2. Reinhold Ebertin 'Combinations of Stellar Influences'
3. Roy Gillett 'The Secret Language of Astrology'

What do you feel is your greatest achievement to date in your astrology career? Serving the astro-community as President of The Astrological Association.

Can you tell us some more about your experience as the President of Great Britain's The Astrological Association? [Note: new name since 2013]
I have worked on the Astrological Association's Board, since 1990 [as Chair 1994-99, President 1999 to present] to help sustain and develop The Astrological Journal and enable worldwide-web access to annual conference recordings, all Association publications and its chart database. Have organized and/or presided over its annual conferences since 1994. Also speaking for astrology on the media and negotiating with broadcast authorities on their presentation of astrology. Sustaining international the Association's successful application for charitable status.

What made it possible for you to become a full time astrologer?
Total commitment to accepting the path that lay out ahead of me and making the most of its consequences.

What is the great thing and the hard thing about being an astrologer? Great thing: Being clear and patient through understanding what lies behind what is going on. Hard thing: Seeing the way the world creates its own intolerance and hence suffering by not understanding what lies behind what is going on.

What are your future ambitions in the field of astrology? To see astrology accepted as a responsible way of understanding the cycles of our experiences and hence enabling us to break down the barriers of misunderstanding, so that kind tolerance between people and sustainable ways of organizing our lives on the Earth will naturally emerge. A practical step would be having the finance to establish a proper centre for astrology, comprising a museum, library, information and teaching centre.

What inspires you to be an OPA member? Its inclusive way of serving a wide range of people who wish to give some or even nearly all of their lives to astrology and to learn how to give its wisdom to others.

Any advice for those who would like to become professional astrologers? Use astrology to step outside and look at yourself and your potential as an astrologer. Where would you feel most at home, what have you got to offer to and benefit others? There are no cheap rides. You have to be really convinced to succeed as an astrologer. HOWEVER, if this self-examination convinces you that your mission is to serve the world as an astrologer, do not hesitate. Have the courage to go for it, convinced the right path will open up for you. It nearly always will. If it does not, 'giving it your best shot' is the best way to clear the decks for a different even better future.

GREECE CONFERENCE
Can you share a few words about your participation in the Greece conference 2016?
My presentation offers extensive astro-research, revealing the nature of the world economic system, as it has developed over the last three hundred years. This has come to undermine the quality of our lives today; with its highly-dangerous mainstream view that material prosperity and mechanical manipulation of the environment are inevitable, right and proper. Such a view encourages obsession with immediate short term advantage and constant improvement; insisting that growth through ever-increasing consumption is the only way to success and prosperity.

After identifying the root charts that sired such assumptions and the astro-cycles that have fatally challenged this way we do business with each other, my second session will suggest a radically different approach more in tune with natural astro-cycles. It will show how basic humane principles can be applied to the business, legal, educational, media and cultural institutions of our societies, so we can start to live more comfortably with each other and certainly within our means.

Appropriate to offer this in Athens, the capital of the country that has faced the brunt of the consequences of the failure of the World Economic System. [These sessions will be based on my new book Reversing the Race to Global Destruction, due out in 2016]

Thank you!

We are delighted to present an extraordinary program for the Greece conference in Athens (May 27-30)

Join us for the conference weekend only, or for the full journey.

Conference Schedule

FRI MAY 27
• 18:30–20:30: Cocktail
• 19:15: Speech Maurice & Alexandra

SAT MAY 28 (DAY 1)
• 9:00–10:05: Alexandra Karacostas “Relationships: Keep it simple!”
• 10:10–11:20: Thanassi Matsotas “Eclipses, Portals of SpaceTime”
• 11:30–12:40: Aleksandar Ismirajic “Reincarnation in Astrology”
• 14:00–15:00: Sol Jonassen “Eros & Psyche – Sexuality, Sensuality, and Vitality”
• 15:10–16:15: Smaro Sotiraki “Astrological Interpretation of Homer’s Odyssey”
• 16:25–17:30: Roy Gillett “Global Economics and Astrology: Why and how we are racing toward global destruction”

SUN MAY 29 (DAY 2)
• 9:00–10:05: Roy Gillett “Principles before rules: Planetary regeneration”

Presentations

ROY GILLETT - UK
GLOBAL ECONOMY AND ASTROLOGY PART I & II

How Can the Global Economy Survive? An indepth study of its astrology inspired by the Greek situation
The 17th century Bank of England and early 20th century US Federal Reserve astrology charts clearly describe the nature and failings of colonialism and our consumption-driven market economy. After studying these, we will consider the consequences of our failure to address the warnings of 1930s depression and the astrology behind the dire consequences of adopting and propping up a competitive monetarist market economy since the 1980s, culminating in the 2008 global crisis, the illusory ‘world recovery’ since and austerity in the Greek and many other national economies.

Principles before Rules - Planetary Regeneration
Mainstream economists, law-makers, educators, scientists, marketing and media experts insist that a competitive, rule and growth obsessed global economy
is the only realistic way to administer the human and natural environment. Astrology sees a very different view of the Universe; one driven by tolerance, informed by intrinsic principles; not manipulated by human-made-to-be-broken rules. As Pluto advances through Capricorn, applying these principles to our institutions has to be the benchmark; the golden standard of genuine planetary efficiency that will reverse the race to global destruction.

ALEXANDRA KARACOSTAS - USA
RELATIONSHIPS - KEEP IT SIMPLE
I will share the methods I use to recognize major themes in a person's horoscope. Then we will look at how to apply these simple techniques to identify underlying and complex issues playing out in our relationships. We will look at some charts, but hopefully examine our own. A fun and simple way to understand ourselves better!

IOANNIS RIZOPOULOS - GREECE
THE SYNTHESIS OF TROPICAL AND SIDEREAL ZODIAC: THEORY AND PRACTICE

ALEKSANDAR ISMIRAGIC - SERBIA
REINCARNATIONAL ASTROLOGY
Reincarnational Astrology provides us specific tools to determine the time when specific events have occurred in our previous incarnations. Time is a circular, or more precisely – spiral. So, past or future events defined in the Time spiral, no matter how far from now, are always connected with us through strings between incarnations, and therefore significantly influence the life that we live now. More than that – events that are happening in previous incarnations represent cornerstones in one’s (current) destiny. Defining those events in time and even space – allows as to be in touch with the energy vortex of one’s karma, and transform potential negativity that we may carry in our memory.

SMARO SOTIRAKI - GREECE
ASTROLOGICAL INTERPRETATION OF HOMER’S ODYSSEY
In his Odyssey, Homer artfully narrates the heroic return of Ulysses (higher mental - spiritual vehicle) to his Ithaca (heaven, his destination, the Elysian Fields) and his Penelope (Soul). The adventurous - initiatory stations of Ulysses number twelve, as many as the initiatory grades of esoterism and naturally, as many as the starsigns.

In this talk, with esoteric astrology as my guide, I will decipher Ulysses’ each stop - initiatory test as corresponding to one of the twelve starsigns, lending a new dimension to the esoteric interpretation of the zodiac. Ulysses’ whole course - spiritual development will be deciphered through the zodiac to lead to his final deification and union with Penelope, namely the alchemic wedding - the union of spirit and World Soul. It is a talk useful to whomever wishes to follow the path of Truth and Spiritual Ascension.
but intimacy and introversion. So, questions such as: “how can an active, assertive, outgoing planet such as Mars can manifest constructively when retrograde” or “how it can evolve the ego-Sun” and “how the magma that seethes in the depths of our soul-Pluto can be handled without erupting uncontrollably”, both in natal and in transit, are among the themes I’m about to analyze. There will also be a reference in the mythological archetype of Ares, in an effort to enter to the core of the nature he advocates.

**SOL JONASSEN - NORWAY**  
**EROS AND PSYCHE; SENSITIVITY, SEXUALITY AND VITALITY**  
The two asteroids Eros and Psyche not only involve the most romantic mythology between a mortal and the God of Love, but they also appear prominent in the charts of human beings who have given us passionate contributions in history. In this lecture we will look at the charts and legacies of those individuals and explore the deeper themes of the mythology, penetrating the spiritual layers of these two asteroids. Even though asteroids are minor bodies, the myth of Eros and Psyche has informed humanity for centuries about the nature of Love.

**BOAZ FYLER - ISRAEL**  
**SEX, LUST, GENDER AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION IN THE NATAL CHART**  
Can we know by looking at the Natal chart how passionate, lustful a person is, and maybe, even his/her gender and sexual orientation? How? In an interesting and humorous way we will explore the different attributes and learn to recognize them and understand how they play a part in a person’s personal life. We will do so by examining the charts of celebrities, of people we love to love, hate, and mainly, people we can learn something from about ourselves through their lives. The lecture is suited for an audience with at least some astrological background.

