Greetings OPA!

Greetings from Istanbul where we just completed the Astrology Day conference organized by OPA Turkish Satellite, Oner Doser. This was a truly inspiring way to celebrate, spending time with such a dedicated crowd of people who are very serious about their commitment to become professional astrologers.

OPA Turkey is the 3rd largest satellite of OPA, following the US and Canada, with 40 members to date.

WHY ASTROLOGY DAY?
- Because Astrology reminds us our life is not random
- Because Astrology reflects universal order
- Because Astrology shows us it does matters
- Because Astrology shines in the darkness

In this edition, some of you have shared your vision and perspective about what may happen or needs to happen in the future of astrology. We all know a lot of work is still needed to maximize the true potential of astrology. But we are here, the pioneers holding that flame against strong winds, relying on the wisdom of our ancestors and working to sustain the fire and help it burn stronger.

2017 is strong with fire as the Leo North Node is upon us. We can expect tremendous creativity, research, and daring breakthroughs in these coming months. Moreover, the Jupiter Uranus opposition continues to bring necessary winds of controversy, debate, and outrage for new portals of realizations to open.

Unfasten your seat belts, March on!

Maurice Fernandez
President, OPA

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The Vernal Equinox symbolizes the rebirth of nature and the beginning of a new cycle. Persephone is liberating herself from Pluto's kingdom and recaptures her place in Heavens. In the same sense, the human souls transform themselves by mastering their passions and the dark side of the ego personality. In the chart of the 2017 Aries Point, the Moon conjuncts Saturn in Sagittarius aspecting the Jupiter/Libra to Uranus/Aries opposition, emphasizing the importance of maturation through the spiritual liberation and resurrection. Venus in Aries is in retrograde motion forcing us to search for beauty within us, be true and genuine. Several days later, Venus conjuncts the Sun while being in its greatest proximity to the Earth, maximizing the need for love, peace and harmony on a deeper level.

MARCH NEW MOON – 07o57’

The March 28th New Moon in 7 degrees of Aries, fuels us with the drive to take dynamic action. It coincides with the Jupiter-Pluto square, adding enormous amounts of power and the determination to succeed at any cost. Given the fact that retrograde Venus is also close to the luminaries, what really matters is the motives behind our actions. “Hidden” is the key word as we are given the chance to dig up, reveal a precious treasure and create something special. In a negative manifestation, we may invest in fool’s gold, or jeopardize our relationship dynamics, in an effort to impose our egotistical desires, ideals or beliefs. This can be equally dangerous in both personal and international relationships.

APRIL FULL MOON - 21°32’ of Ï€\gamma

On April 11th, an extremely powerful Full Moon occurs at 21 degrees of Libra/Aries. The Jupiter-Pluto theme is still active as the luminaries trigger both planets. Pluto/Jupiter aspects can engender ideological clashes and perhaps more controversial issues around racism and ethnicity.

Emotions and feelings are intense and we are impelled to connect on a deeper level. There is an urge to break up from any associations that are not important, authentic or may not endure the tests. On the other hand, we might experience feelings of pain and abandonment or the fear of intimacy and letting go. Two additional important planetary events of the Lunation are the retrograde motion of Mercury and Venus slowing to station direct, which both bring into focus relationship and financial affairs.
Transits of the Season

VENUS STATIONS DIRECT

Venus stations direct on April 15 at 26° Pisces in tight conjunction with Chiron and in square with Saturn in Sagittarius, adding the need for purity and honesty in matters of love and happiness, as a terminal womb-healing process. We are asked to bring down our fears, the self-imposed blockages and the attitudes that prevent us to advance, to succeed, to mature. We must also set our limits and take responsibility in the areas where we feel insecure, rejected and hurt. Both Sagittarius and Pisces are signs closely linked to religious beliefs and doctrines. This configuration might either intensify religious fanaticism and parochialism, or it can help us broaden our perception and grow spiritually.

MERCURY RETROGRADE CYCLE

Mercury retrograde cycle lasts from April 8th to May 3rd, at 4 degree of Taurus to 24 of Aries. During this phase, information is heard more loudly. In the first part of the cycle, the fixed Taurine energy creates resistance and blockages in changes and tests the practicality in any decision. It is crucial to re-examine established attitudes and beliefs regarding personal values, material possessions, security issues, love and money. Just before retrograde Mercury returns to Aries, the inferior conjunction with the Sun at zero degree of Taurus brings a new power and vitality to our mind. This may be a time to reflect on important issues in our lives and perhaps experience some “aha” moments through this reflective mode. This coincides with the entrance of Mars in the Mercury ruled sign – Gemini. The next couple of weeks, as Mercury retrogrades in Aries, we tend to approach all issues in a more direct, spontaneous and alert way. There’s also a tendency to rush into conclusions and antagonize on ideas and mental issues.

MARS IN GEMINI – April 21 – June 6

From April 21st to June 6th Mars will be transiting the sign of Gemini, emphasizing the urge for interchange and communication. Energy tends to be scattered due to the nervousness created and the impulse to do many things simultaneously. Mars plays a key role to the May 10th Full Moon as the co-ruler of the Scorpio Moon.

A Full Moon brings an increased emotional impact, signifying times of completion but also splits and separations. Under the sign of Scorpio there’s emotional intensity and the need to assert power and control over our lives and in some cases in the lives of others. The duality of Gemini Mars in square to Neptune in Pisces might bring dilemmas and indecisiveness. There’s a tendency to overestimate our power, being in disillusionment over our desires and mislead in our purpose. A lot depends on the effect of the Jupiter in Libra trine, as it might either sacrifice itself in the name of external peace and harmony, or it might prefer to create internal balance by drawing off toxic relationships of all kinds.

With the Gemini ruler Mercury in conjunction to Uranus in Aries the mind is alert and vivid with a tendency to act spontaneously, so it is better to try to slow things down as much as possible, and even be attentive and careful while driving.

By the time the Gemini New Moon occurs on May 25th, Mars will be in opposition to Saturn bringing into focus the importance of being self-disciplined and in control of our actions in order to meet our target. Concentration of power is the key to success.

AQUARIUS/LEO LUNAR NODES

On April 28 and May 9 (depending if you use Mean or True Nodes), the Lunar Nodes Axis shifts to Leo (NN) and Aquarius (SN) until November 16, 2018. The transit of Aquarius South Node - Leo North Node changes the scenario for personal and universal growth. It brings awareness to the role we have to play on the stage of life, a need to identify with the true self, a need to be creative, to love and to be loved, to be recognized and perform what we are called to do in our lives. Each one of us can be an example to society and an inspiration to others. When each and every member of a group is sound, then the whole group is sound too.

We are asked to bring down our fears, the self-imposed blockages and the attitudes that prevent us to advance, to succeed, to mature.
Transits of the Season

JUNE 9 - FULL MOON
18°53' of S

The Sagittarius Full Moon on June 9th promises great rewards to those who chose to follow the path of consciousness and maturation. The Moon-Saturn conjunction brings the need for awareness and spiritual uplift. Negative feelings and thinking can only result in attachment to the past which prevents our growth and advancement.

MARS IN CANCER
– June 6 to July 20

From June 6 to July 20, the fiery energy of Mars travels through the water world of the sign of Cancer. In this placement actions are mostly stimulated by emotions. Difficulties in extroverted expression can create moodiness, sometimes to the point of anxiety and distress. Actions can be directed to increase our sense of security and there’s a propensity to cling to the past refusing to let things go.

In Esoteric Astrology, Mars in Cancer is the activating force for the transformation of the lower nature, the domination over our desires, obsessions and unprocessed emotions. The battle stands into consciously following our Soul’s Will and make correct use of the mental energy.

Actions are mostly stimulated by emotions.

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With the Nodes moving into Leo (North Node) and Aquarius (South Node), we move further away from the Mutable cross that has heavily characterized the year 2016 with mass migrations of refugees from the Middle East, globalization, and the resulting surge of racism and extreme right.

With **Jupiter moving to Scorpio in October 2017**, and **Mars travelling through a retrograde cycle for almost 6 months in Aquarius in the course of 2018**, and lastly **Uranus moving into Taurus by May 2018**, we see a strong emphasis in Fixed signs. Subsequently, the following years 2019-2020 will return to the strong Cardinal flavor with heavy emphasis returning to Pluto in Capricorn.

**Fixed signs** capture the essence of creativity and manifestation. They represent what role WE have to play in this world, hence the strong intensity, concentration of energy, and sexual nature of these signs—squeezing our inner juices. With Leo and Aquarius in particular, the calling for leadership is emphasized and most importantly, the inspiration to create a better future. While the Virgo/Pisces axis referred to a need to integrate global dynamics and understand we must adhere to a reality larger than ourselves, the Leo/Aquarius axis reminds us destiny is in our hands. We are the creators of our destiny, where we inspire innovative ideas (Aquarius) or bring children to the world (Leo).

**The Leo North Node, Aquarius South Node**

While there seems to be a definite evolutionary direction from the South Node to the North Node, there is a misconception that somehow, the South Node must be discarded, symbolizing something that sabotages our lives. It is my observation that the Nodes work ultimately as an axis with both polarities necessary and that the lesson is to integrate the South with the North Node.

While the South Node in Aquarius speaks of highlighting our higher mental capacities and adopting the unemotional and objective bird eye view to see past and future more clearly, the Leo North Node speaks of keeping the flame burning, and being inspired for our love for life to show up, take the stage of life, and manifest our destiny.

**Aquarius without Leo** is a collection of bright ideas that seldom see the light of day, discouraged by cynicism and the prospect of dirty work required to materialize them.

**Leo without Aquarius** is a demonstration of good-will and romantic ideals that can be short-sighted and lack maturity. Both brain (Aquarius) and heart (Leo) are necessary for results to be valuable (Taurus) and transformatively powerful (Scorpio).

**The rulers of the Nodes, namely Uranus and the Sun** must be monitored during the transit as they will flavor the direction and application of these concepts. This is particularly noteworthy with slow moving Uranus moving into Taurus by May 2018.

**MAY/JUNE 17 - GRAND FIRE TRINE – North Node, Uranus, Saturn**

As the North Node retrogrades from Virgo to 29 Leo, it will gradually form a tight Grand Trine with Uranus at 26 Aries, and Saturn at 27 Sagittarius.

This configuration can activate creativity on a personal level and activism on a more collective level, particularly with Uranus and Saturn involved describing a...
A strong incentive to bring about reforms and change the status quo.

AUG 17 - SOLAR ECLIPSE at 28 Leo conjunct Regulus
A very dramatic Solar Eclipse at 28 Leo, conjunct the fixed Royal Star Regulus and Mars in Leo will actually pass through the United States, from South Carolina to Oregon.

Eclipses are important “activators” and tend to accelerate processes in our reality. With the Eclipse in Leo, we can expect changes in our career and leadership direction, and or with our children.

Because Mars is involved in the eclipse, we can expect both more radical changes and volatility around that whole period of time. The fact that the Eclipse lands actually on Donald Trump’s chart does not help tame the fire.

JAN 3, 2018 – Mars/Jupiter in Scorpio square the Nodes
2018 will begin with a bang, with unstoppable Mars/Jupiter in abrupt and powerful Scorpio squaring the Nodes. We can expect important political and commercial development, as well as abrupt separations.

MAY 2018 – Uranus moves from Aries to Taurus
While Uranus in Aries brought a need to upgrade the status of our personal freedoms and to expand our liberty of action, Uranus in Taurus will bring a greater focus on Economic reforms and the need to sustainable use of resources.

MAY to OCT 18 – Mars in Aquarius retrograde Cycle on the South Node
Mars is flirting with the Nodes all along, from the August 2017 Eclipse to the October 2018 Conjunction to the South Node. This includes a Mars retrograde conjunction to the Lunar Eclipse of July 27, 2018.

Mars on the Nodes activates separatist sentiments and intensifies the need to take new directions. It represents a deep need to do things our own way, and since it is in Aquarius, we can expect more polarization, a personal sense of alienation, and a need to completely reinvent ourselves.

This can create both a climate of adversity and even violence, and breakthroughs and new discoveries.

**KEY CONCEPTS FOR THE LION/AQUARIUS NODES**

- Fertility
- Manifestation
- Taking charge of Destiny
- Synchronizing Mind and Heart
- The Future

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The Future of Astrology

by Roy Gillett

For as long as the Earth transits the Sun, the future of geocentric astrology is assured. That humanity will have the wisdom to continue to benefit from understanding it is more problematic.

Although the Astrological Association had the millennium in mind, when organising its largest-ever annual conference for the August 1999 Grand Cross Eclipse, neither before nor after did I see it as heralding a brave new Age of Aquarius. The 1997-2010 Uranus and Neptune transits through Aquarius and Pisces, and their mutual reception there, have shown mainly the worst manifestations of the planets and the late Piscean Age. ‘Egged on’ by Pluto in Sagittarius, we have seen: inventions and actions without consideration of the consequences; rapidly expanding economies, motivated by greed, ignorance and hatred; arrogant fundamentalism in both religious and materialistic societies; obsessive insistence by those in authority that they know best; playing the victim and victimisation without concern for others; the politics of fear.

It is a sign of such times that just when astrological understanding is most needed, the established mainstream institutions have gone out of their way to misrepresent and marginalise it into simplistic obscenity. It is a sign of its eternal splendour and the wise courage of its proponents that the last twenty to thirty years have seen amazing rediscoveries and advances in the practice of astrology. Armed with remarkable research devotion and modern computer technology, it has not only become possible to know much more of what our forebears knew, but to calculate in detail at incredibly fast speeds. Complete astrological connections can be displayed in an instant. By a couple of clicks of a mouse, we can know a baby’s nature and generate a considered description of its potential, setting parents free to accept and enable their child’s choices. We can see through the propaganda, to reveal the true nature of potential leaders and events. How much human dysfunction and counter-productive horror would be averted if astrology were used to anticipate and resolve problems! Understanding why things are as they are

However, frustrated we may feel, astrologers should be happier than most people, because they are far better placed to understand the cyclic background to what is happening. As well as the Uranus and Neptune transits, Pluto in Capricorn is behind the fundamental restructuring of our world society. Astrologers can see the futility of the desperate attempts to sustain the old-world order. We are less likely to become attached to false prophets and hopes. We know that a Pluto in Aquarius period will ingress from 2023-24 and the wise among us will have realistic expectations about this period too. We know that glimmers of a true Aquarian age may be heralded then, but, at the same time, these need to go through a challenging maturation that can take several centuries.

