The year 2014 is coming to an end, and what a year it was! Astrologers had insight into what was coming, with the powerful Cardinal Cross, involving the Pluto/ Uranus square and Mars retrograde in Libra. Following that, Mars made angular aspects to Jupiter in Leo and Saturn in Scorpio for more transformative tremors. Cardinal energy often brings a renewal of identity, and sometimes leads to an identity crisis. This was seen on a political level as borders changed in the Ukraine, in Syria and Iraq, with Libran Vladimir Putin flexing his muscle, and the Islamic State emerging into public consciousness as a shockingly destructive force. Another Libran making headlines and caught in the crossfires, with a calling for political change, was Israeli leader Binyamin Netanyahu.

The Cardinal Cross was also seen in the Nobel Peace Prize winners Malala Yousafzai, a Cancer Sun with a Libra Moon, and her co-winner Kailash Satyarthi, a Capricorn Sun with an Aries Moon... could it get any more “Cardinally” graphic? They were surely a Nobel Match Made in Heaven...

Lest we forget, OPA has a Libra Sun with a Capricorn Moon, and though the organization may have had the right Cardinal signature for a Nobel prize, it went through its own transformative development and had a very productive year. Beginning in March, OPA led a tremendously successful 2014 Retreat in Myrtle Beach. A new board followed in May, giving birth to many new projects, now in the pipeline...

So let us look at OPA 2015

- A fresh, updated WEBSITE reflecting OPA’s vision and forward direction, with a new look and easier accessibility for our programs. Note that OPA has now a new address online: www.opaastrology.org
- An amazing 2015 FREE MONTHLY TALK SCHEDULE of presenters and topics, with many new speakers, including Marc Jones, to Anne Ortelee, and Henry Seltzer (see listing in this issue).
- The 2015 OPA RETREAT in California. This retreat is a true labor of love and we put tremendous effort into making it the most cutting edge, inspiring, and eclectic one yet. This retreat is about a celebration of diversity. The PANEL at the retreat will reflect this by bringing five diverse astrologers to analyze the same chart, but using different techniques and approaches. I’m looking forward to what promises to be a most interesting exchange.
- A new OPA book: THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OF ASTROLOGY – A 15 Astrologers think tank, developed a practical and insightful guide into the ins and outs of professional Astrology, and gives insight into how to develop and sustain a successful practice. The book is scheduled to be released in October 2015 at the OPA retreat.

Did we mention new OPA satellite in Antarctica and OPA launching a space ship to planet Haumea? We plan to go where we are called!

Most importantly, this is truly a time to thank so many important people who are part of the OPA movement. First, special gratitude to my fellow board members who are an incredible team, kind, open, and effective. Much gratitude to the OPA Satellites representatives who stepped in to actively contribute to the organization, all the presenters, contributors to OPA programs, those who replied to the monthly questions, and made OPA interesting and inviting, and of course YOU the membership in its totality... Your support, your eyes, your ‘likes…’ CHEERS FOR AN AMAZING NEW YEAR TOGETHER!

With Blessings,
Maurice Fernandez
President, OPA
The year 2015 marks important planetary transitions, essentially the continuation of planetary movement from Water signs to Fire signs – Saturn moves out of Scorpio into Sagittarius, to trine Uranus in Aries and Jupiter in Leo by sign.

Saturn will remain in Sagittarius from December 23, 2014 to December 20, 2017, with the exclusion of a brief retrograde return into Scorpio next summer.
- June 15- September 17, 2015 – Saturn retrogrades back to 28 Scorpio
- August 3, 2015 - Saturn Last Quarter Square to Jupiter (28 Scorpio/Leo) – the last square of the current Jupiter/Saturn cycle which began in 2000. This square will lead to the next grand-conjunction between these two titans in 2020, at 0 Aquarius.
- November 26, 2015 – Saturn Last Quarter square to Neptune (7 Sagittarius/Pisces)

We are all aware that Uranus in Aries, is making its sixth square to Pluto in Capricorn right at this season, and the last final square is in March 2015, but the important factor these times is the proximity of the squares to the Nodal Axis, making these two events particularly potent.
- December 15, 2014 – Uranus First Quarter square to Pluto (12 Aries/Capricorn)
- January 20, 2015 – Uranus conjunct the South Node (12 Aries)
  - March 17, 2015 – Uranus First Quarter square to Pluto – last sequence (15 Aries/Capricorn)
  - June 22, 2015 – Uranus trines Jupiter (20 Aries/Leo)

Not only are fire signs getting more populated, but a strong movement into Mutable signs is also notable: Jupiter will ingress into Virgo, and soon after the Nodal Axis will also transition to the Pisces/Virgo Axis, joining Neptune in Pisces and Saturn in Sagittarius in Mutable signs.
- September 17, 2015 – Jupiter opposes Neptune (7 Virgo/Pisces)
- October 17-25, 2015 – Jupiter conjuncts Mars and then Venus, trine Pluto (15 Virgo to 13 Capricorn), just in time for the OPA retreat!
- November 12, 2015 – The Nodal Axis moves into Pisces/Virgo axis until May 9, 2017

On the following pages, astrologers share their perspectives on the planetary cycles of 2015....
rather than speculating about what might happen, the more interesting question for me in looking to the year ahead is the pro-active one that bridges the gap between focusing solely on personal transits and engaging in world events: ‘What contribution can I, and each of us as individuals, make to society at this time?’ So I’d like to look at the 2015 eclipses, Moon’s nodes, retrograde planets, outer planet signs and aspects with that query in mind.

There’s a strong emphasis on cardinal, but especially Aries-Libra, energy in 2015 with the North Node in Libra most of the year, total lunar eclipses in Libra (4 April) and Aries (28 September), and, of course, the last of seven Uranus in Aries squares to Pluto in Capricorn (17th March.) As Aries themes include pioneering, initiative, risk-taking and confronting authority, while Libra stands for relating, justice, peace and civilization and Capricorn for governance, questions revolve around the nature of society we want to have.

The 2015 Mercury retrogrades (21 Jan to 11 Feb, Aquarius; 19 May to 11 June, Gemini; 17 September to 9 October, Libra) are all in air, whose impetus is towards partnership, equity and equality suggesting that an audit on our ethics is called for.

Venus R in Leo (25 July to 6 September) is a call to assess the authenticity of personal values, a useful check as Jupiter leaves the sign.

Virgo and Pisces are also emphasized. The solar eclipses are in Pisces (total 20 March) and Virgo (partial 13 September). Jupiter is in Virgo from mid-August, with the North Node there too from mid-November, while Neptune is in Pisces and on 26th November is squared by Saturn. Here questions of practical and empathetic service are raised, while the Saturn-Neptune square demands some concrete expression of the notion that we are all one.

Finally, Saturn’s final months in Scorpio from mid-June till mid-September gives a last call to dig deeply into ancient secrets before turning the scrutiny on morals and the beliefs we live by in Sagittarius.

So here are a few checklist questions for 2015:

1. Where and how do I have influence, big or small, in matters of social justice, conflict and governance?
2. How can I live the change I’d like to see in my relationships, both personal and public?
3. Am I living an ethical life?
4. Where and how can I be of service?
5. What should I be speaking out about?
6. What do I really believe in?
7. What am I going to do about the above?

The last word goes to Rainer Maria Rilke. Have patience with everything unresolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves as if they were locked rooms or books written in a very foreign language. Live the questions now. Perhaps then, someday far in the future, you will gradually, without even noticing it, live your way into the answer.

G rowing food and medicinal herbs is a valuable way of planting seeds on many levels. Whether we set seeds literally or metaphorically we set intention for the future. Gardening for me is genuine act of planting intention, sustaining optimism and preparing for the future. As an astrologer, gardener and herbalist who publishes a "Planting and Living by the Moon" calendar annually, much of my time is spent planning for the year ahead. What will the prevailing celestial weather conditions be? What herbal medicine will best suit the conditions for the future?

2014 was a year of abundance. Jupiter in Cancer and Saturn in Scorpio supported favorable growing conditions with ample rain and no long periods of heat in most of the US (except parched California) and food prices fell as a result of good weather conditions. While harvesting an abundance of food from my garden in 2014 I heard an inner voice counselling me not to take abundance for granted. As if the plants were messengers I will heed their guidance and plan for 2015 accordingly.

Looking to the Vernal Equinox of 2015 as an indicator of conditions for the growing season ahead, the moon in Aries conjunct Mars and Uranus sets the stage, both in exact square to Pluto. With Jupiter and Saturn also in fire signs the indicators point to hotter, drier conditions, perhaps stormy and extreme and depending on where you are. Unfavorable conditions for planting crops due to heat, draught, wind storms and extreme weather may prevail. Whereas in 2014 there was no need to set out rain barrels, in 2015 I plan to set out a few extra to capture what could be precious little rainfall.

And what to grow??? Extreme weather conditions and climate change under-score the danger of diminishing resources and deteriorating economic conditions as a result. Plan for drought resistant plants, coupled with plants that will provide much needed antioxidant and antibiotic properties to treat potential increased outbreaks of disease.

With Jupiter in Leo plan to grow herbs that strengthen the heart and the circulatory system such as rosemary, garlic, marigolds, salvia and St John’s Wort. Plants such as cayenne and hot peppers stimulate the heart and circulation; red clover, hops, and sassafras help to purify the blood. Ginger is a powerful circulatory stimulant which comes under the rulership of Mars. These plants are able to be grown in hot, dry conditions.

Heat spells also change behavior. With every degree the temperature rises people’s tempers are known to rise, people get “fired” up. The hotter the weather the more fiery people are according to Evolutionary psychologist Douglas Kenrick. Hopefully Neptune’s journey through Pisces will balance and temper the fiery array of planets in the first half of 2015, enabling us to enjoy bounty and abundance.

