

NCGR GEOCOSMIC

# JOURNAL

WINTER 2015

ASTROLOGY PURE AND SIMPLE

## Astrology Pure and Simple

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**NCGR**  
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**NCGR Statement of Purpose**

**T**he purpose of NCGR shall be to provide an environment to foster and publish research of a geocosmic nature and to pursue educational programs in various interdisciplinary fields related to geocosmic studies. The term "geocosmic" is defined as "of or pertaining to the study of correspondences and cycles involving earthly phenomena and cosmic (celestial) events." This purpose is implemented by: disseminating information through NCGR publications, including journals, newsletters, books or monographs; providing financial and technical assistance, guidance, or professional help to individuals or groups for approved research projects, sponsoring interdisciplinary educational programs, chartering regional, semi-autonomous chapters of NCGR having the same goals and purposes; promoting and encouraging the highest professional standard and ethical behavior among astrologers.

**Acknowledgements**

Thanks to Joseph Addeo, Gene Shaw, and John Marchesella, our guest editors for this issue of *Geocosmic Journal*. We'd also like to thank Loretta Lopez who does the design, layout, production, illustrations and even a little light editing on our journals. Thanks also, to all the members of the NCGR Board as well as Liane Thomas Wade, Ronnie Gale Dreyer, Ken Irving, and Arlene Nimark: their work on behalf of NCGR makes these publications possible.

Charts used in this issue are generated by **Solar Fire**, and **Time Passages**, and are used courtesy of Astrolabe, Inc. and Astrograph Software, Inc., respectively. All of the images used in this publication are in the public domain, or, used by permission of the author or copyright holder.

We hope you enjoy this Winter/Spring edition of the **NCGR Geocosmic Journal**, and we welcome your feedback!

*Trish Buckley*  
Publications Director



**ON THE COVER**

*Comet McNaught with Milkyway and Magellanic Clouds*

A composite of 13 images taken in Patagonia, Argentina, January 2007 by Miloslav Druckmüller. Taken with a Canon EOS 5D. Optics: Tamron SP AF 17-35mm F/2.8-4 Di LD (setting 17mm, aperture 2.8) Image used with generous permission of Mr. Druckmüller. Website: [www.zam.fme.vutbr.cz/~druck/Index.htm](http://www.zam.fme.vutbr.cz/~druck/Index.htm) (© 2007 Miloslav Druckmüller)

## Introduction



Welcome to the Winter / Spring edition of the *Geocosmic Journal*. In this issue we feature a variety of articles on our favorite topic, *Astrology Pure and Simple*, from a broad range of wonderful astrologers working in diverse disciplines.

First up we have Michael Munkasey tackling the very definition of astrology with his article “Toward a Definition of Astrology.” Is it a science, an art, a practice, a language—or something else? With this thought provoking article, Michael hopes to open a dialog in the astrological community that he feels is long overdue. Michael is an astrologer, author and regular contributor to NCGR Journals, He lives in Bellevue, Washington.

In our second article, “Mars and His Children,” Shirley Soffer does a thorough examination of the Mars / Ares mythological history and astrological archetype. She takes a look at how his “children,” and his relationships with the feminine, fit into and expand his role in astrology. Shirley is practicing astrologer in New York city, in addition to being an author and Director of the NCGR-PAA Education program.

David Perloff’s article, “Another Look at Mental Chemistry,” explores the technique developed by Marc Edmund Jones in the mid-20th Century. Using celebrities and personalities in the public eye, David clearly illustrates how this compelling technique works in the “real world.” A frequent contributor to NCGR *memberletter*, NCGR Journals and other astrological publications, David lives, practices, and teaches Astrology in Boston. He is also Secretary of the NCGR Boston chapter.

“In Time Lord Techniques,” Elizabeth Hazel looks at the chart of the notorious and brilliant comedian Lenny Bruce. Using this classical technique of timing she examines the triggers and life events in Lenny’s tumultuous life. Elizabeth is a working astrologer, taroist, lecturer, and author living in Ann Arbor, Michigan; and is president of the Ann Arbor Chapter of NCGR.

Next up comes “Jupiter in Leo and The Metropolitan Opera House,” by Kyle Ukes. Kyle uses the Jupiter cycle to look at patterns of events occurring in the “life” of the New York City Metropolitan Opera House, and to forecast possible events in future of the organization. Kyle practices astrology and teaches NCGR-PAA Level 1 math in Brooklyn, New York.

In our next article, Izabela Podlaska-Konkel takes a good look at the Eight House in “The Eighth House

Confidential.” She explores the mythology, tradition and beliefs associated with this transformative house in the astrological chart. Using celebrity charts, she examines timing and events related to transits of this house. Izabela is an active member of NCGR in Warsaw, Poland, where she teaches, blogs, and makes media appearances in local and national media.

John Marchesella offers a compelling article in “How to Make an Astrological Prediction... and Why.” He explores the role of prediction in astrology, the reasons for and against, and finally offers some tried and true techniques for making predictions in the service of helping a client. John lives, works, teaches, breathes and sleeps astrology in New York City. He currently serves as the Chair of NCGR.

In “Pallas and Chiron,” Faith McInerney examines the topics of work and worker injury as well as related topics of workers, unions, bosses, etc. etc., using the Pallas and Chiron cycles. She includes some of the Transneptunian points, as she examines trends in history and popular culture, as well as transits in the Charts of famous individuals. Faith lives in New York city and is a frequent contributor to all of the NCGR publications, and is an avid researcher in the field of astrology.

In our final article, Jagdish Maheshri presents a look at “Wishonttari Dasha in Vedic Chart Predictions.” He uses the Vedic chart of President Barack Obama to see how planetary cycles may correlate to predict events and the circumstances for events. He also presents his own method “Nine Fold Progression Technique” as a tool for use in Vedic chart prediction. Jagdish is NCGR’s Research Director, and a practicing Vedic astrologer in Houston, Texas.

Finally, on behalf of the NCGR Publications department, I’d like to thank every author who contributed to this Journal, and all those who regularly contribute to all the NCGR publications (*Geocosmic*, *Research Journal*, *memberletter*, and more.) You inspire us all with your work and your talent. Keep up the good work!

I hope you all enjoy this edition of *Geocosmic Journal*, and thank you for your support of NCGR!

Loretta Lopez, Publications

# Toward a Definition of Astrology

by Michael Munkasey

**A**strology is a complex subject that is rapidly gaining in social recognition and popularity. There are and have been ongoing debates about whether astrology is a science, an art, a practice, a language -- or nonsense. These debates fuel a focus and awareness about astrology throughout emerging consciousness, and this focus is begging for a more formal definition of and a closer look at what astrology is, and what it is not.

Astrology is not easy to define because it is part craft, part art, part science and part written and oral tradition. For some it is an idea, and for others it embraces a lifestyle. Astrology embraces branches of practice that view what it is and how it is to be practiced in quite different ways.

Astrology begins with some basic ideas and approaches that need to be learned, practiced, developed and honed in individual ways that still embrace traditional basics. Students can quite quickly adopt a “use this – ignore that” approach to the various traditional and “new” parts that become what to them is Astrology.

For instance, when reading a chart, the practice a student may develop could be: “Use the major planets and perhaps some newly discovered planetoids, but not the asteroids, etc.”. This approach invites a combining of ideas and



techniques from various schools. The worst a student can do is to combine ideas from one school with another and as such create a new concept. For instance the use of Vedic Techniques, intended for Sidereal positions, with Tropical positions. It is MUCH better to learn one established idea or school well before experimenting by going off in new directions.

Other common disciplines like: gardening, cooking, sailing, soccer, football, sewing, advertising, quilting, photography, etc., invite similar “part this – part that” structures and approaches. Like astrology each of these disciplines contains a body of ideas, practices and actions. All use steps or procedures that could be called “scientific” – whatever that has come to mean. What these and similar

disciplines have are techniques passed on to students and users by other experienced users and teachers, needing to be developed through practice. Books and articles in a given field also help pass on ideas, techniques, practices, interpretations and explanations.

Unlike astrology many practices are commonly accepted as giving useful everyday results. Others who do not understand astrology's potential have attached the word "pseudo-science" to astrology without reflection and thus trivialize astrology. Yet, cooking, for example, is similar in its structure. Cooking has techniques and there are recipes. Some follow these instructions to the letter, yet others improvise. The result is that people cook. Food for consumption is produced. But no one refers to cooking as a "pseudo-science".

The same with "advertising" which employs a body of techniques and observations that produce results – just like astrology. Yet, advertising is not labeled a "pseudo-science". I think that active in the minds of people who label astrology as a pseudo-science is that there is only one astrology -- a predictive effort. But astrology also encompasses evaluation and interpretation.

Certainly, in the past, astrological predictions have been made that did not come to pass. The same can be said for economic trends, and weather or earthquake forecasts. There have also been notable astrological forecasts that have turned out correct. Not recognized or understood by "scientific naysayers" is that there is an astrology of interpretation and explanation and it has greatly evolved as students and users learn and hone its development.

## Assumptions

The "Art" and "Practice" of Astrology need definitions, boundaries if you will, as to what is, or what is not, included when using the word "Astrology". It falls on the current astrological professional organizations to set a definition for the term "Astrology" and then for each of these organizations collectively to ensure that this definition is promulgated and updated through time and usage. The organizations need to ensure that its members stand united on the definition of what the term "Astrology" means.

This does not imply adopting a rigid stance or policing of members' thoughts and works. What is needed is for the professional organizations to define what the word "Astrology" means, and then when outside groups or people attack astrologers or astrology these definitions can be used to promote clarity.

These begging needs for definition also raise the issue of who has the right to use the title "Astrologer," and what should the minimum expected level of ethics be for

astrological activities. Assumptions about the practice of astrology are currently being made (e.g., in on-line commentary) without regard for its traditional definitions and practices; or even changing those established lines of thought. This is leading to a dilution and ignoring of established and recognized traditional ideas and standards. This dilution brings serious implications for formalizing and recognizing the potential of astrology in everyday practice.

There is a difference between stupidity and ignorance. Stupidity implies that one does not have the mental capacity to understand. The "brain power" is simply not there, and despite any schooling or coaching understanding will not be forthcoming. Ignorance however implies that one has not studied a subject well, or has drawn preliminary conclusions or opinions due to incomplete or barely thought through study. Sad, but there is a lot of ignorance today about astrology that is shown even among teachers and writers of current astrology opinion pieces; and this holds true for science education and reporting.

## Structure

I think of astrology as showing quite different facets. These are as a:

- language
- set of tools (e.g., planets, signs, houses, etc.)
- facility for determining human or event insights.

There are two quite different ways to define astrology: through **Function** (technique) or through **Practice** (application).

► Function, or technique, implies that the definition centers on how the various astrological tools are used. Examples of definition of astrology by function include such schools of thought as: Cosmobiology, Hindu, Uranian, Tropical Placidian, Medieval, the use of Degree Symbolism, etc.

► Practice, or application, implies that the definition embody the various applications used. Examples of definition of astrology by practice include such schools of thought as: Humanistic, Natal, Esoteric, Psychological, Compatibility, Mundane, Horary, Shamanistic, Religious (e.g., The X Temple of Astrology), Art Forms (e.g., Astro-Drama), Divinatory; etc.

It is important to note these distinctions when discussing how astrology is to be defined.

The advantage to *definition through function* is that various schools of thought and practice remain independent from the definition. The disadvantage is that practitioners may find themselves working in more than one area and thus the minimum standards required to practice are more complex.

The advantage of *definition through practice* is that practitioners can easily switch among various functions or techniques. The disadvantage is that different schools of application could become a part of the definition. This could imply that the people who tout this practice then become part of the definition.

## Examples from Other Disciplines

The fields of engineering and medicine are also complex and offer a reasonable comparison of structure and definition. Engineering divides along lines of practice such as mechanical, civil, electrical, computer science, electronic design, etc. The only relationship among some of these fields is their commonality with the ideas of design and production. Each of these fields has their own professional organizations, accrediting practices, newsletters, etc. They also have colleges (e.g., the school of electrical engineering) devoted to educating students in their practices.

The field of medicine divides into obstetrics, internal medicine, ophthalmology, urology, radiology, etc. Their commonality is a dedication to healing. In daily practice we recognize that if you need eye care, you do not go to a radiologist or an urologist. If we want a bridge or a building built we do not go to a computer design engineer. Yet, there are civil engineers who use computers. They just don't advertise themselves as being experts in computer design.

Both the fields of medicine and engineering have done good jobs of educating the public about their various branches. There is an important lesson to be learned from this by those wishing to call themselves astrologers.

In medicine a student takes four years of general college chemistry, physiology and similar courses, then additional years of specialized medical school courses, and then the student must specialize and practice in a field under supervision for a number of years while being examined and certified for public practice. There are both state and national certification processes.

In engineering a student takes specific courses in college but is qualified to practice in a field as soon as he or she passes an accrediting exam (e.g., obtains a civil engineer's license).

Licensing is also a requirement in the field of medicine, and a doctor is licensed for his or her particular field of interest. In both fields professional organizations are strong and encourage active membership for on-going educational practices.



## Applying This Insight

Using engineering and medicine as examples then it makes sense to divide astrology in a similar manner along the lines of practice. The ideas which unite the astrological fields include the use of solar system planets, zodiacal signs, aspects (or harmonics), the personal sensitive points, houses, fixed stars, other solar system bodies, and long precessional cycles as basic tools. Astrological practices include psychological, predictive, business, synastry, esoteric, etc., divisions of fields.

Within psychological astrology there are branches for counseling, astro-drama, mythology, etc. Within predictive astrology there are branches for horary, electional, the use of oracles along with or as a chart, progressions, etc. Business astrology ideas include both mundane and market applications. Synastry includes both counseling for interpersonal relationships and counseling for company / employee interactions, etc. Esoteric includes practices of astrology associated with religion, ritual, soul development, studies of past Master's teachings, stone circles, reincarnation, natural settings, rhythmic movement, etc.

Such diverse parts to astrology are currently causing confusion among the public as to what astrology is as a practice, and who has the right to call themselves or to practice as an astrologer.

Specifically omitted from these particular fields are practices that cause qualms among some astrologers. These can include the use of tarot cards (or a similar oracle) as a chart reading vehicle as opposed to using the traditional astrological tools while still retaining the title "astrologer"; the primary use of intuition as a vehicle for interpretation of an astrological chart or oracle -- as opposed to studied and diligent practice; and the mixing of techniques from various oracular practices along with astrological symbols.