The early 16th century Pluto in Capricorn / Aquarius period seeded centuries of religious conflict, as groups struggled to liberate their souls and gain freedom to worship as they wished. Pluto’s return there in the late 18th century seeded the notion of individual rights and democratic institutions, but also led to great colonial battles against totalitarian domination. Seemingly from nowhere, individual entrepreneurs rose to power to manipulate and exploit the masses in their own countries and beyond. Now, as we come to the climax of the current Pluto in Capricorn transit with the Aquarian one on the horizon, a fledgling
urge for genuine individuality struggles to see the light of real freedom of choice; amidst a cacophony of religious fanatics and old school demagogues, who tell us happiness comes from succeeding at the expense of everyone else.

As the last years of Pluto in Capricorn confront us with reality, and then give way to the Pluto in Aquarius period, we can expect the consequences of the worst excesses of modern technology to be scrutinised and questioned. Also, be prepared for a humanitarian transformation. The most negative outcome could be the arrogant denial of individual human interests and opinions and dominance of the machine over our lives. We have made such a mess of society that it [the machine] knows best what is in our interests. Alternatively, if we are wise, we will take control of technology and channel invention into ecological use of energy resources, and humane, more leisure-centred ways of family and social life. As always astrology will continue to be an indispensable tool in clarifying the happiest choices for everyone.

Looking further ahead

When seeking the true beginning of the Age of Aquarius, it has always seemed right to follow Cyril FAGAN’s1 suggestion that the vernal sidereal and tropical zodiacs coincided in 221AD and hence the Age of Aquarius will not be truly with us until the 24th century. Two vastly contrasting indicators seem to reinforce my intuitive feeling. The first is from the Tibetan tradition concerning our present times.

Kali Yuga: this present degenerate age or epoch. We have degenerated from the Golden Age through the Silver Age and the Copper Age, and are now in our most degenerate (spiritually and morally) Iron Age, which will become worse and worse with things getting faster and faster until the end of the Yuga when evil will have spread to such an extent that it will reach the sacred kingdom of Shambhala, at which time the kings of Shambhala will muster an army and the tides will be reversed. This is to happen about three hundred years from now.

The television series Star Trek, especially the later The Next Generation, Voyager and Star Base Nine, visualised a highly-advanced society, where science and humanitarianism had combined to move mankind beyond hardship and the struggle against others to survive. Whatever was needed could be replicated, travel between reasonably near places was nearly instant and through the Universe up to ten times the speed of light. Although this brought the Earth-based Federation of Planets into conflicts or misunderstandings with distant aliens, life on Earth had few of the issues we face in today’s world. This was not just because science had advanced sufficiently to make it so. Rather because science had advanced hand in hand with tolerance for the unknown, even what at first seemed ‘unscientific’, bringing everything into an ever-broader universal understanding. It was also so because 24th century society adhered to The Prime Directive that all people and cultures had the right to develop in their own way. So, many levels of existence lived side-by-side. A vast computer system could locate everyone, yet each person had their own private space that could only be entered under very special circumstances.

I do not know if Gene Roddenberry set Star Trek in the 24th century because he knew about the Precession of the Equinoxes, or because it was far enough into the future for its practicalities to be conceivable.

References

1 Joan Quigley’s advice to Ronald Reagan that led to the end of the Cold War is the most notable example in modern times.
2 See SVP (the) SYNETIC VERNAL POINT in the technical introduction of The American Ephemeris for the 21st Century Neil F Michelsen
3 Machig Lamdpdron Women of Wisdom by Tsurtrim Allione Published 1986 Akana
4 In the 1980s Mark Pottinger’s CCRS computer program was well ahead of its time, when it included calculation routines for people born and events initiated on Mars and other planets. They may even begin on a space ship in a range of other positions in space. For, wherever we are, we are in relation to the rest of the Universe and astrology will evolve to take account of that.
5 Roy Gillett Reversing the Race to Global Destruction Published 2017 www.crucial-books.co.uk
The Future of Astrology: Academic or Esoteric

by David Cochrane

The 21st century started with astrology entering the academic mainstream. Kepler College granted academic degrees from 2000 to 2012. The dream of an academic institution where one can receive a degree in astrology was, however, short-lived because Kepler College was unable to receive the required accreditation to continue to grant academic degrees. The closest we have now to academic degree granting educational institutions with a specialization in astrology are colleges that teach primarily the historical and cultural aspects of astrology rather than an emphasis on actual chart interpretation.

Will the Doors to Academia Open Again?

Is the profession of astrology destined to be an endeavor supported only by our grassroots organizations like OPA, and are we forever to be excommunicated from the hallowed halls of academia? Are we always to be engaged in an esoteric discipline that exists outside the mainstream, but is nevertheless an important, thriving, and vital alternative to mainstream psychology, therapy, and counseling?

To answer this question, I wish to share some of my own personal experiences that I believe will shed some light on this topic. Like many astrologers, I combine astrology with other areas of interest. Many of us have extensive training in psychology, symbolism, and myths. Some of us have studied herbs or naturopathic medicine. The financial astrologers among us are well-versed in finance or economics. One of my interests is research methods, and I have lectured at an academic conference on pioneering work in research methods, and I also am a co-author of a paper that was published in the prestigious academic journal "Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal".

A Hopeful Sign

Much to my surprise when I began taking graduate courses in research methods and statistics and attending academic conferences, my involvement in astrology was generally welcomed and appreciated. My colleagues in research methods, including those who are most respected and, for example, are keynote speakers at conferences, usually do not dismiss astrology as nonsense. Typically they are amazed and surprised when I tell them that I conduct research in astrology. Most of them had no idea that astrology was being researched in a formal manner and they are intrigued. I often get questions about the nature of this research and they become even more intrigued as I answer their questions. If the conversation lasts long enough, the question is raised of whether I have discovered anything in my research. My standard answer is that we are still mostly in the model building stage of research, the models are getting better every day and there have been some confirmations with test data, but we have not yet gotten consistently replicable results in hypothesis tests. This is the kind of language that we research methodologists use, and I am sure that you are able to follow the basic concept of what my response is even if some of the terminology is a bit new to you.

Do We Care? Is This Important?

I often wonder what the majority of my astrological colleagues think about the way in which I function in this interdisciplinary way, crossing the boundaries and integrating ideas in research methods with astrology. In reality, the amount of time that I pursue research is very limited because I have a full-time job writing astrology software. Nevertheless, with the helpful collaboration of others who share these interests, tremendous progress in astrological research is being made.

Will my research and the research of others eventually cross the current chasm between academia and astrology, and usher in a future where astrology finds a home in academia as well as being an esoteric study? Do astrologers think that the rapid growth of evidence-based astrology in the past few years is important to astrology and our shared interest in raising professional standards and advancing the goals and mission of OPA?

A New Wave: Evidence-Based Astrology

I was delighted that OPA president Maurice Fernandez gave a lecture at the first annual Kepler Conference in Florida in January, 2017. The evidence-based astrology movement is relevant to anyone interested in professional standards in astrology. The Kepler Conference is devoted exclusively to evidence-based astrology. By evidence-based astrology we mean astrological ideas that are supported by more than anecdotal evidence and tradition. It is now clear that evidence-based astrology will continue to grow rapidly in the near future. The number of views of my youtube videos on evidence-based astrology continues to dramatically increase, and the response to the videos is very enthusiastic. We also now receive regular requests for new research features in our Kepler and Sirius software, whereas from about 1990 to 2010 we rarely received requests for new research features.

The evidence-based astrology movement is strong, but will it change the face of astrology? Will it transition astrology to be an academic field as well as an esoteric field? Is this movement going to derail astrology? Are we going to fail in discovering anything important in our research? What is the future of astrology, academic or esoteric? Perhaps most important-ly, should astrologers begin to adopt some of the concepts and techniques of modern research methods, such as removing selection bias when gathering data? I won't go into the details of what selection bias is and how it can often be easily removed here because my point here is that there are simple and powerful
Astrology can be controversial, and I ask only that we be respectful to each other and respect different opinions. Thank you for reading this article and for considering these issues and questions.

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Understanding that the Information About the Universe Is Not Complete yet
As we all know, when classical astrology appeared, there was no information about the outer planets. Now, day by day, we see new discoveries of objects in the sky. As time went by, astrologers developed techniques and new systems such as different house systems, new quadrants such as 90 degrees dial chart. The chart may be “full” of planets and objects and some hypothetical points that we don’t yet have the information about.

What is important here is that all roads lead to the same information. How wonderful is that! Whatever system you use, it leads you to “oneness” and true, whole knowledge. I suggest that people do research, and not simply accept available knowledge as a matter of fact, but try to improve it. The belief of the endless capacity of this divine system opens many doors in one’s mind, if we let it. There is more than you see and know at the moment and we just have a piece of it. It’s about being aware of the capacity of limitlessness.

Clearing Its Function For A Healthy Reading and Guidance
Astrology reflects important moments and events in our lives. With enough practice, you can make correct predictions about things that are going to happen. But there is more than that to astrology. A prediction can help prevent or prepare people for challenging events. Predictions may help in times of serious decisions. On the other hand, “Understanding” and “identifying” the deeper meaning of the symbols makes the difference in our lives. Using astrology as a self-awareness tool in times of decision point, can also prevent danger. As commonly said: “What is inside is outside” and “what you think is you”. When we heal our inner selves we go beyond the predictive quality of astrology.

Limitless Possibilities and Analytic Thinking
Because of the limitless quality of the universe, we cannot know every possibility reflected in astrology. A chart can work on different spiritual levels depending on one’s soul journey. A symbol can mean more than we imagine. This requires an open mind.

Feeding Astrology With Other Disciplines and Protecting It: An Important Nuance
An astrologer, as someone who “understands” the universe, should go beyond Astrological knowledge only, but explore philosophy, sociology and other concepts that can enlarge his/her toolbox and serve in his/her capacity to analyze charts.

As a final note, I believe that defining the purpose for why we practice and use makes a difference in the work that we do. It is my perception that astrology is becoming more of a healing tool than only an analytical predictive tool.

As many great astrologers say, “Only God knows best”. For astrology, the best is not achieved yet.

Gaye Alkan, ASA MAPAI ISAR Cap
Born in 1986, Gaye graduated from Yeditepe University Radio Tv Cinema Department (2008), Istanbul University Literature Faculty Theatre Criticism and Dramaturgy Department (2013). In 2013, she attended AstroArt School of Astrology in Turkey and completed the advanced courses within two years. She also completed specialty courses, including Electional Astrology and Horary Astrology. 
Astrologer

In celebration of the 2017 Jupiter Uranus oppositions, (Jupiter = Eminence and Uranus = Evidence)

A while ago I listened to a podcast about the history of medicine, and was immediately struck by a possible future course for astrology.

Through the 20th century medicine has undergone major transformations. One of these transformations was the progression from being eminence-based to becoming evidence based. Eminence based medicine was the traditional approach. In the past, medical practice was dictated by the insights, opinions, and the intuition of prominent personalities in the healthcare field. In contrast to this, the current medical dogma is that a clinical decision should, as far as possible, be evidence based. The discontinuation of practices such as bloodletting and lobotomies are associated with the rise in evidence based medicine. There has been a tremendous elevation in medical standards in the twentieth century.

Astrology can follow a similar course. At present astrology is eminence based. It is characterized by a collection of similar but different approaches and methods, some of which are associated with specific teachers or schools. Most of these schools or teachers are historical, going back all the way to Ptolemy, other styles are new. Personally, I feel that deceased teachers often have an unfair advantage. This is the “halo” effect, due to their no longer being in the flesh.

New astrological lore and new approaches are being brought to life all the time. I see the process as follows. It starts in Gemini and Sagittarius. Gemini is that initial observation of reality. A connection is then made to a planet or sign. In Sagittarius, the general meaning, or the “principle” is intuited. Capricorn and Sagittarius are the signs of the teachers. Capricorn is the wisdom of the elders. Yet, it is only in Aquarius that astrology is refined, as Aquarius provides the “bird’s eye” view, looking at our lives from above. Aquarius’s influence is about not tolerating inconsistency, it creates feedback loops and through these it elevates. This influence is about measuring and quantifying. It cuts across disciplines. It standardizes and unifies. It is neutral. There is also destruction in Aquarius: some of the old ways become obsolete, bubbles burst. In short, Aquarius reflects what is evidence based.

True evidence-based astrology is still taking baby steps. Research requirements are that one counts, measures, uses databases, samples, and statistics. We have little statistical evidence for the common techniques and interpretations that are in current use in astrology.

There is a reliance on circumstantial evidence in astrology today. A teacher, or presenter, will explain an astrological principle, and then illustrate the principle with charts of well-known personalities. There are problematic aspects to this. An impression is created that these charts "prove" the principle. This can be so, if a neutral sampling procedure was used in selecting the charts in the first place. Yet selection bias will usually be present. We are all human. We astrologers know better than most people what bias is about. Describing different people’s bias in a nutshell is what astrology is about. We are always fired up in our minds about specific topics, and these then pop out at us through charts.