Weather, food prices, temperaments, and a sense of abundance are all interconnected. Using common sense, appropriate plan-
Both signs are ruled by Saturn. Mercury is the seeker of wisdom. Steps Leading To A Healing Shrine. The symbol is Stone point – Mercury’s information comes under cation. Mercury goes direct on June 12th as er information to support our new commit ment. Mercury retrogrades on Gemini May 16th: The last Uranus/Pluto square asks – what progress have we made on our spiritual path over the last 2.5 years. Mercury in Pisces makes a first quarter square with Saturn in Sagittarius followed by the eclipse on March 20th at 29° Pisces 27’. It is: time to act. Perhaps each of us will commit to an idea or project focused on healing and peace. As Mercury moves forward towards his opposition with Saturn on May 3rd we gather information to support our new commitment. Mercury retrogrades on Gemini May 13th signaling confusion and mis-communication. Mercury goes direct on June 12th as Saturn re-enters Scorpio. This is the turning point – Mercury’s information comes under Saturn’s scrutiny removing the debris of 2.5 years of purging.

During the next four months Mercury in Leo makes a last quarter square with Saturn in Scorpio on August 6th, while Venus is retrogrades through Leo. A final adjustment to our values.

September 18th: Mercury retrogrades in Libra at 15° 53’ completing a t-square to the degree of the last Uranus/Pluto conjunc tion. The same day Saturn goes back into Sagittarius. The end of a Mercury Saturn cycle with Mercury in the air signs – balancing information and wisdom.

Finally Mercury and Saturn meet to begin a new cycle on November 25 at 6° Sagittarius 51’. The symbol is a Rabbi Teaches His Son A Traditional Prayer. During the year 2015 there will be many opportunities to increase our wisdom so we can guide our lives on a higher path and serve as an example to others. In 2016 Mercury will retrograde in earth signs – applying wisdom to practical everyday life.

1 Bailey, Alice: Esoteric Astrology. Lucis Trust, 1951. Chapter IV.

Arlan Wise

It’s 2015 already! Can 15 years have passed since we worried about Y2K? Saturn will begin his movement through Sagittarius. (He does go back into Scorpio to give those with planets at the end of fixed signs one last push to correct any shoddy behavior and to do it the right way.) Think back to 1985-86 and what you were doing then when Saturn last transited Sag. I was immersed in horses – taking my girls to horse shows, emptying frozen water buckets, and cleaning stalls. Saturn in Sag will hone your outdoorsman or outdoorswoman skills and get you testing the boundaries of your comfort zone.. In the big picture, since Sagittarius is about the big picture, Saturn will help the world get a handle on terrorists and their cowardly mode of operation. Perhaps the governments of various nations can form a connection and pool resources to fight this common yet illusive enemy.

Uranus and Pluto will have their final square. The tension they have created since they started squaring off in 2012 will hopefully find resolution in the world and in your life. Once again, Mars comes by to up the ante.

Uranus meets up with the South Node in January to shock us into awareness of our individuality. They tell us to grab the moment and stop procrastinating.

Jupiter dances and prances through Leo until the end of the Summer when he runs into Saturn, who asks for an accounting of any excesses made during the transit through Leo. In September Jupiter enters Virgo, sometimes seen as his sign of debilitation, a place where he has to curb his enthusiasm. He encourages us to work while we put things in order, cleaning up the messes we made while he was in Leo. Jupiter contacts the royal star of Regulus,00 who recently entered Virgo. This gives confidence to the underdog to find their inner royalty. He will stand in opposition to Neptune and help us ground our dreams and visions into some form we can use. It will be a very good time for artists and mystics. This is the year to get healthy and pay attention to your diet and lifestyle and take steps to make it more wholesome.

Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune in mutable signs form a wavy T-square. The nodes join them in mutable Vigo-Pisces giving us a new mode of opportunity for growth. 2015 is the year of the Goat (sometimes called Sheep). Goats and sheep are domestic barnyard animals. They are gentle and calm and move in herds. They are good workers. 2015 is a wood goat/sheep year with the goat/sheep belonging to the earth element. This picks up the theme of Jupiter and the north node in Virgo. It looks like this will be a year to get a lot of work done. A slow and steady clear-the-field-by-eating—all-the-weeds, kind of year. Think back to 2003 and 1991, which were goat/sheep years to get an idea of what it will be like.

May 2015 be a happy and healthy year for all beings.

Moon Zlotnick

SOLAR ECLIPSE CYCLES

In my practice I use eclipse cycles, particularly solar eclipses, as indicators of major life change for the collective as well as individuals. Eclipses usually come in pairs, with a lunar eclipse either two weeks before or after a solar eclipse. Generally there are two eclipse cycles per year, 173.3 days apart. During the last two years we’ve been in a cycle of solar eclipses in the fixed signs of Taurus and Scorpio. Also during the last two years lunar eclipses have preceded the solar ones. In 2015 this changes. It’s been my experience that when the Solar eclipse happens first, as it will in 2015, something will come out of the shadows, whether it’s an event, or an insight, or both. Then the Lunar Eclipse brings an emotional reaction.
The timing of Solar Eclipses is a point of contention among astrologers, but usually planets moving across the zodiac degree of the Solar eclipse up to three months before and six months after will act as “triggers” for the Eclipse related events or changes. Lunar eclipses tend to be more short lived, kind of like a full moon on steroids, and emotional or personal in content, while Solar eclipses tend to be more event or externally oriented. Both types of eclipses work to illuminate what’s been hiding in the shadows.

When we look ahead to 2015 there will be two Solar Eclipses, the first at 29 degrees of Pisces on March 20th and the second at 20 degrees of Virgo on September 13. The eclipses moving from fixed signs to mutable signs suggests that rather than dealing with deeply entrenched and hard to change social issues, there will be more of a focus on ways of thinking, communicating and making adjustments to current situations. Because Virgo and Pisces are associated with health and illness, I think these eclipses will bring more focus to these issues.

On March 20th the Solar Eclipse suggests a focus on typical Pisces issues, like problems with the oceans, drinking water and possibly more troubles with diseases like Ebola. The eclipse will bring any existing problems that have been overlooked or hidden more into the public eye. Because of the shift of Saturn into Sagittarius, another mutable sign, we may see more collective approaches to these problems. In the chart for this particular eclipse the Sun and Moon only make one major conjunction, an out of sign trine to Jupiter in Leo. This suggests that there may be an element of protection also at work.

The Virgo eclipse in September 2015 may bring issues related to health-care, grains and harvests, and workers issues, perhaps even health care workers. Chiron is opposite the Sun/Moon conjunction in this chart amplifying the connections to issues related to health, healing and disease. Because the eclipses in Pisces/Virgo continue into 2017 it seems to me these eclipses will represent turning points in the ongoing Ebola epidemic and problems finding people in the medical profession willing to deal with Ebola patients.

There are many ways to chart the coming changes in 2015, but looking at the signs of the Solar Eclipses will often illuminate areas of crises and change. Eclipses have the power to heal because once situations operate more in the open, they can be addressed more clearly, and sometimes solutions can be found.

Henry Seltzer
INCLUDING A LOOK AT THE NEW PLANET, Eris

During the year 2015, as the current astrology bears out, we have reached a peak of painful necessity for action. I refer here primarily to Uranus-Pluto, and I would also like to mention my characterization of the newly named ‘dwarf’ planet, Eris, which I find to be an excellent indicator for what these fraught times require of us, in her symbolism as a feminine warrior for soul-purpose, a fighter who comes from a place of difficult necessity to do what must be done, on the basis of deep need. (The evidence for this point of view is beyond the scope of this article, and is articulated in my forthcoming book on Eris, called The Tenth Planet.)

First let’s discuss Uranus-Pluto, coming to exact square once more on December 15th, the sixth of seven exact hits this decade. The startling thing about the month of December and the beginning period of 2015 is that Uranus and Pluto stay in sync with each other after their mid-December exact hit, never more than 1 degree away from exactly square until their last exact hit in mid-March. The intensity of the Uranus-Pluto combination, signifying a force for radical societal evolution, has grown stronger each year, from 2009 onward, and I believe that this first quarter of 2015 will be the most intense of all. Each individual will have to make a stand for what they deeply believe, in order that we as a culture have any real chance of survival.

And this is where Eris comes in, as spiritual warrior. In the December 15th exact alignment of Uranus and Pluto, she makes a partile trine with Jupiter that lasts from mid-November through nearly the entire month of December, including the powerful Winter Solstice of December 21st that coincides with the Capricorn New Moon. In this symbolic beginning of the new year, Eris is therefore quite prominent. It looks like many will be stimulated to join in the fight for what will allow the human race to grow together, rather than to move further apart.

After this first quarter, the intensity might slow down some. One interesting thing happens, though, also in regards to Eris, over the summer. The July 15th New Moon in the 24th degree of Cancer features an exact square to Eris in Aries. At this same timing, Mercury and Mars in conjunction make a partile opposition to Pluto, while Uranus comes to within 3 degrees of conjuncting Eris. This could indicate another season of radical activity, in support of the fight that has to happen with the powers that be, including U.S. energy corporations. The New Moon of mid-August also aspects Eris.

So we can divide the year of 2015 into at least three segments, the difficult first quarter, and the response to this protracted period of ever-increasing angst, which by the summer might actually reach epic proportions, and then the remainder of the year leading into fall when we might find that the critical mass has grown for beginning to take necessary action. Curiously, at the very end of the year, Jupiter in Virgo again aspects Eris, this time an inconjunct, and again over a rather long period of time, within two degrees from late November through February of 2016, because stationing in January 2016. So we end the year as we started, with a long-term Jupiter-Eris connection. It seems that at least there is hope, and that this chance depends on each one of us stepping up to the plate and doing our part, with everything that we have in us. Blessed be.

SPECIAL CORNER

Adam Gainsburg
MARS & VENUS IN THE LIVING SKY

In 2015 there are three Venus-Mars conjunctions. Any Venus-Mars contact is a powerful focus on the inner agreements about what drives us within, into, and out of relationships. The values (Venus) we hold clearly drive our actions (Mars), just as our willingness to go it alone (Mars) often attracts or repels others (Venus).