There are some very good practicing astrologers who have a high degree of intuitive sense when reading and interpreting an astrological chart. This intuitive sense of insight can be honed through practice, but it cannot be

taught to someone who is without that native aptitude. This intuitive and interpretive sense exists in every field, and I applaud those who have that aptitude.

Few, if any, standards exist today within the professional practice of astrology to differentiate among practitioners who place large outdoor advertising signs depicting red-painted hands with symbols of Jupiter or the Moon imprinted thereon; or with practitioners who



take the time to gain experience and accreditation in using more traditional astrological chart reading methods.

If professionals in the field of astrology are to follow the successful public educational practices used by medicine or engineering then these people should start to identify themselves not as “astrologers,” but as “Natal Astrologers,” “Electional Astrologers,” “Business Astrologers,” etc.

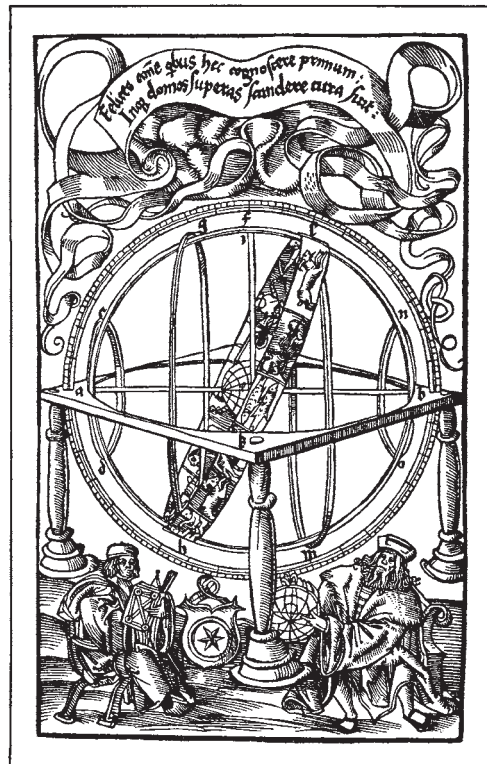
I am deliberately NOT addressing the issue of accreditation. Accreditation is a totally separate issue from a definition of astrology. There can be no movement toward public recognition of the practice of astrology without an adequate definition of what astrology is and what astrology is not. There can be no movement toward an adequate scientific test of astrology without a definition of what astrology is and what astrology is not.

Accreditation involves the examination and licensing of people to ensure that they meet certain levels of education and competence in their chosen field of practice. Definition of these fields allows any person to identify with the techniques and specific practices in which they choose to develop competency. This paper is about *definition*.

## Implications

The implications of what is being presented here are quite large. Should it be decided or shown that astrology is a language or a set of tools, then efforts toward the “scientific proof” of astrology make little sense. No one is trying to scientifically prove that German or French, or a hammer and wrench, are scientifically valid.

Requests for a “proof” of astrology are often mixed with trying to determine how astrology works. Scientists do not test the validity of German or French. Rather they use German or French in situations to determine various aspects of our physical nature. In a similar way, asking if right or left-handedness, or one’s hair color, is provable through astrology may be the wrong type of question to ask. Rather one should ask questions like “How does a skilled Horary Astrologer use his or her tools and experience to arrive at answers?” “Are the answers so derived correct?” What is meant by the word “correct”? “Are such practices reproducible in other contexts?”



## Suggested Definitions

**Astrology** is a practice designed to help people understand themselves or events, their current life situations, and their strengths and weaknesses. Astrology uses certain tools which are called the: solar system planets or bodies, zodiacal signs, aspects (or harmonics), the personal sensitive points, houses, fixed stars, extra-solar system bodies, planetary nodes, and long precessional cycles.

**Astrology as a language.** In English grammar we have nouns, adjectives, verbs, etc. In Astrology we have planets, signs, etc. There is a correlation between these two ideas. That is, planets can be thought of as having a noun, adjective or adverb depiction. Etc. See “The Astrological Thesaurus, Book One, House Keywords” by Michael Munkasey for a fuller explanation.

**An astrologer** is a person who has studied the tools of astrology; knows and understands their definitions, applications and limitations; and can interpret an astrological chart using their experience to answer questions or provide insight.

**A chart** is a traditional, symbolic and stylized diagram that uses at least three of the astrological tools depicted in a recognized manner. A natal chart depicts a birth, a horary chart a horary question, etc.

**A horoscope** is one of the tools that astrologers use, sometimes also called the rising sign. The map or chart, often miscalled a horoscope, is just that: a map or chart of the various astrological tools drawn in a traditional way.

**Planets.** It is best to stick with the traditional astrological planets before adding in other bodies like the asteroids, newly discovered solar system bodies, hypothetical planets, etc. While these can work, and often in dramatic ways, the use and understanding of the traditional astrological planets should come first.

These traditional solar system bodies are: the Sun, the Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto.



Scientists and Astronomers who “formalize” definitions for their fields may disagree with an astrologer’s definition of “planets”.

**Nodes.** Nodes are derived from the intersection points of a planet’s orbit with the plane of the Ecliptic. Each of the planets has both a North Node, and a South Node. These are opposite to each other in space. Nodes can also be measured in Heliocentric (Sun at the center) or Geocentric (Earth at the center) positions. Nodes can be determined by their “average daily motion” position (not recommended) or by their “true” position (recommended). The most commonly used and shown Node in astrological practice is the geocentric Moon’s Node.

**Personal Sensitive Points.** Abbreviated PSPs. There are seven PSPs, or eight if you include the Moon’s Node, which belongs included with the PSPs. Each of the PSPs has a focus (or main) side, and an opposite side. In my opinion an astrologer should learn and use the main side first.

Each of the PSPs is a real and definable point in space. These are not theoretical constructs. They are each powerful in their own way, and should not be ignored in astrological practice. Popularly there are two PSPs that are shown in the chart: the Ascendant (ASC) and the MC. The names of the other PSPs are the: Equatorial Ascendant (EQA); Vertex (VTX); Co-Ascendant (CAS); Polar Ascendant (PAS); and Aries Point (APT).

No one of the PSPs is any more important than any other. They are all important. The MC serves as an “anchor” for the chart, in that the MC connects the astrological chart to a point on the Ecliptic that becomes the foundation for orienting the chart in space. The MC represents “time” and the ASC represents the “horizon”. The MC and ASC are also referred to as the chart angles, because they set the framework for erecting a chart diagram.

**Aspects and Harmonics:** These are two words that refer to the same idea, although they are slightly different in meaning. An aspect is the angle between two planets, or a planet and a PSP. For example, if Jupiter and Saturn in a chart are 47 degrees and 23 minutes apart, then that is their aspect (angle). The eighth harmonic (division) of the 360 degree circle of the Ecliptic falls at 45 degrees (360 divided by 8 = 45). Thus one could say that in this example there is an 8th harmonic aspect between Jupiter and Saturn.

Not all harmonics have to be whole or real numbers (integer numbers, e.g. 5, 16, 243). There can also be harmonic intervals with numbers having a decimal point (real numbers, e.g., 3.49, 1.392, 41.67). Real number harmonics can become a useful tool. The practice of “arc-transforms”

uses real number harmonics, and it is a very powerful aid to finding a chart’s power points.

Astrology can be divided into fields of practice, such as

### **Psychological Astrology**

The use of astrological knowledge and tools to counsel people to help them understand themselves, their role in life, their strengths, weaknesses, etc.

### **Synastry**

The use of astrological knowledge and tools to counsel people in interpersonal situations.

### **Business Astrology**

The use of astrological knowledge and tools to counsel people in business, mundane, political, event, or historical situations. This includes the study and interpretation all forms of market cycles.

### **Predictive Astrology**

The use of astrological knowledge and tools to answer people’s questions about future, present, or past trends, select times for propitious astrological influences, etc.

This includes horary and electional methods.

### **Esoteric Astrology**

The use of astrologically based knowledge to help others identify with their culture, background, self, soul, etc. The use of and mixing in of various oracles along with the basic astrological tools may be acceptable.

### **Medical Astrology**

The use of astrological knowledge and tools to counsel people concerning their medical situation.

### **Rectification Astrology**

The use of astrological knowledge and tools to determine the time of a birth or the time of an event.

### **Cycle Astrology**

The use of astrological knowledge and tools to forecast weather, sun spots, natural cycles in populations, etc.

### **Others**

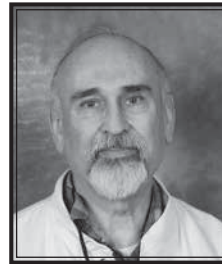
(These require further development and definition)

## Conclusions - IT IS TIME ...

It is time to seriously address what astrology is and what astrology is not. If astrologers choose to follow the lead of the fields of engineering and medicine then it is time to start defining our various fields of practice, as well as the minimum educational levels acceptable within each field. It is time to start organizing astrology along these fields of practice. It is time to start educating the general public and astrologers about the differences among these various fields. It is time to start organizational groups within these fields. It is also time for the teachers and leaders in astrology to identify themselves and their students as "Medical Astrologers," or "Natal Astrologers," etc. The word "astrologer" has simply become too general to use as a one-word definition.

What I have intended here is to open a community-wide discussion about the definition and role of astrology. Because we lack such a definition, along with its acceptance, we open ourselves to criticism from many different angles. A definition of what astrology is and what astrology is not

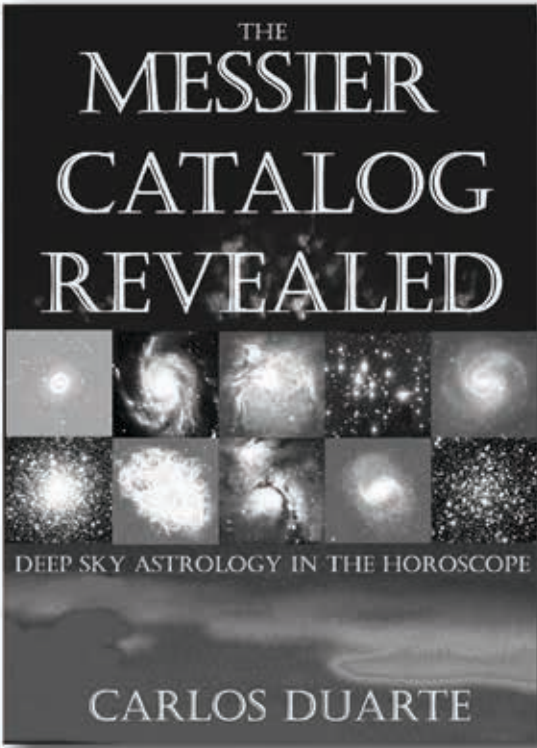
is becoming increasingly necessary. Once such a definition is decided then it needs to be adopted by all astrological practitioners. This could take a long time, perhaps twenty or fifty or more years. I hope that my preliminary thinking can help bring some order to a very complex subject.



### Michael Munkasey

NCGR-IV, ISAR CAP, PMAFA, has been studying and practicing astrology for over 40 years. He served on the Board of NCGR as a Director for 22 years in the capacity of Clerk and also Research Director. He authored the original NCGR By-Laws and Constitution. His books include:

*Midpoints: Unleashing the Power of the Planets*; and *The Astrological Thesaurus, Book One, House Keywords*. He may be reached at: [starflash12@ymail.com](mailto:starflash12@ymail.com).



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## Mars and His Children

by Shirley Soffer

As the title of this article indicates, its subject is Mars, the well-known Roman warrior god of antiquity. But I have also added a perhaps lesser-known aspect of Mars' mythic story: his children—or more specifically, the four children he sired with the great love of his life, the goddess Venus. Their offspring were the inseparable brothers Deimos and Phobos, whose names interchangeably mean Terror & Flight, Panic, Fear, Havoc, and the like; the youthful boy Eros, which means Desire; and the lovely girl-child, Harmonia, or Harmony.

Before focusing on the Roman Mars, however, I will first trace his origins in Greek story, where he was known as the god Ares, showing how the earlier dominant characteristics of Ares changed by Roman times. What I hope to do with this historical

perspective is to point out how the perceptions of the warrior god changed—how they increased, broadened, and grew substantially in meaning from the Greeks to the Romans. With this approach, I want to suggest that there are ways that we, as astrologers, can likewise enlarge, amplify, and expand our own ideas about what the planet Mars can signify in a chart, and by extension, help our clients find fuller ways of expressing Martian energy in their lives.

Mars—like all the other deities of the ancient world—developed his qualities in accordance with the cultural matrix of his times and its requirements. From his beginning as the Greek Ares, he *grew* into Roman Mars, not only in name, but in his increased stature as a significant god in the Roman pantheon. By including the qualities of Ares as conceived in Greek

story as part of this discussion of the later Roman Mars, I hope to present an all-inclusive and comprehensive range of the god's characteristics and character, thus enabling us as astrologers to call upon a wide and enriched inventory of images in our client work, all with the intended goal of gaining expanded insights into planetary Mars. I also hope to show that Martian energy not only spans a wide range of possibilities, but it can also evolve and grow, deepen and mature over time, just as Mars did in his own historical development as a god on his way from Greece to Rome.

I have often felt, from my experience in working with clients, that many of the typical qualities associated with Mars or even the sign of Aries are not always that well-pronounced in the person I am working with (taking into account as well other factors in the chart). In such instances, the

conventional keywords for Mars do not seem to be on the mark or do not sufficiently reflect the person's inherent drive to action. As a result, I found myself needing to explore Mars' astrological symbolism further by enlarging the god's archetypal range; that is, to try to understand the multi-faceted and often paradoxical nature of the complex Martian figure as found in his mythic representations. Knowing how each person lives out the planets in a chart in a variable and individualistic manner, I have thus sought to find a suitable range of characteristics that would encompass the complexity of the Martian archetype in a dynamic and developmental way, that is, without solely relying on the standard descriptions of Mars, its sign or aspects. Or said another way, how the full range of those very standard definitions change, evolve, and grow over time, just as my clients do as they mature and individuate.

As we know, Mars is associated in astrology with such keywords as self-assertion, competitiveness, ego-drive, action, initiative, and the like, and these are all certainly appropriate terms for Martian energy in a very general sense. We also know, too, that through Greek and Roman myth and story, Mars is represented, or symbolized, as the god of war and battle, a title that conjures up a kind of belligerent image of the god. The god of war is actually Mars' most dominant descriptive term.