**MAURICE FERNANDEZ - USA**  
**NEPTUNE IN PISCES AND THE MUTABLE CROSS**  
Maurice will share his perspective on the dramatic Mutable energies influencing the year 2016, with a particular focus on the June 2016 Mutable Cross involving Jupiter in Virgo, Saturn in Sagittarius, a Gemini New Moon, and Neptune in Pisces on the South Node. A lot is at stake, but what is this about?
OPA Conference   GREECE!

Sacred Sites Journey

Riding the Gryphons and Dolphins to the Temples of the Sun God

May 31 – June 9, 2016

Is it a coincidence that both President and Vice President of OPA have Greek origins? If we understand that modern astrology has firm roots in the Hellenistic era, maybe that actually makes perfect sense!

And so, Maurice Fernandez, Alexandra Karacostas, and the whole OPA team are delighted to organize this conference and post-conference journey to some of Greece's sacred sites!

DELPHI – DELOS – SANTORINI – NAPLION

The Sun God Apollo, and his twin sister the Moon Goddess Artemis were born on the “floating” island of Delos, the only place where their mother, impregnated by Zeus, was able to give birth. Delos remains to this day one of the sacred sites in Greece.

True to the Sun God, Delos’s main avenue was composed of massive White Lion statues (some say 12 in number—no surprise there—though 7 remain today), named the Terrace of the Lions. Delos Museum includes a Greek Sphynx or Gryphon—composed of a human head, a lion body, eagle wings, and tail of the bull, representing the angelic expression of the 4 fixed signs of the zodiac.

A python came to Delos trying in vain to kill Apollo and Artemis's mother Leto. Apollo later avenged the near-death of his mother, chasing the serpent all the way to his dwelling, at the navel of Gaia, the great mother earth – What is known today as Delphi.

Delphi was said to be the center of the earth, the site where two eagles released by Zeus respectively to the East and to the West, met and where the sacred stone was dropped.

After defeating the Python, Apollo conquered Delphi, and became the patron of the site, offering oracular divination (astrology?) through the priestess Pythia—who “spoke in tongues”, some say she was intoxicated by the fumes exhumed by the defeated serpent dissolving under the power of the Sun. It seems that Scorpio and Leo did unite as Apollo was often depicted living in amity with a serpent.

Apollo spoke the oracle both at Delphi and Delos and trained his adoptive son Chiron in Medicine and we can assume Astrology too.

Adding another piece to our puzzle is Santorini, the site of the volcanos Palea and Nea Kameni. Their last eruption back in 1645 BC was probably one of the most dramatic volcanic event in recorded history, and some say it altered the course of the whole Middle Eastern civilization and our history. Santorini, along with Crete, was home to the Minoan civilization, who some also say were actually the priests of mythical Atlantis in Thera (Santorini). Frescos of the divine Gryphon creature have also been found in Santorini and are displayed in its museum as a reminiscence of Atlantean times.

We have so much to learn in what promises to be a journey with an abundance of sensory flavors and spiritual invocations!

For more information about the Athens Conference and the Post Conference Journey, visit: www.opaastrology.org/certification/greece-2016
Conference Only

Full Conference
Until February 1 - 289 Euro ($328)
(BONUS: 1 year OPA membership and Post Conference free)
Until March 23 - 299 Euro ($340)
Until May 28 - 330 Euro ($375)

Single day only (Sat. or Sun.)
Until March 23 - 175 Euro
Until May 28 - 200 Euro

Post Conference: 35 Euro ($40)
Conference Cocktail - first 50 registrants free, 35 Euro
OPA Membership (1 yr.) - 35 Euro

Accommodations at the Royal Olympic
64 Euro per person per night (room sharing)
128 Euro per person per night (single)

Join this incredible journey for registration:
livingsky7@gmail.com
Space Limited!

Conference + Journey

Until March 23 - $3950 USD (sharing room) | $4950 USD (single room)
Until May 15 - $4200 USD (sharing room) | $5200 USD (single room)

Register Now at OPAastrology.org
Book Review
By Arlan Wise

Incarnation
The Four Angles and the Moon's Nodes
By Melanie Reinhart

Melanie Reinhart has updated and upgraded *Incarnation*. This is a book about the four angles of the chart and the nodes of the moon. The original was one of the series published by the CPA, the Centre for Psychological Astrology, which was founded by Liz Greene. The format is transcriptions of seminars and workshops that were given as part of the CPA curriculum. Melanie has added new material from recent workshops and seminars that she has held since the book was published in 1997. Melanie presents this book for a new crop of younger astrologers who may not have been reading astrology books in the mid-1990's when the original was first published.

Reading this book makes you want to be in those classes and experience the wisdom of Melanie's teaching. She is a very good teacher and one learns good astrology from reading her words. No matter how professional or knowledgeable you are, there are wonderful tidbits to be gleaned from these pages. The book is an addition to your knowledge of how to delineate a chart. She makes good use of mythology from all cultures to explain what she is teaching.

The first section covers in depth explanations of the four angles of the chart. She starts the class with an exercise on how to orient oneself physically to understand what these angles are, and then goes to explain how to orient yourself symbolically to these angles. She includes a section on transits to the angles, planets on the angles, and the importance of the rulers and dispositors of the four angles. It is very thorough information.

The second section is on the Nodes of the Moon and eclipses. After explaining the mechanics of the nodes and how they are instrumental in forming eclipses, she has the class divide up by their nodal axis. Melanie calls this A Life-Review process. It is a way to deepen your understanding of your own life process by studying the Nodes, and release energy by focusing healing intention.

Each section ends with guided imagery exercises. She suggests that you record them and can experience them in a quiet place and time to listen by yourself or have a friend speak the exercise to you.

There is much wisdom in this book. You feel it as you read the book. If you missed reading it on its first printing, be sure to buy it this time around.

Visit secretsof2016.com for details.
The Eternal and Immortal Divine Self
by Heiltje le Roux

The inner harmonics within Man are a reflection of the harmonics emanating from the unseen First Principle, the Logos of the Creator. These harmonics repeat themselves in ever smaller or larger scales - from the vast universe, to a galaxy, to our solar system, to a planet, to animate beings or inanimate objects, to cellular level, to subatomic level, precise reflections of one another.

The system of astrology is a language through which we can read these expressed harmonic relationships. In our solar system the Sun is the center, the analogy for the Eternal Spirit of the Creator within each individual. The planets represent the archetypal concepts of First Principle, which in the course of many lifetimes, have evolved as the totality of each incarnational human psyche. The psyche is the internal concept of the individual which eternally seeks the ultimate mystery held within, by linking it with the sensed world, through perpetual challenges of what is unknown, yet always "known" in the Creator’s Mind or Logos.

With astrology we want to unveil the sacred self within, or the purpose of each individual’s incarnation, to merge reason with manifestation. By understanding the depth of each archetypal planetary expression, read in the context of the twelve signs and the harmonics of these relationships, we can interpret the inner construct of each Soul’s possible reflections of the Logos. In ancient times, this was part of sacred geometry, linking man with Divine Cosmos.

Tropical astrology is a living system in perpetual motion, made up of the building blocks of observed nature and the annual seasonal rhythms, first observed by the ancients as correlations experienced in daily life. Whenever a new manifestation occurs in nature, it happens so because of the merging of male and female polarities in order to establish new offspring. The masculine principle is active outward movement and levitates as plasma and idea. The feminine principle is inner passive reception and gravitates into matrix to be nurtured. Nothing can be established, moved or manifested without the male-female genders.

The Sun is the masculine fire principle of the Self - the individual’s life spark, the center of our Solar system and the center of Divine Self, linked to Divine First Principle. As the expression of Creative Logos, the Sun is the individual’s spiritual personality and the Eternal Spirit expressed by the Creator’s Mind.

The Moon is the feminine water principle of the Self - the vehicle to receive and carry impressions within Immortal Soul from lifetime to lifetime. It is through the cycle of the Moon that human females are readied to receive and clothe a new Soul in flesh in order to attract new lessons, and contain what is necessary for the Eternal and Immortal parts of the Self to merge with each other. The Moon’s instinctive emotional fabric is motivated by fear of the unknown; it receives positive reflections of potential understanding from the expressive energy of the Sun, thus obtaining the impetus to overcome the fear to learn a new lesson, to unify the Self towards a level higher than before. This is the first awakening towards evolution when ascending the planetary path, which will eventually end with full understanding and transformation with Pluto.

Each incarnated individual is a trichotomy of Eternal Spirit or Sun, Immortal Soul or Moon and Mortal Body or Ascendant...