See Figure 1, following page

The three conjunctions emanate from 7 April 2013 when they both aligned with the Sun in their respective Gemini Cycles! Both planets were furthest from Earth: Venus invisibly transitioning from morning to evening star, while Mars invisibly beginning his cycle. At 19 Aries, it occurred in the stars of the Southern Fish who swims backward
in time. This 4-body alignment plays out differently in each 2015 conjunction. Together, the conjunctions tempt us to take our failures and successes too personally as the echoes of our past are more convincing than usual. The countermeasure is to consistently (Venus) and persistently (Mars) come back to Now.

CONJUNCTION #1: 22 Feb 2015
See Figure 2.

FIGURE 1 – Sun-Venus-Mars conjunction at 19 Aries in Southern Heavenly Fish.

FIGURE 2 – Venus-Mars conjunction at 1 Aries in the Southern Heavenly Fish.

Mars is in his Elder Phase here, while Venus is ascending through her Remembering & Embodiment Phase. They are both evening stars, though Mars is getting dimmer while Venus is brightening. Also note how close they are to one another!

With the tantric planets so close at the tropical zodiac’s start, it’s a profound opportunity for rebooting our relationships. This “draconic” conjunction impels the inner polarity into more undeniable truth. Sharing the same sky but inhabiting very different sky qualities, Venus carries most of the load as she is the brighter of the two though she will work hard than usual (Venus in detriment) while Mars may believe he’s leading the way (Mars in rulership). Public perception, embarrassment or community affairs may be highlighted.
CONJUNCTION #2: 1 Sep 2015
(see figure 3)
Mars is in his Explorations Phase, and Venus is completing her retrograde period in her Emergence Phase. Both planets are morning stars and meet at 14 Leo. Note how separated they are by latitude, with Mars north of the ecliptic and Venus South, in the stars of the Crab. This conjunction may be “missed” energetically and materially due to the planets’ large separation from one another, Venus’ decelerating retrograde speed and Mars’ negligible brightness. This is a great example of my playful axiom, “All conjunctions are not created equally” as it points up how a planet’s sky factors (speed, brightness, sky appearance, Earth proximity, etc.) dramatically explain why some aspects don’t play out as astrologers reasonably expect them to. Unfortunately, horoscopic astrology – both western and eastern – are unaware of these factors.

FIGURE 3 – Venus-Mars conjunction at 14 Leo in the Crab/Lion/Serpent (Hydra)

FIGURE 4 – Venus-Mars conjunction at 24Virgo in the Virgin/Lion
RUSSIAN HUMOR

These cartoons are the result of joint work. The author of these cartoons is an astrologer from Montenegro Predrag Popovic-Njegoš. He takes the finished designs and modifies them according to the requirements of today. His works are notable relevance and criticism of astrologers. In these cartoons Predrag ridicules not only atheists but also astrologers. I really like the cartoons, and I suggested breathing new life in these cartoons. Slightly modifying their appearance, I have translated these caricatures to Russian language and spread them online. But the greatest work was done by Predrag.” - Dmitriy Paramonov

CONJUNCTION #3: 2 Nov 2015
(see figure 4, previous page)
Mars brightens through his Explorations Phase while Venus is at max Morningstar brightness in her Fullness Phase. They are very closely aligned again here (see Figure 4 insert), in the transitional space between the Lion and Virgin constellations.

At 24 Virgo, here we assess progress since the February conjunction: what’s changed in our availability for more honest relationships? What’s now possible? What’s become intolerable?

How competent, satisfied or connected are we ready to feel? The transmission from this area of the sky – between the Lion and Goddess – is as a way-station between exploring options, and going for it/playing our hand/stepping up. Morningstars Venus and Mars are very independent here, so if we’re looking for a typical Venus-Mars union, we’ll likely be disappointed. Instead, how can they share their light and support one another? Now isn’t a time for idealism, but for realism.

OPA TREASURER’S REPORT 2014
11/1/2014 - 11/30/2014
Beginning Balance 20,994.74

Income
Memberships 5@$60 300.00
Retreat Registration (3 memberships incl.) 1,670.00
Total Income November 1,970.00

Expenses
Web Services 11/4 & 11/15 48.45
Promotion M/A Ad 11/5/2014 396.00
Design Services 11/13 2,291.72
Postage Canada 11/20 73.20
Merchant Billing 11/2/2014 42.00
Gateway Billing 15.25
Pay Pal Fees 2.64
Total Expenses -2969.26

Balance 11/30/2014 19,995.48 Includes Paypal
Pay Pal Nov. deposit 60.00 701.24 Total in PayPal

The Lord says I should stay in heaven because people should not be informed of the Lord’s plans.

I still confirm that the influence of transiting planets will change, and sales will go up.

Right! Customers can wait - social networking is more important!

Who has visited my profile today?
Can we upgrade the quality of the conversation between astrologers and their client? This year I had a reading that was the best in my 50 plus years working with astrology. What was it? I felt an immediate surge of direction the moment the consultation ended.

What was it about a thirty-minute conversation that moved me so thoroughly that I feel the effects to this day.

I spent hours listening to the tape of our consultation again and again. I wanted to see if there was anything that I could grab that was essential.

A couple of things stood out. First, I was told that the session would only be 30 minutes long. That does create a focus or concentration on the themes that are important at that time. Next, even though I did not have a problem that I sought to handle with a consultation because it was a spontaneous session with no real issues in mind, when it came down to the time to set up the appointment, the astrologer was very emphatic about dealing with something that was significant to me.

So components seem to be important. Telling a person how long the reading is going to be and perhaps keeping it shorter than I would have ever considered in my work. And then there is the issue of really being able to bring to your own consciousness situations that are important for you at the time of the reading. I don’t think this means looking at something insignificant, instead it seems that whatever is haunting us or worrying us or actively moving us in one way or another can be brought to the attention of the astrologer.

It took me some time to sort this out before I could set up the appointment. As I searched for a topic, I became aware of something that has been cluttering my life for years to the point that when I had to schedule the reading, I was almost unable to unclutter my life to make that appointment.

That is exactly what I felt at that time. Now I could go into detail about the advice that I received, but that isn’t where this reading affected me most. I was more impressed by the astrologer’s ability to know something deeper about me, not because she knows me but because I believe she saw it in my chart, which to a great extent is perhaps the core of my horoscope. I am assuming that was what the astrologer saw and as she reflected that to me, I really got to my own core very quickly.

I don’t want to talk about the reading itself. I want to describe the essence of it. She helped me focus. The information was funneled by time restriction and clarity of attention to one need. It reduced verbal clutter. It is about getting to the core part of a person. I was complaining about clutter in my life and this reading referenced clutter of the mind.

I don’t know what she really did. I just know she found something in me that I would not have really known about.

The minute I finished that consultation, I felt YES! I can’t do it all in one day, but I keep picking at it every single day. And since that reading, I have been pretty good at doing that. I have a sustained interest in continuing this, one day at a time.

How do we get to the heart of a chart to answer a core question for a client? We can’t do it unless our client tells us exactly what they need.

“How do we get to the heart of a chart to answer a core question for a client? We can’t do it unless our client tells us exactly what they need.”

We need to ask our clients, “What would be more helpful to you, if we look at this or that?” In essence, we are asking our client, “What is the real question here?” We can ask them, “Why is this a problem?” so we can learn more about their needs.

As I review this reading for me five months later, I must add that the astrologer did not refer to specific transits or progressions. There wasn’t even a reference to specifics in my chart. It seems the astrologer had such a full grasp of her material that she could put it all together for me rather than assembling the reading with bits and pieces of data or detail.

This reading was a gift that keeps on giving. We may continue to struggle with our problems, but every time I get into that phase, I remember the reading and am redirected. If we have an effective reading like this, it isn’t that it is just advice for one day or one week. It is something that we can get back to when we seem to lose our stirrups.

Monica Hable Dimino is a professional astrologer from Boston, Massachusetts with a large international clientele. She taught nursing at Bellevue Hospital in New York before moving to Caracas, Venezuela in 1958. Her astrological studies began in 1960 with a French tutor. In 1970 she started working professionally. In 1980 she designed a teacher program for astrology in Spanish. In 1988 she returned to the US where she became an active member of the American astrological community. Her focus is professional astrology to bring better astrology to the general public and thereby gain greater respect as a helping profession.

Paula Sherwin, a practicing astrologer, has a Master’s Degree in Education and a love of teaching. Paula has been teaching internationally for both industry and universities for the past 25 years. Her instruction background includes Customer Skills Communication Training, Computer Technical Training, Business Training, as well as Total Quality Management Training. Paula, a Certified Zentangle Teacher, has incorporated meditative art (Zentangle) as part of her astrological practice.
ID

Email: demetra725@gmail.com
Website: www.demetra.com
Your family: Mom, 2 sisters, 1 daughter, 1 son, 2 grandchildren, boyfriend
Religious background & conditioning? Greek Orthodox
Spiritual orientation – do you follow any specific practice? Tibetan Buddhism since 1981
What's the worst thing and then, the best thing about you? Sun/Saturn workaholic; Moon/Uranus curiosity and openness to the new and untried
You can’t refuse… the wind in my face
What is playtime for you? A day on the ocean, walking about in nature, travel to new places
Your animal totem? Elephant
Your superstition? Don’t stand under an eclipse
Your Chinese sign? Fire Dog
Your favorite place on earth? Oregon Coast
What would you define as an important evolutionary lesson for you in this life? In 1993 I volunteered to help at UAC. Marion March asked me and Gloria Star, the two socially shyest people either of us knew, to host the Meet and Greet for new participants. This lesson continues to help me reach out to others
Your chart – July 25, 1946; 6:22 am CST; Chicago IL

YOUR PRACTICE

Where do you live and practice? Eugene Oregon
How long have you been practicing – How did it start? 1971 - teaching myself to cast a chart from the ABC Horoscope Maker and Delineator; after majoring in Math and Philosophy at college, finally finding a satisfactory direction to exploring the mysteries of the inner and outer cosmos.
Your Astrology teachers? Oceanside Rosicrucians, Dane Rudhyar, Virginia Dayan, Zip Dobyns, Joanne Wickenburg, Robert Zoller, Robert Schmidt, Alan White
Your Astrology hero? Vettius Valens
What do you feel is your greatest achievement to date in your astrology career? Participation in reconstructing the history and techniques of ancient astrology
What made it possible for you to become a full time astrologer? The support in multiple ways of my children’s father, JAF.