Perhaps for this very reason, Mars has also often been associated in astrology with even stronger words, like combativeness, aggression, rage, strife, brutality, conquest, and the like. And certainly, if we combine Mars with Pluto, we would describe an even more powerful, destructive warrior animus, especially when hard aspects are involved.

However, I'd like to look at Mars and his symbolism from a wider

perspective than the god of war and all that such a designation implies—not necessarily negating these more typical descriptions, but amplifying them as a way of filling in or rounding out the Martian attributes we use in astrology. By exploring Mars' mythic persona, I want to be able to tease out more inclusive meanings of his astrological representations in the fullest way possible, and in doing so, to recognize other less evident facets of his personality that can bring to the fore Martian qualities that can



be overlooked or under-emphasized in client work by way of the standard descriptions of Mars. By delving as fully as possible into the less-dominant mythic content of a planetary archetype, we can gain access to latent information that can give our readings a nuanced and full-bodied approach to the chart at hand that can potentially resonate deeply with our clients. With the exploration of myths in their fullest content, we open new gates to understanding the complex nature of a planetary archetype—in this case the Martian symbol that we use in astrology.

Mars is not only a warrior in his mythology, although that is his most dominant modality. He is also, among other things, a son, and actually a rejected son in his early depictions, and I will look briefly at that; and also a father, and I might add, a most devoted one at that. And beside these three

roles—warrior, son, father—Mars also represents the quintessential lover, which is actually another dominant in his symbolism.

Mars was an ardent, and as it turned out, a rather virile lover, who altogether sired more than 20 children. And in the guise of the lover, he was the father of Eros, or Desire, who he brought into the world by most accounts with the love goddess Aphrodite, known, of course, as Venus to the Romans. I'll be touching on his love affair with Venus later on.

As I have said, in looking at the full symbolism of Mars, we should first know his origins, which began with his infancy in Greece, as Ares. There, he was solely a battle god, actually not very well-liked, and not particularly worshipped to any great extent. Shrines to Ares were actually few in number, and were situated mostly in the Northeastern outlands of Greater Greece, predominantly in Thrace,<sup>1</sup> whose people were considered to be rough and raw-edged, even barbaric, liking to fight for its own sake, not fighting for the sake of justice, the way the Greeks perceived themselves.

In the Trojan War, for example, Ares sided with the Trojans against the Greeks, who had the goddess Athena on their side. And while Athena was noted for her wisdom, and for strategy in battle, for cool thinking and planning, and for her dispassionate ability to fight for an abstract cause—like liberty or justice—Ares' fiery, hot-headed, pugnacious nature was unfavorably compared to hers, since her more rational attributes more aptly epitomized the Greek ideal.

In this sense, Ares represented for the Greeks the bloodier, less desirable aspects of battle and war. He stood for a kind of frenzied, uncontrolled anger, of passion gone haywire, where we lose our heads; unlike Athena, who, having sprung from the head of Zeus,

represented a more rational, saner kind of anger, where we use, not lose our heads.

In keeping with what I just said about Ares' unpopularity or even revulsion in the Greek psyche, his parents, the chief Olympians Zeus and Hera, also didn't like him very much; they considered him rude, unruly, hot-tempered, quarrelsome—a kind of physical brute. He was also highly emotional, and a whiner.<sup>2</sup> It was said that Zeus actually despised him, and in some versions it was said that he was born from Hera alone, without benefit of Zeus' seed, signifying that Ares was completely cut off from a relationship with male authority, in particular with his actual father.

This was the dominant aspect of Ares' Greek mythology. I should, however, mention that there was also a side of Ares that was extolled by the Greeks, and that was his heart, which gave him courage, the ability to step fearlessly into the fray; as well as his leadership, which the Greek poet, Homer, had to acknowledge was what spurred the Trojans on to battle.<sup>3</sup> These were the very qualities that the patriarchal Greeks, and more predominantly later on, the Romans, associated with manliness, with the masculine principle.

In astrology, we see this more admired side of the god Ares in the Sun's exaltation in the Mars-ruled sign of Aries, where the Sun's inherently regal qualities, as best expressed through the sign of Leo—like heart, courage, leadership—are brought to their highest power by way of the drive, passion, and energy of the sign of Aries. To this list, I might also add another Leo word, love, which in its own way is an enormous act of courage.

It was precisely these more positive attributes of Ares—heart, leadership, and courage, as well as the



capacity to love with passion—that found their way into the Roman pantheon, where Ares, now called Mars, became a dominant god, almost on a par with Jupiter, the Roman counterpart to Zeus, and of course, his father, who had earlier rejected him.

On a symbolic level, we can see in this development another re-telling of the universal story of the hero, a motif we also associate in astrology with Mars and the sign of Aries, as well as the Sun and the sign of Leo. In hero stories, the undeveloped self—in this case Ares—eventually becomes associated with the king, the solar hero, signified by the Sun. In classic hero myths, with variations, the hero needs to prove himself through feats of courage, leadership, and heart, so that he can redeem his wounded relationship to the father-king. Through this process, the hero matures and takes on a new and respectful relationship to the father; he is thereby psychically renewed by connecting to his own authority and sense of inner kingship.

In this same way, by Mars' ascension in the Roman pantheon, he took

on maturity, he grew up; he was now deemed second in importance to Jupiter, sharing the throne with him.<sup>4</sup> He also became associated with the Jupiterian sense of justice, honor, law, and social responsibility, for Mars became the highly-esteemed protector of Rome. Within the city, a shrine to Mars was placed in the *regia*, or king's house, where the sacred spears of Mars were kept. When the city was threatened by war, the consul would shake the spears, saying *Mars vigila*, or Mars wake up—be vigilant!<sup>5</sup>

Mars' Roman ascension is well-illustrated in astrology as the full and successful integration of the powerful fire trinity: Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius—also signified as Mars, the Sun, and Jupiter, as respective rulers of these signs. Likewise, from

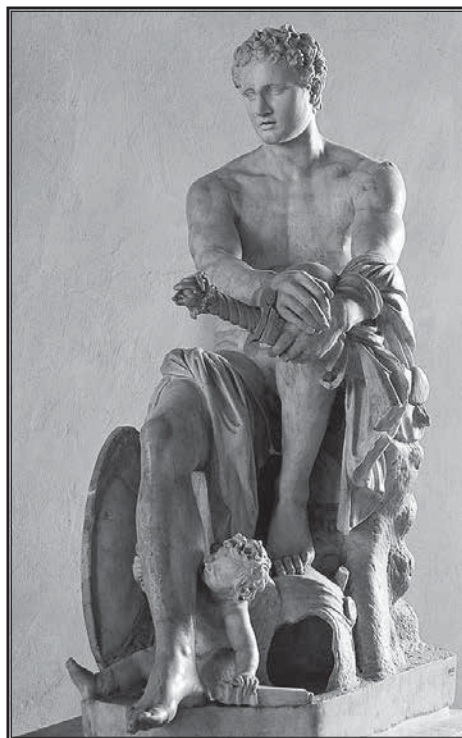
the vantage point of Roman culture, we see how the warrior god was transformed from the more infantile, impetuous Greek Ares, to the dignified, dominant Roman Mars, where finally, the fully-developed Roman Mars encompassed all of astrology's positive fire-sign characteristics: Aries' drive and initiative; Leo's capacity for heart, passion, courage, leadership, fierce loyalty or love; and Sagittarius' allegiance to societal values, such as justice, law, and honor.

In this regard, we can also say that the true warrior archetype that Mars represents in a chart can also encompass these finer attributes *in potential*. In looking at Mars in a chart, therefore, we can be mindful of the planet's inherent prospects for a client's psychological growth, maturity, and character development as a pathway to self-discovery. We can thus amplify our interpretations of Mars as well as the sign of Aries beyond the more linear and deterministic definitions of self-assertion, aggression, selfishness, competition, combativeness, and the like. Not necessarily leaving these

descriptions out, if need be, but more to the point, of fleshing them out more fully; presenting the full gamut of the Martian archetype, ranging from the undeveloped, unruly boy to the more mature and differentiated heroic figure. In this way, we can offer up growth-oriented possibilities that our clients can embrace, thus helping them develop their Martian qualities in a dynamic and constructive way.

Naturally, any trine to Mars in fire in a chart would enhance the potential for productive growth, most especially a Sun-Mars-Jupiter trine in fire. But in a more inclusive sense, we can point out to clients the various levels that planetary Mars has at its disposal to express its often forceful energies, keeping in mind how the god Mars himself, in myth, was able to develop his capacities, as seen in his evolution from Greece to Rome.

In looking at how Ares “grew up” in the collective psyche that his mythology represents, it might be worthwhile to comment a bit about his early relationship with his parents. What we see here in the earlier Ares mythic figure, psychologically speaking, is a classic case of a defiant, bullying, or rebellious young person acting out in an infantile fashion toward parental authority. We can see this exemplified in our own society, when we read about, or see on TV, or witness firsthand a young person who seems to be in a hostile, rejected, if not neglected, relationship to authority, parental or otherwise. In such instances, the true ideals of heroism—courage, heart, honor, leadership—that belong to the matured Mars warrior figure have somehow been thwarted, or have not been sufficiently nurtured, encouraged, or developed properly. Our adult role models—parents, teachers, community leaders, politicians, or others in positions of authority—have not been able to meet the task, or are themselves deficient in their own behaviors, thus



setting poor examples.

Ironically and regrettably, the warrior impulse often finds its expression in street-gangs, with their codes of honor, loyalties, and initiation rites. These, of course, are perverse and distorted expressions of what is essentially a structural need in young people for connection with inherently heroic Martian principles that have not found their proper outlets.

Martian energy is a powerful potential; it can take on a primitive form by way of unleashed aggression and brutality—mindless acting-out typified by the undeveloped Ares figure, the unruly boy in a rejected relationship to authority. Or it can grow into Mars, the Roman ideal, represented as the mature, grown-up male, on a par with authority, who is able to integrate his masculine energy with the fire trinity of initiative, leadership, capacity to love with heart, and the willingness to defend the community, honor its laws, and protect others.

I should interject something here about gender representations, so as not to be misunderstood, since Mars is so connected with the masculine

principle, and he is specifically a male god. Traditionally in astrology, Mars has been described in a woman’s chart as being the image she carries of her male partner, or of men in general. This may be so, but I personally prefer to look at Mars in a woman’s chart as simply a masculine, or yang, or animus figure that the woman can either project onto the men in her life, or that she can own for herself—that is, choose to live out on her own, because Martian energy is more and more directly accessible to her, especially in today’s cultural climate in the modern Western world. Of course, Mars in a woman’s chart can also reflect both possibilities: the contra-sexual image she holds as well as a connection to her own inner male.

A woman with a strong Mars in her chart, however, is no longer expected or even forced to repress or project her masculine or yang side, or perhaps live it out in an aggressive, overbearing manner, or through a kind of passive aggression. She can today express her Martian qualities through acceptable channels that are increasingly available to her. The sexual revolution of the Pluto-in-Libra 1970’s has collectively radicalized the issue of gender roles, where traditional masculine and feminine energies have become more and more interchangeable for both genders; they are available to each. This, of course, applies equally to Venus in a man’s chart.

In this very sense, both Mars and Venus are but yin and yang manifestations of the same total packet of energy. Yet, in considering their mythology as respectively, the male god of war and the female goddess of love, we tend to think of them as opposite or contrasting principles. But, in a complex and even paradoxical way—again, by referring back to their stories in myth—they can also be exemplified as two sides of the same coin. In their mythology, Mars and Venus were



passionate lovers, and as such, they represent integrated or assimilated energies. Mars the warrior is also Mars the lover. And in this very sense, the true warrior is able to give himself over to love, to his feminine side.

Mars' lover attributes form an important part of his mythology, and in my telling here, I hope his story as a lover will serve to encompass a fuller range of his symbolism. Ares-Mars, the god of war and battle, of strife and aggression and the like, the so-called physical brute, never, and I mean never, committed rapes, or abductions, or even one-night stands; unlike the rather amoral, if not downright immoral conduct of his father Zeus—not to speak of his Uncle Pluto. Mars could be called many things, but he was not a sexist pig or an abuser of women.

For Mars, love was always a consensual act, and he was a committed, passionate lover. That he often had more than one child with a paramour also implies a kind of longevity to his devotions. And when it came to his children, his love knew no bounds—indeed, anyone who messed with his children was severely punished.

When a daughter of his was raped, for example, the rapist was struck dead on the spot by Mars.<sup>6</sup> There are many such tales surrounding Mars, where he would come to the rescue of his children, or take immediate and direct action on behalf of a child of his who was wronged.

What I am suggesting in all of this is that we may want to change the slant a bit in our own astrological relationship to the Martian symbol in our interpretations, to shift our emphasis, or at least to consider different variations of his symbolism, to see – and appreciate—the nuances of his coloration. For it is a psychological truth that when we change our relationship, or way of looking at a symbol, not only are we changed, in the sense of re-constellating our own complexes and attitudes, but the symbol itself somehow also becomes transformed; it is allowed to grow, develop, and mature. It, too, undergoes a kind of metamorphosis.

Likewise, our very idea of yang or Martian energies, whether it be within ourselves or in charts we're working with, can also undergo a kind of transformation if we begin to look at them differently, to extract from

them the very finest, most positive, and constructive potentials that they can contain. Without denying or ignoring Mars' shadow, or his more destructive side and impulses, or even the sometimes primitive one-sidedness and under-development of his nature, we can also acknowledge and pay homage to the more admirable sides of him in our work with clients, as we explore with them the range of possibilities as to how they can be living out their own specific Mars in ways that honor the greatest strengths that are bestowed upon them by this powerful god.

In looking at Mars' actual encounters with Venus, with Love herself, we can see that Mars was very much equal to the task of meeting the goddess on her own turf; that is, he was capable of giving as much as taking in love; their liaisons were pretty hot-and-heavy, not at all one-sided. We can also say that although Mars, true to his nature, may have been assertive in expressing love, he was neither aggressive nor oppressive, as his encounters with Venus show.

At this point, I should also take a brief look at the genesis of Mars' relationship with Venus, again going back to the Greek mythology. There, Ares had a brother, whose name was Hephaestus, who was also born of Zeus and Hera. In some versions, Hephaestus, like Ares, was born of Hera alone. Interestingly, both Zeus and Hera didn't like Hephaestus very much either; so much so that they actually kicked *him* out of Heaven. He was the only god that lived down on Earth, not on Mt. Olympus. Some versions have him born lame, which is then the reason given as to why his parents rejected him; other versions have him landing so hard when he was ejected from Mt. Olympus that he became lame in the process.