Another problematic aspect is that the charts of well-known people may or may not be representative of the general population. This was experienced by the French research astrologer, Michel Gauquelin, who, after being able to unambiguously and repeatedly demonstrate the “Mars Effect” in the charts of famous athletes, found that the effect “evaporated” when he studied the charts of people who were athletes, but not famous. In hindsight, we realize that he was probably observing the 12th house effect, which in his day he could not have known about. But fact remains that there are differences between the charts of prominent and famous people, and those of the rest of us.

What happens in medicine when the evidence fails? The patient has a condition for which there is no “evidence based” cure. What does the doctor do? Here is a listing of approaches found to be in common use by doctors:

Eminence-based medicine— it was found that the more senior the colleague was, the less importance he or she placed on the need for anything as mundane as evidence. Experience, it seems, is worth any amount of evidence. (This may be true, or it may not be true.)

Providence-based medicine—If the practitioner has no idea of what to do, the decision may best be left in the hands of the Almighty. This amounts to the intuitive approach. This approach is much used in astrology today, I personally think with success.

Diffidence based medicine—The diffident doctor will do nothing in the absence of a clear-cut solution. The patient will not be treated at all.

Nervousness based medicine—Fear of litigation is a powerful stimulus to current problems in medicine such as over investigation and overtreatment. Astrologers are not really facing litigation issues at present, but this may also become a threat in the future.

None of the above approaches would be necessary if evidence were available. Evidence is always the approach of choice, the best. I believe in an evidence based future for astrology. Yet as more evidence-based astrology becomes available we will meet up with similar challenges as are experienced in the medical field, such as the non-disclosure of negative results. When results come out
we may be surprised and we may not like them. They may not confirm our picture of how things work.

Compared to the prohibitive costs of medical research, astrological research is actually cheap. Technology and the computer era are on our side. The conversion of data, or numbers, into knowledge, is something humanity is very good at, at present.

To conclude I want to pay tribute to the comprehensive astrological research already done by astrologer and OPA member Michael Bergen. This is the way to go. We want the evidence to grow.

Firstly. The astrological community needs become more coherent. Astrology has much infighting and backstabbing, especially surrounding stylistic issues and turf. This is where OPA makes a difference. When astrologers are together they trust one another. Barriers and prejudices are broken down.

Secondly. We need more left brain. We need to measure more. The saying goes that astrology is an art not a science, and defies quantification due to its subtlety. My gut feel tells me this is not true. Statistics also pick up the subtle. Although good work has been done, I think we are still figuring out how best to approach quantity in astrology. The act of measurement increases consciousness. It modifies the picture that we have of things. Standards lift. In business the saying goes: what you measure you manage. When we fail at measuring something, and the reason is that that something is actually not there, the earlier we know the better.

Secondly. We need more left brain. We need to measure more. The saying goes that astrology is an art not a science, and defies quantification due to its subtlety. My gut feel tells me this is not true. Statistics also pick up the subtle. Although good work has been done, I think we are still figuring out how best to approach quantity in astrology. The act of measurement increases consciousness. It modifies the picture that we have of things. Standards lift. In business the saying goes: what you measure you manage. When we fail at measuring something, and the reason is that that something is actually not there, the earlier we know the better.

How do you feel Astrology will evolve in the coming decade:

I am positive. Astrology benefits tremendously from modern technology and communication. I feel that astrology will homogenize and be stronger on its feet.

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Innessa Wuzyk, Innessa is 51 years old (2017), married, with two grown children, born South African, from Dutch parentage. Innessa has done Maurice’s Certification program and, earlier on, went through a diploma course at the Mayo School of Astrology in England. Innessa currently serves as the Southern African OPA Satellite with Elena van Baalen. 

What do you feel should happen for Astrology to grow to its next level of practice:

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The Future of Astrology

by Barış Özkırış

Due to the growing interest in new age teachings and therapy methods like quantum, EFT, NLP, regression therapy and family constellation in Turkey especially within the last 15 years, there has been a growing interest in astrology. Simultaneously, each year courses and schools are opened particularly in Istanbul and other cities like Izmir and Ankara to meet this need and to teach students astrology from beginner to advanced level and even support them to expertise in specific branches of astrology. However, some branches of astrology, especially astro-psychology, are not prevalent enough in our country and astrology is not included in university curriculums. Consequently, the National Education Ministry do not legitimise the certificates and diplomas given by astrology schools abroad.

Through being supported by more statistical data and empirical study in the future, I suspect that astrology will be addressed as a social science, if not a positive science like physics and mathematics, and will be studied at the universities. Astrology may be considered as a secondary perspective like psychology, philosophy and sociology. I suppose, in addition to the personality tests they carry, psychologists may refer to natal charts to know their clients more efficiently and rapidly. It is even quite possible to take advantage of natal charts psychopathology to determine the causes, diagnosis and treatment of the disease.

Additionally, I expect that astrology will be more intertwined with new age trends. At this point, people who are expert on regression therapy, family constellation, psychodrama, quantum, access, etc. will possibly work together with the astrologers. Through the interaction of these fields, it is possible to have a deeper understanding of humanity and psychology. As our main purpose is to understand the human soul and be more efficient in solving problems, I believe astrology will be more useful through its integration with other disciplines and renovating itself in line with the researches.

Barış Özkırış is an instructor, psychologist, astrologer, relationship counsellor, author and musician. Barış has studied intermediate and advanced astrology at the AstroArt School of Astrology in Turkey as well as studied Astro-psychology in Academy of AstroPsychology. Since 2009, he has taught astrology in AstroArt School of Astrology. He is the co-author on a book “Relationship Astrology” with Öner Döşer and “Astrology, Karma, Faith and Free Will”, with four other authors.

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Building the Future of Astrology

by Courtney Roberts

It’s one thing to predict the future, and another to visualize it and project your desires forward; but building that future requires all of that and more. A lot more.

Building the Future of Astrology has been the raison d’être of the Kepler Conference since Day 1, when the dream of a research revolution, led by an evidence-based astrology conference, first arose back in June of 2015. That dream started coming true in a big way in January of 2017, when the 1st annual Kepler Conference brought serious astrologers together from 5 continents and challenged them to do something that has never been done before. Now that we have the tools to show the world what astrology can really do, what are we going to do about it? The Kepler Conference program rose to that challenge with an impressive display of projects and results that, in the words of Alex Trenoweth, ‘threw down the gauntlet to the scientific community who continue to disregard astrology as medieval superstition.’

*Take a look at some of the excellent work from the conference program:*

Ken McRitchie and Robert Currey shared the fruits of their years of painstaking investigations, double-checking the claims of the ‘so-called skeptics,’ astrology’s debunkers, who have infamously over-run Wikipedia and dominated public discourse. As it turns out, the skeptics were sloppy, and their pseudoscientific ‘debunking’ doesn’t stand up particularly well under peer-review. Meanwhile, in recent years, Finland’s Dr. Kyosti Tarvainen has published 10 peer-reviewed studies with statistically significant astrological results.

Furthermore, regardless of what it says on Wikipedia, every attempt to discredit the Gauquelin data collections are freely available online, researchers regularly use them to generate even more promising results.

Two projects using Artificial Intelligence, Neural Networks and self-taught machine learning: the Kepler Quiz on the Big Five Personality Factors and the AstroInvestigator’s Breast Cancer project, not only identified the planetary patterns relevant to how you score on the Big Five and your risk for developing Breast Cancer, but can train your computer to predict the same for others.

Bill Meridian pinpointed important planetary cycles driving the financial markets. Alex Trenoweth showed how lunar phases correlate with middle-school misbehavior. Dr. Bruce Scofield followed in the footsteps of Johannes Kepler himself, with an astro-meteorology study correlating Saturn with daily temperature data. David Cochrane and Linda Berry presented their growing range of positive results from Vibrational Astrology and harmonics.

In the medical astrology forum, Dr. Will Morris unleashed an avalanche of relevant results from studies conducted largely by non-astrologers. Turns out they’ve been doing our work for us all along. That reclamation process is long overdue. Even Planetary Metals had a strong showing, in a reprise of the work of Lily Kolisko and a closer look into the secret lives of iron and copper. Vedic astrologers were welcomed, and well represented; building important cooperation between East and West in a growing enterprise that benefits us all.

Those are just some of the highlights from an astonishing program; the kind that everybody said couldn’t be done. More importantly, even with all the statistics, the mind-numbing methodologies, and endless data sets, the Kepler Conference was fun. We had a great time together.

Sure, being right on the beach helped a lot, especially when we were blessed with a view of that nighttime NASA rocket launch from the Cape. Still, there was something special that set the Kepler Conference apart, and everyone present experienced and remarked on it.

It was the spirit: the energy, the excitement and the joy of it all. We really did experience the spirit of discovery!

In the conference opening ceremonies, we prayed for a dignified, respectful tone; especially in this overheated and divisive media culture. We wanted to really listen to, and understand each other, and that prayer worked like a charm. A spirit of communication and cooperation prevailed, laying foundations for the highly functional working relationships we will need in building the elaborate future that calls us on; now more of a promise than a dream.

The key to that spirit, in my opinion, is simple. It’s hard to argue with evidence. Heretofore, when astrologers put forth a claim, they’d cherry-pick a handful of examples to make their case. Add in an appeal to authority; preferably some guy with a beard and a barely-pronounceable name who can safely be presumed to have lived long ago and far away in a time when people just ‘knew’ things better than we do now, and Abracadabra! That’s that.

With our natural tendency to see sermons in stones and faces in clouds, if we look for something in charts, we’ll probably find it, happily ignoring all the pieces that don’t fit. That’s human nature, and every other professional field is required to control for it.

Is it any surprise that such a subjective methodology had resulted in a profusion of abstract techniques and a troubling lack of consensus? We can’t even agree on the zodiac. Is it any surprise that we don’t get much respect for this? Half the time, we don’t even respect each other for it.

Meanwhile, every other professional field is held to much higher standards. Meanwhile, the rest of the Western world has passed us by.

Building the Future of Astrology has been the raison d’etre of the Kepler Conference since Day 1, when the dream of a research revolution, led by an evidence-based astrology conference, first arose back in June of 2015.
The Future of Astrology

Roberts

Professionals in any sector are deeply concerned with anticipating future trends and cycles, whether in government, business, finance, education, sports, health and safety, agriculture, publishing, et al. They all need useful projections and are more than willing to pay for them. ‘Futurists,’ actuaries, entrepreneurs and scientists of all stripes are busy imagining and building our future every day, but do any of them use astrology or consult with professional astrologers? How many astrologers are gainfully employed in any of the massive enterprises reshaping the future of our planet, and the entire human race? The answer is precious few. If Western astrologers are underemployed, and clearly they are, considering the outsized demand that others are filling in our stead, “The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves, that we are underlings.” (Julius Caesar I, ii).

Maybe Western astrologers haven’t done a very good job convincing people that what we do is useful. Forget the skeptics and all the social and scientific conspiracies launched against us. I’m not saying they’re not real, at least for the most part. I am saying they shouldn’t matter. Why? Because people will use something if it works. If it ups their bottom line, they suddenly become a lot less concerned about what skeptics think.

So whose responsibility is it to show what astrology can really do? I hope we’re not waiting for somebody else to do that for us. That’s why I’m staking my future on Astrology’s Research Revolution. I can see the tremendous opportunities that await those who can demonstrate the realities of planetary influence, and can put that knowledge to good use solving problems and improving lives. Of course it won’t happen overnight. It will require a long, concerted effort, but after as little as 10 years of this kind of work, everyone will be having dramatically different conversations about all of this.

The 2nd Annual Kepler Conference is on, and you’re invited. Jan. 25 – 28, 2018, at the same location on Florida’s Beautiful Space Coast. http://www.thekeplerconference.com/the-kepler-conference See the Call for Papers here: http://www.thekeplerconference.com/call-for-papers The Kepler Conference is actively seeking new projects and new researchers. We will be publishing the proceedings from the 1st Annual Kepler Conference throughout the year, so please get on our email list.

The Kepler Conference Online Research Forums are ongoing and anyone can attend. Learn to do research by doing research. Join us for the Research Incubator Kickoff on March 18th and throughout the year. Also, Research in Medical Astrology with Dr. Will Morris, Robert Currey, Courtney Roberts and Franco Minatel on April 8th. http://www.thekeplerconference.com/online-classes-forums

Canaveral Research Center: To take the research where it really needs to go, we need the right tools for the job. That means building the Astrological Big Data Platform, incorporating AI and machine-learning all up and into the most sophisticated astrological analysis, both Western & Vedic.

We can’t do it without the support of astrologers, but in turn, it will support astrology like never before, and for years to come.

At the same time, astrologers everywhere are clamoring for some sort of universal data portal, to make it easier to 1) access and analyze the existing data collections and 2) collect and categorize new data efficiently. We want to speed that process along, by building a versatile data scraper, programmed to comb through the web to extract and categorize new data on an unprecedented scale.

Respondents were unanimous on our Kepler Conference surveys in voicing their support for a proper astrological research center. That’s been our dream all along. Canaveral Research Center is ready to take on the challenge of developing the research platform and the universal data portals, as part of our overall, aggressive research agenda. Please don’t assume that this is merely an academic exercise. We’re ultimately developing products and services that will greatly improve people’s lives, as well as astrologers’ livelihoods.

Again, we can’t do it without your support. There is a place for you in astrology’s research revolution. Whatever your skill set or level of interest, please join us in building this future together.

Courtney Roberts, M.A. is the director of the Canaveral Research Center, and the Kepler Conference Coordinator, dedicated to evidence-based research astrology. An astrologer since she was a teenager, she has over 30 years experience in consulting, teaching, publishing, research & organizational work. A graduate of the revolutionary M.A. program in Cultural Astronomy & Astrology at Bath Spa University, her academic specialization is in the history of astrology/astronomy in both religion and science, particularly in Persian Zoroastrianism and western monotheism. She is published extensively, with well over 100 articles, including a year’s stint writing the daily forecast for The Mountain Astrologer, and regular columns for StarIQ.com. She also has 3 books: Real-Time Astrology, Visions of the Virgin Mary and The Star of the Magi and 3 data collections to her credit.