3 favorite Astrology books?

What is the great thing and the hard thing about being an astrologer? A fertile and seemingly infinite field for my intellectual creativity is the great thing. The hard thing is the economic insecurity and realization of the responsibility entailed for looking into someone’s soul and saying or not what you see.

What are your future ambitions in the field of astrology? To anchor what we have discovered about ancient astrology into the future of our tradition

What inspires you to be an OPA member? Building community with my colleagues

Any advice for those who would like to become professional astrologers? If the Lady Astrologia claims you as one of her devotees, she will be a very jealous mistress.

Thank you!

OPA Has a New Website and URL!!
Visit us online at www.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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The Transit of Saturn in Sagittarius
Dec. 23, 2014 to Dec. 20, 2017

What are your thoughts about the influences of the transit of Saturn in Sagittarius for the next 3 years?

How do you think it will impact world affairs?

Does it touch important points in your chart?

How do you expect it will affect your development?

Lynn Bell Saturn in Scorpio has been immensely powerful. I see it in my own life and in my clients. Saturn always asks us to work on an area that has been neglected, and in Sagittarius it will test our faith on many levels.

Sol W Jonassen I agree Lynn Bell. Saturn in Scorpio has really been working hard to plug the holes of energy drainage. Codependency has been tested. I’ve grown so much that it is hard to actually fathom it.

So when that is said, I must say that I am looking forward to Saturn in Sag. It is time to really coach the plan forward and at the same time be realistic.

I think that on a global level this transit will affect the regions that are most religious, as Sagittarius deals with a lot of religious prejudices. I can see people quarrel even more intensely trying to copyright the truth. This quarrel might find its way into the educational systems.

The chart for new year also shows Jupiter-opp-Mars for 2015. So beware, crusading hasn’t been completely made unfashionable. Maybe Saturn in Sagittarius will really make us deal with our own limitations when it comes to belief and make us loosen unhealthy idealism. At least if we wanna move beyond merely comparing what differs us.

Ingunn Håstø Hallelujah, I’m so happy that it soon will leave scorpio sign, I have a big stellium in the midt and end of scorpio, moon, mars and neptune. So therefore hallelujah Saturn is in my sixth house at time and it will still be in my sixth house in the next years. My descendant is at 29 degrees in sagittarius. But I don’t have any planets in sagittarius so I think it will not be so heavy for me personally then longer as the last two years has been!

But halleluja (but with the opposite meaning) is maybe the key word also for the next three years, it will be much religion war, as we already see with IS. The Islam Stat terrorists. We will unfortunately see more of this, at least it will not end at once. I think it’s just the beginning unfortunately. Fanaticism and fasisme can also flourish in this period. Excesses and megalomana at one side and a great desire and fight for freedom at the other side. Tha shadow side of sagittarius will come up to the surface. The truth how we (alle people) think about each other, the denounces against foreigners in each country. It will come to the surface so that we get a possibility to embrace it and heal it. We have maybe for a longer time just put such thing under the chair, but now we have to face it.

Linda Zlotnick Because Sagittarius presides over long distance travel I think we will see more rules and regulations in the airline industry. I shudder at the thought!

Susan Falk I imagine that saturn in Sagittarius will intensify the religious wars that are happening but hopefully will lead to a more ecumenical spirit.

OPA – November 2014: Texas approves textbooks with Moses as founding father
OPA – November 20, 2014: Obama unveil Immigration Reforms: President Barack Obama imposed the most sweeping immigration reform in a generation, easing the threat of deportation for some 4.7 million undocumented immigrants and setting up a clash with Republicans who vow to fight his moves.

Maurice Fernandez Done with corruption, on with religious wars, I’m however, somewhat looking forward to have a 30 year break from Scorpio
Dave Fassett That 2nd house packed with Cap planets is worrisome for the world economy

Juliet Morgan Although Saturn moves into Sagittarius on Christmas Eve, he returns to the last three degrees of Scorpio for three months in 2015: June 16th to September 18th. Unfortunately for me, this means Saturn will SIT on my natal Neptune at 29 Scorpio for that time. and then it will cross over my Ascendant in early Sagittarius AGAIN. During the past two years I’ve survived the oppositions to my Taurus stellium (Saturn 13 Taurus, Mercury 16 Taurus and Sun 21 Taurus as well as the square to my Moon 18 Leo) but I fear the conjunction to my Neptune and Ascendant will be the most challenging aspects yet.

So for me, I have another year of intense Saturn deconstruction and purification.

According to the Seven Operations of Alchemy, Calcination is the first operation. Calcination is associated with the planet Saturn. “The word Calcination is from the Latin root calyx which means limestone or bone. To calcify something is to burn it until it turns chalky white, reduced it to ashes, or cremeate it. After calcination, the substance is no longer affected by common fire.”

The above quote is fromhttp://azothalchemy.org/azoth_ritual.htm

Maurice Fernandez Saturn was last in Sagittarius from Dec 1985 to Nov 1988 (also 3 full years) at the time, it came into conjunction with Uranus, so it was a BIG deal, leading to the structural changes in the Soviet Union, etc... This time it will Trine Uranus, so still part of that 1988 cycle! Important changes in our mindssets and ways of looking at life.

Nika Middleton I feel for the Sags; they won’t like getting their wings clipped. I look forward to some well needed structure in a spiritual communities.

William Sebrans For me personally, an improvement in the rent required here at homebase. Mosty.
In general, seems less personal - and more organizing rather than purging. Pleasant enough to have Jupiter on happier terms with Daddy Long Legs for the next year as well...Into Virgo, back to the old tense family dynamics... Uranus’ Aries children will be happy to get some legal support from Dad, as well as some innovative new erector sets.

Louise Edington I don’t feel my wings will be clipping in a bad way. I like to see Saturn as a teacher and that it will be a period of growth and me becoming more of a teacher in groups and spiritually as I head towards becoming an elder though my second Saturn return (I have Saturn conjunct my Cap ascendant). There is a plus to all things. But then I have had Pluto transit almost EVERYTHING in my chart and am old enough to be able to look back at the Saturn cycles in my life and see where I grew despite challenges. I have learned to stay out of Saturnian fear for the most part.

Katharina Tabitha Marion Westblikk The lord karma will probably put attention to our fear for other cultures, religion will be put on the table. Education will change and we will political and in general ask all the good questions and find solutions for what to be done in saturn in capricorn. Structural changes. Personal, collective and global.

Leon Colton So relieved it leaves Scorpio in general, and my Sun opposition in particular... Guess I can give some head ups to what some of us can expect with that Saturn in Sag, as it travels my 9th House since 2013. Self-view and world-views can be challenged and many perceptions and personal believes are put to test of how seriously you hold on to them. The personal intuition flow might dry up for a while and in this case you'll have to resort to deductive methods of analysis, especially if you're astrologer (oh, it hurts my left brain).

Spiritual life might be put to test as well, particularly around mutual understanding and interpretation of your spiritual teachings. You might have trouble to ‘read’ people, as it’s hard to get what does what they say says.

On the positive note, you emerge out of this transit with mature, self-responsible and rounded views, cross-checked and cross-referenced understanding of reality as it stands from the consensus-pool-consciousness point of view, which helps to adapt in the fabric of our society (aka next chapter of Saturn in Cap)

Laurie Ann Naughtin I am pretty excited with this move as Saturn the natural ruler moves into the sign of higher learning. I really hope this will promote Astrology and encourage people to study this wonderful craft. Two words, practical philosophy. Saturn is leaving my Ninth and will be entering my 10th. I hope to bring structure to my business as an Astrologer and tutor.

SPECIAL CORNER Misty Kuceris, CAP – ISAR misty@enhanceoneself.com www.mistykuceris.com

Saturn deals with the governance of a nation through its administrators as well as the infrastructure of a nation, such as roadways, communication systems, and water systems. It also represents the agriculture business and the system of getting food to the table. When Saturn is in Sagittarius it represents religious organizations, judicial systems, and higher education. Basically, Saturn in Sagittarius slows down growth in those areas where people have been striving to make changes. Based on past historic events when Saturn was in Sagittarius in the past, you’ll see some of the following global trends:

The economy
• The economy gets sluggish and credit becomes easier for the middle/lower class in hopes of stimulating the economy.
• Taxes are lowered, leading to less income for the government and decreased social services for the population.
• The United States goes through a trade deficit.
• Lower oil prices.

Society
• Continued loss of privacy as companies, such as Google, Uber, Alibaba, Facebook continue the data mining, giving them more knowledge of people’s private lives than government entities have.
• Underemployment continues to be a major problem in the United States and unemployment in Europe and the Middle East.

The environment
• Focus on the elimination of HFCs from refrigerators, air-conditioning units, aerosols, solvents which lead to the creation of new and more energy efficient products for consumers.
• Concern over ground-level or tropospheric ozone (O3) continues to increase in an effort to eliminate health problems caused by smog and acid rain as well as the prevention of loss of vegetation.
• Continued design changes in automobiles to lower vehicle emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx).

The Federation of Russia
• Continued emphasis on regaining what Russian leaders and their population perceive as a loss of world influence and power.
• Economic problems in Russia due to lower oil prices and agricultural problems.