In either case, Hephaestus landed near a volcano, where he built a forge, and there he became a craftsman,

using his skills to fabricate the various props for the Olympians: he made Athena's shield, Aphrodite's girdle, Hermes' sandals, and even Zeus' thunderbolt. To the Romans, he was called Vulcan. He turned into a very useful god, and one that many astrologers associate with the sign of Virgo, the sign similarly noted for its adherence to methodical work and devoted service.

Eventually, for reasons unfathomable, father Zeus decided to marry Hephaestus off to none other than beautiful Aphrodite. Perhaps he regretted his earlier harsh treatment of his son, and offered Love to him as a kind of penance. On another level, we can describe the union of Hephaestus and Aphrodite as the marriage of craft and beauty, signifying an aspect of Aphrodite, or Venus, that has to do with aesthetics and the refinement of artistic form. It says something here, too, about Venus, in that love has a way of redeeming those who suffer early parental rejection, since Ares, too, later found solace in love's embrace.

In the long run, however, the marriage of Aphrodite and Hephaestus was rather cool, lacking ardor and real sexual chemistry. And it was childless; it was, after all, an arrangement, not really a union born of strong passionate engagement, which could create life. As I stated, the figure of Hephaestus is often associated in astrology with the sign of Virgo, constellated in the heavens as the Virgin. The more pristine, discriminating Virgin motif is not really that compatible with Venus' all-embracing energies, not to speak of her infamous promiscuity.

At any rate, the plot had to thicken. Venus, being amorous and pleasure-seeking, and exceedingly fertile, soon took up with Mars behind Hephaestus' back, although Hephaestus had his suspicions. It was a classic



affair, in that its very secrecy and forbidden nature seemed to turn up the heat even more. Mars and Venus could hardly wait to get together for their love-making any time Hephaestus went to work in his foundry, or traveled out of town on business.

Since the deities of antiquity did not practice birth control in any form, when Mars had his encounters with Love herself, their four children, as stated earlier, came into being: the inseparable brothers Deimos and Phobos (Terror & Flight, Panic, Fear, Havoc and the like); the youthful son Eros (Desire); and the lovely girl-child Harmonia (Harmony). Certainly those of us who have given ourselves over to love—and I guess that means all of us—have also met up by turns with these four children sired by Mars. If not all of the above, then certainly some of the above, and not necessarily in the order given. Sometimes the product of our love comes forth first as harmony and ends up as terror, or fear, both aspects of conflict and strife. For some of us, an encounter with love gives immediate birth to fear, whether a fear of intimacy, or commitment, or sex, or any number of other

fears, where a kind of panic sets in concurrent with fear. Fear, in turn, can often be superseded by passion, which springs from desire, Eros; and if desire is reciprocated, enjoyed, and consummated, harmony can often come to be.

As in the myth of Mars and Venus, in astrology, too, their conjunction, or union, is typically described as strongly sexual. In a chart, a natal conjunction of Venus and Mars in fire, for example, might be heated, all-consuming, containing ardor and vitality; in earth, it might take on a strong physicality, the enjoyment of sensual experience, a love for the pleasures of material life, or of nature; in air, it might describe an energy that is intellectually alive,

full of curiosity, mentally vibrant and stimulating; and in water it might express depth of feeling, a need for intense intimacy and emotional merging, a mystical longing.

The most obvious manifestation of the union of Mars and Venus was the birth of Eros, or desire. Eros in our lives exemplifies not only sexuality, but more inclusively, something alive, creative, and life-enhancing. In a psychological sense, Eros is associated with the principle of libido, or life-force, a powerful inner drive that provides us with the instinct to act, to move psychic energy out, usually toward the object of desire.

Libido is passion in its most profound sense. Although it has a strong sexual connotation, it really implies a greater impulse than sexuality *per se*; it is a kind of positive charge of vitalized, action-oriented energy that can be described as yang, or penetrating in its quality. Libido bestows upon Mars, as the father of Eros, the necessary impetus that triggers or activates passion, that initiates movement toward the object of desire. And without passion, libido, life-force – in



a word, Eros— nothing truly alive can come into being; things would remain static, unmoving, dead.

In astrology, we might associate that primal purity of Mars in its rulership in Aries with a similar kind of fiery, active, life-giving energy. Mars in Aries initiates action, not in a routine, ordinary way, but with vitality, energetic thrust, and force. Mars, in its co-rulership of Scorpio, likewise denotes a powerful, primal force, here often expressed with erotic intensity and sexual drive.

There is an interesting side-note to Eros' mythic development that is worth noting: despite Eros' fiery, yang-like beginnings that originated from the loins of Mars, Eros gradually over time became more and more identified with the goddess of love, his mother Aphrodite. As part of this metamorphosis, he became increasingly sentimentalized by the Greek poets as this fair-haired, beautiful, winged youth—the wings signifying a more airy than fiery nature—a youth who rather abstractly and randomly dispensed love, thereby losing his libido-like eroticism in the process.

By Roman times, Eros became known as Cupid, strictly a love god. We can see this development furthered even more in the modern depictions of Cupid, who, as we know, is today portrayed as a cute, rather asexual baby boy with bow and arrow, more idealized and romanticized than someone charged up with erotic passion or life-force.

In a similar way, while Mars in Aries in astrology is associated with the primal, yang, masculine principle, its opposite, Mars in Venus-ruled Libra represents the more airy, romantic, and idealized expression of the erotic impulse, especially if Mars in Libra is also in soft contact with Venus, the feminine principle—or with the Moon, the maternal principle. By the same token, Mars in Taurus—also



Venus ruled—represents a more sensual, physical expression than its more sexual, erotic opposite, Mars in Scorpio, with Scorpio now associated with Pluto's deeply passionate, intensified, even obsessive qualities.

Looking at Mars' contacts with the Moon in another way, it is interesting to note that sometimes, by way of the Aries-Cancer square in the natural wheel, an underlying conflict can be discerned between (natural ruler of the 1<sup>st</sup> house) Mars' yang, erotic thrust and the (natural ruler of the 4<sup>th</sup> house) Moon's yin, emotional receptiveness—where Mars struggles to overcome Eros' identification with the maternal principle. This resonates with the classic hero's need to resist the emotional pull of the mother, so that he can leave the safety of the mother's realm in order to fulfill his heroic, individualized quest.

In astrology, this type of conflict can often be expressed as Moon square Mars, or Moon in Aries, or Mars in Cancer, or other variations on the classic heroic theme. As we have seen in his mythic journey from Greece to Rome, Mars' development impels him to become more identified with the paternal principle, that is, with male authority. The exaltation of Mars in the sign of Capricorn, ruled by father-figure Saturn, and Mars' fall in Cancer, ruled by the maternal Moon, also exemplifies this theme.

There is, of course, also an Aries-Capricorn natural square, indicating Mars' need as well to meet the challenge of male authority as part of his psychological growth and development. In his Roman guise, Mars resolves the paternal struggle by finally becoming identified, not with a restrictive Saturnine father-image, but with a more benevolent and kindly Jupiter. Astrologically, this resonates with the natural trine between Aries and Jupiter-ruled Sagittarius.

I should also note that Mars, in his mythic role, also sired a kind of fifth child, a counterpart brother to Eros, named Anteros, which means Desire Reciprocated, or Desire Consummated. In some versions, however, Anteros is seen quite differently: he's the avenger of slighted love, suggesting with this the idea of the negative force that can be unleashed by unmet, or unfulfilled desire. In a horoscope, we might see Anteros manifested by way of the thwarting or inhibition that can come with a combination of Mars with Saturn, or Mars in Scorpio in hard aspect to Saturn. In another sense, Mars with Neptune, or in Pisces, can signify a kind of dissolution or melting away of desire, by way of its spiritualization – or by the channeling of libido into artistry or other forms of sublimated desire.

By conjuring up the imagery of Eros as Desire, and Anteros as either Desire Reciprocated or Desire Unmet, Mars in combination with any of the other planets can unleash strong emotions, in accordance with the nature of the planet in contact with Mars, bearing upon the life of the client whose chart reflects such aspects.

In contrast to Eros, the brothers Deimos and Phobos (Terror & Flight, Fear, and the like), were also born from the same union of Mars and Venus. It was said that these inseparable sons would always accompany their father



Mars in battle, and as such, they are true components of war and strife. In another sense, however, an encounter with love can also bring forth these brothers, in the form of rage, panic, anxiety, or even hatred around an intimate love situation, where Fear and Terror are born when frictions, disagreements, and intractable conflicts reign supreme. Or in the proverbial Battle of the Sexes, when things turn nasty. Thus, while planetary Mars can let loose our strongest erotic passions, it can also dredge up our darkest fears, our terrors.

We can also say that if we feel threatened in love, or are attacked at our emotional core by a lover, Fear, Terror, Panic, and Flight can actually come to our aid, for they are instincts that can spur us on, either to fight or to flee. We either succumb, give in or give up, retreat from our position, or flee the scene by way of divorce, or break-up. Or we may choose to do battle — that is, to overcome our fears through struggle and engagement, where we stay in the crucible of a relationship and hammer things out.

In a chart, a square of Mars and Venus may indicate some type of conflict regarding love, or relationship, which can give birth to Fear, especially if Mars feels weak and vulnerable, particularly in the sensitive water

signs of Pisces or Cancer. Or if Mars is besieged by Saturn, whether by hard aspect or transit, creating feelings of insecurity, frustration, restriction, inadequacy, or inhibition; or by Pluto, where Mars' shadow side is revealed, not only to a lover, but to oneself, where seething rages, resentments, jealousies, and other powerful emotions spew forth, as if from the head of monstrous Medusa herself.

Uranus, as a trigger to Mars, can also serve as a kind of midwife to Fear and Terror by its very recklessness, often causing chaos in its wake, electrifying the air like a sudden bolt of lightning, bringing with it a spate of out-of-control emotions that lead to frenzied flight. This is when things feel too risky, unstable, or even dangerous in a relationship. Uranus can also awaken in Mars the need for increased vigilance and a call to action, as per his depiction in Roman times. Thus, by keeping the mythology of Mars in mind, in all his various guises through the children he sired with Venus, as well as through his evolved development and maturity from boy to man, we have a rich store-house of treasures to draw from in our astrological work.

The richest treasure of all in Mars' mythology is Harmonia, the only daughter of his union with Venus, and the apple of her father's eye. Actually,

Harmonia was loved by all the deities, who all attended her wedding,<sup>7</sup> each bearing gifts. Among her many presents was a golden necklace from her mother, which conferred upon her irresistible beauty; she was also presented with a golden robe, which gave her divine dignity; and prosperity was bestowed upon her as a gift. She was also graced with music, in the form of a set of flutes, and a lyre from Hermes, since for the ancients, music was considered divine in origin, containing within it the perfection of number, proportion, cadence, tone, rhythm—in a word, harmony.

What is most intriguing about Harmony as the daughter of Mars is that she represents the opposite of everything we typically would associate with her father. She is feminine, serene, balanced, and well-loved, and endowed with the heavenly gifts of beauty, dignity, prosperity, and music. She conjures up images of peace and tranquility, and all those lovely things we would wish for ourselves, and for the world. Mars in soft aspect to an exalted Venus in compassionate Pisces, or to Venus in balance-seeking Libra or stability-loving Taurus, can manifest as harmony in a chart, since the blending of these energies can enhance Mars' capacity for cooperation and relatedness.



If Neptune, or the Moon is drawn in by soft aspect to Mars; or if Mars is conjoined with Mercury, or in Gemini or Virgo, this, too could tend to harmonize Martian energy. Mars trine Neptune can enhance artistry, spirituality, and imagination; and Mars trine the Moon can bring forth the capacity to exhibit feelings and emotional needs. In discerning Virgo, Martian drive can be converted into craft and specialized skill, both of which are forms of harmony; and in articulate Gemini, Mars can articulate well with words and verbal acuity, other forms of harmony. As astrologers, we can make our own sandwiches, finding creative ways that Mars could manifest in a chart by bringing forth harmony.

Because of the seeming paradox of Mars in myth bringing into being his beloved daughter Harmonia, it is interesting to contemplate their relationship symbolically, to discover what it can possibly mean for us. For the myth tells us that there is a blood connection between Harmonia, a yin, feminine energy, and the reputed Martian warrior, a yang, masculine

blend yang, aggressive drives with equal measures of compassion and love, and with a deep connection to soul and spirit—as well as containing the wisdom to develop an awareness and responsiveness to others. All these qualities, and more of the like, are associated with yin energies, signified in myth as Harmonia, the beloved daughter of Mars.

In this very same sense, Mars and his children are accessible to all of us. But as illuminated in myth, this is made possible through the mediation of Love. For it was through the Goddess of Love that the God of War was able to create this family. It was a family that encompassed wide-ranging, deep, and powerful expressive forces, both personal and collective, reflecting in its various forms the complexity of the human family itself.

It is fitting, I think, and in keeping with the theme of this article, to close now with a quote from the Roman poet, Virgil. It reads: *Omnia vincit amor, et nos cedamus amori*. Loosely translated, this means: “Love conquers all; and we must yield to love.”<sup>8</sup>

energy. What it has come to mean for me is that there is a rich reserve of feminine power inherent in the true Martian warrior, who—whether male or female—has the capacity to elicit qualities that are interchangeable: masculine and feminine, yang and yin, active and passive, calling upon them as the situation requires.