The Kepler Conference
Astrology is the science that is closest to me. I am really sorry that many people consider it a pseudoscience. But it was not always so. It was studied by priests, monks, abbots, cardinals, Popes and even by the supreme rulers of different states... I would like astrology to regain its former glory. In this light, I'm curious about what is in store for the future of astrology.

It's hard for me to judge how astrology will evolve in the next decade in the whole world, of course I have my own assumptions, but they are more concerned with the development of Georgian astrology, because as a Georgian, I am more fluent in the trends that exist in my country.

I think to say how this or that business will develop, it will probably be more correct to look at the past, what has been happening when different aspects worked. I think this will help to estimate how they will act in the future.

The development of astrology in my country began in the early 90's of the last century, to be exact, the first book on the theme of astrology ("Seek Your Star") was published in 1991. It was just a collection of articles about different types of horoscopes (western, druids, chinese) and other items like that. But the most important thing was that people began to read and find out who they are by zodiac sign. Before that, very few people knew their own solar sign.

Astrology was completely forbidden in the Soviet Union. However, even then there were some people who were inspired by this ancient science, and made their attempts to calculate natal charts by using ephemeris tables.

So, which aspects and planets could evoke this growing interest in astrology? I looked and found that when the mentioned book was published, there was a Jupiter trine to transiting Uranus. Of course it did not surprise me, I completely agree with the opinion that Uranus rules astrology. And I think, its aspects with one of the social planets is a very vivid indicator for the development of Astrology.

The following year (1992), three young people combined their skills and efforts and created the first Georgian program that compiled cupids of astrological houses. And it was great! This was the next step in the development of Georgian astrology! And I believe that the aspect behind this event was a square between these two planets – Jupiter and Uranus.

I agree with those astrologers who look at squares not only as unambiguously bad, but think that the stress aspects show a necessity or need that must be addressed. And since such a need has emerged, it has led to appropriate responses.

The first astrological radio broadcast occurred the same year, and in 1994 when Jupiter and Uranus sextile was done, Georgia began to broadcast a copyrighted astrological TV program. Uranus began to function with greater strength after its transition to his sign of Aquarius in 1996.

Early in 1997, on the Jupiter/Uranus conjunction, one of the most successful Internet provider companies was established in the Republic of Georgia. In the following years, people now had free access to a great deal of knowledge and information on the internet. They could download and read books and articles by different authors. Many of them discovered that in addition to the signs of the zodiac there is "another astrology", where the position of Moon and other planets are also important... Still, the greater role and mission of astrology was still not understood.

Only when Jupiter and Uranus formed a sextile again, many of us began to understand, that Astrology is not for entertainment, but it is a tool to know yourself and other people, to understand your own lessons, and learn how to develop yourself. When Uranus moved into Pisces, it provided a more spiritual quality to Astrology in our country.

In 2010, when Uranus and Jupiter conjuncted again at zero Aries, and with this new cycle, people became interested for the first time in becoming professional astrologers. During the same time, there was a greater demand to open astrological schools in Georgia, and this is still a strong demand.

During the time of the following square, in 2013, to meet the growing interest, I tried to write a book for Georgian readers that explained the basic astrological terms, such as the exaltation and fall of the planets, house principles and so on... Now, during the Jupiter/Uranus opposition in Libra/Aries, we connected with OPA and founded the satellite in Georgia.

Looking back, I was able to notice that the squares and other stressful aspects worked more productively than harmonious aspects. I think this trend will continue in the future, and therefore I look forward to the next leap in the development of astrology in Georgia.

In 2021, with the next Jupiter/Uranus square will form from Aquarius to Taurus. I expect that there will be an opportunity to introduce astrology into different spheres of our life. With the upcoming 2020 transit of Jupiter/Saturn/Pluto in Capricorn (representing career development), we may see astrologers hiring employees and expanding their practice. However, Uranus in Taurus tends to be more conservative and slow. In its positive form it can stimulate inventions and reforms in material, financial affairs and economics, and provide a solid foundation for growth. I do hope that the emergence which has started in the 90s will not falter.

The following conjunction will be in Taurus in 2024, and I believe this new cycle will stimulate a new turn for astrology... We hope to witness that. 😊
The Future of Astrology

by Maurice Fernandez

As the leader of OPA and having travelled the world to different astrology communities and witnessed the different approaches and mentalities, the breakthroughs and crises, and the general development of our practice, I’m fairly optimistic about our next potential, and also, fairly lucid about what may sabotage the growth of our practice and culture.

Looking at the upcoming transits, we can identify what the coming cycles have to say about key moments in the near future of Astrology.

Astrology seems to be prominently symbolized by the planet Uranus and the sign of Aquarius, as well as the cyclic rhythm of the Jupiter/Uranus cycle. In the book The Professional Astrologer, I have also referred to important breakthroughs in the field, occurring during Uranus to Nodal axis conjunctions (and other major aspects to each other).

We can notice these upcoming configurations to possibly represent key moments in Astrology’s development:

- 2017 – The Jupiter/Uranus opposition in Libra/Aries
- 2020 (Dec 21) – The 20 year Jupiter/Saturn conjunction at 0 Aquarius
- 2022 (August 1) – Uranus conjunct the North Node at 18 Taurus
- 2023-2043 – Pluto in Aquarius
- 2024 (April 21) – Jupiter/Uranus conjunct at 21 Taurus

These powerful transits indicate a unique opportunity for breakthroughs in astrology. With a strong emphasis in the signs of Taurus and Aquarius, it seems obvious that the dialogue between Earth and Sky must gain new grounds, or in other words, that the material approach to our astrology practice will need to upgrade and adjust to changing needs.

Where are we headed? Where should we be heading?

Let’s explore our milestones and our current limitations.

MAKING A LIVING FROM ASTROLOGY

Progress: With the age of the internet, astrologers are now able to advertise their services and gain greater visibility at minimal costs, reaching clients around the world and building more global communities like never before. With a greater pool to draw from, it is more possible today for many astrologers to support themselves and lead a full-time practice.

Challenge: Astrologers are still not adequately remunerated for their service and expertise. As a result, most people do not have faith that they can make a living from this practice, and therefore, astrology studies and practice are still largely categorized as a luxury expense, and as a result, people are not able to justify investing time and money into their astrology education the same way they would pay for law or culinary schools.

Relying on people who invest their soul and personal finances in astrology and do it for love is a good starting point, but not a sustainable approach ultimately.

CREDIBILITY, QUALITY, AND RIGOR

Progress: There is now more rigorous and more comprehensive educational programs that enhance the credibility of astrology practice. While Science and Religion still demonize Astrology, sometimes for truly valid reasons, astrologers today are better educated and more diverse and professional in their practice.

Challenge: Astrology is one of the most powerful tools that fuse science, art, and spirituality; it is built on the foundations of measurement, interpretation, and meaning. So, what does it mean to be more rigorous in our practice? Should astrology be quantified in reference to Newtonian laws of physics and be entirely empirical and predictable? Astrologers find themselves pressured by the need for more credibility, and as a result, can sometimes vilify each other using self-righteous claims to know what is valid from what isn’t, dismissing at times pertinent interpretations that cannot be systematically quantified. We should all remember that there is no real proven system that systematically quantified. We should all remember that there is no real proven understanding about how astrology really works to begin with.

Notwithstanding, astrology knowledge needs to evolve on the foundation of more reliable research methods. While it is in the nature of astrologers to commonly be free-thinkers and immensely
creative, and as such, potentially bring truly valuable new realizations and knowledge to the table, more objective standards of investigation, research, and use must evolve in our methods. With the next cycle of Jupiter and Saturn in Aquarius, we may not only expect greater interest in the study of the skies, but an upgrade in our standards of research. The necessity for this goes beyond a yearning for approval, but it is a quest for better service.

Similarly, improvement can begin with better educating astrology students and practitioners about the building blocks of astrology, such as teaching astronomical references. Perhaps, every astrologer should know about the Precession of the Equinoxes and other central Astronomical phenomenon. Such a perspective can naturally help everyone be better equipped with arguments when debates arise about the validity of astrology.

DIVERSITY, GROWTH, AND DESERVED TOLERANCE

Progress: With the upsurge of psychological and modern astrology in the 80’s and the revival of traditional astrology through the translation of ancient texts in the 90’s and early 2000’s, Astrology has expanded exponentially, toward the past and future simultaneously. Moreover, we see more fusion of Vedic and Tropical astrology approaches.

Challenge: We must continue to reconcile different approaches and enrich astrology's content and culture—astrology should not be homogenized to avoid conflict, but benefit from its diversity. It is time for astrologers to move beyond divisive approach about which house systems to use or whether traditional or modern rulers are the valid ones. We should know by now that these different approaches are all valid and that they each serve a purpose in different contexts. While debates and differing opinions are part of our creative growth, tolerance and understanding must prevail, without compromising rigor. How so? More emotional maturity to overcome our biases, an open mind, and better research to validate the different approaches.

The Future Astrologers

The first generation of prominent modern astrologers were born in the 1940’s with Uranus in Gemini, some of them on their North Node (1946). We found prolific writers, such as Liz Greene or Rob Hand, who provided deeper (often psychologically leaning) astrology material and the building blocks of our modern astrology culture.

The mid 60’s and 70’s were astrologers born with the Uranus/Pluto conjunction in Virgo who made considerable progress in making astrology a more viable profession. Those born a bit later with Neptune in Sagittarius and Pluto in Libra often thrived in the internet era of knowledge profusion and diversity, boosting research, expanding the reach of astrology and creating more communities. Many of them were inspired to bring a more spiritual meaning to astrology practice.

Astrologers born in the 80’s and 90’s, with Neptune and then also Uranus in Capricorn became more exposed to more traditional astrology from the get go, as the knowledge was being recovered around that time. Regardless of their orientation, they contribute to solidifying the foundation of astrology and gaining more credibility. Most of them are still in the budding phase of their professional practice and will certainly be a central force in the future of astrology.

Future astrologers born from the 90’s to 2010, with the strong Neptune, Uranus interplay: Conjunct in Capricorn and then Aquarius, and in mutual reception with Uranus in Pisces and Neptune in Aquarius, are bound to become key players in the development of astrology, fusing science with spirituality as their modus operandi. Many will be further exposed to astrology during the Pluto in Aquarius era, and under the Jupiter/ Saturn conjunction cycle of 2020. We can expect this generation to break new frontiers in many directions, in reaching greater masses through astrology, developing new research, and revealing completely new insights and approaches to the understanding and use of astrology.

Astrology should not be homogenized to avoid conflict, but benefit from its diversity.
William Lamont (Australia)

THE STARRY SKY ABOVE

Writ in stars above me
the moment I was born
A starry night sky loved me
a future chart was drawn
for a scholar of some word
a diviner of god and faith
that hides away from many
but not from love or kindness
nor this sacred earthly place
for there is a great romance its lovely
pencil to paper I mark out all the stars
the asteroids of the gods
the planets Mercury to Mars
incense and smells of books
perforate the room
candles burn as I write spells of magick
between chart math and
ancient history learned
I plot the points of slower planets
and scribe the angles that
broached the earth
the cross my spirit was given
this incarnation on earth
to understand what lay before me
is my mission my life’s love
it’s a blessing I’ve been given
by the starry sky above

Sue Minahan (Washington)

ASTROLOGY IS THE MEANS

Astro beams
Splice the puzzles!
Ignite rainbow light
Through raindrops
Shed in heaven's course
Received on earthen soil.
These rays reveal mysteries,
Like keys, molded in silent codes.

Astrology exclaims Life's Merge...
Unfolding eternity's bliss
As it punctuates Life's explosion of birth.
Yes, Astrology is the means
ultimately we know
How to seek and see our inner flame
Retell its resources in tales traveling
Back forth around down up
through all directions
To renew its sanctified wel-
come with Source.

Margarita Logovatovskaya
(Russia)

In the stream of endless dreams,
we are looking for all the answers
to our exciting question ...
Why and how, and why every-
thing is so but otherwise.
Life carries us in a stream of the
typical days, posing insoluble problems sometimes.
We want to run away from string of
problems to space of summer Sun,
Flicking like a butterfly in the rays of dawn.
Who gives the answer, who
calms the soul of pain?
Where to find the rest to soul?
Oh man, do not forget you
are the Crown of creation and
everything is in your hand.
All the happiness of the world
is before your eyes.
Just raise your eyes to the ghost-
ly distance of Heaven,
There are a myriad of stars
and magical planets,
The course of time was set by them
from the Creation of time!
There are all the answers that give power
over the whole Earth in outer space!
And who was able to comprehend these
laws takes the keys from heaven,
And becomes the Chosen
One for all the times!

Innessa Wuzyk (South Africa)

DANCE OF VENUS

I, Venus, dance in concert with the Sun, my
Dance, is in concert with the Earth, be
Fore the Sun, as morning star I dance, be
Hind the Sun I dance as evening star, and
In the Sun I dive, I melt, I'm gone, the
Sun in me, I'm satisfied, we're one, I
Reappear the sprightly morning star, I'm
Regular I manifest the world, I
Trace a pentagon against the sky
Against the sky, my dance is one on one
With the Sun

Lutia Lausanne (Canada)

VENUS AS ALBATROSS:
AIR, FIRE & WAVE

The Land makes the myth
Then the myth carries it
Soaring on the currents
Gliding like fire on the wave
Work of memory and love
Memory soaring with high
High praise
Wings outspread
Searching the wind
And legs
Ready
Ready to dance
To drum the rock of birth
To open
Life's open poem
The myth unfurls
And she haunts the curves
Air, Fire and Wave
She mimics the Rose Orbit
Of Venus
Who will emerge to gain the morning sky
With secrets
She will slowly
In her time
Un-Truth
Defy
The Albatross soars in an errand of love
And the Rose Centre of our world
Holds.

by Lutia Lausane, February 2017
Here is a sequence of 23 Senryu (same form as Haiku but without the seasonal restrictions) each of which encapsulates a technique in astrology.