Religion
• Fears of publishing or staging any creative event or work that is critical of religions or religious leaders due to potential violent reprisals.
• Religious leaders using excommunications and other censures to increase political control over members of their religious organizations and also political control in their countries of origin.
Enhancing Your Astrology Practice

Column by Moon Zlotnick

In the fall issue I began discussing how to build your astrological practice by cultivating the clients that are right for you. Very simply, this has to do with taking the time to understand what each client wants from an astrological session and meeting their needs as best you can. Sometimes this means giving them a referral. In this article I would like to discuss what happens during the actual consultation itself.

Being prepared for a reading means different things to different astrologers, and certainly changes throughout a lifelong practice. In my early years, and certainly in talking with newer students, the urge is to be over-prepared. With everything available using astrological software, we can print out multiple forms of progressions, returns, fixed stars and so much more. My advice is to keep it simple, work with what you know well, and focus on the questions of the client. In the early years I would spend up to two hours before every chart reading. Now it’s closer to 30-45 minutes, particularly for repeat clients.

Because you’ve already interviewed your potential client over the phone and made notes, you should have a fair idea before that person walks through the door of the questions and concerns they will bring to the reading. Prepare to address their issues as best you can. Sometimes you think you are prepared until the occasional client will surprise you and ask the “real” question at the end of the reading, for example, is my wife going to leave me? Or, I forgot to mention that I have cancer. Remember, most people who do that are willing to set up another time with you. We cannot provide a good service by trying to answer important questions in the last couple minutes of a session.

Early on in my doing readings I would have so much information I wanted to share with the client that I forgot to reign myself in and be present in the moment. It’s important to let the reading unfold as the client allows. So even though we already spent some time on the phone, I always begin each reading by asking the person to articulate what brought them to me, and what they are hoping to learn, or understand. I write down what they say using their words, so during the reading I can reflect back to them their concerns in their own language. This builds trust and understanding.

I also explain that each reading can be tailored to meet their particular needs, but in order for that to happen they need to discuss their concerns openly. I guarantee each person complete confidentiality and never identify my clients by name, although I might discuss what happened during the course of a consultation with another astrologer or in a classroom setting. Some people will be vague or not really know, in which case I look to the most exact transits in their chart to get my own ideas. Then I will ask them questions. I think it is important to engage with each person until some issue or concern comes out and we can address it together.

Then there are the clients that simply want to talk. Sometimes these are people who got a gift certificate from a friend, or had a concern when they called but it since resolved. In the beginning of my practice this bothered me. I had done all kinds of preparation but couldn’t even get a word in. During one of these readings I realized that my client had no close people to talk to and just needed to vent. As long as you are serving the needs of the client you are giving them a good reading. This particular man returned several times before he opened up and really talked with me.

Most of the time I can tell when the reading is working for someone, but if I’m not sure I will ask them questions like “am I addressing your concerns?” or “is this what you were hoping to get out of our time together?” This gives them an opportunity to redirect or even ask new questions that might have been in the background.

About five to ten minutes before the reading is scheduled to end I always stop and check-in with the client. I go over my checklist, and make sure I spoke to everything they brought up. I ask if there is something they would like to discuss in more depth. This way if they left something for the end, I might have time to address it.

Sometimes knowing how to end a reading can be difficult. Going over their list of questions will often bring the reading to a natural close. If that doesn’t work I mention that we’re coming to the end of our time together and I’d like to know if they got what they wanted. If they express being satisfied I will wrap up the session, but if they still have questions I will try to schedule another session within two weeks.

It’s taken me many years of practice to feel comfortable recommending that someone come back and see me during a particular transit, progression or eclipse cycle. When I finally understood that this was a service to them, a way to help them have more resources during a difficult time, I started recommending follow-up appointments. As astrologers we are in a unique position to know not only how but when we can help our clients.

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THEMES OF THE SEASON

- Uranus in Aries, Stationary Direct December 21, 2014 (12 Aries)
- Solstice, Sun Zero Capricorn December 21, 2014 (11:04 pm GMT)
- Saturn Zero Sagittarius December 23, 2014 (4:35 pm GMT)
- Mercury in Aquarius, Stationary Retrograde January 21, 2015 (17 Aquarius)
- Mercury in Aquarius, Stationary Direct February 11, 2015 (1 Aquarius)
- Mars Zero Aries February 20, 2015 (0:11:15 am GMT)
- Venus Zero Aries February 20, 2015 (8:15:25 pm GMT)
- Jupiter in Leo Quincunx Pluto in Capricorn February 27, 2015 (14 Leo/Capricorn)
- Saturn in Sagittarius, Stationary Retrograde March 14, 2015 (4 Sagittarius 55)
- Uranus in Aries square Pluto in Capricorn March 17, 2015 (15 Aries/Capricorn)

Uranus leads the way into the energies of the Capricorn Solstice. Uranus, retrograde at 16 degrees on July 22, turns direct at 12 degrees Aries, minutes before the Capricorn Solstice arrives. Changes, global and personal, not conceived of previously but incubating behind the scenes, may surface. After all Uranus is about the unexpected and now is moving forward.

A phrase I always loved describing the Capricorn Solstice as happening in the winter months is as follows, “Matter is fully manifested and redeemed, and all the other sections of elements are jelled, or crystallized in the density of form. This is the symbol of winter, which hides in its bosom all the possibilities of the unfolding of creation, freezes them into the Earth’s breast or core, only so that they may blossom one day…. matter the divine light is inherent and awaits the moment of its epiphany.” (The Gnostic Circle, p. 15) This passage obviously refers to what occurs in the Northern Hemisphere.

Capricorn is a sign that suggests structure and matter. In the winter, the DNA of life goes within. In the Southern Hemisphere, at the same time, life expresses outward, the DNA of life blossoms forth. Summer is the “epiphany” where life bursts forth from seed. If we perceive the Sign of Capricorn as the womb for life, then it is easy to understand the inward and outward expression. Capricorn does suggest a structure for life, a pattern of molecules, a seed, that in one form produces a rose and in another form a marigold, in one form a maple tree and in another form a red bopel nut tree (Australian). Personally this time of year should be when we decide how we are going to stand upright in the world. What is our personal structure of expression; what form will we give the divine light within.

Within the Capricorn Solstice chart that very question of giving form to divine light energy is asked by the semi-sextile between Saturn and the Sun/Moon conjunction. Placing that semi-sextile in your own natal chart would indicate the variables you are being challenged to work with this season. In the USA Chart, July 4, 1776, 5:10 pm, Philadelphia, PA, the question spans from Saturn in the 12th House to the Sun/Moon in the 1st House. The question for the USA might be how will this country physically stand together as “We the People” given the hidden agendas, hidden enemies, divisive discourse, unresolved racial issues, etc., that continue to surface. The USA national identity is under siege. Maybe “We the People” is merely a myth.

The Solstice Chart also points to tensions in relationships with Uranus opposing the N-Node in Libra and squaring Pluto in Capricorn. A bucket configuration with Jupiter as the handle is created. Jupiter invites an expanded consciousness centered in faith, hope, and possibilities for humanity. However, Jupiter is sesquiquadrate Mercury in Capricorn sitting conjunct between the Sun and Pluto and also conjunct Venus. Traditional ways of thinking about the nature of authority and power must be challenged, especially on the international front. Jupiter as a handle suggests that new philosophical and scientific paradigms for the survival of life need to emerge. (Go see the movie “Interstellar”) Sesquiquadrate energy is not as entrenched as square energy so we can only hope, that with a bit of help from a direct moving Uranus squaring Pluto and eventually trining Jupiter, our thinking will be invigorated.

Saturn moves into the Sign of Sagittarius on December 23, 2014 for a brief period before retrograding on March 14, 2015, eventually returning to late degrees of Scorpio. The first applying aspect made by Saturn in Sagittarius is a square to Neptune in Pisces. In mutable signs these two energies could be said to be evolving, transmuting, and recreating their energetic purpose. When these two energies are together the challenge is to give form or structure, Saturn, to visionary or creative material, Neptune. The same struggle, said in a different way, is woven into the Solstice Chart bucket pattern formed by Capricorn planets ruled by Saturn with a Jupiter handle, co-ruler of Neptune.
Book Review

By Arlan Wise

Astrology Considered: A Thinking Person’s Guide
Astrology News Service

This book was compiled and published by the Astrology News Service and is geared towards the layperson. This is the book to give to your friends and relatives and other people in your life who wonder about astrology. It is the book for those who have tried to read a basic astrology book but just couldn’t get through it. I wish I could have given it to my plumber the day we were waiting for the new hot water heater to be delivered and he got up the nerve to ask me “Arlan, What is it exactly that you do?”

The book is a collection of short essays. You can read it from beginning to end, or can pick and choose like you do with a gift box of fine chocolates. The pieces are divided into three sections: 1. “Astrology Considered”, which are the in depth discussions of the philosophical issues; 2. The Evidence… essays on statistical studies that support astrology; 3. News and Views, these are on varied and interesting topics. Each section covers a wide variety of topics and authors. Not all of the essays are great, some are dry, some statistical, and some a bit confusing, but most are brilliant. On the whole, these short essays are clear and easy to read. There is a logical sequence to their placement. It is up to date, with many writers mentioning the transits of 2014.

Ed Snow, the leading force of ANS, wrote the majority of the articles. He is a former news reporter and publicist and has done a good job in reviewing books and studies and interviewing astrologers. His editing keeps repetition to a minimum. There is much explanation of “as above, so below” and other key concepts but each is described in a different way.

Although the book is written for those who don’t know and will probably never study astrology, I, as a long-term professional astrologer, found that I learned quite a lot. I got advice on the stock markets cycles, learned that Christine Arens has a birth date and time for Jesus’ birth (She makes a case for him being a Gemini), and that Joyce Mason has written an astro-detective book call The Crystal Ball.