Stated in another way, the true Martian warrior needs to

Endnotes:

1. Thrace in ancient times is now Bulgaria as well as parts of Greece and Turkey. See also Graves, *The Greek Myths: Volume 1*, page 74. “... The Athenians disliked war, except in defense of liberty, or for some other equally cogent reason, and despised the Thracians as barbarous because they made it a pastime ...”
2. see Homer, *The Iliad of Homer*, page 100. “ ... Then Zeus the cloud-gatherer looked sternly at {Mars} and said: ‘Nay, thou renegade, sit not by me and whine. Most hateful to me art thou of all gods that dwell in Olympus; thou ever lovest strife and wars and battles’...”
3. see Homer, “Hymn to Ares,” *The Homeric Hymns*, page 60. “... Ares has a mighty heart...”
4. see Guttman & Johnson, *Mythic Astrology*, pages 80-81. “... {Mars} was considered the patriarch of Rome, having given birth to Romulus and Remus, the founders of the city. ...”
5. see [www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic.../Mars](http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic.../Mars). *Encyclopedia Britannica*: Mars. Within the city there was a sacrum (“shrine,” or “sanctuary”) of Mars in the *regia*, originally the king’s house, in which the sacred spears of Mars were kept; upon the outbreak of war the consul had to shake the spears saying, “*Mars vigila*” (“Mars, wake up!”).
6. When one of Poseidon’s sons raped Alcippe, one of Mars’ daughters, Ares struck him dead on the spot. See Graves, *The Greek Myths: Volume 1*, page 74.
7. see Barz. *Gods and Planets*, page 39. Harmonia married Cadmus of Thebes and bore many children with him. King Cadmus had first to serve Mars as a slave (Cadmus had killed a dragon that was sacred to Mars) for several years before he was given Harmonia for his wife as a reward for his service.
8. see Godolphin, editor, *The Latin Poets*, page 135.

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## Another Look at Mental Chemistry

By David Perloff

**E**ver wonder why Stephen Colbert is so quick on his feet, or why President Obama almost always hesitates before he answers a question? Why did Donald Rumsfeld frequently ask and answer his own questions? Why do George W. Bush, economist Paul Krugman and former Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner all have the ‘deer in the headlights’ look at press conferences and interviews? The answer to all of those questions is an under used but very powerful technique – MENTAL CHEMISTRY.

Mental Chemistry was developed by Marc Edmund Jones. He was one of the most prominent astrologers of the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century. Today he is perhaps best known for bringing forth the Sabian Symbols (along with his student

Elsie Wheeler). He wrote and lectured and taught extensively. Astrologer Charles Jayne called him “the best teacher of astrology this country ever produced.” Dr. Jones founded the Sabian Assembly, which is still going strong. He developed the Planetary Patterns (Bundle, Bowl, Locomotive, etc.).


Mental Chemistry is a technique that gives insight into how a person receives and processes information of all sorts. There are four Mental Chemistry types, and each has a distinctly different way of functioning. We will examine each one, but first let’s look at how it is determined.

It is based on two very simple factors:

--The speed of the Moon

--Mercury’s position relative to the Sun

## Mercury

 The Messenger of the Gods and Goddesses can rise either before or after the Sun. When it rises before the Sun, Mercury is like a scout, or the lead paddler on a group canoe or kayak trip, who boldly ventures forward to survey the environment. When Mercury rises after the Sun, it functions like the 'sweep boat' – laying back, more cautious, holding things together for the more adventurous ones. Both types are necessary to round out our human family (or an outdoor adventure)!

To determine whether it's the Sun or Mercury that rises first, picture the whole chart rotated so that the Sun is on the Ascendant; that is, where the Sun would be at sunrise. If Mercury is above the horizon (i.e. in the 12<sup>th</sup> house), Mercury is considered to be AHEAD. If Mercury has not risen yet (that is, in the 1<sup>st</sup> house), it is BEHIND.


Here are Marc Edmund Jones' keywords for Mercury's position:

Mercury Ahead: EAGER

Mercury Behind: CERTAIN / CAUTIOUS

As viewed from the Earth, Mercury can never be more than 28° from the Sun. Dr. Jones made a distinction re: Mercury being more than 14° ahead or more than 14° behind the Sun. For both, he added the keyword UNTRAMMELED.

## The Moon

 The Moon does not travel at a uniform rate of speed. Its orbit is elliptical. When the Moon is approaching the Earth, the mutual gravitational pull accelerates the Moon. When receding (moving towards apogee - farthest away), the Moon slows down. Viewed against the fixed background of the Zodiac, the Moon's elliptical orbit also contributes to an apparent variation in speed.

The Moon's mean daily motion is approximately 13°11'.<sup>1</sup> If the speed is greater than 13°11', the Moon is considered to be FAST. If less than 13°11', it is SLOW.

While you can determine whether Mercury is Ahead or Behind simply by looking at a chart, you cannot tell the Moon's speed that way. Here are four ways of determining the Moon's speed.

**Option 1** - In Solar Fire, once you have a chart displayed, click on Reports. You can find the Moon's speed by looking in the 'Travel' column. If you use software other than Solar Fire, you can check to see if the travel

or speed information is available. There are also web sites that have the speed; e.g. [www.serennu.com](http://www.serennu.com).

**Option 2** - In Solar Fire, you can have "Moon is Fast" or "Moon is Slow" automatically displayed on the chart screen by making "Horary Considerations" part of your page design.

**Option 3** - Calculate the Moon's position for exactly 24 hours prior to the birth, and subtract that from the Moon position in the natal chart.<sup>2</sup>

**Option 4** - In an ephemeris, note the Moon's position for the midnight (or noon) before and after the birth, and then subtract.

Dr. Jones keywords for the Moon's speed are:

--Moon Fast: ALERT / SHARP

--Moon Slow: DELIBERATE / TENTATIVE

The Moon's maximum daily speed is somewhat over 15°, while the slowest it gets is somewhat over 11°. I can't say that I have noticed 11° Moon people being extra-slow, but I have definitely seen the 15°+ Moon people being very fast.

## Mental Chemistry, Tarot and the Glyph of Mercury

**I**n my view, the Moon is like a satellite dish, picking up input of all kinds – both from the outer and inner worlds. Mercury is like a computer that receives input from the Moon. Mercury attempts to process and make sense of the impressions the Moon has absorbed.

Tarot - and the glyph of Mercury - provide some additional insights.

The Tarot card associated with the Moon is The High Priestess. The card associated with Mercury is The Magician. These are the powerful archetypes involved in Mental Chemistry.

In the Rider-Waite deck, the Magician is holding up something in his right hand. Tarot teacher Sarah Fuhro says that it's a yarrow stick, which is a listening device used by the Oracle of Delphi to listen to the word of God. In this context, I say that the Magician is specifically listening for the word of the High Priestess. I believe that the High Priestess – the Moon – drives the Mental Chemistry process, and The Magician (Mercury) awaits her input.

The Magician's left hand points down to earth. The Magician takes the input from above and brings it down to Earth.



I believe that the glyph of Mercury is saying the same thing. The glyph has the Crescent of Soul (the Moon) elevated. The Moon's input is brought down through the Circle of Spirit, and finally down to Earth via the Cross of Matter, just as we saw in the Tarot deck.

## The Four Mental Chemistry Types

With two possibilities for the Moon and two possibilities for Mercury, we get the four Mental Chemistry (MC) types:

- Moon Fast, Mercury Ahead
- Moon Fast, Mercury Behind
- Moon Slow, Mercury Ahead
- Moon Slow, Mercury Behind

To have some fun as we progress through the four types, we'll look at a group of four news people (Barbara Walters, Rachel Maddow, Harry Reasoner and Brian Williams), as well as a group of four astrologers (Rob Hand, Steven Forrest, Georgia Stathis, and Rick Levine). Each group has all four of the MC types represented. As we go along, see if you can guess who has which MC.

Let's examine each of the four Mental Chemistry types in detail.

### Moon Fast, Mercury Ahead

This is the fastest of the four Mental Chemistry types. Combining the keywords, we get Alert and Eager. That describes these folks. They pick up and process information quickly. As students, they are usually active participants in class. They are generally sharp-witted and quick on their feet.

One example is former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. Sharp is definitely a word that comes to mind for her. She is multi-talented – a diplomat, university professor, former competitive figure skater, concert pianist ... and speaks five languages.

Stephen Colbert not only has this Mental Chemistry, his Moon is very fast and his Mercury is well over 14° ahead of the Sun. The guests who are best at keeping up with his quick-witted interviewing are others with a fast Mental Chemistry.

Jerry Seinfeld (himself Moon Fast-Mercury Ahead) described his Mt. Rushmore of stand-up comedy: Richard Pryor, Don Rickles, Bill Cosby and George Carlin. Three of the four (all except Cosby) share this Mental Chemistry.



People with this Mental Chemistry like to keep things lively. Their alert

/ eager set-up is both an advantage and a disadvantage. They get things faster than others, but they are so eager to move on to the next thing, they may not secure the current piece(s) of information in their memory bank. That 'on to the next' dynamic can be problematic if they spread themselves too thin, or don't finish the things they start. They can also be impulsive, and can be impatient with those who are not as quick as they are. But they are charming!

One way people with this MC present themselves is: Bright-eyed and alert. Here are some in that category:

- Ken Burns
- Leonardo DiCaprio
- Lupita Nyong'o
- Martha Stewart
- Kristen Wiig
- Ronan Farrow
- Dave Chappelle
- Sting
- Diane Sawyer
- Elisabeth Hasselbeck
- Nancy Kerrigan
- Anna Paquin

That 'bright eyed and alert' is a clue for our first news person. Remember, our choices are: Barbara Walters, Rachel Maddow, Harry Reasoner and Brian Williams.

It's Rachel Maddow.

Another way this MC can work out is: Rapid fire / quick. We saw that already with Seinfeld and his stand-up comedians. Here are some more members of this group:

Eddie Murphy  
Michael Richards  
(Kramer on Seinfeld)  
Will Ferrell  
Miley Cyrus  
Lady Gaga  
Ann Coulter  
Joe Pesci



Our astrologers are: Rob Hand, Steven Forrest, Georgia Stathis, and Rick Levine

What do you think?

It's Rick Levine. Anyone who has heard his lectures knows that Rick is quick and to-the-point.

Astrologer Monica Dimino has said that to-the-point is a good thing to keep in mind when working with clients who have this MC. Keep the sessions short and sweet. They like bullet points and concise explanations.

## Moon Slow, Mercury Behind

This is the slowest of the MCs. Their MEJ keywords are: certain / cautious combined with deliberate / tentative. The 'certain' part refers to the fact that, in conversation, these folks often want to be positive they know what was said. They want to know the details. They want to be sure of their footing. They have a more deliberate pace to their process.

More so than the other MCs, they tend to replay prior conversations and situations in their minds, often thinking about what they (or the other person) could have said or done differently.

As students, they may have a hard time keeping up in the moment. It's not a matter of intelligence. They might be giving deep thought to what the teacher said a minute or two ago, while the teacher - and the class - have moved on.

If they are allowed to record lectures / classes, that can enable them to digest the material at their own pace. Also, talking notes is helpful, even if it doesn't make complete

sense at the time. Often during later review, things click in.

They usually do very well in situations where they can work one-to-one.

They excel in occupations or situations where preparation is involved. In general, they are better suited for research, than, say, being a trial lawyer, where quick analysis and immediate response are at a premium. If interested in foreign languages, they might be better at translating books or articles, or teaching, than in being a simultaneous translator.

With these individuals, it can be like the interaction between a news anchor in the United States and a correspondent overseas, where there is a several-second delay between the question and the answer. It takes some time for them to both pick things up and to process. That is why President GW Bush, Paul Krugman and Timothy Geithner all have had some difficulties with interviews.

Some Moon Slow-Mercury Behind people are better at interviews than others. Jon Stewart comes to mind - although in my opinion, his prepared segments are far superior to his live interviews.

While it may not be an option during interviews, Moon Slow-Mercury Behind natives should keep in mind that saying: "I'll get back to you on that" can sometimes be their best response.

One big advantage to this MC is great retention. Once they get something, they REALLY get it. In general, they are patient, and will wait for an opening before they jump into a conversation. They don't usually "shoot from the hip."

They don't like to be interrupted. I think there are three reasons for this: They have waited a while to get their turn to speak; they have spent some time formulating what they want to say; and once interrupted, they might lose their train of thought.

The biblical phrase "The race is not to the swift" comes to mind. Some VERY successful entrepreneurs have this set-up.

Oprah Winfrey  
Warren Buffet  
Lucille Ball (She was a studio executive as well as a comedic actress)  
Jay-Z  
Beyonce

An archetypal person with this MC is Alfred Hitchcock. On his old TV show, he used





to slowly walk into the outline of his profile. His manner of speech was slow and deliberate. Even the theme song to his show was slow and deliberate.

This might be a good time to guess the news person. The ones we have left are Barbara Walters, Harry Reasoner and Brian Williams.

It's Harry Reasoner.

That deliberate pacing is also a clue for our astrologer. Here are the ones we have left: Rob Hand, Steven Forrest, and Georgia Stathis.

It's Steven Forrest. When he is telling his wonderful stories, he takes his time to set the stage for the point he is trying to convey.

People with this MC have taken some time to come to their view of things, and there is a strength that goes with that. A perfect example of the strength and dignity that this MC can manifest is Martin Luther King; another is Pope Francis. Others with this MC:

Colin Powell  
Aung San Suu Kyi  
Bill O'Reilly  
Katie Couric  
John Travolta  
Natalie Portman  
Orson Welles  
Tom Friedman  
Jack Paar  
Angela Lansbury  
Tom Brokaw  
Both Brad Pitt *and* Angelina Jolie

## Moon Fast, Mercury Behind

When I was learning about Mental Chemistry, this MC and the other "blended one" (Moon Slow-Mercury Ahead) were described as being 'just fine' and 'a good balance' and left at that. When I started doing my own research on the four MC types, I came to realize that these two 'balanced' MC types are quite different from one another, and that the dynamic of this one in particular is worthy of closer investigation.

What got me going on this was the late comedian and



actor Robin Williams. When I was preparing for my first talk on this subject, I was looking for examples. I figured that Robin Williams MUST be Moon Fast-Mercury Ahead. But he was actually Moon Fast-Mercury Behind. I thought: "What is that about?" Further research revealed this list of people who have that MC, all of whom control the situation by talking a lot, or have an 'in your face' over-the-top dynamic.

Jerry Lewis  
Mohammed Ali  
Alan Greenspan  
Oliver Stone  
Cornell West  
Madonna  
Robert DeNiro

Alistair Cooke (who does not have this MC) was not only the host of Masterpiece Theatre; he was quite well known as an interviewer. He said that the only interview that ever got away from him was with the (Moon Fast-Mercury Behind) architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

You may have already guessed that Donald Rumsfeld has this MC. During the early days of the Iraq War, when he was Secretary of Defense, his news conferences were often more like extended monologues, where he would actually ask and then answer his own questions.