Each incarnated individual is a trichotomy of Eternal Spirit or Sun, Immortal Soul or Moon and Mortal Body or Ascendant, the physical vehicle with which the individual moves through the three-dimensional space of Earth on this journey called Life. Through the Sun the Self desires to incarnate on Earth, becomes clothed in a Soul which is the Moon, and are born into a body which is the Ascendant.

We will always be incarnated within a Group Soul, where we come to the right place, at the right time, to learn the right lessons. The natal Moon through its progressions will attract the necessary emotional conditions, people, times, places, objects and events, which the Soul needs to learn from, and then incorporate into the Eternal Flame of Sun.

When the Oracles said “KNOW THYSELF” and the ancients received the Divine message “I AM THAT I AM”, they expressed the personal core of Sun and Moon, where the Sun is the individuality of the Eternal Self, and the Moon is Immortal Self learning the steps into the feared unknown journey towards “I KNOW WHO I AM”, eternally contained within Divine Mind, expressed in Logos on the journey back to Creator.
Announcing the full program for March 18-20, 2016

FRI MARCH 18 (DAY 1)

- 8:30 – 9:30 > MAURICE FERNANDEZ: The Profession of Astrology Yesterday and Today (Our cultural context, the revival of astrology, the social stigma and ways to overcome people’s resistance to astrology)
- 9:35 – 10:35 > RICK LEVINE: So you want to be an astrologer? (What skills are needed, what to charge, is certification important?)
- 10:50 – 11:50 > KAY TAYLOR: Love, Counseling, and Marketing (Important client rapport to increase clientele)
- 12:00 – 1:00 > LUNCH BREAK
- 1:00 – 1:45 > ARLAN + JULIAN WISE: Writing and Publishing for Astrologers (How to write in effective ways, and stand out in the forest of blogs + write for blog, magazine, book)
- 1:50 – 2:50 > MAURICE FERNANDEZ: Make your Practice Lucrative (Marketing + multi-directional approach)
- 3:00 – 4:00 > ANNE ORTELEE: Financial Management of your Astrology Practice (Most effective time/money management, software, and practical info about money)
- 4:05 – 5:00 > RICK LEVINE: The Internet to build a Successful Astrology Practice (The role and the use of the internet in the 21st century practice of astrology - blogging)
- 5:00pm – 7:00pm > Professional Photoshoot with Michelle Godfrey continues

SAT MARCH 19 (DAY 2)

- 9:00am – 7:00pm > Professional Photoshoot with Michelle Godfrey
- 8:30 – 8:50 > What must be included in a professional Website: Michelle Godfrey
- 8:50 – 9:20 > Learning the hidden features of Solar Fire Astrology Software: Madalyn Hillis Dineen
- 9:20 – 9:50 > Public Speaking – Wow your audience: Anne Ortelee and Sandra Leigh Serio
- 10:00 – 12:00 > Consultation with professional representatives about your practice – open market
- 12:00 – 1:00 > LUNCH BREAK
- 1:00 – 2:00 > Consultation with professional representatives about your practice - open market
- 2:15 – 3:00 > Making optimal use of Facebook and social media - Maurice Fernandez
- 3:05 – 4:30 > Writing workshop for Astrologers – 2 groups: Arlan Wise and Julian Wise

SUN MARCH 20

Small Mentorship groups with: Rick Levine - Anne Ortelee - Maurice Fernandez - Kay Taylor
- 9:00am – 12:00pm Mentorship
- 12:00 – 1:00 > LUNCH BREAK
- 1:00pm – 2:45pm Mentorship
- 3:00 – 5:00 – Astrology Day Initiation
  - Poetry for Astrology
  - Special guided meditation with Kay Taylor
Affirm yourself as an astrologer, the eternal student of life, the messenger of the heavens, the counselor, the keeper of Truth

The Astrologer’s Oath

The infinity of the sky has cohesion
The astral planes reveal a logic
To which nature fully resonates and aligns
If few are initiated in this art of interpretation
Of celestial science with existential meaning
I am one

I recognize the privilege and responsibility
To serve humanity as an astrologer
Be the channel between above and below
Remain grounded, clear of prejudice, and open hearted
Respectfully, gracefully, and truthfully
I pledge to assist those who seek higher guidance
Direct them to the space, the time, and the way
As depicted in the map of geocosmic cycles
I will enlighten them in the perspective
That despite trials and tribulations,
Their lives are intrinsic to an intelligent cosmic order
These suggestions shall be made
To the best of my humble understanding
Whether venerated or depreciated publically in this task
I shall not falter, aware of the merit of this honorable calling
An incredible program from OPA to help aspiring and professional astrologers build and propel their practice to new heights.

OPA will provide mentorship, all services, and trainings to catapult your astrology practice.

SERVICES WILL INCLUDE: branding, website design, professional photos, editing and publishing, marketing and social media

TRAININGS INCLUDE: Writing workshops, Software navigation

Answer your calling to become a successful astrologer

Increase the client volume of your existing practice

Expand the reach of your practice to completely new horizons.

JOIN i-ASTROLOGER

Astrology Day 2016

All details at OPAastrology.org
OPA, The Organization for Professional Astrology, is dedicated to promoting excellence for astrologers. Incorporated on October 4, 2000 at 1:45 pm EDT in Tallahassee, Florida, OPA provides members with tools to establish or improve their astrological practice. Membership is open to aspiring and current astrologers. Benefits include subscription to the Career Astrologer and E-news, free monthly talks by top notch astrologers and members registration fees at OPA retreats and conferences. Annual dues are $60.00.

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UPCOMING ASTROLOGY CONFERENCES

FEBRUARY 2016
February 26-27 – ISRAEL ASTROLOGY CONFERENCE with Bernadette Brady
Contact: healingstar11@gmail.com

MARCH 2016
March 18-20 & March 21-23
I-ASTROLOGER, Athens, Georgia
www.OPAastrology.com

APRIL 2016
April 14-18
GLAC, Michigan

MAY 2016
May 27-29 - NORWAC
May 27-30 - OPA CONFERENCE IN GREECE, Athens, Greece
www.OPAastrology.com

OCTOBER 2016
October 13-17 - ISARCONFERENCE
Costa Mesa, CA

NOVEMBER 2016
November 10 to 14 - SOTA 2016
Cheektowaga, NY

FEBRUARY 2017
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Enhancing Your Astrology Practice

Column by Kay Taylor

The Path of Authentic Expression

Truth and Trust in Astrology

Do you remember the 80’s movie about a man who decides to build a baseball field in the middle of his cornfield?

The man (played by Kevin Costner) hears a voice in the middle of his corn field that says: “If you build it, he will come.” It has something to do with his difficult father/son relationship and his father’s love of baseball, but that’s not the point. Or that he hears voices and plows under his cornfield?

It's about trust and faith and doing what you're called to do.

The expression has been stretched to “If you build it, they will come…” and “If you build it, they will come…”

As you develop your astrology practice, you will find that you are exposed to a new concept, try it out in your chart and the charts of people you know well, and decide if it works for you. You can’t possible use every technique or style. Astrology is a practice, a bit like baking a personalized cake. You start out with a recipe, but you add and subtract ingredients until you have a cake that is uniquely yours. You offer that cake to the world, and the clients who want that exact flavor will find you, and refer their friends.

General Practice or Specialize?

People beginning new practices often ask me if they should generalize and accept all clients or specialize. It is fashionable in coaching or therapy circles to suggest that you find a specialized niche and promote that. This is fine if you know for sure what your niche is. But when we start a practice, or even when we’ve been practicing for a few years and want to expand our marketing efforts, often we’re not sure what the specialization is.

I believe that specialization or niche marketing is often developed from a broad exposure to various clients and issues. At some point we begin to notice our favorite clients and the most enjoyable sessions.

We can also specialize through the trainings we’re called to do. Usually we initiate learning through reading and self study. There comes a point when we notice we have enough generalized information and we’re drawn to particular teachers and schools of astrology. Perhaps you’ve been a western astrologer for twenty years and you just do not want to go to another conference with more of the same. Vedic seems new and fascinating. This is a common thread in our community.

Still another call to specialization comes from prior careers and expertise. Ray Merriman was always interested in astrology but his first traditional career was in a financial services field, so financial astrology was a natural fit for him. Chris McRae was in broadcasting and journalism so her first clients came from her friends in this field, but more importantly, that experience allowed her always to feel comfortable teaching and speaking. Jacqueline Janes is a therapist and therefore naturally offers a counseling style astrology. What expertise or interests do you have that could form a natural alignment with your astrology?

As you develop your astrology practice, you will find that you are exposed to a new concept, try it out in your chart and the charts of people you know well, and decide if it works for you. You can’t possible use every technique or style. Astrology is a practice, a bit like baking a personalized cake. You start out with a recipe, but you add and subtract ingredients until you have a cake that is uniquely yours. You offer that cake to the world, and the clients who want that exact flavor will find you, and refer their friends.