Stephen Forrest starts the collection of writings with What Astrology Can do for You and ends with Why Astrology’s Image Needs a Makeover. The filling of this sandwich is rich and yummy with juicy tidbits for every interest, from the zodiacs found in the architecture of Washington, DC to Shakespeare’s use of astrology to Regis Philbin getting his mind blown by Sidney Omarr. There is even a study on dung beetles.

You can buy the book from the ANS website – www.astrologynews.service.com or download it onto your Kindle from Amazon.

I give Astrology Considered five stars.
New OPA Satellites

Introducing our new OPA Satellites. Make sure you contact the representative(s) or your country to solidify community dynamics and enhance your OPA experience. For full list of Satellites, visit our website: www.opaastrology.com

Canada Satellite

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I’m a born and bred Albertan – I grew up on a farm, which isn’t anywhere near as romantic as it sounds. As much as I still need to be connected to nature, I craved for something more than that life could offer. So, after very little soul searching, I ended up in advertising sales at a daily newspaper. It was a perfect job for me, but one I was happy to depart from after 30 years.

In the middle of this lengthy career, my Uranus opposition blew up my appendix. I went under the anaesthetic with no other knowledge of astrology than that I was a Pisces. And I wish I could tell you that I was one of those people who had a near death experience and came back with knowledge. Alas. I didn’t go close enough towards the light for that. I did, however, wake up completely changed. I no longer had the desire to smoke or drink; for example, although it took me a full six months to quit telling people I was a smoker. It wasn’t all good though. Up until that point I’d been quite athletic – played sports and worked out every day. That stopped too. I was someone else, but with all the memories of being me. It was a very confusing time. The gift I received in exchange was an obsession with astrology.

My first book was Astrology for Dummies. Not a bad book, truth be told. I tried to draw my chart following the instructions but couldn’t quite figure it out. I’d always thought of myself as somewhat clever, so it was kind of embarrassing to admit that I needed something more primary than a book written for dummies. So I sought help, and sure enough, an introductory class was starting nearby two days after I made my first query. I never looked back.

I was very fortunate that I was exposed to some wonderful teachers like Maurice Fernandez, Ulrich Bold, Gary Zyla and Steven Forrest early on. They inspired me to learn more, and within four years I was working on my degree at Kepler College and was privileged to learn from some of my greatest living astrological heroes.

I came to learn that my interest in astrology began the same year that an active group in Calgary fell apart. So, with a couple of other more serious students, we set to work on building a new one. We’re a rather informal lot who gather in living rooms over tea and snacks, but we grow in numbers every year and manage to host a few speakers for workshops and lectures. Paul Hewitt has also moved to Calgary, so we’re fortunate that he also works hard at continuing to educate the next generation of astrologers. We’re also connected with the Edmonton Astrological Society that began with Chris McRae, and together have re-established a small Alberta conference featuring our home grown talent.

I am a consulting astrologer, but my favourite thing is passing on my passion to others. I team teach the W101 Introduction to Astrology online with Kepler, and I have small group classes locally.

I’ve slowly been able to acquaint myself with some of my fellow Canadian Astrologers, but finding and connecting with everyone has been a bit of a challenge. Along with Peggy Lynch and fellow Kepler College graduate Tamira McGillivray, the idea was hatched to launch a website to bring Canadian Astrologers together - to pool resources, and have a common home for anyone searching to learn more. The first topic we’ve decided to tackle is the timing of the Canadian chart. We’d love some feedback, so please subscribe on the website www.canadianastrology.com to support and contribute.

I’m delighted to be representing the Canadian Satellite of OPA along with Kate Rusko. It feels like a very symbiotic relationship to be working with my smaller community, the Canadian Astrology website, Kepler, and OPA, all at the same time. The more we work together, in both the big and small ways, the better it is for the collective astrological community.

Kate Rusko
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Hello, OPA! My involvement with astrology is rather new (at least in this incarnation), however I have found myself completely drawn out of my previous life and re-born an astro-addict. In true Gemini Moon fashion, my background is diverse: aside from working in the fashion industry, I have two degrees, one in economics and the other in the visual arts in painting.

I am thrilled to be involved with OPA. My participation with the astrological community so far has revealed to me a depth of wisdom, compassion, and care like I have never experienced before. I feel blessed! I am excited to create a Great White North network with Donna.

Looking forward, I would like part of my practice to focus on introducing the wonders of astrology (and OPA) to the Neptune in Aquarius and Uranus in Pisces generation, to which I have contributed two feisty Sun in Aries daughters. I think it is important to make the bridge to these children: they will both “get it” and need it. My Virgo Sun would also like to incorporate aspects of health.

South African Satellite

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I am a consulting astrologer, but my favourite thing is passing on my passion to others. I team teach the W101 Introduction to Astrology online with Kepler, and I have small group classes locally.

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ed to give meaning to my childhood mystical encounters. I graduated in Fine Arts at the University of Pretoria, majoring in History of Art and Graphic Design. After discovering GC Jung’s works on the occult and religion, I became his lifelong ‘book student.’ While working as a graphic designer, my drive to want to understand (Aquarius Jupiter and Capricorn Saturn in the 9th), led me to teach myself the art of astrological chart interpretation.

I eventually formally studied at the Astrological Institute of Research and Study, which was run by my gifted teacher who sadly passed away, leaving behind a legacy of seeking the truth about the developing soul in this incarnation. I also learned Tarot, which I eventually taught, studied Feng Shui, Mysticism and the link between Astrology and Kaballah, along with the integration of past lives and dreams.

With a strong spiritual focus on the souls’ unfolding in this incarnation, I lead clients in my consultations to have the confidence of being in control of their lives and make informed choices, in order to be captains of their own lives.

The Oracle of Delphi said: “Man, Know Thyself”; maybe, after so many thousands of years, we might just, from incarnation to incarnation, heed this open-ended truth…

**The Astrology Community in South Africa (Johannesburg)**

It is time that Astrology in South Africa reached out towards one another and that the mutual love of this beautiful knowledge brings the diverse practices together. We have many astrologers, teachers and practices in our major cities. Again, open communication and a sense of wholeness can bridge and bring together. With spiritual Piscean Neptune in attendance to dissolve boundaries, together with the transformative power of Pluto in Capricorn to build strong structures, cohesiveness can be forged. The impatient Aries of Uranus is urging the higher mind of seekers of the Cosmos to do it now! Our amazing country is rich with cultural and ancestral knowledge. It is here, on this ancient human birthing soil, that Homo sapiens first became curious to explore. This search for another reality started a journey that now encompasses our entire global village.

But our minds have since soared to the stars and beyond to answer the question: what did we come here to do in the first place? Thank you Maurice for bringing OPA to the four corners of our existence!

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**UK Satellite**

**Wendy Stacey**

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My passion for astrology began in my teens and I have now been practising for almost thirty years as a consultant, writer, researcher, teacher and volunteer. I have been the principal of the international Mayo School of Astrology since 2007 and tutor for the London School of Astrology since 2003. I am also the Chairperson for the Astrological Association of Great Britain (since 2002). I have written over 50 articles for the Astrological Journal and lecture globally on psychological, mundane, research and financial astrology. My books include Consulting With Astrology: A Quick Guide to Building Your Practice and Profile, and Uranus Square Pluto: New Perspectives on the Current Planetary Line Up in Mundane Astrology. I have served on the board for the Advisory Panel of Astral Education in the UK since 2000 and in 2014 I was honoured to receive the UK Charles Harvey award for Exceptional Service to Astrology. In my other life I am a property developer, lecturer in Sociology and in my final year of my PhD in Sociology which explores the medicalisation of childbirth and changing birth time patterns.

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**OPA’s Free Monthly Talk Schedule for 2015**

We have an exciting schedule of presentations for the coming year! These talks are available for OPA members only, and are free if you call in, or $10 for recordings. Talks are 1 hour long, and begin at 10 am Pacific time. Check the OPA website for full descriptions and updates.

- **Sunday, January 11**
  - Mark Jones (UK)
  - An Introduction to Therapeutic Astrology

- **Sunday, February 8**
  - Sandra Leigh Serio (CO)
  - The ABC’s of Medical Astrology

- **Sunday, March 8**
  - Monica Dimino (MA)
  - Consulting Skills: Working with the Best Teachers we Have

- **Sunday, April 5**
  - Henry Seltzer (CA)
  - The Planet ERIS

- **Sunday, May 3**
  - Maurice Fernandez (HI)
  - Fame and Public Influence in the Chart

- **Sunday, June 14**
  - Anne Ortelee (NY)
  - Topic TBA

- **Sunday, July 5**
  - Chris McRae (AB - Canada)
  - Topic TBA

- **Sunday, August 2**
  - Chris Brennan (CO)
  - Sects: The Difference Between Day and Night Charts

- **Sunday, September 13**
  - Kay Taylor (CA)
  - Astrosynthesis: Healing Hard Aspects

- **Sunday, November 1**
  - David Zimmerman (CA)
  - Esoteric Astrology

- **Sunday, December 13**
  - Tim Rubald (HI)
  - Mundane and Political Charting

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**New Satellites**

Continued from page 17
Book Review

By Kathryn Andren

Uranus Square Pluto: New Perspectives On The Current Planetary Lineup In Mundane Astrology

by Wendy Stacey. Released in 2012

Wendy Stacey’s recent book on mundane astrology reflects a brief history of the last century through the lens of astrology. She begins by discussing this bigger picture of the Uranus and Pluto aspect patterns in recent years. Her writing reveals to the reader a historical journey. Just like a refined martial artist who steps back before pushing forward, she takes the reader back in time, highlighting previous world events before illuminating future possibilities. She clearly states that understanding former Uranus and Pluto patterns can support context for economic, social and institutional changes during this current cardinal square and its ripple effects in future years.

While the book title Uranus Square Pluto is very specific to the years 2012 - 2015, rest assured astrologers will find timeless information in Wendy Stacey’s recent book. The sub title “New Perspectives On The Current Planetary Lineup In Mundane Astrology” could potentially be called: a brief history of world events in the past century through eyes of an astrologer. She gracefully introduces and integrates mundane astrology with a variety of events from the rise and fall of political parties, to movie releases and landmark literary works as signatures of the current planet cycles.