To better understand this group, I need to introduce a concept I learned from an article written by Al H. Morrison, who was a student of Marc Edmund Jones.<sup>3</sup> He says that a person with a Fast Moon "tends to perceive many more details of information than usual," while a Slow Moon person "tends to seek and observe whatever is hoped or expected to find and may fail to observe or perceive other information." Combining those insights with my earlier image of the Moon as a satellite dish, for a Fast Moon, that satellite dish is wide open, bringing in a torrent of details. With a Slow Moon, the satellite dish aperture is much more narrow.

With Moon Fast-Mercury Behind, there can be a level of anxiety – a feeling on some level that "I have enough information to respond to this, but I haven't figured it out yet." There can be too much input to process, sometimes overwhelming Mercury's ability to keep up.

My childhood friend, who has this placement, used to extend both hands, making a 'stop' gesture, and say: "Wait a

minute. Wait a minute. Let me just think.”

Albert Einstein (Moon Fast-Mercury Behind) said: “I used to go away for weeks in a state of confusion.”

So, let’s consider Robin Williams, Donald Rumsfeld and the others. One possibility is that their efforts to control the conversation is an adaptive adjustment to their Mental Chemistry – a way of preempting the dynamic where they might feel unready to respond (and somewhat nervous about that prospect).

The MEJ keywords for this MC are: Alert / Sharp along with Deliberate / Tentative. Their pick-up is sharp while their processing is deliberate.

Another quite different manifestation of these same factors can be seen in others who have this MC. They can feel overwhelmed by external stimulation, and need time alone to decompress. One Moon Fast-Mercury Behind client sometimes feels so inundated, she needs to go into a dark room to re-gather her equilibrium.

An astrologer friend said that she has this Mental Chemistry, and that it was not rare for her to feel overwhelmed by the stimulation of day-to-day living. Before hearing about her Mental Chemistry set-up, she hadn’t seen anything in her chart to ‘validate’ that or to explain it. She found the insight provided by Mental Chemistry to be extremely helpful.

Like Einstein, Moon Fast-Mercury Behind people can have trouble at school and be late bloomers. They can have difficulties with crowds and be reclusive.

The positive side to this MC is that they are taking it all in, and given time, they can come up with great things (as was the case with Einstein). I think an important part of Robin William’s genius was his observational abilities.

Another expression of this MC can be: A sense that they’re seeing it all; a knowing look in their eyes. I think one of our remaining newscasters has that.

We’re down to Barbara Walters and Brian Williams.

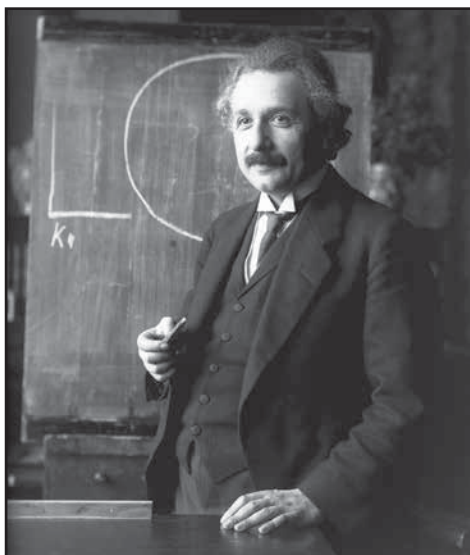
It’s Barbara Walters. I believe her knowing gaze is an important part of her interviewing success. I think her guests tell her things because they feel: “With that look, I’m sure she knows it already, so I might as well tell her.” Others with this MC who I think share that look:

Vladimir Putin

Henry Kissinger

Johnny Carson

Leonard Nimoy (Spock)



Zoe Saldana

Elizabeth Taylor

Anita Hill

Michael Caine

F. Lee Bailey

Eric Sevareid

Astrologers Marcia Moore and Mark Douglas

Which leads us to our astrologers. We have Rob Hand and Georgia Stathis.

It’s Rob Hand. I think he has that knowing look in his eyes, and he is also generous with sharing his enormous storehouse of knowledge.

## Moon Slow, Mercury Ahead

These folks might take a minute to pick things up, but they are very quick at processing what their satellite dish has received. Once they ‘get’ something, they often have a lot to say about it. This is President Obama’s MC. When a question is asked of him, he often pauses – I think to absorb what is being asked of him – and then usually proceeds with a coherent and well-thought-out response.

The MEJ keywords are: Deliberate combined with Eager. The receiving is Deliberate, while the processing is Eager.

All of the MCs work well, especially when understood. If there is one “Goldilocks – not too hot, not too cold” Mental Chemistry, it would be this one - Moon Slow-Mercury Ahead. Why might that be the case? The Moon rules Cancer. The Crab has a tendency to pull in, so the smaller-aperture Slow Moon is a good fit. Less open means less vulnerable. Cancer likes that. Also, the Moon is exalted in Taurus. So, the Moon is quite comfortable being slow. Mercury, the fleet-footed messenger, is certainly comfortable being fast.

I think these factors contribute to the quiet confidence we often see in this group.

I believe this is a contributory factor to the ‘No drama Obama’ aspect of the President’s personality. Here are some other Moon Slow-Mercury Ahead people:

Paul McCartney

Maya Angelou

Meryl Streep

Peter Dinklage  
 Arianna Huffington  
 Glenn Beck  
 Michelle Obama  
 Jamie Foxx  
 Seth Meyers  
 Cary Grant

I think our remaining astrologer, Georgia Stathis, certainly fits that quiet-confidence mold.

We only have one news person left: It's Brian Williams. I have heard him described as a modern-day Cary Grant. Both are charming, relaxed, witty, and confident.

## Mental Chemistry in Print

A lot of what has been written about several of the MC types has been negative. I won't mention the authors or which MCs are being discussed, but here are some descriptions that are out there:

"...Alternating between overweening cockiness and fierce indignation."

"The native is inclined to stumble over his toes most of the time."

"The individual is apt ... to slip off into altogether abnormal practices and points of view."

Now, think about these four people: Steve Jobs, Marie Curie, Albert Einstein and the Dalai Lama. Each represents one of the four Mental Chemistry types. Is there one of them you would disparage? Are these individuals not a fine example of what humanity is capable of producing?

None of the Mental Chemistry types is any "better" than the others. They all have strengths and weaknesses. Ideally, we as astrologers should be inspiring our clients and ourselves. There is enough stigmatizing in the world; we don't need to be adding to it. Understanding our Mental Chemistry strengths and weaknesses can be very healing.

## Don't Medicate, Educate

In April 2014, there was an article in the New York Times about "Sluggish Cognitive Tempo" – SCT for short.<sup>4</sup> It's the new ADD or ADHD. The article implied that the researchers pushing this new malady have been financed by drug companies.

"The condition is said to be characterized by lethargy, daydreaming and slow mental processing." Hmmm.... They could be talking about Albert Einstein as a child.

And guess what - the drug companies just happen to have a drug that they say will "cure" this "disease."

"Daydreaming and slow mental processing" – That sounds a lot like Mercury Behind to me.

From The Scientific American web site:

Daydreaming and downtime can lead to solutions for difficult scientific problems and provide inspiration for creative works. Some of history's best-known scientific and literary achievements grew out of such mental meandering.

Physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer, who had the same Moon Fast-Mercury Behind Mental Chemistry as Einstein, once famously said: "There are children playing in the streets who could solve some of my top problems in physics, because they have modes of sensory perception that I lost long ago."

Before children are "treated" for this "condition," it would be a good idea to check their Mental Chemistry. Let's not medicate our children for being who they are. What if Einstein or Isaac Newton (another daydreamer) had been medicated for Sluggish Cognitive Tempo?



## MC and the Interactions Between People

I find that people who share the same Mental Chemistry have a built-in compatibility, understanding and empathy for others with that MC.

One example of this can be found in the making of the film "Silver Linings Playbook." The film has been hailed for its sensitive handling of a difficult issue (mental illness). Clearly the two leads (Jennifer Lawrence and Bradley Cooper) displayed an undeniable

chemistry with one another. Bradley Cooper's parents in the film (Jacki Weaver and Robert De Niro) turned in caring portrayals. *Silver Linings Playbook* was the first film in 32 years to receive Oscar nominations for all four of the acting categories. To have achieved that, the director (David O. Russell) must have been doing an outstanding job in tuning in to his actors' (and characters') personalities and needs. Lawrence, Cooper, Weaver, De Niro and Russell all share the same Mental Chemistry (Moon Fast-Mercury Behind).

On the other end of the spectrum: For a good laugh, do a search on "Bob & Ray - The slow talker." You'll find an audio clip of comedians Bob & Ray, where one is the President of The S-L-O-W TALKERS OF AMERICA, while the other is an increasingly irritated and impatient interviewer.

That comedy bit leads us to an important observation – Fast MC people can feel frustrated and annoyed by those slower than them, and the slower folks can feel put upon.

It can be like the fable of the Tortoise and the Hare. The fast MC people might get an early lead, but often it's the slower MC types who successfully cross the finish line.

For example, in the 2012 Massachusetts Senate race, Scott Brown (Moon Fast-Mercury Ahead) came out swinging in the first debate. He really had Elizabeth Warren (Moon Slow-Mercury Ahead) a bit rattled. As the debate progressed, she gradually found her footing, and her performance improved in each debate. She proceeded to win the election by an 8% margin.

## Signature Acting Performances

I saw the film "Milk" and was greatly impressed with Sean Penn's performance as Harvey Milk. Later, I saw the documentary "The Times of Harvey Milk." I then realized how truly spot-on Sean Penn's performance had been.

There were moments in watching "The Times of Harvey Milk" that I thought I was watching Sean Penn, even though I knew it was a documentary that was released almost a quarter century before the film "Milk." Sean Penn won the 2008 Academy Award for his portrayal of Harvey Milk. I wondered about the MC of two men, and sure enough, they both share the same Mental Chemistry (Moon Slow-Mercury Ahead).

That got me thinking about other signature



performances that were based on real-life characters. The first one that came to mind was George C. Scott in *Patton*. Scott won the 1970 Academy Award for Best Actor for his portrayal of Patton. The two share the same MC – Moon Slow-Mercury Behind.

That sent me on a search of other signature performances. In numbers well beyond statistical randomness, the actors and their real-life subjects shared the same Mental Chemistry. Some more examples:

--Ben Kingsley as Gandhi. Both: Moon Fast-Mercury Behind. Kingsley won the Academy Award for Best Actor (1982).

-- Forest Whitaker as Idi Amin in "The Last King of Scotland." Both are Moon Slow-Mercury Ahead. Whitaker won the Academy Award for Best Actor (2006).

--Who can forget Tina Fey as Sarah Palin? Both have Moon Slow-Mercury Ahead. Fey won an Emmy Award (2009) for her portrayal of Sarah Palin.

--In the film "Game Change," Julianne Moore won both the Emmy and the Golden Globe award for Outstanding Lead Actress (2012) for her "uncanny performance as Sarah Palin." Julianne Moore, Sarah Palin and Tina Fey all

have Moon Slow-Mercury Ahead.

## Mental Chemistry - Other Considerations

While Mental Chemistry is a very effective tool, it does not overpower the rest of the chart. If you have Moon Slow-Mercury Behind, but also have, for example, Moon in Aries, and Mercury in Gemini square Uranus, you are likely to present yourself as being quite quick. Mental Chemistry does move the needle. This person would be more deliberate than they would have been if they had a different MC. And Moon Fast-Mercury Ahead Stephen Colbert is much quicker than his Sun and Mercury in Taurus would suggest!

## A Final Word

When we apply the concepts of Mental Chemistry to our own chart or the charts of our clients, if we keep the archetypes of The High Priestess and The Magician in mind, as well as our inspiring groups of the four Mental Chemistry types, we won't go too far wrong.

**Endnotes**

1. In *The Essentials of Astrological Analysis*, Dr. Jones said to use 13°10'. Solar Fire says: 13°10'35". In *The Counselling Manual in Astrology*, which was completed shortly before Dr. Jones' death, he upped it to 13°11'.
2. If the Moon has not changed signs, just subtract the Moon position of 24 hours earlier from position at birth. For example, (19°Aries 33') – (5°Aries 06') = 14°27'. If the Moon has changed signs, you have to add 30° before the subtraction. (11°Libra 25') – (28°Virgo 58') becomes 41°25' - 28°58', which becomes 40°85' - 28°58' = 12°27'.
3. Al H. Morrison, "Mental Chemistry – Interpreting the Speed and Position of Mercury and the Moon," in *The Mountain Astrologer*, reprinted in the Oct/Nov 2009 issue, pp. 18-19. Originally in the April/May 1991 issue.
4. Alan Schwarz, "Idea of New Attention Disorder Spurs Research, and Debate," *The New York Times*, April 11, 2014.

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- Marc Edmund Jones, *The Counseling Manual in Astrology*, American Federation of Astrologers, 1979.