Your Authentic Space & Time

Your authentic space and time includes everything about your practice, including the hours you keep, whether you record or not, what style of office you have and your personality style. A general professional approach is a given, such as keeping a clean office, communicating effectively, being clear about what you’re offering and what you’re not offering. But beyond that you have choices to reflect your authentic self. Your office might reflect your creativity with lots of colors and textures. Or it might be more austere and businesslike. Personal knickknacks, spiritual statues and paintings might turn off some people but be a comforting draw to others. The important thing is that you consider these things and know every choice you make has an effect on your professional image, and that authenticity is a core value underlying professional expression.

If your authentic nature is diabolically messy and chaotic, you might want to clean it up a bit to be basically professional. However, if you love psychology and counseling astrology but think you would make more money as a financial astrologer you are moving outside the realm of your authentic nature for financial reasons. It’s less likely to work out, or to be personally satisfying.

I remember meeting an astrologer who said she became much happier with her work when she decided she would no longer see people in person. Phone readings only. Steven Forrest refuses to do telephone sessions. In person or a recording mailed to you. Take it or leave it. When I was building a house in Taos, enjoying some of the construction work myself, I loved the feel of working with concrete, rocks and stucco in the morning and only talked to clients from 2 pm on every day. People adapted. Don’t be afraid to set up a schedule and way of working with clients that works for you.

If you build it, they will come…

At the last OPA conference I was thinking about the different personal and astrological styles of various speakers and how each one of these successful astrologers has found their niche over the years and now expresses themselves authentically.

Anne Ortelee provides fast, detailed data wrapped in warmth. Her mothering...
approach to her students included casually joked she ‘would disown them if they ever told a client they wouldn’t get married because they don’t have planets in the 7th house.’ Rick Levine sat down at lunch with me, described himself as a ‘septile nerd’ and went on to list from memory about a hundred people who had septiles in their chart (my autocorrect wants to say they have ‘reptiles in their chart’ which is an interesting concept, but for clarity I will correct autocorrect). Maurice Fernandez has a slow and patient teaching style, engaging his students to think outside the box for themselves. Chris Brennan has an academic style and excels at bringing Hellenistic concepts alive. I am known for my loving, empathic style. The astrology is there, yes, but people remember feeling cared for.

So, in order to offer your authentic expression to your clients, you’ll need to dig deep to discover your talents and interests, and resist the fears that come up to say if you’re not all things to all people, you won’t be successful.

Clients You Love: Think about your favorite, ideal clients. What are they like and what do they need? How do you feel when you work with them? Mock that up and figure out how to find them and draw them to you. Being yourself is magnetic to others. Marketing is less work when you’re in the flow.

Your True Unique Blend of Astrology: Offer the type of astrology you most love, the style that resonates with your interests and personality style. Pay attention to the astrology books you read like a novel.

Hours & Details: Work the hours that match your personal rhythm, leaving plenty of time for personal activities that nurture your body and soul. Take credit cards, checks or cash? Prepay or not? Handle the details or hire an assistant? So many choices, so little time.

Build it: Build an authentic expression of your highest nature, and they will come. They might be clients, students, writing opportunities… The possibilities are unique to you. Astrologers get discouraged and impatient when they do what they love and the money follows Ever-So-Slowly. But the opportunities will show up, and the financial rewards will follow when you are on your true path.

PS: Come to the OPA iAstrologer retreat in March and learn everything you need to know to launch or expand your professional practice. We’ll be there to support you.

With love & gratitude, Kay

Kay Taylor

Kay Taylor integrates an evolutionary/spiritual approach to astrology with her refined intuitive skills, psychosynthesis counseling, yoga and hypnotherapy. She teaches and leads international retreats, is an ISAR Consulting Skills Trainer, has lectured at various conferences (ISAR, UAC, SOTA), and wrote for Astrology.com for many years. Kay is ISAR CAP and NCGR II certified. Known for her grounded, heart-centered approach, Kay has had a thriving private practice for over thirty years based in the San Francisco Bay Area and is also available by phone/skype. Email: kaytaylorwisdom@gmail.com Website: http://kaytaylor.com Facebook: http://facebook.com/KayTaylor.IntuitiveWisdom Phone: 510.601.6507

Kay Taylor
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Hope to see you at the iAstrologer Conference in March!
Book Review
By Kathryn Andren

Solar-Lunar Keys to
Gold Price Reversals:
SECRETS OF A GOLD TRADER
By Ray Merriman

Ray Merriman’s recent book is a rich wealth of information with astrology secrets for day traders. His book is based on the premise that there is a correlation between the price movements in the financial markets and the relationship of the Sun and the Moon by sign. “Solar-Lunar Keys to Gold Price Reversals: Secrets of A Gold Trader” is a comprehensive book filled with research from over forty years of data. Merriman specifically chose the Gold market to test his thesis and examined the highs and lows of gold trading activity between December 31, 1974 and April 16, 2015. The primary value the book is to meet the needs of shorter-term traders. The author does this by focusing mostly upon Moon signs – and in particular, Moon signs within each Sun sign.

The bottom line for success in any trade is to buy low and sell high. Can astrology aspects show a trader when to buy or when to sell? Merriman describes his method and finds interesting correlations from his study reviewing the market over 10,114 dates. He seeks to gives traders “that extra edge” by providing Solar and Lunar correlations revealing when the market expects to make highs and lows then reverse. Merriman states “identifying reversals in financial markets is essential to successful trading.”

In the first few chapters he describes his method. He clearly identifies and addresses some of the concerns of the study. For day trading, planetary aspects are set for high noon eastern time, then weekends and holidays are taken into consideration when the market is closed. The phase of the Moon also plays a role. Chapter 4 includes a look at how Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn aspects affect the market. He mentions “In Financial Astrology, Uranus is considered the planet of volatility. Larger than normal price swings occur very close in time to the times when different planets are in aspect to Uranus.” While most of Merriman’s data reviews solar-lunar aspects, he does later conclude that larger planet pattern aspects also play a part in market analysis.

There are 12 chapters dedicated each sign, with comprehensive tables showing the high and low combinations of the solar-lunar aspects through the Zodiac signs. The closing chapter highlights reminders of the “qualities” and the “elements” of the signs. For example, Cardinal signs initiate a new market trends, Fixed signs show where prices are in the middle of a trend, where the Mutable signs show change, volatility or reversal in trends.

Merriman asserts, “if one knows when a market is not likely to reverse, then one can either stay with a profitable position already held, or not initiate a new position”. Reversal change is important for traders and a 3-4% shift may occur over 2 days or 5 weeks. The data supports his second hypothesis: a correlation between certain solar-lunar sign combinations with “Big Range Days” in the Gold market. The author’s intention for the book is specifically to offer traders “an edge over other traders who are not aware of these simple, but powerful, correlations to potentially profitable price swings”. The research in his book offers a great value for traders to seek maximum profit with minimum exposure. His book format serves as a reference for the reader to use as an efficient market-timing tool for successful trading.

Transpersonal Serenity Prayer

Uranus:
God, grant me the serenity to accept that you exist, The courage to live through the religious nonsense of Saturn in Sag, And the wisdom to stay perched on my tree while all this happens.

Neptune:
God, I already have the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, I don’t want to change the things I can, And I’m gathering the wisdom go on a vacation until further notice.

Pluto:
God, find the serenity to accept I’m going to blow your Creation into flames Have the courage to realize the probabilities of rebirth are low And the wisdom to plan better next time
The Power of Forecasting Meets the Consequence of Choice

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How did you first get into Astrology?

After two years of psychoanalysis sessions, I decided to quit — the cost was too high and I had the feeling I was getting nowhere; my analyst used to fall asleep during my sessions, and never stopped eating cookies. I definitely didn't want to end up like her — she probably had more problems than I did so I better continued to exercise 8 hours a day to not fall in a deep depression. Talking to a friend about my feelings and concerns, he suggested to take a consultation with a well known astrologer at that time (Cabezut). I was fascinated by the reading. In one session he told me what I discovered during two years of psychoanalysis. I searched for an astrology teacher (Ingrid Rosenbluth) and from that moment astrology, psychology and healing became a major path in my life.

What role can OPA have in Mexico?

I hope that OPA is going to be able to further develop astrology and unify these groups. We would try to get more people interested in a more serious, fresher, and more professional way of using astrology. There is a greater tendency toward psychological astrology, with few interested in Hellenistic views, and Vedic. Steven Forrest has many followers in Mexico. David Cochrane has also been opening the mind of astrologers. In June 2016 Aleksander and Lea Imsiragic are coming to lecture about karmic, fixed stars and emotional astrology and fixed stars workshop.