**ASTROLOGIA - SENRYU:**

**MACROCOSM IN MICROCOSM**

**INTERDIMENSIONAL ASTROLOGY ...**
All my selves true child
Of the whole of heaven
Mind squeezed to a pinpoint

**TROPICAL ...**
Character-building
Light streams from the Equinox
Nests, broken branches

**DRACONIC ...**
Core values. The Sun
Counted from the Dragon's Head.
Trunk of an old tree.

**SIDEREAL ...**
The great scheme of things
One small world set in the stars
Tree in a landscape

**DWAD ...**
I behind the eye -
On the twelfth step of Being
Life enters and leaves

**HELIOCENTRIC ...**
Check for vital signs -
Faults glare, gifts shine in God’s Eye
Hidden agendas

**MIDPOINTS ...**
All over the map
Shock arrows of energy,
Threes isosceles

**REFLEXES ...**
Squaring the Circle
Warp and weft of painted Light
Flying your colours

**PARANATELLONTA ...**
Both Angles flaunt a
Star, or a natal planet -
E is MC squared!

**ASTEROIDS ...**
From the Beginning
Were the Words. In lettered rock
God's Britannica

**COMPOSITES ...**
Striking a chord, you
Remind me of who I am
Joining of forces

**Q CHARTS ...**
My time - flying hands
Turn up the deal of the day.
You are my transit.

**X CHARTS ...**
Great expectations -
My riches under your Dragon
Turning to fool's gold

**DAILY PROGRESSIONS ...**
Days of babyhood
Mapping my years creeping hands
Gathering planets

**CONVERSE ...**
Back to the future,
Forward to yesterday - I
Am a splash in time

**CURRENT DRACONIC ...**
Keep in formation
Pilgrim, join the dragon train
Onward and upward

**RECTIFICATION ...**
Rewind history -
Somewhere on the wheel your time
Cradles the future

**RELOCATION ...**
Journeying, your world
Known from different angles.
New houses. New you

**ANALYSIS ...**
The sign, the turned wheel
Unlocking vaults of the soul
With twelve keys of gold

**PREDICTION ...**
Here's the score: play well
Or badly, the metronome
Ticks to the last bar.

**WEATHER FORECASTING ...**
Under the weather?
Everything on edge? Only
Going through a phase!

**PRIME MOVERS ...**
Raising by degrees
One circle to such heavens
Oh imagine spheres
IN MEMORY OF KARI

I believe it would be fair to say that many of us had early experiences and became even at times, unconsciously committed to the idea, that a love of the heavens, the night sky, the natural knowing that there was something to the universe, a sacred connection, created the essence of our being in which we are connected. It was the start of an understanding. Learning about our universe, the heavens, and ultimately astrology, would change our lives forever.

This is a recollection of one of the several early events that were a stepping stone to where my journey began.

My Mother had shared her copy of Linda Goodman’s Sun Signs in late 1968. It had just been released and I remember her excitement to know more about astrology after reading a Sydney Omarr book earlier.

After a move from the east coast to the west, I was really shocked by the small population. The open spaces and the night sky seemed so different, it was clear and there seemed to be lots of stars out. Surrounded by mountains that seemed far, but were only a 20-minute car ride away. The bright lights of Las Vegas were contained in two small areas and the sky was so clear. The population at that time was a little over 100,000 and it was spread out so it really was a small town. Unlike the close to 700,000 residents that live there today.

In the summer of 1969 I met Kari, she was several years younger than I was and having two brothers with lots of friends was challenging since there were few girls to spend time with. Kari would live in San Diego during the school year but then come to Las Vegas for her summer vacation to be with her father and half-brothers.

I was a girl scout and decided I would teach Kari what I knew about camping and we would have camp outs a couple of times a month in the summer on the nights it was not too hot. We would keep our heads out of the makeshift tent and watch the night sky for hours, drawing pictures of the stars and making up some interesting stories about what is in the universe…actually, we were not far off. We would actually walk to a used bookstore, several miles in the summer to search for books on metaphysical subjects and unfortunately not share with others as they thought we were from another planet to begin with. Maybe we were.

When I spend time looking at the night sky, those memories come to me often, the magnitude of the heavens always astonished me and I knew at that time, that the connection to the sky would be a lifelong interest.

Over the holidays, Kari’s sister-in-law who was a friend from elementary school and her brother were coming to Las Vegas and I was excited to meet with them to finally catch up and find out what was going on with Kari…I knew something was wrong and over the years she became very quiet. There were weather issues and we had to cancel our meeting so they could drive back to Oregon. I knew something was wrong.

On March 5th, Kari passed away, she had lost her battle with cancer. Her passing, although sad for us here, was a blessing as she is now amongst the heavens. Perhaps Venus Retrograde was calling her home. I know she continues to be in awe of the universe and has evolved to a place of peace and love. I look forward to connecting with her one day again and know that when I look at the night sky she is really not that far away.

~Anon

ASTRO POETRY

“GROWING”

A leaf grows from the inside.

....stretching forth, it's potential, becomes its reality.

---

The beauty and mystery in the glittering heaven,
is but a glimpse, reflective of the illusive magic that is our cosmos.
As we spin round and round, up and down and all around,
In time, experiencing all there is,
from the sacred space of here and now.

~Anon

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would actually walk to a used bookstore,
several miles in the summer to search
for books on metaphysical subjects and
unfortunately not share with others as
Mary Lewis (Georgia)

UNTIL SATURN

Sleeping rocking falling
Into a warm, beckoning vastness..eyelids fluttering... lazily opening.

And indeed, I am swinging-rocking in a galaxy
Nightgown skewered on Neptune's glistening trident
With all around gone lavender-indigo-silver twinkling in the very stillest, softest fullest of silences.

Until a great heave Gasping - grasping @ blackness finding nothingness in the falling...falling...falling..

Then: CLUNK! BANG!

I dangle barely hanging on.. to Saturn's great ring.

Again.

Arlan Wise (Massachusetts)

A writing teacher asked the class to write on “what I carry with me”. I could have looked in my purse and listed all the heavy non-essential items I carry around, but describing those items seemed too mundane. I went to the metaphorical level and wrote about what I carry with me in my head and my soul, my astrology. I see astrology as a language, one that permeates my thinking at all times, and influences all my thoughts. Astrology is symbolic, unique, and takes me out of the literal world to keep me tuned into the astral one. It is always with me.

I know, with no doubts, that I gained my knowledge of astrology through numerous lifetimes of working as an astrologer and now it is so second nature that even using that term seems redundant. When my mother found my 5-year diary from my elementary school years and I looked at what young Arlan had written so seriously, I read many sentences that said things similar to “I really like Ritchie, he's a Sagittarius, they get along well with Leos”. I loved it then, I still love it, I always will. When I was in my 20’s and wanted to "learn" astrology, I went to sleep and woke up thinking "Saturn" and realized I understood Saturn. This would go on every night until I remembered all the astrological meanings of the signs, planets, and houses. I see the world through the lens of astrology. Astrology is my passion, it is my calling, and, as only a Leo can say, I'm good at it. People tell me that I'm a very good astrologer.

I sat in the circle at the writing class listening to all the other students read their writing and as I heard their words I thought, Cancer, Gemini, oh, Jay's Mars in Scorpio in his 4th house is being activated by thinking of his childhood. Nancy's Cancer Moon remembers the food from that painful experience with that writing group. Her Taurus planets need to eat. There are at least three Cancers in the group, they love going back into the past. I don't stop this voice that makes these comments; it's as natural as taking the next breath.

This puts me in a place where the majority of people don't understand how I think. My Aquarian moon doesn't mind that. I'm used to the glazed look people give me when I tell them that I'm an astrologer and hearing back "I've never met an astrologer before" and I don't even bother to tell them that there's no such word as astrologist. It's a rite of passage for all astrologers, to be able to come, proudly, to tell them that there's no such word as astrologer.

Then: CLUNK! BANG! I dangle barely hanging on.. to Saturn's great ring.

Again.

Sarah Fuhrro (Massachusetts)

LITTLE BIRCH MOON

This little birch moon is slipping out into dark night, stepping away from the lights and music of the bustling cabin.

When the moon has her darkness, she takes it in silence. Going out she leans against the great dark tree, and looking straight up, recalls sailing in that tree top as a full and flying moon.

Moon feels the bark against her tired spine. In the dark, and all alone, by herself, she gives birth to the next little moon.

Kim de Noüe (Colorado)

There are many ways to gain spiritual insights, but for me, astrology has been the way that provides the most consistent source of information relevant to my spiritual path. I don't know of any other spiritual practice which allows us to clearly recognize the duration of a specific life lesson or energy pattern that we are meant to experience. For me, this is so amazing and beneficial. If we know we have a Pluto transit coming across a personal planet, for example, we will know we need to really dig deep for strength and determination and that this process may take several years. Other aspects, may be very fleeting which can be a relief if the energy is challenging, or conversely we may want to take advantage of a pleasant or lucky period that will end quickly. Having a sense of the duration is very comforting and for me helps me stay focused on what is important. Seeing how the nature of the heavenly bodies impact us in specific ways is such a perfect universal and personal manifestation of synchronicity. It is a daily demonstration of how the universe works around and within each and every one of us. What a gift it is!
**Book Review**

*EXPLORING THE FINANCIAL UNIVERSE*

The Role of the Sun and Planets in the World of Finance

By CHRISTEEN SKINNER

The noted British astrologer, Christeen Skinner, has written a book for the astrologer who is interested in learning how to use astrology when considering the stock market, but who has been daunted by the more technical books on the subject. If you know the basics of astrology, this book will teach you to understand the concepts of astro-trading.

The book starts with a chapter on solar cycles, what they are, why they are important, and how they affect weather and the financial cycles. Traders know that the 11.2-year sunspot cycle corresponds to the Dow Jones cycles. The Sun’s energy and its solar flares has a big effect on us and the current output is at an unexpected low. Christeen explains the potential problems of this fact.

Christeen then examines the charts of ten worst market crashes in 20th century. She shows the astrology of the biggest one day gains and losses. There is a chapter on currencies and one on commodities. She gives advice on real estate, showing the cycles and astrology of tracking the market’s highs and lows, and when is the best time to sell your house. She shows you how to look at your own chart with an eye to seeing if you would make a good trader. The book ends with an overview of the years 2017 – 2024 describing the big planetary activity that is to come.

At times reading this book is like reading a very interesting history book. Her research is spot on. She shows us how a financial astrologer thinks about the planets and their cycles. She points out important degrees such as 19 Cancer -Capricorn and 17 Virgo-Pisces and what happens to Wall Street when they are activated. She brings to our attention that the asteroid Vesta shows up in charts of traders and big market events.

There is a section that describes what is happening now as Saturn approaches the Galactic Center. She offers predictions for the next few years as Pluto transits over the dangerous degree of 19 Capricorn and Saturn comes up to join him.

“Saturn demands that issues are addressed there and then. Austerity and hardship are nearly inevitable. The combination of Saturn with Pluto demands reassessment of resources, hard pruning, and sets the task of living on a shoestring.”

She speculates on the 2020 Jupiter-Saturn conjunction in 0 degrees of Aquarius.

All this information is given with an eye towards investing and securing one’s money since the financial future has a grim feel to it with Pluto continuing his journey through Capricorn.

The writing is clear, precise, and to the point. Christeen backs up what she says with science and facts and lets us see both the big picture and the little details. She coins terms such as astro-trader, astro-investor, astro-financier, astro-historian, and astro-detective. Christeen Skinner is all of these to the nth degree.

If you like this book, know that Christeen has just had a companion volume published – *The Beginner’s Guide to the Financial Universe.*

Although you might not go out and win big after reading this book, you will know much more about your chances and the best timing for making gains in the markets. *Exploring the Financial Universe* is an interesting and very useful addition to your bookshelf. *****

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**Astro Poetry**

*Maurice Fernandez (Hawaii)*

Bright lights shine strong in universal darkness.
A river of stars serpents its way across,
paving something out of nothing.
Energy born of friction
Sparks disrupt stillness unpredictably
Fire prevails
Light, there is life
I can see, I can be
Consciousness in a flame
Powering up creation

Scorching earths, leaving trails of ashes and polluted skies
Life consumes and destroys,
Life relies on death
Like flesh feeds us, suffering feeds poets, crisis feeds growth
Like Super massive Black holes keep the universe pulsing
Eliminate, illuminate

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Astrology for Pets

by Arlan Wise

Astrology cycles affect all species, not only humans. Enjoy this column where Arlan speaks of different experiences relating astrological configuration with animals and pets, including their natal charts, transits, adoption times, and synaestries with their owners. OPA loves animals, and they too evolve their consciousness!

We know charts work for animals. A couple of UAC’s ago I attended a class by Chris Turner, who works in an Australian zoo. She had done the charts of the apes there and gave a brilliant talk on the personality differences and the synastry in the group.

For this first column, I will share my personal story. I am lucky to have two cats, Grover and Simon, who had another astrologer as a first owner and she had their time of births. She was speaking at the 2015 NORWAC conference plenary session and added this fact to her speech. I had four cats at the time and so tried not to listen to her plea for astrologers to adopt the babies from this litter. I succumbed when she mentioned the date of birth, a date that put their Suns on my Ascendant. She also said that one of the kittens was all black, my favorite type of cat. I raised my hand and said I’d take the black one. We agreed to talk when they were old enough to leave home. During that time my Pisces daughter said she’d take one, I told the owner, and then when my daughter changed her mind, I realized that I had two kittens coming to me.