In a chapter called “Back to the Future”, Wendy Stacey spends a significant focus on the former conjunction of Uranus and Pluto in Virgo during the 1960’s. She illuminates a wide variety of Virgo qualities including an emphasis on work, health, data collection and research. She suggests that as this generation comes of age in society, these Virgo qualities then further permeate the culture. A final chapter in Uranus Square Pluto concludes with “Other Current Planetary Cycles” including Neptune, Jupiter and Saturn. Having a broader look at these planetary cycles along with Chiron adds a more holistic context and deeper dimension into current world events.

In summary, while the aspect of Uranus Square Pluto is significant of changing times, this pattern offers opportunity on personal and global levels for liberation and empowerment. Wendy Stacey supports her readers and fellow astrologers with the gift of looking back on planet patterns, to learn from past lessons in order to create new choices for future generations.

www.kathrynandren.com

### No Place Like HOME

**Aries:** a tent in front of the White House  
**Taurus:** an Inn by the cowbells of rural Austria  
**Gemini:** anywhere away from the village I come from  
**Cancer:** the upper floor of my parent’s house  
**Leo:** a mansion for my 10 cats and 15 dogs  
**Virgo:** a beautifully designed apartment conveniently close to the healthfood store, the hospital, and the spa where I work.  
**Libra:** a space with enough rooms for exes to visit  
**Scorpio:** your soul shall be my permanent dwelling  
**Sagittarius:** my truck shall be my permanent dwelling  
**Capricorn:** the dungeon of a 13th century French castle  
**Aquarius:** 78th floor and above  
**Pisces:** can I crash at your place tonight?

OPA for AYA  
Special Membership Discount  
$45 per year!
Book Review

By Arlan Wise

Astrology and Spiritual Awakening
By Greg Bogart

Greg Bogart writes really good books. In Astrology and Spiritual Awakening, Greg has taken one of these good books and made it better. It’s like when a person gains weight and the new pounds go to all the right places. The original version of Astrology and Spiritual Awakening, which was published in 1994, stands on its own as a great book. Now, twenty years later, Greg adds the wisdom and insights he’s learned as time went by. He has updated the life stories, noticeably in the section on Ram Dass, who had his life-changing stroke after the book was in print.

This is a spiritual self-help book. It instructs astrologers and those who love astrology how to see their charts as a map for their spiritual path. It is also a good book for learning more astrology and to see the many meanings of the planets, signs, houses, and aspects through a spiritual lens. Greg changes the dial on the astrological kaleidoscope and gives us interpretations of the basics of astrology from a spiritual perspective. He uses the charts of spiritual leaders (e.g., Pema Chodron, Raman Maharishi, Ammachi) and also spiritual musicians (Ravi Shankar, Hazrat Inayat Khan, John Coltrane), thus highlighting the connection between spirit and music. (Greg is an accomplished musician so he knows this.)

Each section of the book is a gem. You will learn how to find the type of yoga to practice that fits you best. (Yoga here is used in its ancient sense with the popular physical hatha yoga being just one of the types.) He shows how to “discern the form of spiritual practice that’s most appropriate to your natal chart, and to the transit and progression operative during a particular period.”

Greg explains Dane Rudhyar’s ideas throughout the text. One can feel Rudhyar sitting on his shoulder like an aged Jiminy Cricket telling him what to say. It is valuable and precious information that Greg preserves by translating Dane Rudhyar, who he knew personally. Greg teaches us Rudhyar’s concept of the 6 Shaktis and expands it by explaining its roots in Kashmir Shaivism, which Greg learned from Swami Muktananda.

There are complete and complex astrological biographies of seven spiritual teachers. The chart delineations are brilliant. This section, which is at the end of the book, gives good examples of how to use all that you have read. He closes the book with a chapter that urges you to write your own astrobiography.

In Greg’s words which start this book: “Astrology is the yoga of time. It is a form of sacred knowledge that teaches us to live consciously as embodied beings in a temporal world... This book describes how astrology can be utilized to understand the stages and facets of the spiritual path, the process of awakening to a more encompassing reality or consciousness – God, Atman, Buddha, the Pure Light.”

Even if you own the original edition of Astrology and Spiritual Awakening, you want to have this newer version in your library.
As professional astrologers, we see many of our clients come for consultation on a yearly basis. We have a plenty to tell them about what is going on in their life from the natal chart, transits, progressions, and solar return. If we have taken the OPA Peer Supervision course or the ISAR Consulting Skills, we have learned to truly listen to find out what the clients needs are and to gear the session toward fulfilling those needs.

However, there are times when a client comes back sooner than once a year and at those times I find that some of my training as a Gestalt Psychotherapist is useful. About 15 years ago a client whose chart I had done returned a few weeks later as she was so excited by all the information and insights she had gained. My initial reaction was thinking to myself, “Hmm—wonder where I go from here?”

Then I realized that the boundary between Astrology and Psychology was somewhat blurred and that some of the training I had had as a Gestalt therapist might be used in the astrology session to reach a deeper understanding of the conflicts I had outlined in the first session which my client had confirmed were issues for her. When I asked her if she would like to go deeper into some of the conflicts that showed up on her chart she indicated that she would like to do that. For example: I asked her if she would be interested in not only understanding her Venus square Saturn and her Mars square Moon but also integrating those energies and she said that she would be very interested in doing that. I said, “Would you like to do a little experiment?” and she said that she would.

I found that the technique I had learned in my Gestalt therapy training of imagining an aspect of oneself on the empty chair and telling it how one felt was very useful. I had my client be her Venus and talk to her Saturn on the empty chair and tell it how she felt about it inhibiting her and then I had her switch places and be Saturn talking to Venus and expressing his perspective and what he had to offer her with his restraint and boundaries.

Venus said something like “I try to get into relationships but you always make me feel that I’m not good enough or that the other person isn’t good enough to meet your high standards.” Then when I had her switch chairs and become Saturn he said to Venus “You sometimes choose people who are not on your level intellectually or spiritually so I have to point it out to you. I have to encourage you to be your best self.” Then I had her switch places and go back to being Venus talking to Saturn. After switching back and forth a few times she reached a better understanding of how these 2 energies could work together.

Then I had her do the same exercises with the Mars square Moon switching back and forth between the 2 planetary energies. As the Moon speaking to Mars she expressed her fear of his upsetting her tranquility and interfering in her relationships. When Mars responded he told her that she needed to assert herself more and get more involved and passionate in her life and relationships. After dialoguing back and forth they reached a resolution where she would agree to be more assertive in her life but also in a restrained way and with appropriate timing. In that way she felt she gained a deeper understanding of the conflicts within her chart and of ways they could be integrated.

My client talked to me about some of the struggles that she had experienced in her own life around anger, self-esteem, and relationship issues. She left feeling that she had gained a deeper understanding and an optimism that she could begin to integrate what she had felt were conflicts within herself.

About 6 months later she returned for a follow up session and I had her do the dialoguing back and forth again to see what change had been made. She seemed to have more insights and to feel that she had made progress in her life.

At the last OPA conference I gave a three-day workshop entitled Integrating Techniques of Gestalt Therapy into Astrological Counseling. We began by taking turns role-playing the different signs and planets, similar to Astro-drama. Then we looked at one participant’s chart. I asked her what aspect of her chart was challenging for her and we worked on that aspect. I recall it being Moon-Mars and I had her role play the Moon talking to Mars on the empty chair and then switching places and being Mars. I had her switch back and forth at least 3 times and then have a dialogue between the 2 about how they might work together better.

We analyzed it afterwards and she felt that she had gained new insight into dealing with this challenging aspect. In the next session another participant worked with a challenging aspect of her chart and we analyzed that afterwards. In the final session I had the participants be the astrologers working with my chart and then gave them feedback afterwards. They did a good job and I gained some insights—there is always more to learn.

This technique of dialoging between areas of conflict on the chart can be used not only with planets that are in challenging aspects but also with Sun, Moon and Ascendant that may be in signs that seem incompatible. When I gave a demonstration at an OPA conference a few years ago, my model client had the challenge of a Leo Sun and a Pisces Ascendant. I could have used my own chart that has a Capricorn Sun with a Sagittarius Ascendant.

I have used these techniques at times when I felt they were appropriate—such as with a returning clients who seem ready to go deeper in understanding into their charts and to make changes in their patterns of reacting and being in relationships. I don’t think this technique is appropriate for a new client as there is so much information to be given about the chart. It is important to build trust between the astrologer and client.

In conclusion, I view these techniques as additional tools we can have in our toolbox that can be used to help our clients over time in their growth and evolution.

Susan Falk is an MSW from New York University and a CSW. She is a certified Rubenfeld Synergist having trained with Ilana Rubenfeld in her particular therapy that combines Gestalt Therapy, Alexander Technique, and Feldenkrais Method and served on her teaching faculty for 4 years.