The only astrologer in Mexico that I see has made a research by herself is Yuriria Robles, she has gotten deeply into the Mayan astrology and published a book some years ago sponsored by the National Lottery. She is actually developing the mayan report for Kepler Software, showing them how to take more advantage in their research and study of astrology through their Kepler software.
Astrology & The Mystical Kabbalah

by Kathryn Andren

This article is expanded version of the brief talk presented for the October 2015 OPA retreat.

What do the Four Universes, the 22 Hebrew letters and the Kabbalah Tree of Life have to do with astrology? Nearly everything! The roots of this practice relate to the 12 months of the year, the seven visible planets and synergy of the elements. Kabbalah is rooted in ancient Judaic mysticism which can through study and practice, bring you into direct relationship with the divine.

This article touches a few core concepts of the mystical Kabbalah. It serves as an invitation for deeper inquiry and to cultivate more conscious awareness of:

- The Four Universes in your own life.
- The meaning and exploration of three Hebrew letters, with a brief meditation in connection to the elements fire, air and water.
- A process called the Healing of Immanence* is discussed as it relates to embodying the divine on the earth plane.

*The Healing of Immanence developed by Jason Shulman as taught in his school of Non-Dual Healing was introduced to me by a graduate and Kabbalistic Healer, Irene Humbach who served as inspiration for this discussion.

Here are a few core concepts of Kabbalah. I invite you to consider the possibility of holding these new concepts as a frame of mind during your consultation practice.

- Kabbalah means “to receive”. “I receive the already present divinity within you”. As astrologers we “give” readings to our clients. In actuality, we are the ones receiving. It is a gift and opportunity to serve another, reflecting and seeing the divine manifest in others. As astrologers, consider how we may we reflect our clients divinity back to them.

- Kabbalah teaches that there is no place that G-d is not. The divine permeates everything and is its manifestation. This essentially means, whatever “is”, the divine is present there. Joy or sorrow, bliss or challenge, Kabbalah acknowledges that an evolution of consciousness requires being in a frame of mind that is beyond duality.

So what does Kabbalah have to do with astrology? Just as your astrology birth chart is a map for life, the Kabbalah is a map of consciousness and the cosmos.

There are 22 letters in the Hebrew alphabet, that are associated with the 22 Major Arcana of a Tarot deck. These 22 letters can be divided into three categories:

- 3 Mother letters relate to elements: Fire, Air and Water. (Earth is not missing, it is ever present and embodies everything!)
- 7 Double letters relate to the visible planets.
- 12 letters connect to the months of the year or the Zodiac signs.

There are Four Universes which relate to the four realms of life or the four elements:

- Atzilut is the divine world, the spiritual plane or the fire element.
- Beriah is the intellectual world, the mental plane or the air element.
- Yetzirah is the psychological world, the emotional plane or the water element.
- Asiyah is the material world, the physical plane or the earth element.

There are 10 Sefirot, shimmering qualities of the Divine, on the Tree of Life. They are connected by the 22 Hebrew letters. Most Sefirot correspond to a planet and holds its own unique quality. They relate to the 10 commandments and each has its own angel. The Tree of Life is a map of consciousness and the body. This list below names the Sefirot with its related body area, essential quality and planet association.

- Keter - Crown / Skull
- Chochmah - Wisdom / Right brain. Holds Uranus qualities, inspiration like lightning
- Binah - Understanding / Left brain. Similar to Saturn, holds form, container and boundary
- Da’at - Knowledge / Central brain. The mystery or unknowable one.
- Chesed - Kindness / Right arm. Jupiter & Neptune qualities of boundlessness and expansion
- Gevurah - Severity / Left arm. Mars qualities of action, direction and focus
- Tiferet - Beauty / Torso - Heart. Sun, radiance, self centered awareness
- Netzach - Victory / Right leg, Kidney. Venus, quality of loving self esteem
- Hod - Glory / Left leg, Kidney. Mercury, quality of logical thinking and order
- Yesod - Foundation /Sexual organ. Moon, quality of magnetic attraction
- Malkuth - Kingship / Mouth, Feet. Earth, embodies all that is on Earth plane. Supports solid foundation.
The 10 Sefirot are connected on the Tree of Life by the 22 Hebrew letters. Note that the letters serve as pathways between the Sefirot. Each of the letters may be used individually as a tool for meditation, or multiple letters are combined in a countless variety of combinations.

- **Aleph** lives in the body in between the shoulders across the heart space. It has no sound of its own, but a silent ‘ah’ like an exhale. It is the first letter so it is used as a tool or a seed to initiate action. *Bring your attention and awareness to your rib cage and the heart space. Take three deep breaths. Inhale, then exhale quietly with the subtle sound of AHHHH. This letter and this subtle sound relates to the air element. Aleph is the creative spark, the balance point between fire and water.*

- **Shin** lives in the body across the head, in between the right and left brain. Shin begins the words, “shalom” for peace, “shabbat” for rest and “shanna” for the year, as in wholeness. This letter and this sound relates to the fire element. Use Shin for transformation and integration. It serves as a tool for meditation, when you want to integrate multiple things or perspectives. *Bring attention to the center of your head. Take three deep breaths. Inhale then exhale with your breath and the sound, SHHHHH. This letter integrates right and left sides, logic and flow. Allowing your body to relax still more, open up all the channels and the circuits between the two sides, allowing a depth of integration and peace.*

- **Mem** lives in the body in the pelvis between the hips. Mem begins the Hebrew word for water, relating to a sea of consciousness and the word “maggid”, the Hebrew name for angel, supporting a connection to your teachers or guides. *Bring your attention and awareness to your hips and pelvis. Take three deep breaths. Inhale, then exhale enthusiastically with the sound MMMMMM. This letter and this sound relates to the water realm, so it supports connection to the emotional body.*

Finally, I’d like to share a process called The Healing of Immanence. A Kabbalistic healer envisions the base of the Tree of Life. This is the earth element. This was described to me as “the earth has no light of its own, it holds a space of center, gravity and awareness”.

During the healing, the healer embodies a place of consciousness remembering that the divine presence encompasses every thing. There is no place where G-d is not. There is no goal and no where to go. You are not trying to transcend your current experience because you think something, someone or some where else is better then where you are now. Kabbalah teaches the divine permeates every aspect of creation and is its manifestation.

As astrologers, consider the possibility of embodying this Kabbalistic concept as a fram of mind into our consulting practice. Remember, the word Kabbalah means, to receive. I receive what is already present within you. What if every thing we see in the chart is divine. What if there was no-thing to fix, and the person sitting before you, or on the other end of the phone line is an opportunity to see and reflect the divine?

**Kathryn Andren** is dedicated to healing service as an astrologer, writer & intuitive based in New York and the Hawaiian islands. She holds a BA in Psychology and is 1997 graduate of the Holistic Practitioner Program from the New Mexico Academy of Healing Arts. Her deep connection to land, sea and sky brings both a passionate and practical approach to her consulting, writing and teaching. She is currently event coordinator and a featured writer for AstrologyHub.com, and in 2016 presenting Astrology and Kabbalah classes at Kepler College. Her new audio course, “The Secrets to the Zodiac, A Foundation Guide to Astrology” is coming soon. Visit www.KathrynAndren.com

Learn more about Astrology and the Mystical Kabbalah with Kathryn Andren at a free webinar sponsored by Kepler College on January 30th, 2016. Register at the Kepler site, or directly here:

**The Mystical Kabbalah with Kathryn Andren**
I am wondering what the astrologers from the early 20th century all the way back to the ancients would say merely to contemplate the multi-dimensions of the science and art of Astrology as captured in THE PROFESSIONAL ASTROLOGER.

Under the creative and inspiring direction of President Maurice Fernandez, the Organization of Professional Astrologers has produced a tome of invaluable scope. Compiled, contributed and edited by the members and friends of OPA, we are presented with a super panoramic view of Astrology-- where it came from, where it is now, and where it is going.

The OPA book chronicles our history, describes our presence in the world and suggests how astrologers can better their position their art as well as themselves.

It is not, however, an arcane reference book geared only to initiated fans of any so-called inner circle of esoteric studies. It is rather a view for all people to examine the thousand facets of the glittering prism of astrological knowledge.

It reveals the myriad ways to study and practice the mindbending phenomenon of human consciousness through the study of the heavens. And it's all in simple plain talk anybody can read and grasp, whether you agree with all of the material or not.

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Jovian theme prevails over the months of between the Capricorn solstice and the Aries equinox. While all the players in the celestial band will be taking solos (or playing in duets), Jupiter will be the busiest planet in the skies this season, with significant aspects to Chiron, Uranus, Ceres, and Pluto.

Jupiter is currently in Virgo in proximity to the North Node, where he is extolling the virtues of restraint, reminding us that sometimes less really is more.