I live in Massachusetts and the kittens were in Florida. That could have been a problem but, since things work out when they are supposed to, a mutual friend had to go to Florida to attend to business and then fly up to Boston for more work and he, being a true cat lover, agreed to be the courier and flew the kittens up with him. And, as Kurt Vonnegut says, so it goes.

Here is the chart:

3/20/2005 1:37 am Tallahassee, Fl.

The chart works very accurately. The third house is your siblings, but it is also your litter in cat terminology. There is a tight Sun-Venus conjunction in the third...
house. An exalted Venus blessed this litter. These two cats stay by each other. They love each other. All cats are beautiful, but their Sun-Venus conjunction makes them especially pleasing to look at and gives them a sweet disposition. Pluto on their Ascendant may describe the transformation from their original warm environment to a northern cold, snowy one. How many kittens fly on an airplane? They charmed the stewardess so much

Their Cancer Moon-Saturn keeps them close to home. There's never been a “Where’s Grover? Where’s Simon?” moment.

Oliver, known as Ollie born Oct 29 2010, Minneapolis, MN time rectified based on personality.

Olle is a rescue cat, picked up from the Humane Society and picked out online by my two daughters, then ages 15 and 10. Scorpio is a sign that knows how to survive, and Ollie is a survivor. He is a loving cat, with an exceptionally loud purr, and the annoying habit of drooling excessively when he is being petted. (Neptune on the Asc.) His Aquarius rising makes him extremely goofy and silly without being self-conscious. Routinely he gets so relaxed while stretching out on the couch that he slides right off. He shakes his head and jumps right back up.

With Venus conjunct his Scorpio Sun and his Moon in Cancer, his social and watery nature showed from the time we brought him home and he was able to “win over” our older territorial, crabby cat, Tigger. But his real claim to fame is that he has survived two doses of Adderall, a medication used to treat ADHD. In the rectified chart, I put the Neptune/Chiron on his Ascendant for this reason.

One morning when Ollie was barely a year old, despite my usual great care handling medication, my daughter’s Adderall fell on the floor. We both searched until it was time for school with no luck, so I gave her another pill and assumed it had fallen into an unreachable spot. Later that day when we got home, Ollie was panting and as soon as I picked him up I could feel his little heart beating too fast. It wasn’t until I conferred with the Vet that I remembered the missing pill, and that solved the mystery of his odd symptoms. He had to be put in an ice bath and given beta-blockers to survive the effects. When I picked him up the entire staff came out to tell me how much they loved him for his sweet personality. Apparently, few other cats had ever been so responsive to people under such difficult conditions. I believe that the conjunction to Chiron, the wounded healer archetype allowed him to survive.

Four years later my daughter oversaw her own medication and another one ended up on the floor; this time it was a higher dosage. Again, Ollie found it and displayed the same symptoms. Again, he survived and was loved by the entire staff. Grand trines in the chart can be symbols for good fortune, and I believe this also contributed to his survival.

Ollie’s Cancer Moon is most evident when new people come to the house. Last week our furnace broke (of course it was on a cold winter day) and we had to have it replaced. During the entire eight hours and for another one after the workers left, Ollie was hiding. His hiding spots are so good I don’t know where he goes. He can be coaxed out with kitty treats, also tempting to the Cancer Moon.

They moped, and it felt to me that they were so sad. There was another cat in the house, a feral cat I’d adopted and tamed, and I see him as the Uranus in their third. He taught them many things but was always skittish and uneasy with people and noises. He was the unusual brother who had grown up outside a home. Jesse was a Leo and taught them the ways of the great outdoors. His death was hard for them because it was sudden, from a blood clot. His disappearance, getting rushed to the vet and not coming home, was a different experience from Munya’s slow fade into old age.

I feel the healing ability that the Sun/Venus sextile Chiron/Mars gives them. A purring Grover on my lap is a cure for a stomach ache. I wish them long lives. The surviving one will be very, very sad when his brother goes.

I invite you send me your stories and your pets birth data and to ask any questions you may have. By looking at their charts we gain insight into the lives of those wonderful beings who share our homes with us.
Do animals respond to their natal chart? It is not always easy to verify these influences because we often do not have reliable birth information. I had the truly moving experience of serving as a doula to my cat, Nyeleti, giving birth.

Nyeleti (which means Stars in an African language) was barely a year old when I realized she was pregnant. Gosh, I did not even have the time to have her fixed, but I was at the same time excited at the prospect of kitten therapy sessions!

The time came where she was scanning the whole house and trying to find a place for giving birth. I truly hoped she would not do it outside, as she is an indoor/outdoor cat. One night, she came to sleep on my bed. Early morning, I noticed something was coming out of her, but the round organic matter looked blocked and static. I suspected she was miscarrying.

After half an hour, I saw nothing improving and decided to massage her. In a scream, she released the load. It was a breached baby... How amazing! She proceeded to eat the placenta, the cord and all organic substances. The ginger baby was so delicate, and would not begin to suckle just yet. 45 minutes later, another scream, and an easier delivery process of number two, a darker baby came out, and was soon suckling with number one, who by now had figured it out. Twenty minutes later, number three arrived with another OUahheinn to push her out.

Two males and a younger sister. I named them after the Hawaiian Totem animals:

- Number one was IO, the Hawaiian Hawk, number two was PUA'A (also named KOA), the boar, and number three was NAIA, the dolphin.

It was so precious to be able to participate in the birthing process, and see how mummy Nyeleti trusted me to deliver out of hiding.

The chart was extraordinary! The babies were born on a simultaneous tight Water Grand Trine and Cardinal Grand Cross, with the apex of both configuration being Jupiter in Cancer on the IC.

They were born half a day after the Lunar Eclipse, and as it was, the Moon at 12 Scorpio was precisely on my 5th house Sun!

IO (Hawk), the first born had a 28 Pisces rising, he represented the AIR element.

PUA’A (Boar) – KOA had a 12 Aries rising degree with Uranus and the Cardinal Cross tight to the angles, and represented the EARTH

NAIA (Dolphin) was born with a 22 Aries rising degree, and had the Cardinal cross now in the cadent (Mutable) houses. She represented the WATER element.

Together, the three Aries were obviously holding the FIRE element,

Playtime and kitten purring sessions were so much fun...they were the cutest babies in the whole world!!

As time went by, I began to notice very interesting behaviors:

IO (Hawk) was remarkably the climber, he would find his way, in most unexpected strategies, to the highest surfaces and windows. Later on, he was the only one to be able to climb on the roof.

PUA’A – KOA (Boar) was the fluffiest, most dominant alpha, heavy set, walking proudly, and with the most ferocious appetite while commanding everyone.

NAIA (Dolphin) was on the other hand, constantly hiding under furniture and

... the Moon at 12 Scorpio was precisely on my 5th house Sun!
inside closets. Of all the babies, she also was the one that was 'kidnapped' by her mother who got the fancy idea to take her under the deck. I had to saw wood pieces to pull her out! But, it was obvious that Naia liked going under…

I was truly stunned to see how each of the babies ended up embodying their totem animals so pronouncedly!

As Aries, they are ferocious hunters and amazing mousers, and unfortunately, have decimated the gecko population in the yard. No one stands a chance! They are also very playful, and love to run after the ball.

Naia, the only one with a 12th house Mercury, is the most disoriented and tends to space out a lot while the other two are very focused, especially on HER plate of food.

Perhaps more stories to come about the Eclipse Trio!

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**Book Review**

*By Sandra Leigh Serio*

**Geodetic Astrology For Relocating and World Affairs**

BY CHRIS MCRAE

Chris McRae’s book Geodetic Astrology For Relocating and World Affairs published by the Wessex Astrologer is another gem from a noteworthy woman who has 45 year’s experience as a working astrologer with a never-ending thirst for astrological knowledge. She explains Geodetic Equivalent as an astrological concept that applies the signs of the zodiac across the surface of the Earth in an Easterly direction. Each zodiacal degree matches a degree of the Earth’s longitude. The starting point is Greenwich England and the 360 degrees are applied to the Midheaven with the Ascendant being calculated from a Table of Houses either manually or through computer software. You can insert a natal chart, eclipses, lunation or any other major transit configuration into the location of the Geodetic chart.

This book appeals to both beginners and advanced astrologers. Beginners will revel in the clear and precise way Chris explains Geodetic astrology. Experienced astrologers will enjoy the many charts she includes based on the Geodetic chart for a particular location. Using the transits for certain events, she applies the eclipses to the Geodetic cusps and also makes notes of the transits at the time.

The Geodetic chart has many applications not previously mentioned. Aside from using it for personal relocation, it can also be used to ascertain the rulership of nations using the Geodetic Midheaven and Ascendant and can accurately reveal additional information about political upheavals, weather anomalies, sports contests and entertainment activities if you wanted to get that specific.

In her book, some of the more fascinating charts include the stock market crash of October 1929 with the Geodetic cusps having the MC at 15 Capricorn and the Ascendant at 29 Aries set for New York City. Using that chart, she applies the two solar eclipses that occurred just prior to that event. Other charts include the invasion of Iraq, various earthquakes and hurricanes around the world, the Mount St. Helens volcanic eruption in 1980, the 911 attack and the Columbine school massacre to name a few. It is apparent by looking at these charts that Chris did a great deal of research on each chart as well as applying transits and eclipses to notable events. Most of the charts are of Solar Eclipses applied to the Geodetic cusps at the location of the event. She makes note of the transits below the charts. I would like to have seen the actual transit chart for the events utilizing the Geodetic cusps as well.

Near the end of the book, she lists 18 points to consider when making Geodetic predictions. Many of the points talk about eclipses, planetary triggers, and planetary strengths. Stationary planets, declinations and major configurations also get a mention. Chris’ long standing knowledge of astrology and stature in the astrological community make this book a genuine gift to all astrological seekers.

At the very end of the book she provides a guide for constructing a Geodetic chart. Included in the guide are step-by-step instructions to making your own Geodetic map of the world which requires using a 2 1/2 by 4-foot chart. This would be very helpful for anyone who wishes to explore this topic in detail. This book is a must if you desire to know more about Geodetic maps and their use in prediction.
The Planet
Pluto and
its Impact
on People’s
Lives

by Margarita
Logovatovskaya

A famous astrologer said that before becoming a real astrologer, you need to study your natal chart and keep in mind the position of the planets in your natal chart. This gives you an understanding as to what kind of astrologer you are and what clients you attract. After all, each person chooses a doctor, a dentist or a personal psychologist. So it is with astrologers. Even the best astrologer with deep knowledge may not be able to help the client if there is no inner understanding.

The planet Pluto has a great influence in my chart, and the majority of my clients have a strong position of this planet in their charts. Such people are called “Pluto people”. Noticing this trend, I realized that this is my line of work. I learned how the planet Pluto works in people’s lives and how “Pluto people” may properly handle the energy of this difficult planet.

“Pluto people” are those who have Pluto in aspect to the Sun or the Moon, or both, or who have Pluto occupy an important place in the horoscope - in the angle points of the chart, or in conjunction with the North Node, or in the eighth house. The list includes Scorpios themselves. “Pluto people” have to take the lessons of this planet, they have to live in a constant state of crisis and the powerful transformational force that Pluto brings.

Pluto is associated with great energy, strength, and changes in situations. He opens a second wind, a transformational force that changes everything. Pluto is the planet of the wealthiest people, of the rate of big business and the power brokers who are secretive, but very influential. In everyday life, this planet is complicated and generates crises, loss, and severe stress which cannot be affected. Pluto is a planet that does not tolerate objections, it comes in and cleans everything that falls under its sphere of influence. This planet gives all or nothing. This is its crucial approach. Therefore, lives of “Pluto people” are either white or black side, no half tones. The target for these people is to understand and master this power.

Pluto people need to do a lot of inner work, they need to learn the power of patience, that they are under the authority of unchangeable circumstances, and develop a conscious understanding of what is happening.

I would like to give more examples in which it becomes clear how this planet works in real life and how people cope or do not cope with this force. In the area where Pluto’s influence is now, the most intense changes happen. And as they are understood or not understood by each person depends on their nature, the level of development of soul, and a personal desire to win.

For instance, the influence of Pluto in the first house makes a person constantly try to understand themselves, to grow personally, especially if Pluto aspects are associated with personal planets. A feature of these people is that if they take the power of Pluto in themselves and believe in themselves, then they can influence the whole environment, otherwise the environment starts to affect that person. It is necessary for these people to believe in themselves and their strength, and to develop their personal power. Pluto is incredibly strong on the Ascendant. Such people are “time bombs”, they are not always extroverted or quiet, but over time, their strength begins to press down under all environments and they become gray cardinals of the community. This is one of the functions of Pluto to overcome and control.

Pluto in the fourth house, the house of the parents, often says that the parents of the person are associated with the security forces, or there were people in the family who have “magical powers.” Sometimes Pluto in the fourth house shows a terrible death in the family or that there are secrets that are better not known, or that there was ill-treatment in childhood. Here the consideration of the planet should be associated with genetic energy, understanding what and how ancestors lived. For example, a young man has Pluto in conjunction with the Moon placed in the fourth house and all the women in his family died from cancer. There were also elements of magic and interference in their family. But an even greater part of that remained a mystery.

Pluto in the eighth house is very strong but in difficult aspects to the luminaries, it carries a lot of suffering and loss in human life. A girl I know has Pluto in Libra critical degrees (30 degrees of Libra) located in the eighth house in opposition to her Moon, forming a T-square to her Sun at 29 degrees Cancer in the sixth house. Her life is one of constant suffering and loss. She has had difficulties in money, her husband died, and both her parents are terminally ill and require constant care. As she says, her life is a constant succession of problems, suffering and pain. With Pluto like this it is difficult to talk about a light and quiet life. It is required to submit to the fate of rock that marks Pluto and patiently pass through this difficult cleansing.

Pluto Is a planet that does not tolerate objections, it comes in and cleans everything that falls under its sphere of influence.