Susan has been practicing professional astrologer for 35 years and a member of OPA since its 1994. She is certified by OPA and has led certification groups.
ASTROLOGY CONFERENCES 2015

FEBRUARY

2/19-22 – Sky Astrology Conference - Eluthera island, Bahamas
www.skyastrology.com

MARCH

3/12-16 – River of Stars – Big Island, HI
www.theriverofstars.com

3/20-22 – Queer Astrology Conference
www.queerastrology.com

3/28-29 – Horary Weekend Course – London, UK
www.londonschoolofastrology.co.uk

APRIL

4/9-13 – GLAC – Ann Arbor, Mi
www.greatlakesastrology.com

4/9-11 – AFA The Cosmic Clock – Tempe, Az
www.astrologers.com

MAY

5/1-3 – Polaris Astrology Konference – Oslo, Norway
www.polarisastrologi.no

5/9-10 – Astrology Student Conference – London, UK
www.astroconference.com

5/22-24 – NORWAC – Seattle, Wa
www.norwac.net

TBA – NCGR-NYC Educational Conference – TBA
www.Astrologynyc.org

SEPTEMBER

9/11-14 – AAGB – Wyboston, UK
www.astrologicalassociation.com

9/18-20 and 9/25-27 – STA Horary Practitioner’s Certificate Course
www.londonschoolofastrology.co.uk

OCTOBER

10/22-25 – OPA ASTROLOGERS RETREAT – Pacific Grove, CA
www.opaastrology.org

10/22-25 – SOTA – Niagara Falls, Canada
www.donnavantoen.com
URANUS
And Rapid Evolution

Uranus ingressed into Aries the 11th of March 2011 and will stay until 16th of May 2018. During this period the famous series of Pluto-Uranus (2012-2015) will have hit 7 times exactly and even though we are nearing the finishing up of this series, we still have a very interesting grand finale ahead of us with two more exact alignments to go, one 15th of December and finally the last one 17th of March.

Uranus will stay in close proximity to the nodal axis of the Moon in the time period between these two alignments and the change that this configuration promises will be felt even more acutely. We have an exiting winter ahead of us!

Nodal axis

The nodal axis of the Moon is the northern and southern intersection of the plane of the Moon around earth and the ecliptic. For the time being the South Node is in Aries and the North Node is in Libra and their movement is retrograde through the zodiac. The nodal axis spends 18 months in each sign and they are about midway through Aries-Libra for the time being. In November 2015 they will move into Virgo-Pisces and until then, Aries-Libra will color the fields.

The south node in Aries is about excessive individuality and headstrong warrior spirit, whilst the north node in Libra points to diplomacy and cooperation. Together they form the paradox of being able to cooperate and not loose individuality.

Given that the nodal axis highlights every planetary principle it touches and pulls the energies down to the earth consciousness with immense force, Uranus will thus be the planetary principle that will run away with the Golden Medal of extraordinary achievements this winter.

We will all be Uranian! And behave erratic, protest each other and feel frustrated with politics and the system. And we will find new solutions to old problems. Uranus is the principle of individuation.

The field of consciousness

In Jungian Psychology individuation is understood as the process in which the individual self develops out of an undifferentiated unconscious.

The unconscious is those processes of the mind that occur automatically and are not available to introspection. It’s those automated responses that happens instantly. Uranus medically is connected to the nervous system and the organizing principle in the body and it co-rules the limbic system (together with the Moon). Uranus is the signaling system in the body and people with a fairly strong Uranus position in the charts are therefore known to be high strung. The limbic system rules a variety of functions like emotion, behavior, motivation, long-term memory and olfaction.

Given that Uranus and the Moon rules the limbic system with its connection to memory makes this a very interesting time as Uranus is residing on the nodal axis of the Moon. Astrologer Mark Jones connects Uranus particularly to long-term memory, even past life memory, and even though I tend to rather think that Uranus is the light of consciousness that finally reaches the depth of the unconscious and lights it all up, the essence of the matter is still that we are given access to a deeper vault of knowledge in our selves.

This time in space is thereby connected to the increase in knowledge relating our history, personally and collectively. We get to see what challenged us growing up and to what effects the shadows of the family or culture stifled our growth.

In order to individuate; to find ourselves; we need knowledge. We need to know from where we came, who influenced us, what skills we have, what our preferences are and to what extent traumatic events denied us the right to be who we feel we are. Information related to this individuation process can come to us in this period and inspire change. Memories can be released into the conscious field for us to see with new eyes. We can experience real insight into matters of the past and get new vision for the future.

However, it isn’t a given that we suddenly will all become complete rebels and revolutionaries during this time. As every planetary principle Uranus as well is behaving relative to level of individual consciousness and individual birth chart, and it has thus a different quality and area of expression for each human being.

If we allow ourselves to generalize a little bit, we can say that humanity is roughly divided into three different mentalities or levels of consciousness. This model of seeing life is by all means not perfect and it has room for improvement. The main intention with using such a model, is trying to find a working model for astrology, given that there are so many different expressions of each planetary principle and hard to actually generalize due to the different levels.

Consensus group

In evolutionary astrology we say that about 75% of the world population are at this level of evolution. They are those who are racially and nationally conscious and strive to ensure that their families are safe materially. They work to understand how society and its rules work, and eventually, as the individual evolves in this sub-group of humanity, they learn how to win the game and manage their lives better and better. But there is still no sense of individual values. The values of society are accepted and adopted, and there is a certain kind of conservatism that rules the consciousness. In this sub-group, Uranus will not behave very radically, nor revolutionary. However it can lead to divorces and split homes, changes of work or social situation, and sudden accidents or traumatic experiences. There is also a chance for social upheaval during this transit in general that affects this group’s sense of security in particular. The collective influence and their push towards a better future, can actually lead to a more pronounced conservatism in this group.

When the consensus group is being pushed too much, too fast, they react to protect the status quo with separatism, nationalism and conservatism. Eventually this group changes too, but it takes time. For this group, security and survival are the most basic needs and big, global changes are seen as unimportant to their lives and global issues
considered irrelevant. This is the group of people who are most influenced by the collective unconscious and are prone to fall for the commercial glamor.

Individuated group:

This group of people, about 20% of the world population, is what we term individuated. These are people in the process of individuation. They try to break away from mass thinking, seek liberation from external influences and constantly limit codependency. This is actually a group in a certain critical phase, as there is a strong potential to feel like an outcast or isolated from the main stream. This leads initially, before the individual solves the puzzle of becoming, to a long road of trying to find home again spiritually speaking. There can be a real sense of loneliness and feeling excluded from life and a frustration of not finding the point of access back to society again. Many people in this group might still be in jobs that ensures their survival, but does nothing to their souls.

Individualism in its very beginning is often defensive and can also be aggressive and it is here that we find the critic of society, the destructive rebel, the terrorist, the eternal backpacker and the struggling artist. We also find the genius who thinks out of the box and the person who is really progressive and able to find solutions to problems that affect us all. Eventually, evolution leads to the individuated soul's ability to actually think for him or herself and be free on a personality level. These are the free souls that inspire change in others. They go into the world with a new, fresh energy, creating waves that change society permanently.

For these people the transit of Uranus on the nodal axis squaring Pluto will mark a time where those who are in the process of breaking free, will achieve their freedom. For those who are struggling to find their mission here on earth, information will be available and there will be a chance to manifest something completely new.

Spiritual group

About 5% of the world population is on a spiritual level of consciousness and the focus of awareness changes yet again to shift from personal, egoic awareness into a holistic, global awareness. These people try to find the ultimate truth and reconnect yet again to a bigger source. This is not a source, as an external God is understood in traditional religion, but it is an understanding that God/source is within, as you, and that the filters that prevents us from seeing this connection, is in the spiritual group swiped clean. Suddenly all is God, inside and outside and this coincides with the ability to be trans-religious, trans-duality, trans-nationally-race or gender. These are the people who are truly intuitive and are teachers of humanity, be it politicians like Nelson Mandela, or spiritual leaders like the Dalai Lama, who's message has always been one of non-duality and peaceful solutions.

Those who are aspiring on this level of awareness are often seekers of truth in their own lives and they are more concerned with setting the correct intention instead of figuring out a master plan. The material realm loses its grip on these individuals and the inner realm of contact is more important.

The Uranus-nodal axis-Pluto square will inspire this group differently than the two others. Uranus on a spiritual level is the understanding of the matrix or the organizing principle in life that lies beyond the physical eye. It is the plan of life, the blueprint that came before creation. For people on a spiritual level, their understanding of the plan for humanity can become even clearer and many will also show us their visions. These people can work completely in the background and be silent seeders of society. They “seed” the collective mind with new ideas and thoughts and help humanity reach their potential of being loving and caring human beings, who are able to share and pay respect to each other.

Conclusion

The Uranus-Pluto series in general, and in particular, this period as they touch the nodal axis, we will all have the ability to travel a little light year in our personal development. But there is a backside to change, if it happens too quickly, there might be a contra reaction. Conservative powers in family or in life in general, might oppose to your development. In society, we might see groups of people wanting change, but then other groups answering with conservatism. The social sanctions of those trying to attempt change are sometimes very anti-evolutionary, but the resistance to change is often based on fear. Whatever we fear in ourselves, we automatically fear for other people as well.

So the parent who tries to stop their child from going to this or that school or traveling world wide, or the boss who is opposing your new plan might do so because of fear.

Uranus is in the hot-headed sign of Aries, and overly focus on individualism can also shake up resistance. The north node in Libra reminds us that we need to cooperate in order to make family, friendship, work or social contexts work. We gain nothing by being erratic or eccentric and true growth comes from understanding Saturn and time, the limits of evolution and the need to find a tempo for change, gradual change, change that does not create shocks.

This is the quantum leap, the heightening of awareness and the potential to see future solutions for earth and its challenges. But evolution can be a bumpy road, so keep grounded, stay centered and be mindful. These are quite stressing transits, so we need to keep sane. Humanity is changing and hopefully for the better. For all this to happen, we need to explore what is keeping us away from cooperation and how we can work together. On a spiritual level Uranus is the group. In order for earth to function in the future, the different groups on earth need to learn to cooperate both within their group and together with other groups. One example could be religion needing to respect science and vice versa, instead of trying to suppress each other.

Uranus brings in the knowledge about what it means to be a member of society and it is a maturing principle. When we have seen deeper into issues of personal or collective matters, we can no longer deny for ourselves what our responsibility is. That insight might just set us free.

Sol W. Jonassen is an evolutionary astrologer residing in Norway, where she works with astrology nationally and internationally. Her interest lies in psychological, spiritual and mundane astrology. She organizes the international astrology conference, Polaris, is a member of the Norwegian Association of Astrology and is the OPA representative in Norway. She maintains her blog at www.sol-with.com/en