With the North Node of the moon now in Virgo, that message should be coming through louder and clearer than it normally does. A year and a half with the nodes on the Aries/Libra axis tended to emphasize the need to balance our personal inclinations for freedom and independence with our desire for connection and social niceties. Virgo/Pisces is geared more towards the collective than the personal, and it emphasizes compassionate service and restraint. Care of the environment is likely to be prominent, and as Virgo rules farm animals and Pisces rules wildlife, we may see an uptick in concern about our fellow planetary inhabitants. Jupiter will resonate with and amplify the message of the north node, bringing it to the other planets.

Before we hear from Jupiter, however, Uranus has something to say. The planet we associate with independence and revolution stations to go direct on December 25th, the same day as the full moon in Cancer, so expect high energy around the holidays. The contrast between independent Uranus in Aries and the security-oriented moon in Cancer could make for some rough seas, especially on social and political matters. On a personal level, there could be a push-pull between family holiday expectations and individual inclinations. Ceres, in Uranus’ home sign of Aquarius, is closely sextile to Uranus at the station, and this may shift our focus towards issues around the food supply, health, and the environment.

As we move into 2016, Mars moves into Scorpio on January 2nd. In his second home, Mars tends to be more
The mood shifts a bit on January 12th and 13th. With the Moon waxing in Pisces, Venus trines Uranus while the Sun trines Jupiter. Confusion seems to clear and the fog lifts, or it may be that we simply become more comfortable navigating through the haze. At any rate, the somewhat heavy air of the past week is likely to be replaced with a freshness and willingness to break away from old patterns. Decisions recently made could be reversed, all in good cheer, especially as retrograde Mercury trines Jupiter on January 15th.

On January 20th and 22nd, retrograde Mercury squares Uranus as he meets with Pluto. A significant issue that was on the table around the 19th of December could be revisited, and something that was previously overlooked may be brought to light, thanks to the full moon on the 23rd. Resolution may be a bit further in the future, as Mercury aspects the pair while traveling direct on January 30th and 31st and a final decision is made. Practically speaking, that suggests a week when some political arm wrestling takes place. Those in positions of power may need to hear what the masses are saying and broker an agreement with a new reality. Mercury’s aspect to Uranus will turn up the volume on Plutonian issues, but will also suggest novel solutions and innovative ideas – an entirely new approach may be better than trying to repair a broken system.

The Full Moon in Leo is traditionally the Party Moon of the year: passionate, energized, and fun. This year, Luna helps out by cruising through Leo on a Saturday night, January 23rd. With hot aspects all week, we may be looking to blow off a little
Transits of the Season

steam – or perhaps make a little steam – this weekend.

Mercury stations to go direct on January 25th, adding the usual dollop of Mercurial mischief to the end of the month. It's Mercury's proximity to Pluto that is likely to be getting our attention as he stations. Speaking truth to power is one manifestation, but we may also see that secret information slips out. Watch for stories about Wikileaks, Anonymous, and similar groups, but recognize that some new manifestation of the same principle could also emerge.

Mars sextiles Pluto on February 3rd. We may be examining our finances, particularly taxes and loans. It's also a great time to do some exercise and concentrate on a work project. Mars/Pluto can move mountains, or climb them, and focus is the key to using this energy. Power brokers could put plans into action in response to what they perceive as recent threats.

It's Venus' turn to step in and dance with Uranus and Pluto, meeting with the god of the underworld on February 5th and squaring Uranus on the 6th. Tensions could reach a critical point, and relationships that have deep fault lines could crack. However, this is also an opportunity to go deeper in a healthy relationship and to break away from limiting patterns. We may come into this time feeling the stresses, but get a burst of liberation as we come out of it. With the new moon in Aquarius on the 8th, we're looking to move towards a more open and rational approach to partnership.

Focused action is the key phrase for February 13th, as Mars sextiles Jupiter. While Jupiter tends to be expansive and less concerned with details, in Virgo the specifics get more attention. Virgo is the sign of service, and it may be that this energy is best expressed in lending a hand to others.

A Piscean mood begins to dominate around February 19th and 20th, as the Sun enters the sign of the fish while Ceres conjuncts Neptune. Collective concerns are once again a top priority, and we may get some unsettling news that stirs up fears. With the Full Moon in Virgo on February 22nd and Jupiter opposing Chiron a day later, we could start to see a way to address issues with practical steps. As the Sun meets with Neptune on February 28th, the Piscean vibration reaches a peak. Things may be less than clear in the second half of the month, and an intuitive, feeling-oriented approach may be more useful – or at least more effective – than a strictly rational strategy.

There's a mix of tension and opportunity in Venician areas like relationships as February becomes March. Between the 29th and 2nd, Venus in Aquarius squares stationing Juno and sextiles Saturn and Uranus. We're presented with issues, but given the tools to resolve them.

Hyper-hyperbole may be the theme for early March, as Mars enters Sagittarius on the 5th, and the Sun in Pisces squares Saturn, sextiles Pluto, and opposes Jupiter from March 6th to the 8th, the day of a total solar eclipse. This is a south node eclipse, and within two degrees of Chiron, who the Sun will meet two days later. The eclipse is angular on the West Coast of North America and just off the East Coast of Australia, and it rises through Afghanistan and central Asia. The eclipse is visible in Indonesia.

The cosmos configuration around the eclipse suggests pushing hard to get a message across, in words and deeds. Whether there is any substantial truth behind that message is an open question, especially with Mercury conjuncting Neptune on the 11th. In some areas we'll learn that the reality is very different from what we've imagined, while on the other hand we may be fed an expedient lie in order to quell dissent. Something or someone is likely to matter very much during this time – pay no attention to the man behind the curtain.

Ceres, associated with the harvest and the mother archetype, is very active in early March, in conjunction with the Sun on the 3rd, square to Saturn on the 9th, sextile to Pluto on the 12th, and in opposition to Jupiter on the 13th. We're likely to be dealing with matters concerning our food supply and the environmental crisis. As with everything else around this time, the messages we get could be an entangled mixture of half-truths and outright lies, but a little discernment can help us to learn the true story. Opening our eyes to see what is going on right in front of us may be the best antidote to corporate and government spin doctors.

We could say too much as Mercury in Pisces opposes Jupiter in Virgo on March 15th. However, as these two planets will be in mutual reception, it could turn out that we finally get the message right.

Or, is it that the message gets delivered in an airtight package? Jupiter trines Pluto on March 16th, the last major aspect of the season. While this aspect potentially fuels progress in environmental and social areas, it is also possible that power brokers close ranks. As these two planets formed their first of three aspects on October 11th, 2015, protests took place over decision that the Cleveland police shooting of Tamir Rice, a 12 year old, was justified. As always, the energy of the planets is symbolically predictable, but morally ambiguous.

The Aries ingress is on March 20th, at 4:30 a.m. GMT.

Armand Diaz, Ph.D., is an NCRP-PAI Certified Consulting Astrologer, with a practice based in New York City. In addition to consulting, he speaks on astrology nationally and internationally. His book, Integral Astrology: Understanding the Ancient Discipline in the Contemporary World, was published in 2012. In 2013, he co-produced and co-edited Transpersonal Astrology. His most recent book, Separating Aspects, is on relationship astrology. He is Books and Articles Editor for the Astrology News Service. Armand can be reached via his website, www.IntegralAstrology.net.
Planetary Dignities
Chart delineation and evaluation depends on the ability to measure the quantity (how much) and the quality (how refined/crude) of the different planetary forces present. What changes from one chart to the next is this variation of mixtures. Every chart has a Jupiter, a Saturn, etc., the question is how much and how constructive are the influences?

The Importance of Phases
Join Georgia Stathis on this discussion about the phases

Economic, Real Estate and Business Cycles
We’ll talk about the astrological cycles that have worked for over 100 years in real estate, business and the economy. What an advantage we have in our own financial life, in working with clients and in sharing the world that astrology works! Learn more about these cycles. Be ahead of the game projecting your own future successes.

Sky Phases of the Planets
The Sky Phases of the planets represent the very origin of the astrological tradition. The living sky was in fact the very first astrological “chart.” Through 3D software and explanatory graphics, this lecture will introduce the missing celestial ingredients from every round chart wheel such as speed, brightness and Earth proximity. Learn why there are such differences between one conjunction and another (between the same planets)! Tangible meanings for each sky factor are emphasized along with best practices for delineation.

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OPA RETREAT
October 2015

Asilomar Conference Grounds

Day One

Spirituality Track

OPA Board minus 2

Halo Blessing

At the beat of the OPA dance

Richard, Anne and Rick discuss the Meanings of Life
**OPA RETREAT**
**October 2015**

**OPA Goddesses**

**Participant Quotes**

A big blessing to connect with fellow astrologers. I appreciate meeting so many heartfelt and intelligent people. Thank you very much!