Pluto in the tenth house has one feature I have noticed. In this position, it gives everything or takes all. Here its influence is really big. You need to understand what kind of person or event in your life are projecting on this planet. Otherwise, an unfortunate set of circumstances occurs and the whole life goes downhill.

Pluto in the eleventh house involves a person involved with groups of people where a series of huge changes in a person’s life happens. Very often, these groups are in the nature of closed systems such as security forces or mafia as well as large corporations with a large sphere of influence. Here is the transformational power of the collective, and how to manage this force depends on...
PLUTO

how the other elements are located in the horoscope. For example, my friend has Pluto conjunct Mars in the eleventh house in Virgo, and his life in constant contact with large organizations, security agencies and even with closed structures, which he, of course, does not tell. And he is a Scorpio and this doubly reinforces the influence of Pluto in the building of community groups. Nobody can do without him, he is always needed. The game of influence goes from his hands to the hands of these organizations but still Pluto runs on the subordination of the individual corporate interests.

“Pluto people” are special people, transformers. First, the process of transformation takes place inside of them and then pours out, dominating the space around them. But to gain such strength is necessary to do a great job. And while this work is being done, people are exposed to Pluto and the events that affected Pluto in their charts.

An important feature of these people is that they can lead large crowds and have a significant impact. The strength of this effect depends on the degree of the planet’s involvement in the chart and the mastery of this energy.

The strength of “Pluto people” is hidden in their ability to survive in any circumstances, out of the rough and tumble of where another would have died. Pluto bestows superhuman tenacity and the will to live.

Having a powerful force of the planet, in the situation when these people want something, they literally create the desired out of thin air or do not calm down until they get what they want. Pluto is called the planet of Mages, mage from the word may. A Pluto person is a person who is a Mage, one who constructs his life to a single movement of his thoughts when he realizes his strength, his potential, his energy captured. He understands the power of his horoscope and consciously begins to make use of it.

A Pluto person is a person who is a Mage, one who constructs his life to a single movement of his thoughts when he realizes his strength, his potential, his energy captured.

Pluto is the planet of secrets and mysteries, the planet of secrecy and explicitness. Often this result is that “Pluto people” live not in full but in sleep mode until the person starts to “turn on” the energy of Pluto. To “turn on” the planet means to activate its strength and potential in life.

In the evolutionary development of the world, such people played big roles, were agents of powerful creative energy who drew strength and magnetic influence. It is important to each Pluto person to be aware of themselves and their strength, their ability to bring to people not a destroying fire but a flame of transformational force that can restore all around!

In that vein, this planet can be called creative, carrying the revival of life. That is my vision of the astrologer’s work to help other Pluto people in their way through personal experience with beautiful, strong and powerful planet Pluto.

About Margarita Logovatovskaya. Since childhood, I was interested in the mysteries of life, I wanted to know how our universe works and its laws and wanted to study Astrology. I had some astrological books at home and I read them with pleasure, there was a feeling that I already knew it. I would like to have gone further, but there was the fear that it is sinful because that is what the church taught. But I began my astrology studies, I understood that this is the tool by which you can understand your life. Dmitriy Paramonov became my main and most important Astrology teacher, helping me make the right moves in the world of professional astrological counseling.

Similarly, OPA gives support to thousands of like-minded people to elevate this movement.
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- Donna Young – Hand Drawing the Astrology Chart
- Chris McRae – Horary in Three Parts
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- Sandra Leigh Serio – Astrology and Spiritual Evolution
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OPAastrology.org
Your Chinese sign and element?
Dragon

Your favorite place on earth?
Your favorite place on earth? I love Turkey but have had many years of great joy in wintering in Scottsdale, Arizona, where my husband and I felt so completely at home and where the golfing was superb.

Your chart: I am an Aquarian Sun, Moon in Taurus, Aries Rising with Mars in Capricorn on my Midheaven conj Venus on the other side in the 9th house. I have a very close Jupiter/Uranus conjunction in Aries in my 12th house.

Your practice
I live and practice in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. I see a lot of clients here in my office that was generated long before the Internet, but I also have a wide international practice due to my many years of international lecturing and work with ISAR as one of their Certification trainers.

Your Astrology teachers? I am self taught through my passion and love for astrology. My list of favorite authors are too numerous to list but would surely including Alan Oken and Isabel Hickey.

Your Astrology hero? The late Al Morrison was my friend and mentor. He was there for my many questions both by telephone and mail because that was long before the Internet. I very much appreciated the work of Isabel Hickey who passed on in 1980. I devoured her book, Astrology a Cosmic Science

3 favorite Astrology books?
My Ephemeris, Astrology a Cosmic Science by Isabel Hickey, The Complete Astrologer by Alan Oken

What do you feel is your greatest accomplishment to date in your astrology career? I was on the Board of Directors of AFA, served on the AFAN Steering Committee and then spent 16 years on the ISAR Board. I chaired and served on many committees that carved out the ISAR Certification Program with input and suggestions from astrologers from several different countries to make sure the program would represent other ideas. Once created I had the sheer pleasure and joy of travelling to many different countries to introduce the program: To Russia, Turkey, Israel, Slovenia, The Netherlands, Australia (earlier), England, and China.

I have been teaching a multi-semester structure course in Astrology here in Edmonton, 2 or 3 semesters every year, since 1970 and still doing so. I love teaching, particularly beginners as I excite their enthusiasm towards all that will unfold to them. I love teaching the advanced classes in order to see where their brilliance has taken them. It is a great honor and privilege for me.
INTERVIEW WITH TRACK LEADER

ROY GILLETT

USING ASTRO-CYCLES IN OUR PERSONAL LIVES AND MUNDANE FORECASTING

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

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

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

YOUR PRACTICE

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

Your Astrology teachers? Self-taught from books and a two year pilgrimage travelling overland from UK to New Zealand, keeping, experimenting with and learning from an astrological daily diary... giving and learning from client feedback during thousands of interpretations... attending and organizing scores of astrology conferences and event days... 40 years of studying world and financial developments against astro-cycles... Constantly adjusting by comparing my expectations to what happened, always adjusting, learning. In addition to the 'heroes' mentioned in next question, from books by Reinhold Ebertin, Ronald Davison, Alexander Ruperti, Alan Oken, some key esoteric ideas from Alice A Bailey, Rob Hand/Bill Meridian's AstroAnalyst software

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


What does your astrological career entail? Serves the astro-community as President of The Astrological Association. Writing and organizing the team that created 'The Secret Language of Astrology'.

Thank you!

YOUR TRACK AT THE OPA RETREAT

Using Astro-cycles in our Personal Lives and Mundane Forecasting

Astro-cycles are fixed and predictable, but our use of and reactions to them are not. How we understand and apply the cycles opens a range of life choices for better or worse. Easy combinations do not automatically turn out well; you have to work with them. The direst configurations can be transformed into most beneficial and happy outcomes.

This will be a practical retreat to share experiences and examples of very different outcomes from the same astro-cycles. We will see much depends upon whether astro-events are used mindlessly, manipulatively, or mindfully. We can learn from moments in our own or clients' personal charts. So, do bring examples to share with mine. We will see why the same astro-cycles can lead to radically different outcomes in historical events as well as personal experiences.

No person or situation is irrevocably doomed or blessed. Even in our challenging times, with the right astrological understanding the best could yet be to come.
Spiritual orientation – Do you follow any specific practice?
I am interested in Sufism, but I don’t follow any specific practice.

What’s the worst thing and then, the best thing about you? The worst thing about me is I try to do many things at once and sometimes I get distracted and the best part is in the end I manage to bring everything together and final work is good.

You never tried…
To smoke.

You can’t refuse…
Profiteroles.

What is playtime for you?
Saturday afternoons.

Your animal totem?
I like horses.

Your superstition?
I think I don’t have any.

Your Chinese sign and element?
Horse, fire.

Your favorite place on earth?
Istanbul.

Your chart

YOUR TRACK AT THE OPA RETREAT

Traditional Predictive Techniques - Firdaria, Profections, and Solar Returns

As astrology students commonly have difficulties using different prediction techniques simultaneously.

In this track, I want to teach how to use three prominent traditional techniques that seem to be different, but in fact support each other, when applied together.

These predictive Traditional Astrology techniques have greatly contributed to astrology, offering a high degree of accuracy. Combining them can lead to even more accurate results.

Traditional astrologers used Transits as triggers after studying all of the other techniques. The transits of planets which are considered ‘Time Lords’ will be more important and effective than those of other planets. We will study these terms and learn how to use them effectively.

For example, I myself use New Moons, Full Moons and the transits to Solar Return charts for predicting important events in the year.

Participants will be able to realize the benefits of Firdaria and Profections as powerful prediction techniques.

1. On the first day, we will study Profection and Firdaria methods and practice the material.
2. On the second day, we will study Solar Return method and practice the material.
3. On the third day, we will combine these three methods and apply them to our own charts.

I look forward to a truly special learning experience!

Thank you!
I.D.

Email: maurice@opaastrology.com
Website: www.mauricefernandez.com

Spiritual orientation – Do you follow any specific practice?
My spiritual orientation consists of consciously working on aligning myself with the greater intelligence of universal order. I see everything alive as conscious part of this intelligent design, and in that sense, do not see humans above nature but part of it. In simple terms, my spiritual practice consists of working to support and increase what is good in this world.

What’s the worst thing and then, the best thing about you?
Worst: Loving my cats to torturous extents
Best: Living generously

You never tried drugs or eating insects

You can’t refuse… First class upgrade

What is playtime for you?
Working on the yard or going for a swim in the ocean, and hoping the dolphins will show up.

Your animal totem?
Lions and dolphins.

Your superstition?
Sharing good news, thinking that evil eye will sabotage that.

Your Chinese sign and element?
Metal Pig

Your favorite place on earth?
The Red Road on the Big Island of Hawaii, the Dead Sea in Israel, Sedona

Your chart:
Nov 5, 1971 @ 9:25pm, Bujumbura, Burundi

YOUR PRACTICE
Where do you live and practice?
I live on the Big Island of Hawaii, in the rainforest. My practice is international, so I’m not necessarily working with clients in Hawaii.

Your Astrology teachers?
My first meaningful teacher was an Israeli woman named Ayelet, who introduced me to the work of Jeffrey Green, who subsequently became my teacher for a decade; though our relationship soured at the end of the process. Dane Rudhyar was a strong influence through his books.

Your Astrology hero?
Dane Rudhyar who brought Eastern spiritual philosophy into Western Astrology

3 favourite Astrology books?
- The Astrology of Transformation, Rudhyar
- The Book of World Horoscope, Nicholas Campion
- Theory of Celestial Influence, Rodney Collins

What do you feel is your greatest accomplishment to date in your astrology career?
• Writing my book on the 12th house
• Releasing the Professional Astrologer book with 14 authors through OPA
• Forming qualified and skilled astrologers through my certification program.

YOUR TRACK AT THE OPA RETREAT
Relationship and Sexuality in Astrology
(Currently sold out, waiting list available.)

Astrology provides tremendous insights into all aspects of our lives, but relationships are possibly one of the most important areas of our lives where we need clarity, because it is not only about our personal process, but how another person affects our lives.

We will look into essential relationship needs, understand the deeper role and meaning of sexuality, and of course, use our charts to personalize this learning process.

Thank you!
Transiting Lunar Nodes’ influence in Charlie Chaplin’s Life
by Sibel Tosun

We know Charlie Chaplin from his worldwide popular cinema films. On Chaplin’s birth chart, Leo is in the 10th house which shows his field of career and social status. Since the transit moon nodes are about to cross into Aquarius-Leo, we can look at what happened at the artist’s chart during these transits.

According to his biography, the director appeared on stage in one of the West End theaters in the fall of 1905 and he defines this period as his rebirth. The Transit North Node in Leo trines with his Natal Sun, which conjuncts to his part of fortune. Queen Alexandre from the Royal Kingdom of Greece and Prince Christian watched him.

When the play was over, he became unemployed and became depressed. The transiting North Node was making a square to his natal Venus-Mars conjunction in Taurus. Indeed, his adolescence was a time when he indulged in his Taurean senses, courting prostitutes and heavy drinking. Venus, which rules the 12th house, indicates the addictions and lack of boundaries.

The transit North Node conjuncted his natal Saturn in 1906. Saturn in Leo can symbolically be interpreted as an elderly person on stage. At that time he played the role of a lad in a sketch called The Merry Major, which lasted only a week. The lead actor who played his wife was a fifty-year-old woman. Every evening he had to kiss this woman who smelled of gin which he describes was like taking a gin bottle among his arms. The result of this experience led to him giving up the ambition of becoming a lead actor.

Saturn in Leo activated by the transit of the Nodes, manifested in having him leave the star role in the scene. He tried instead writing a play. Saturn is his Natal 3rd house ruler associated with writing skills. He wrote a comedy named “Twelve Just Men” that tells the story of a group of lawyers who disagreed with a judge. Saturn, which is in the ninth house, may be expressing this association with the judge theme. Natal Saturn/Mars square also tells of this struggle. Chaplin sold the play to the hypnotist Charcoate, and he got a directorship offer. The actors were
ready and the rehearsal began. An old actor said that the play was badly written and that it was full of stupid jokes. Here, Saturn in Leo symbolizes the older actor which squares his natal Mars. Mars represents Chaplin's rise as a leader. And on the third day, a note came from Charcoal in the middle of the rehearsal which said that he wanted to stop putting the play on stage. Chaplin couldn't share that with all the actors. His brother came to his help. Transit North Node's supportive effect came with Saturn which refers to the third house that is associated with his brother, some ambitious people and finds true love. (North Node Leo symbolism).