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# TIME LORD TECHNIQUES

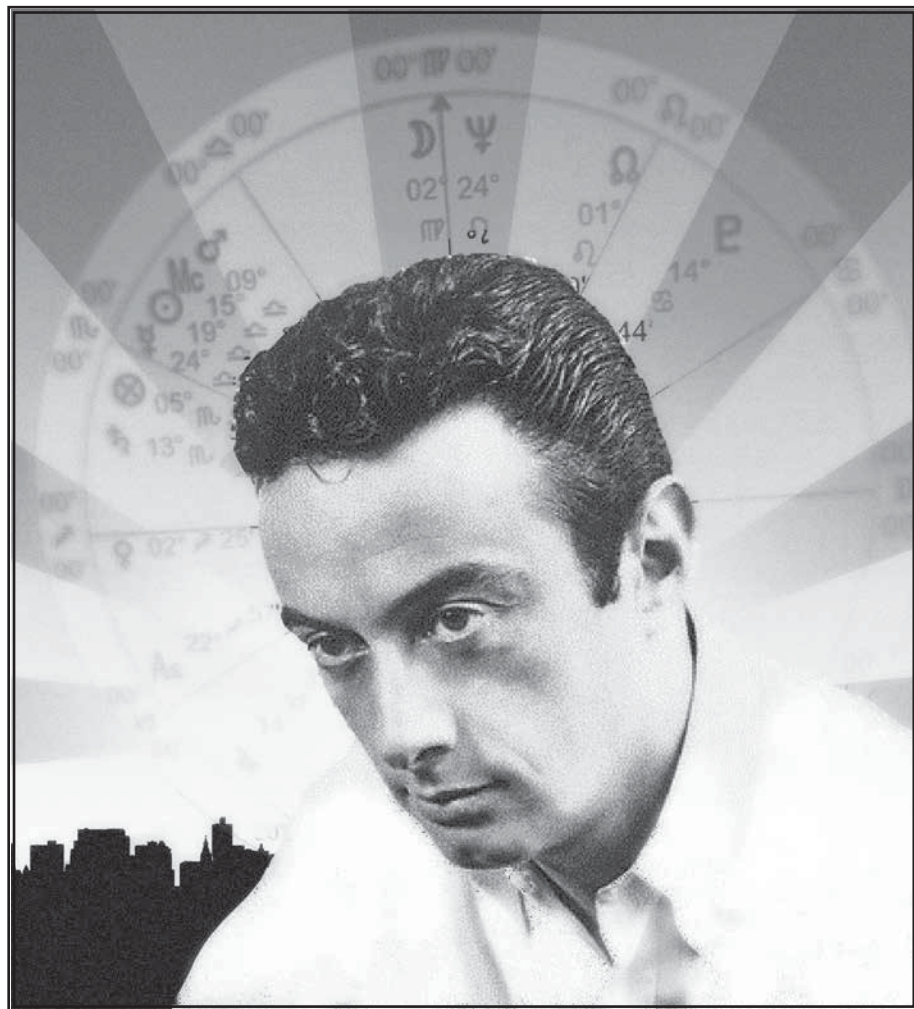
## Featuring the Life and Time Lords of Lenny Bruce

By Elizabeth Hazel

**H**ave you ever anticipated an upcoming transit, and then nothing much happened? Not every transit has an equal impact on a chart, even when it's from a powerful planet. In classical astrology, the natal condition of a planet might have something to do with that. If a natal planet is weak by sign or house, or is in bad condition with aspects, or even out of sect, it may not deliver to its full capacity.

Time lord techniques were developed during the medieval Arabic period, and the method shown below is based on Abū Ma'shar's techniques.<sup>1</sup> Time lords are empowered to deliver what they promise in the natal chart. The goal is to identify the planets that are most active, effective, and wide-awake during certain time periods. The first step is evaluating potential candidates for the year.

Since this is a classical analysis method, only the seven visible planets are used. Assembling a three- to five-year **time lord table** for a client consultation is marvelously useful. The best learning tool is a lifetime overview, as these demonstrate how natal planets behave as time lords as well as



the long-term patterns they generate.

Lenny Bruce is a worthy case study. He was a ground-breaking comedian whose tumultuous life was abruptly cut short. The planetary information collected in Lenny's time lord table includes:

1. The ruler of the annual projected chart's Ascendant
2. The ruler of solar return Ascendant
3. The ruler of the solar return Moon's sign
4. The Distributor and Partner
5. The Firdaria lord and sub-lord
6. This produces six or seven time lords per year, and of these, one or two will be dominant.

**Annual profections** are produced when the natal Ascendant is advanced thirty degrees for every year of life.

One year equals one sign. The projected ascendant returns to its natal position at age twelve, and again at ages 24, 36, 48, 52, 60, 72, 84, and 96. A year with a trine between the natal and projected Ascendants will tend to flow fairly easily. An opposition is difficult and contentious. Profections are easy enough to figure out, and most astrology software offers this option.

Abū Ma'shar calls the ruler of the projected Ascendant the **Lord of the Year**. Projected Ascendant lords flow through a predictable pattern as the job passes from planet to planet in the order of sign rulers.

The annual solar return provides the next two candidates: the **solar return Ascendant ruler** and **solar return Moon sign ruler**. These change randomly from year to year. The SR chart shows how time lords will

perform over the coming year through dignity condition, house position, and aspects.

## Classical Time Lords

There are two sets of time lords integral to Arabic methodology. The **Distributor-Partner** and **Firdaria lords** hold power for many years. The **Distributor** is the **bound lord of the primary directed Ascendant**. The primary directed Ascendant moves about a degree a year, similar to the secondary progressed Ascendant.<sup>2</sup> There are two slightly different tables of bounds: the Dorothean and the Ptolemaic. The choice is discretionary. Classical astrologers lean toward the Dorothean bounds, but this isn't unanimous.

The primary-directed Ascendant takes anywhere from three to fourteen years to pass through a bound because the bounds have irregular sizes. Consequently, Distributors do their jobs for a variable number of years. The Distributor generates its natal significations as modified and further defined by the planet's condition in the solar return.

The directed Ascendant chooses a **Partner** when it forms an exact major aspect to a natal planet. This planet remains the Partner until the directed Ascendant aspects another natal planet. The service period of Partners depends on natal placements. As the Distributor distributes issues and events, the Partner has to manage and cope with them. The relative performance of any Distributor and Partner combination depends on their natal condition. If there's a natal aspect between these two planets, then they relate to one another even if the aspect is difficult. Even a mutual reception shows some cooperation. If there's no natal aspect, the Partner will have a hard time coping with the Distributor's activities, and may not be able to

leverage opportunities the Distributor generates. The best windows of opportunity come through transiting aspects between the pair that connect with natal planets.

If the Distributor mimics a natal condition (sign, house, aspect) in the solar return, then what it distributes will be familiar. If the solar return position of the Distributor has no similarity to its natal position, it brings new things. If the Distributor is peregrine in the solar return (but not in the natal), then what enters the life can be unexpected and tricky to deal with. A peregrine Distributor produces people and situations outside of the usual frame-of-reference.

Solar returns with the Distributor and Partner in good dignity and good aspect are preferable; the planets can work harmoniously. Even an aspect between the SR Distributor and the natal position of the Partner can be moderately helpful. If the Distributor is retrograde in the solar return, its significations may take a long time to appear, or relate to delays in ongoing situations. The same planet can be the Distributor *and* the Partner. If this occurs, the planet's natal and solar return significations are even more critical. Its condition in the solar return and transits to the natal chart will have noticeable effects.

The **Firdaria** are based on sect and follow set patterns. A diurnal birth starts the firdaria pattern with the Sun; nocturnal birth with the Moon. Each planet is firdaria lord for a predetermined number of years that's divided into seven equal parts. It operates alone during the first term, and then the other six visible planets act as sub-lords in succession. The lord shows the focal area of life through the planet's natal position. Issues in that sign/house are worked out in tandem with the sub-lord. Firdaria are difficult to use as a solitary time-period system. They make more sense in context with

the other time lords. The Firdaria system is similar but less personalized than the Vedic dasha-bukti system.

## Analyzing Time Lords

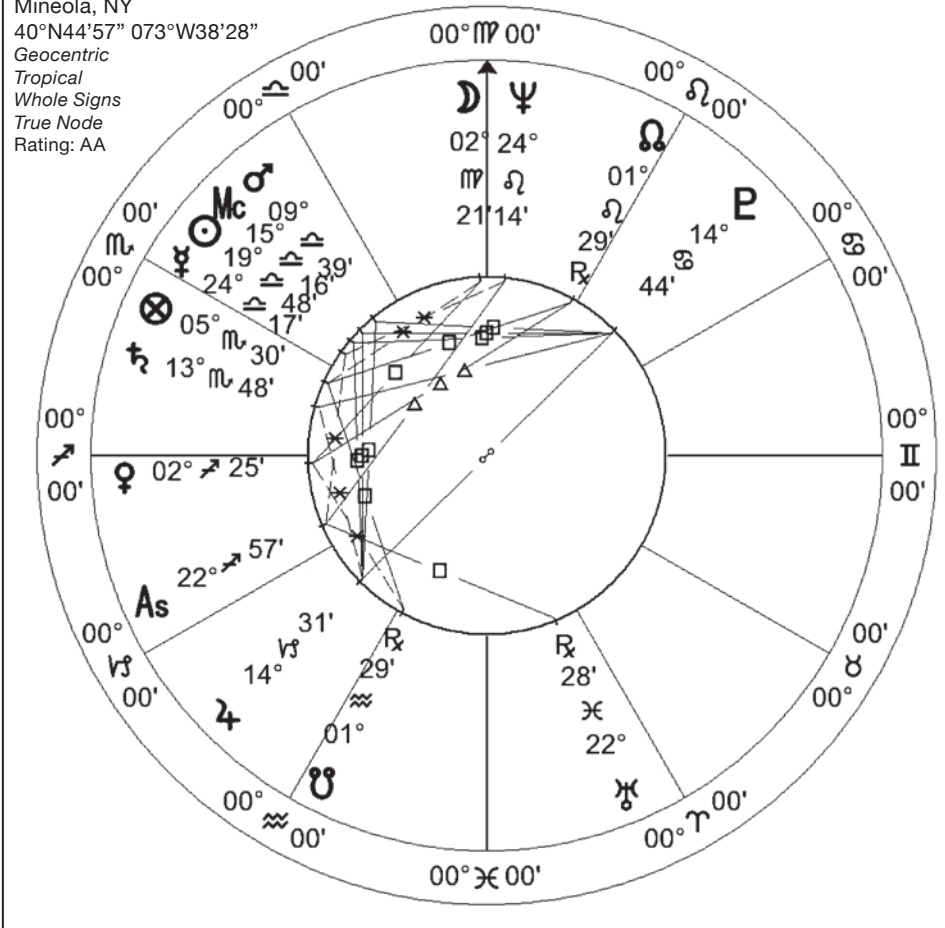
Profected Ascendant rulers and firdaria lords are like committee chairpersons holding offices with set term limits. Solar return Ascendant and Moon rulers and Distributor/Partner planets are random and irregular. **Hand-offs** occur when one planet yields its job to another planet. If multiple jobs are handed-off to a single planet in the same year, there will be distinctive shifts in the person's life characterized by the new time lord. Shifting combinations of orderly and random hand-offs accent the interplay of free will and fate.

Recycled or transposed time lord combinations deliver an evolved version of the events of the earlier pattern. Transpositions occur if the order of dominance switches, for example, from Mars-Jupiter to Jupiter-Mars.

**Dominant time lords** are a distillation of the five categories on the table. They hold the most jobs in a year. One planet may run the show, while other years can have two prominent time lords. When evaluating the year's planets, the Lord of the Year, the Distributor, and the SR Ascendant ruler should receive preferential consideration. The exceptions are when a new firdaria lord comes into power, or if a single planet is both Distributor and Partner.

Influence is diluted when no planet is dominant. The solar return may distinguish a front-runner. Time lord forecasts track the year's dominant time lords through transits to the natal chart. These are the most "awake" planets, so their impact is most noticeable. If the Sun or Moon are time lords, lunations and eclipses should get extra attention. Working with time lords

**Lenny Bruce**  
 Oct. 13, 1925  
 11:24 am, EST +500  
 Mineola, NY  
 40°N44'57" 073°W38'28"  
 Geocentric  
 Tropical  
 Whole Signs  
 True Node  
 Rating: AA



streamlines the forecasting process since the most effective planets have been identified and can be given the most attention.

## Lenny's Natal Chart

The natal chart gives each planet innate propensities and a range for its scope, so a solid natal analysis is an indispensable foundation for time lord techniques. Lenny's chart<sup>3</sup> has planets with little or no essential dignity conjunct powerful fixed stars. Sign rulers with dignity deficits can't help the planets that occupy their signs. His weak planets were drawn into pitched battles because they interact through squares or oppositions. Angular placements turn dignity deficits into dirty laundry flapping on a flagpole. Lenny's public persecution and ignominious

death were reported in the national media.

Lenny was born under two lucky stars. Mercury is conjunct Spica and Jupiter is conjunct Vega, giving great talents that lead to fame. But there's a fly in the soup. Mars is the chart's Almuten, the owner of the most zodiacal real estate. Mars is the out-of-sect malefic and in detriment. Mars' aggression and libidinous urges become nastier when he's out-of-sect; detriment prods planets toward excesses. It's near the Midheaven and is the doryphory, or spear-bearer, for the Sun. Mars gains additional ferocity by being in mutual reception with Saturn in Scorpio. This combination gave Lenny the ability to find the Saturnian corruption beneath society's watery surface and use these insights as martial weapons in an airy,

communicative way.

Disaster looms when a person lacks self-control and good judgment. Lenny didn't have much access to those qualities with Saturn in the twelfth house in tragedy-prone Scorpio. It would be tough to find a more difficult placement, with Saturn in joy and the chart's final dispositor. Mars raced forward with untrammelled ambition, and Mercury didn't know when to shut up.

The out-of-sect light and benefic, the Moon and Venus, are angular. The Moon is in the tenth place, the house of the mother and of one's standing in society. It's in triplicity but waning in the fourth quarter, peregrine, and square Venus. The Moon's dispositor, Mercury, is in triplicity but peregrine. Peregrine planets operate at the fringes of sign/house significations. Of all the possibilities in the eleventh house Libran cultural landscape of New York City in the late 1940's, Lenny gravitated toward the jazz/hipster subculture

with its anti-heroes, their slang, back alley philosophies, and illicit drug use. Mobster-owned clubs, con games, dirty deals, and racism were facts of life.

Peregrine Venus taints the planets she disposes in Libra. Venus's dispositor Jupiter is in fall in Capricorn. A planet in fall is deprived of resources and ignored. Jupiter suffers badly with its expansive powers snuffed, and the opposition to Pluto heightens the potential for large gains, losses, collective conflicts, and scandals. Venus is the signifier of women, love, fertility and pleasure, but it doesn't take too many dignity problems for Venus to break bad. Jupiter offers no control and few benefits. The significations become rude, crude, lusty, and prone to excesses. Venus is Little Miss Impulse-Control-Problems.



## Lenny's Time Lords

The time lord table (here ⇨) collates planetary influences from 1939 until his death in 1966. Lenny's birthday was in October, so the "year" of influence refers to the twelve month period from October to October.<sup>4</sup>

**1942:** Lenny quit high school and signed up for the Navy because he was desperate to escape from his father's house. Venus and Jupiter were dominant. It must have seemed like a great adventure, and his impulsive, angular Venus led Jupiter by the nose.

**1943:** Mercury and Mars were dominant. Mercury was the new Firdaria lord. Lenny served on a battleship on the Mediterranean during WW II. His service record is spotty, and he started taking amphetamines.

**1944:** Mercury-Moon were dominant. Lenny performed a skit in drag for his Navy shipmates in the spring of 1945. The ship's commander wasn't amused. Lenny was kicked out of the Navy for homosexual tendencies. His dishonorable discharge was reversed since there was no proof that he was gay. Note that he did something he thought was funny to get attention (Mercury-Spica), and got into trouble with an authority figure (Saturn), and the decision was reversed. Mercury changes direction more than any other planet.