It has been a fantastic experience. Will do it again.

The astrology was great. I thought everything was planned well and expertly executed. Thank you! I look forward to future retreats.

Congratulations for a wonderful intensive.

Loved the groups, the experience.

Absolutely fabulous!

**Among the many Raffle Prizes and Winners**

- 2016 ISAR conference: **Katarina Westblikk** (Norway)
- Kepler Astrology Software: **Inger Straume** (Norway)
- TMA Subscription: **Nicole Kohlbecker**
- Book: Secrets of a Gold Trader (Merriman): **Nora Skavlan** (Norway), **Sue Minahan** (WA)
- OPA membership: **Scott Pleak** (MI)
- Sirenas CD by Mona Valenas: **Nancy Ausplemyer** (NY)
What do Ramana Maharshi, Krishnamurti, Ram Dass, Rudolph Steiner, George Gurdjieff, Osho, Deepak Chopra, Byron Katie, Ranier M. Rilke, Eckhart Tolle, Nisargadatt, Ken Wilber, Alan Watts, Ammachi, Gangaji, Walt Whitman, Johann Goethe, Yogananda—all have in common?

They have, to a greater or lesser degree, awakened from the dream of mechanical unconscious life and, in their way of being in the world, imparted an energy of pure presence that raises us up.

As astrologers and eager students of the Mystery in action, we might inquire:

~ What predisposes a person to awaken to their true nature beyond the mechanical inclinations of personality and the conditioning patterns by the outside influences of the world that secure them? And, if such a transformation in someone takes place by whatever force, what creates the inner and outer environment that allows his or her awakening to significantly impact the world?

~ How will the impact manifest according to their unique dispositions and role, as a teacher, artist, or as a collective leader?

~ Can astrology with its masterful, archetypal language identify patterns that suggest an awakening spirit and one who will further impact the collective?

This series of articles will take a friendly and deeply curious look at these lively questions. In so doing, perhaps we will further enlighten ourselves as to the myriad flavors of awakening that are available in a human life. This investigation may also instruct us how the various elements of our astrological language can manifest at increasingly higher levels of expression or frequency, similar to the 3 Gunas in Vedic lore corresponding to Tamas, Rajas, Sattva; where each of the planetary and sign archetypes are available for interpretation and impact at a spectrum of levels from dense shadow to everyday gift to divine gift.

As we go about our terrestrial business, it is salutory for us to note our biases. The Cosmos responds benignly to these kinds of good manners. In regard to our subject here, I offer 5 personal biases in regard to the overarching theme of awakening and spiritual impact:

1. It is not possible to know the evolutionary state of a soul from a chart. Maybe someone can do it, perhaps with intuitive wizardry, but I cannot, and everyone I know cannot. If such is your expertise, contact me immediately—because we have business for you! Whatever the configurations, all ‘charts’ (aka people) are available for evolution and profound transformation.

2. Given the just mentioned bias, then it must be true that two infants born with exactly the same birth chart will manifest their lives in utterly unique ways. And that said, it is also true there are in fact predispositions that incline one to be a seeker of higher truth and a longer for transcendent connection, or, at least to be the ready if unwitting recipient of illuminating Divine Whacks. That is, whatever the configurations, all ‘charts’ and therefore people are available for evolution and profound transformation.

3. The predispositions to ‘seeking’ and to being transformed can often, but not always, be seen in a chart.

4. Anyone with major spiritual impact—who raises the consciousness of many individuals to increasing higher level of consciousness—nearly always has astrological factors that are observable as being the influence of the transpersonal planets on personal planets and key angles.

5. There is no standard behavioral code or standard of personality that fits for the awakened condition! Being nice, communicative, powerful, have high endurance, arfult of pointed intelligence, competent are not required! The consistent theme, independent of these virtues that exists among the awakened, is that of the witnessing Presence dictating their response to Life, rather than the body functions or the discursive mind. Outside of that...it is all fair game.

Concluding this section, let the congregation please rise to the following fertile musings from Sri Yukteswar, Yogananda’s guru and noted Vedic astrologer and Seer.

“A child is born on that day and at that hour when the celestial rays are in mathematical harmony with his individual karma. His horoscope is a challenging portrait, revealing his unalterable past and its probable future results. But, the natal chart can be rightly interpreted only by men of intuitive wisdom: these are few.”

PART FOUR: Yogananda

The foreign destiny of a creative transcendent

INTRODUCTION

In his youth, Mukunda Lal Ghosh (later named Paramahansa Yogananda by his guru—Sri Yukteswar), burned his...
The astrology chart in an act of defiance. He refused to believe in a system that theorized distant planets governing the life of man (including himself) and that negated the power of conscious choice with a focused will to magnetize the benign forces of the Cosmos.

It is true that his interpreted horoscope at the time suggested he would eventually marry three times, and he married not at all. It is further recorded that throughout his life he frequently chose astrologically unfavorable times to accomplish important things in order demonstrate the power of a focused will over mechanical planetary influence. And he did accomplish them, though not without challenge and intermittent adversity.

But it is also true that in his longing for God, for realizing the transcendent in his own being, he drew him to an awakened Master who happened to be a master astrologer and seer, who demonstrated in his teaching the power of planetary influence (grahas, the Sanskrit for planets meaning ‘to grasp’) and the conscious common sense of negotiating that influence practically.

His Master Sri Yukteswar advised him:

“Charlatans have brought the stellar science to its present state of disrepute. Astrology is too vast, both mathematically and philosophically, to be rightly grasped except by men of profound understanding. If ignoramuses misread the heavens, and see there a scrawl instead of a script, that is to be expected in this imperfect world. One should not dismiss the wisdom with the wise.”

With that piquant and encouraging remark, your humble servant here shall try to offer a semblance of an undisreputable inquiry into the horoscope of Paramahansa Yogananda (referred hereafter as PY) with emphasis on what is revealed about the spiritual impact seen in it. I will use the tropical Western lens, with respect to and undeterred by the numerous sidereally-based Jyotish astrological interpretations of his life that have been offered from his native context.

Given his public history, we would expect to see from diving into his chart aspects of his: character, teaching, style and life events that would reveal an exalted level of living and a distinctly dynamic flavor of spiritual impact in the world.

We know about him that he was by nature warm, gregarious, determined and enterprising. That he was an eloquent and forceful speaker, as well as an enthusiastic teacher and leader. That he became aware of a powerful line of destiny and followed it with conviction. That his teaching emphasized the use of the body as a temple of Self-realization through the science of yoga. That he was a creative and poetic man. And that he was a blend of focused personal will and consummate devotion to the transcendent.

Stepping outside the story and official mythology, we can also look at challenges, shadow material and some allegations of sexual encounters despite his vows of celibacy.

Key Life Events include:

• Death of his mother, age 13 (1906).
• Meeting his guru, age 17, (June 1, 1910) – see chart
• Travel to US (Boston) age 27, (Sept 19, 1920) – see chart
• Establishment of SRF temple in CA (1925).
• Publishing of Autobiography (October 1945 finished, published 1946)
• Death, March 7, 1952 approx 8 pm, LA – see chart

**CHART ANALYSIS**

Core mission and intent of Yogananda

While it can be customary to start with Sun, Moon, Ascendant reflections on a chart, sometimes there is a clearer message coming from elsewhere. That would be the case with Yogananda’s chart, given the exact Neptune/Pluto/Gemini conjunction close to the MC in the 10th.

This culmination in a conjunction of the Neptune/Pluto 496 year cycle was a precursor to many events that flavored the unfolding of the 20th century—and Yogananda was born when...
Spiritual Impact

this rare conjunction was precise. The eye goes right there in the chart, as it should, because those placements say at the start: potential for significant spiritual or visionary impact, for better or for worse. (Other significant figures born under this cycle are: Jiddu Krishnamurti and Adolph Hitler).

In reference to that fertile period, astrologer Bill Streett writes in online Astrology of the Soul:

“Looking at the conjunction of Pluto and Neptune, we can see that both the prevailing atmosphere and the legacy of the last two decades of the nineteenth century were a blending of the archetypes of Pluto and Neptune. It was as if the culture at this time was thoroughly infused with a sense of the numinous, fascinated and in awe of the fundamental mystery of life.

As in the case of all planetary conjunctions, the archetypes tend ignite each others’ meanings and dimensions in potent way, but there is also the sense in which the archetypes blend together, creating a whole greater than the sum of their parts.

This is certainly the case with the conjunction of Pluto and Neptune. Given Pluto’s radical and extreme evolutionary push, it both created and destroyed affiliations with Neptune’s symbolism: consciousness itself, subjectivity, the sense of the religious and transcendent, the desire for altered states of consciousness, imagery and image-making processes of the psyche.”