On November 24, 1924, Chaplin got married for the second time during the filming. The transit North Node made a square to midpoint of his natal Venus-Mars conjunction in the 7th house. At this time he also went through a scandal with a woman who was one of his fans. She had come from Mexico City to Beverly Hills on foot to his home just prior to that marriage. He was entertaining his guests at that time. The butler said with embarrassment that the woman was in Chaplin's bedroom. He let the woman stay overnight. The next day the woman attempted suicide with poison and was taken to the hospital and the doctors pumped her stomach. Journalists took the woman's photos and published them. The woman told the reporters that she did not commit suicide, that she was not in love with Charlie Chaplin, but she came to Hollywood to get a part in a movie and to get Chaplin's attention. Venus, the dispositor of 12th house, had always brought loss from women. Venus, the elevated dispositor of the 5th, had also brought speculative events.

On June 26, 1925, On the night of the gala of The Gold Rush movie, transiting North Node was making a sextile with Natal Pluto, which is at the cusp of his 8th house, Chaplin joined the gala and got sick after it. When he saw that he was barely breathing at the hotel, he panicked and called one of his friend and said 'I'm dying, inform my lawyer,' he said panting. His friend said to him, 'You need a doctor.' "No, no, I want my lawyer. I will prepare my will." he replied. Because the lawyer was abroad, a doctor came and examined him. He told him that he had frayed nerves and he should rest. Pluto, the modern ruler of Scorpio which rules his Ascendant sign, represents Chaplin and the settlement in Gemini represents the worn nerves.

Chaplin became increasingly more political following the 1940 release of The Great Dictator, a film which targeted Nazism. It was his most commercially successful movie and with great cultural significance. At that time the lunar nodes in Libra/Aries activated his natal Mercury and Uranus opposition.

(Interestingly, Chaplin was born just a few days before Hitler, and his Ascendant is just a few degrees after Hitler's.)

On December 3, 1942, he made a speech at the campaign for the war in Russia while transiting North Node was in Leo and making a trine to his the natal Sun in Aries. When the transiting North Leo activated the opposition of his Natal Mercury-Uranus, Mercury, ruler of the eleventh house (the social environment), unexpectedly dampened his social and professional life because of his political stance and personal life scandals.

The transiting North Node was again making a square to his natal Venus-Mars conjunction. This aspect brought him a sensational event with a woman and a third marriage. A woman named Joan Barry, who stalked him, claimed that she was pregnant for three months and filed a paternity suit (Leo is associated with children).

In 1943 the North Node transit conjuncted his Natal Saturn and Mars square, with Mars, secondary ruler of his

Venus, the dispositor of 12th house, had always brought loss from women. Venus, the elevated dispositor of the 5th, had also brought speculative events.

and his brother's support went far. The famous producer Mr. Karno wanted to see Chaplin. He asked him to replace the old actor in "The Football Match" play. The hard work and perseverance from the Saturn-Mars square had worked again. The audience was amazed. They rolled in the aisles. An elderly actor named Weldon was so jealous of Chaplin that one day during the play when he had to slap him in the face as the part of the play, he hit him so hard in the nose that Chaplin's nose started to bleed. The old actor did this on purpose, again a reflection of the natal Mars/Saturn adversity.

The Transiting South Node in the 4th house during 1906 can be linked with his mother. His mother was sick and she was staying at the mental hospital for a long time.

The following North Node Leo transit on May 23 1924, transit North Node trines his natal sun while he was making the movie The Gold Rush. He mentioned about this film 'I want to be remembered with this movie'. Transit North Node Leo trines with his Natal Sun, reflected in a very suitable Leonian name for the film: "The Gold Rush". The movie is about Charlo's golden adventure. Charlo goes to Alaska to look for gold where he meets
Scorpio Ascendant, representing Chaplin. In this paternity suit, a judge who was a friend of Chaplin, said that one of the politicians had decided to ‘take over Chaplin’. Saturn symbolizes the government officials here and Chaplin had to fight (Mars) for his freedom. The federal government used this legal blackmail when it wanted to silence a political dissident. The government blamed Chaplin with violation of the Mann Act: A person who takes a woman to another state and wants to be with her is made suspect of prostitution trafficking. Chaplin eventually got rid of these charges. Here Saturn also points the area of the losses as the secondary ruler of the transit South Node in Aquarius and the 12th house exaltation. (The 12th house ruler brings us losses and events we can’t control. The transit South Node ruler also can cause crises of the sort).

In summary, we can identify that when transit North Node Leo travelled in the career part of his chart, the 10th house in the course of the years 1906,1924, and 1942 and trined his natal Sun in Aries, there were positive developments and successes in his professional life. On the other hand, as the South Node transited in the 4th house representing the family area, problems emerged in his private life which hindered his career. The planets that form a t-square with the lunar nodes are both benefic and malefic. During the times of the North Node transits through his natal 10th and 9th houses, there was a quest for deeper meaning and wider perspective beyond his success and status, such as the times when he left the thrills of taking the front stage as an actor and concentrated on writing instead. He also was the target of legal accusations when the South Node was in the third house, particularly when his political ideas became controversial in the early 40’s.

Looking forward, I hope the upcoming transit of the North Node in Leo (May 2017 – Nov 2018) brings the world and our individual lives pure love, rather than despotic kings and queens. It is a time when we may get in touch with the child inside us and we can find enough courage to manifest our ambitions and dreams. It is also a time when art may come to the forefront. We can see the gold of the Leo as the gold of the spiritual value of the alchemist.

I found Chaplin’s quotes about transit lunar nodes. Chaplin says ‘sometimes we think too much and feel too little.’ from the movie The Great Dictator.

Chaplin said in an interview: ‘Life is a play that does not allow testing. So, sing, cry, dance, laugh and live intensely, before the curtain closes and the piece ends with no applause.’

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SİBEL TOSUN, ASA, MAPAI
Sibel was born in Bursa, Turkey. She graduated from Anatolian University Faculty of Communication Sciences Department of Cinema - Television. She worked in TV, advertising agency, social media management. She graduated from AstroArt Astrology School in 2016. She is member of APAI and OPA since 2011, and has attended workshops and trainings in reiki, breath, mandala, Sema (Sufi dance), access, Radiaesthesia (a method of balancing the chakras with the use of pendulum).
Life Time Astrology: Who Initiated your conception? The essential events and psychological developments of your life and relationships begin the 9th cusp (conception), when your mother and father make love to conceive you. Remember that life is a process in time. So, who initiated your conception?

The Cracked Mirror: The Astrology of Narcissism. We could simply say “It’s the Leo” and move on (ha!), but then we’d remember an Aries we once knew, and a Mars character we’d rather forget, and then what about obsessed-with-my-power-Pluto…? There’s not just one expression of the disorder, nor is there one clear astrological signature. We’ll explore the entire range from typical narcissistic tendencies to classic diagnosable types, including astrological chart examples, dealing with narcissistic clients and pathways to healing.

The Astrology of Nasir al-Din Tusi. Tusi, philosopher, theologian, mathematician, astrologer and astronomer, is by far the most celebrated scholar of the 13th century in eastern Islamic lands. When his land was conquered by the Mongols, he joined Hulagu’s service. Hulagu Khan was deeply impressed by his knowledge and astrological competency. Tusi established the observatory at Maragha and produced new astronomical tables called “Al-Zij-Ilkhani.” His books on astrology remained unknown until today. At this presentation we will meet Tusi and his astrology books.

Cycles of 2020. In 2020 we will experience the conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn in Aquarius which will be the first of a series of conjunctions in the air element and which we have not seen for over 600 years. How might the transition of this cycle moving from the earth element to the air element affect how we live and what changes might we expect? This conjunction will be followed by Pluto’s ingress into Aquarius in 2023/2024 which will add to these changes and spearhead society into a new age, unprecedented in human society. This talk will explore the possibilities presented by these cycles.

Understanding House Systems. Which house system is the best? How do we use multiple house calculations and still create a delineation that is effective? Join us for an exploration of the differences between some of the house systems in use today to help you make an informed decision.

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number of private consultations within a week but through teaching classes, it is possible to practice on the charts of the students and gain more experience. It is also possible to crosscheck all the techniques taught in the class and practice them together with the students. It is crucial to keep learning and applying the teachings to sustain and enhance my practice. Additionally, it is a service for humanity; giving information to the people, who know nothing about astrology in general, about their natal charts is something divine for me.

I always arrange to teach a seminar or workshop at a distant time on a subject that I need to learn about myself.

CHALLENGING MYSELF TO RESEARCH

Being born in Last Quarter phase and having a T-square between Jupiter-Saturn-Pluto and Uranus, with Jupiter in the 9th house on the focal point of that aspect pattern in my chart, I always arrange to teach a seminar or workshop at a distant time on a subject that I need to learn about myself. As I announce it, I have to research and make progress on that specific subject. This approach has been very effective for me. Having Jupiter in Gemini, I gained information and experience in many different fields this way.

Even though some of us may already be accomplished in our practice, we need to have new goals and keep growing.

These goals are not only for myself, but also for my students; I would like to see them consult, write, and share their knowledge and experiences, possibly in the international arena. Astrology is an infinite ocean, and we are all like Mercury in Pisces, willing to learn new things inside this ocean!

With love, light and hope!
Öner Döşer, AMA, MAPAI, ISAR Cap OPA Turkey Satellite www.onerdoser.com/eng

I could never imagine I would reach the place I’m in now in astrology when I first started practicing as a fulltime professional astrologer many years ago. I hope sharing my approach can inspire you in your professional development.

When I first started giving private lessons on astrology, I only had one student who was also a friend of mine. After a while, I gave lessons to a couple of students and then, it eventually grew to three people. In 2005, I founded the School of Astrology in Istanbul. In March 2005, I had 16 students in my class. Now, when I have a look at my student folder, I see 924 natal charts are saved in this folder. Our purpose is to reach 1000 students in the coming school year.

TEACHING and CONSULTATIONS as a Way to Enhance your Practice

Teaching astrology has been the greatest factor in enhancing my astrology practice. One may only give a limited

I give 4-5 private consultations in a week today. In the past, I was seeing up to 10 clients a week, but my teaching schedule does not allow for that anymore as I teach about 10 different classes in a week. Both teaching and offering private consultations provides invaluable experience.

I show my students my own chart during class. By disclosing myself, I encourage them to open up themselves. Without being inappropriate about our private lives, we make important evaluations based on the situations the students experience in their lives. We also examine the charts of celebrities, national leaders and some important figures within the history. Of course, we cannot get feedback from these figures, but we can learn from news headlines and public reports. Keeping track of astrology transits on personal or public figure’s charts keeps us involved and continually learning.

WRITING as a Way to Enhance Your Practice

Writing weekly articles since 2003 has been a tremendous way to keep my practice growing. While preparing these articles, I have to update myself on what is going on, and then verify the information once the transits occur. The same applies for my articles on Solar and Lunar eclipses, ingress charts and planetary cycles. Keeping updated on the ongoing transits is crucial to sharpen our skills and know at every time how people feel or what the current trends and challenges are.

Even though some of us may already be accomplished in our practice, we need to have new goals and keep growing.

These goals are not only for myself, but also for my students; I would like to see them consult, write, and share their knowledge and experiences, possibly in the international arena. Astrology is an infinite ocean, and we are all like Mercury in Pisces, willing to learn new things inside this ocean!

With love, light and hope!
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Öner Döşer is the director and teacher of Astro-Art School of Astrology in Istanbul. He is OPA’s Turkish Satellite. You may visit his webpage: http://www.onerdoser.com/eng/
OPA, The Organization for Professional Astrology, is dedicated to promoting excellence for astrologers. Incorporated on October 4, 2000 at 1:45 pm EDT in Tallahassee, Florida, OPA provides members with tools to establish or improve their astrological practice. Membership is open to aspiring and current astrologers. Benefits include subscription to the Career Astrologer and E-news, free monthly talks by top notch astrologers and members registration fees at OPA retreats and conferences. Annual dues are $60.00.

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**UPCOMING ASTROLOGY CONFERENCES**

**MAY 2017**
May 4-8, 2017 GLAC CONFERENCE
Ann Arbor, Michigan

**MAY 6 -13 - ASTROLOGY RISING**
Astrology Conference. Costa Rica
astrologyrisingcostarica.com

**MAY 25-29 - NORWAC**
Astrology Conference. Seattle, WA
www.norwac.net

**JUNE 2017**
June 8 -11 - POLARIS
Astrology Conference. Oslo, Norway
facebook.com/PolarisAstrologikonferanse

**OCTOBER 2017**
October 19-23, 2017 OPA RETREAT
Zion National Park, Utah
www.opaastrology.org/annual-retreat

**MAY 2018**
May 24-29, 2018 UAC (United Astrology Conference), Chicago, IL
www.uacastrology.com

**ANSWERS**
1B / 2D / 3A
OPA at the NCGR conference in Baltimore

Ursula Stockder and Victoria Smoot presenting at the conference as part of the I-Astrologer program to offer participants public speaking opportunities.

OPA Pres with AYA's Sasha Z. for membership cooperation

Ursula about Astrology and Art

Victoria Smoot on Astrology and Ancient Egypt

OPA Canada

This was a wonderful opportunity for practicing astrologers to discuss and enhance their practice. The Peer Group provides support and guidance in the astrologer’s practice.

OPA presentation in Mexico City

We were welcomed warmly by our Mexican astrolites – Many thanks to Ursula Stockder, OPA Mexico Satellite.

Angela Tiki (Greece Satellite) with Carol Dimitrov (OPA Outreach)

Ursula Stockder (Mexico Satellite) with Maurice Fernandez
The 6th Astrology Day Conference in Istanbul with OPA

Oner Doser organized a very special event which further introduced OPA to the Turkish Astrologers. Turkey is now the 3rd most populated Satellite, after the US and Canada!

With faculty Laura DesJardins (US), Sharon Knight (UK), Sol Jonassen (OPA Scandinavia), Maurice (US), Leona Flamel (Serbia), Aleksandar Imsiragic (Serbia) + Oner and the Turkish army of the galaxy!

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