With Saturn in Libra making a close trine to the Pluto/Neptune duo in PY’s chart, one gets the impression that the personal planets will be the vehicle for how the transformational impact will be expressed, but that impact, via the transpersonal planetary agents, is the name of the game, regardless.

And what of the other transpersonal planet—Uranus? It, too, is involved by conjunction to the South Node/Scorpio in the 3rd, and is ruled by Pluto. One can ascribe to this person an unconventional, progressive, and brilliant capacity brought into this lifetime, particularly as it relates to communicating perceptions of depth and emotional experience. There is some funky awkwardness trying to negotiate the present life transpersonal imperative with past personal tendencies, seen in the inconjunct of Uranus/South Node to Pluto/Neptune there. Much may be blessed, but ordeals there will also be.

With the North Node in Taurus in the 9th house, we see a destiny arc that embodies spiritual or higher knowledge potentially in foreign terrain—that being echoed in a 12th house Moon. Venus is ruling the North Node, and is well placed in Sagittarius/4th, itself ruled by an active Jupiter in Aries/8th.

Mars/Aries, ruler of the 8th house, is strongly placed in his own sign leaving his tenant Jupiter ready, willing and able to expand and initiate. Mars, as final dispostor of the chart has his challenges with an opposition from Saturn/Libra—but given Saturn’s exaltation in the sign of Libra, it might be said that Saturn acts more as a check and balance on the ready impulsiveness in Mukunda/PY’s nature, rather than an undertow or restriction to Mars’ fundamental power to survive, thrive and assert itself.

With the Mars/Jupiter/Aries in the 8th conjunction also in trine to the Venus/Mercury/Sagittarius conjunction in the 4th (covered later under his personal character), Yogananda was blessed and challenged! with a veritable internal combustion engine, relentlessly fueling his passion for the Divine merger, as well as inspiring his personal creative expression.

Yogananda, it is clear, has a chart that first suggests a possible destiny mission and then internal support for that mission, along with some denying forces to it, all coming from the position of the outer planets. How does his personality and everyday expression meld with that?

Core Nature

There is a Leo theme strongly emphasized by a Leo Moon (in both tropical and sidereal) in the 12th and a Capricorn Sun in the 5th House, which is archetypically a Leo house. Warm, generous and creative expression with a teaching gift are implied.

The Leo Moon qualifies as conjunct his early Virgo Ascendant being less than 6 degrees apart, so the theme ricochets on to the Ascendant as well, casting an accessible, loving quality to his presence, so distinct from the natural reserve of his Guru. Chiron conjuncts the Virgo Ascendant/Leo Moon, as well.

The Capricorn Sun itself is in a T square with Saturn and Jupiter. His chart is not set up for him to live out merely a responsible, achieving Capricorn Sun in this life. For him, it is always a compromise between inner and outer forces that seek unrestrained expression and authentic life experience, counterpointed by a need for alignment with higher principles and a strong call for duty.

The Moon in Leo in the 12th emphasizes once again the potentially spiritual nature of his emotional base. At age 13 in 1906, his mother (Moon) died unexpectedly, which was a highly disturbing event for him. We do not
have the exact date of her passing, but from the transits of the year, we can observe tr Saturn squaring natal Pluto/Neptune as well as natal Venus. There was also transiting Neptune squaring natal Saturn – the ruler of his Capricorn Sun and hence the Leo Moon. As well, transiting Node/Aq is squared to natal Uranus. This loss evoked in him a longing for the mother archetype and marinated his awareness in an early teaching about impermanence.

The Leo Moon also warms up the more modest Virgo Ascendant, which in its pure form might well be oriented to practices to perfect the body and its appearance. Yogananda’s mission included the ‘science’ of kriya yoga for an evolved inner life, a radical departure from Western spirituality so oriented to thoughts, beliefs and community, and reflects a more evolved expression of the Virgo Ascendant.

For PY, self-realization was to be found not in ignoring the body, but in disciplining and refining it wholesome-ly to be a clear channel for receiving and transmitting higher vibrations.

It is interesting to note that his chart is essentially fire and earth, with little air and water presence, as seen from the tropical astrological perspective. His emotional approach is fire/spirit-based with a bias towards initiation and excitation, rather than water-based with a more passive bias to reception and response.

Siddhis

Throughout his life, even from youth, PY was able to perform a kind of inexplicable healing or magic with manifestation, as reflected, for example, in the story he tells of astonishing is sister by mentally willing a kite to fly in her direction.

PY has an 8th house presence with Mars/Jupiter there, the 8th house being where contact with primal instinctual energies and shamanic ‘magic’ can be marked. Vignettes are described in the Autobiography, where not only Yogananda, but the entire narrative is lathered in testimony to miracles from all manner of sadhus and savants.

These regular appearances in the book of incredulous arisings might make a discerning reader suspect, if it were not for over-riding corroboration of them from discerning people in his circle of accomplished devotees who were operating at a high level in the world. Also, the warm authenticity of his writing regarding his earlier life seems persuasive enough, for what it’s worth.

Even his death by heart stoppage in March 8, 1952, occurring during a very public speech at the point of his Saturn return, seemed a well-staged premeditated exit, Leo style, a kind of farewell grand gesture, and appeared as something of a Siddhi to many witnesses there and after the event.

In any case, his transmission mini-mized the seductive Wow factor of magical practices that essentially might deviate him and others from the core mission to surrender to the God-presence. Sri Yukteswar embodied and modeled that more circumspect approach.
Spiritual Impact

The Jupiterian/Sagittarian theme is reflected in its rulership of the 4th house containing the Venus/Mercury conjunction, indicating his ability to make a home wherever he would go, despite an initial reticence to leave his home of origin upon Sri Yukteswar’s prompting. It is interesting to note in the chart signifying his coming to America, that Jupiter transits his Leo Moon and moves into the 1st house as he makes passage by boat, initiating a new cycle in a foreign land, - a movement of destiny reflected in the 9th house North Node.

Autobiography of a Yogi, completed in fall 1945 and published in 1946 at age 53, is an expression from a Mercury/Sag in the 4th house (personal account) - Moon/Leo in the 12th house trine (public release and personal in style) that tells a warm spirited and very personal story of an influential awakening life in a way that is accessible to anyone.

Creative expression was one of the ways that his mission defined by the Pluto/Neptune conjunction manifested in the world.

Shadow

A chart like PY, depending on the evolutionary disposition of the Soul, could well manifest in shadow business, as does any. If we did not know the young Mukunda for his future role, we might consider that he would be no stranger to impulsiveness, grandiosity, untethered idealism, forceful opinions and a fierce ego-driven sex impulse, given the strong Leo, Sagittarius and Aries presence on the personal planets. Also, the Capricorn Sun in a T-square with Saturn and Jupiter could manifest in an intermittent irritability, willfulness, or victimhood, to name a few.

Most the narratives published from that time that are not biased by the internal politics of the Self-Realization Fellowship line up with relative unanimity testifying to PY’s relentless energy, his warm presence, fierce commitment and kind disposition, all
Spiritual Impact

which represent the higher octaves of his personal planetary placements.

There are, however, testimonies that the God-realized World Teacher also had a taste for some of the lady disciples who were recipients of his very human Mars, Jupiter and Venus transmissions. There is even one account that purports, with some credible evidence, that he is the bastard child of PY.

Whether the story is accurate or not, we see his ethical standards being questioned regarding children, with his Sun in Capricorn in the 5th house, square to Saturn – needing to be accountable.

Personally, I don’t care too much about the matter. As long as someone is in a human form, there will likely be drama, if for no other reason that humanity has a taste for it. And as long as no one is egregiously wounded, it seems fine to focus on the essential impact of a person, which in PY’s case seems to be widely experienced as influential in the best way.

SUMMATION

From the tropical Western astrological view, the life of Mukanda Ghosh seemed ordained for large public impact of a spiritual or creative nature, as seen in the placements of the transpersonal planets of Pluto and Neptune conjunct at the MC and with Saturn in trine.

The way that impact was expressed carried the classic tone of the Leo, Sagittarius and Aries archetypes with their enterprising, creative and expressive imperatives. The Taurus NN in the 9th was lived out in the embodied expression of the teaching and in foreign cultures, also leveraging off the modest and refining Virgo Ascendant oriented towards service and healing.

I acknowledge Autobiography of a Yogi by Yogananda and the recent documentary film Awake, released in 2015 as the fundamental sources for the timeline, along with supportive online research.

Also, I would like to acknowledge Maurice Fernandez for his savvy sleuthing in the grammatical and astrological faux pas department, keeping these musings more pristine in their meaning.

Have a mango and enjoy life.

Yogananda did on both counts.

OPA wishes you a Cosmic New Year!

May the starmap lead you to the highest of your potential, and may this be a year of healing for the earth and wildlife.