**Mid-to-Late 1940's:** The profected Ascendant was in Virgo, his tenth house, in 1946, with Jupiter-Mars as Distributor-Partner from 1943 to 1947 and Mercury as the Firdaria Lord. Lenny chose a career in show business. He discovered the hipster lifestyle of jazz musicians and their underground drug culture, and socialized with

YEAR	Ld of Yr	SR ASC/Lord	SR☽ + Lord	Distributor and Part- Firdaria		Dominant Time Lords
1939	♄ - ♃	23 II - ♃	6 III - ♂	♃ ♄ - ☽	♀ - ♃	Mercury-Saturn
1940	♃ - ♃ □	5 III - ♃	16 ♃ - ♃	♃ - ☽	♀ - ♃ (5-9)	Mercury-Jupiter
1941	♃ - ♂	15 III - ♂	20 ♄ - ☽	♃ ♄ (1-29) - ☽	♀ - ♂ (7-1)	Mars
1942	♃ - ♃	2 ♄ - ♃	7 ♃ - ♃	♃ - ☽	♀ - ☽ (8-22)	Venus-Jupiter
1943	II - ♃ ♂	13 II - ♃	26 ♃ - ♂	♃ - ☽ to ♂ (10-15)	<b>Mercury (10-14)</b>	Mercury-Mars
1944	♄ - ☽	28 ♃ - ☽	6 III - ♃	♃ - ♂	♀	Mercury
1945	♃ - ☽	5 III - ♂	9 ♄ - ♃	♃ - ♂	♀ - ☽ (8-22)	Mars
1946	III - ♃ □	21 ♄ - ♃	29 ♃ - ♃	♃ - ♂	♀ - ☽	Mercury
1947	♄ - ♃	2 II - ♃	16 ♄ - ♃	♃ - ♂ to ♃ (11-15)	♀ - ♃ (7-1)	Venus-Mercury
1948	III - ♂	18 ♃ - ☽	26 ♄ - ♃	♃ to ♃ (1-22) - ♃ to ♃ (12-27)	♀ - ♃	Saturn-Jupiter
1949	♃ - ♃ (ret)	28 ♄ - ♃	0 ♄ - ☽	♀ - ♃	♀ - ♃ (5-9)	Jupiter-Venus
1950	♄ - ♃	7 ♄ - ♃	19 III - ♂	♀ - ♃	♀ - ♃	Saturn-Jupiter
1951	♄ - ♃	14 ♃ - ♃	6 ♃ - ♂	♀ - ♃	♀ - ♂ (3-19)	Venus-Mars
1952	♃ - ♃ □	9 ♃ - ☽	15 ♃ - ☽	♀ - ♃	♀ - ♂	Jupiter-Sun
1953	♃ - ♂	15 ♄ - ♃	20 ♃ - ♃	♀ - ♃ to ☽ (7-4)	♀ - ☽ (1-25)	Venus-Sun
1954	♃ - ♃	26 ♃ - ♃	10 ♃ - ♃	♀ - ☽	♀ - ♃ (12-4)	Venus
1955	II - ♃ ♂	26 ♃ - ♂	27 III - ♃	♀ to ♃ ♄ (6-26) - ☽	♀ - ♃	Mercury
1956	♄ - ☽	28 ♄ - ☽	4 ♄ - ♃	♃ - ☽	<b>Moon (10-13)</b>	Moon-Saturn
1957	♃ - ☽	8 ♄ - ♃	11 II - ♃	♃ - ☽ to ♃ (7-4)	☽	Sun-Mercury
1958	III - ♃ □	17 ♃ - ♃	1 III - ♂	♃ to ♂ ♄ (12-24) - ♃	☽ - ♃ (1-25)	Mercury-Saturn
1959	♄ - ♃	9 ♃ - ♂	18 ♃ - ♃	♃ - ♃	☽ - ♃ (5-10)	Mars-Jupiter
1960	III - ♂	23 ♄ - ☽	24 ♄ - ☽	♃ - ♃	☽ - ♂ (8-21)	Moon-Mars
1961	♃ - ♃ (ret)	0 ♄ - ♃	2 ♃ - ♃	♃ - ♃	☽ - ☽ (12-4-61)	Jupiter
1962	♄ - ♃	9 ♃ - ♃	21 ♃ - ♂	♃ to ♃ ♄ (5-3) - ♃	☽ - ☽	Mercury
1963	♄ - ♃	24 ♃ - ♃	8 III - ♃	♀ - ♃	☽ - ♃ (3-19)	Mercury
1964	♃ - ♃ □	13 ♄ - ☽	13 ♄ - ♃	♀ - ♃ to ♃ (4-23)	☽ - ♃ (6-30)	Moon-Mercury
1965	♃ - ♂	23 III - ♃	23 ♃ - ♃	♀ - ♃	Saturn (10-13)	Mercury-Venus, Saturn
1966	♃ - ♃	0 ♃ - ♃	12 ♄ - ♃	♀ - ♃	♃	Venus (died Aug 3, 1966, three months before 1966 birthday)

other comedians. He learned about the *schpritz*, a stream of consciousness monologue technique, from the shadowy Joe Ancis. Joe helped him connect to his Jewish roots. His mom (Mercury-ruled Moon) introduced him to an agent.

**1948:** Venus and Jupiter operated as the Distributor and Partner from 1948 until 1953. This was his nascent period as a comedian. Venus and Jupiter gave birth to his style. Lenny was known as a "dirty" comic. Where did the dirt come from? Venus is dispossessed by Jupiter in Capricorn. Capricorn is the dirt. It's associated with dirty work, the work no one else wants to do; with lowlifes, scapegoats, pariahs, and undesirables. Jupiter gives Venus her proclivity for kinky sex and coarse, crude language. The Virgo Moon shovels more dirt onto Venus. Lenny

was a clever satirist, but his routines on taboo topics were littered with expletives. This would have gone unnoticed if he'd kept working in dive bars and strip joints.

**1951:** Venus and Mars dominant. As in 1943, the recycled Mercury-Mars Firdaria pattern produced new landscapes and social connections. Lenny married a stripper, Honey Harlowe in 1951. They were in a serious car accident in Pittsburgh, and subsequently relocated to the West coast. Lenny worked as an MC at the sleazy strip joints. He used abrasive remarks to command audience attention between strippers. Lenny found inventive ways to score and use drugs. The couple's home became a gathering place for late-night parties, and they started swinging with other couples.

**1955:** Mercury was sole dominant planet. Lenny's daughter Kitty was born in November. Lenny was a model parent, Honey was not. Mercury was retrograde and combust in the solar return. Lenny was hospitalized for hepatitis in January 1956. When he returned home, he found Honey strung out on heroin and neglecting the baby. Mercury rules the natal seventh and tenth houses. Seventh house issues are emphasized as the 1955 SR Ascendant was at 26 Aries opposite natal Mercury. Lenny filed for divorce in March 1956. An attempted reconciliation imploded, another reversal. Lenny took the baby and abandoned his ex-wife, who was stuck with a two-year jail sentence for drug possession. His routines became more offensive. Lenny's friends describe him as a sweet-natured, gentle, and forgiving person, but he was capable of cruelty when he felt angry or threatened.

**1958:** The profected Ascendant moved to Virgo, the tenth place, and Mercury became the dominant time lord, with Saturn sitting shot-gun. A new Distributor-Partner set, Mars-Mercury, transposed the 1951 Mercury-Mars firdaria. The career launched in 1951 climbed toward a peak. Lenny was hailed as a genius and a prophet by certain critics, while his routines infuriated the guardians of moral decency. Lenny earned \$3500 to \$5000 a week through extensive touring. Drug use and sexual encounters reached epic proportions.

**1959:** Mars and Jupiter were dominant. Lenny rocketed to the top. Album and book sales expanded his audience. SR Mars was conjunct his natal Mercury; he wrote forty-five minutes of new material, in comic terms roughly equivalent to writing a symphony. This was his finest mature work, and included his "Palladium", "Religion Inc.," and the famous "To

is a Preposition, Come is a Verb" routines.

**1960:** Lenny's problematic Moon and Mars became dominant, combined with a very difficult solar return chart. First house SR Mars in Cancer opposed Saturn in Capricorn. A TIME magazine cover story focused on the "sick comedy" trend. Walter Winchell gave Lenny the title of "America's #1 Vomic." National attention triggered

an anti-Lenny campaign. The persecution was driven by key individuals in powerful positions who saw him as an enemy of public decency (Saturn in the SR seventh house). Lenny was a product of the lower-middle class with a tenth-grade education, and ill-equipped to contend with the lions he aroused. The wheat sheaf (Spica) doesn't pick itself! Lenny didn't control the stage, and he couldn't control the backlash triggered by *what* he said and *how* he said it.

**1961:** Jupiter was dominant. It had not been a major time lord since 1948-49, when he was submerged in the Plutonian hipster underworld. Jupiter conjuncts Saturn in Capricorn in the solar return. His natal Jupiter-Pluto hammer unleashed its collective fury. Authorities cracked down on Lenny hard and fast. Tight censorship in the United States had constricted creative expression for almost seventy years. Like anything under too much pressure, the constraints were straining in



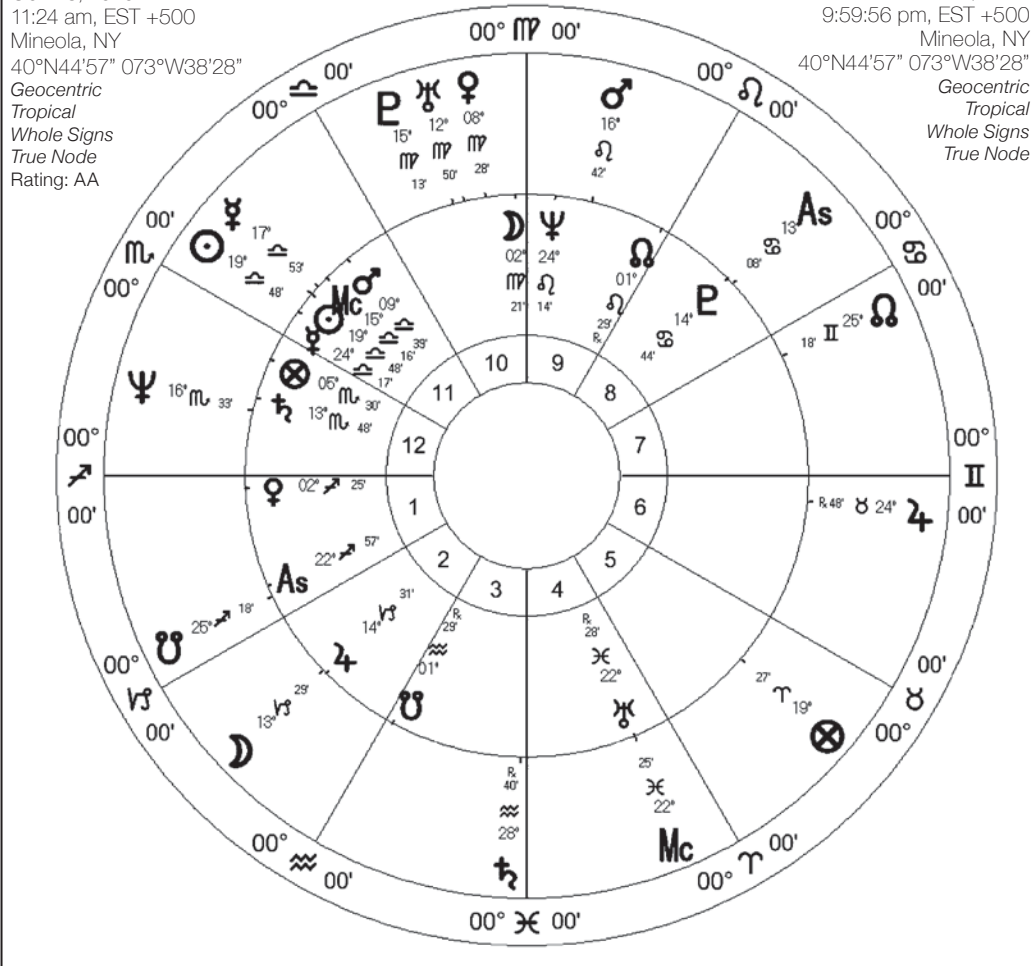
every direction. The censors were at the end of their reign, and they knew it. Writers like Ginsberg, Kerouac, and Burroughs were swathed with legal representation and mother-hen publishers. Elvis Presley was shielded by his massive audience. Film-makers mastered methods of sneaking around censorship, and the studios were powerful enough to repel assaults. The censors needed and found an unprotected target, Lenny Bruce, and they were willing to use every under-handed, low-down trick at their disposal to make his life a living hell. Lenny's SR Ascendant was at 0° Libra, a World Point, while dispositor Venus was in fall in the twelfth house. Venus, the root of his impulse control problems and addictions, made him particularly vulnerable to traps and police stings. He was arrested twice, audited by the IRS, and charged with violating zoning codes for unauthorized construction on his property. Jupiter in Capricorn gets very little attention as a planet in fall, but as Lenny's time lord,

Inner Wheel  
**Lenny Bruce**

Oct. 13, 1925  
 11:24 am, EST +500  
 Mineola, NY  
 40°N44'57" 073°W38'28"  
 Geocentric  
 Tropical  
 Whole Signs  
 True Node  
 Rating: AA

Outer Wheel  
**Lenny Bruce**

Oct. 12, 1964  
 9:59:56 pm, EST +500  
 Mineola, NY  
 40°N44'57" 073°W38'28"  
 Geocentric  
 Tropical  
 Whole Signs  
 True Node



hidden enemy.<sup>5</sup> Venus rules Lenny's eleventh house, which includes friends and associates. Allen Ginsberg circulated a freedom-of-speech petition signed by an impressive assortment of notable celebrities and intellectuals. It was distributed to media outlets the week before Lenny's landmark obscenity trial began on June 16, 1964. It made an impact on public awareness, but it didn't affect the outcome of the trial. His fan base consisted of beatniks, collegiate intelligentsia, and young hippies. Lenny had little in common with these groups by social class, education, or political philosophy. Unsuspected SR Venus underscores this gap, the independent action taken on his behalf by Ginsberg, and the absence of benefits from it.

**1964:** The dominant

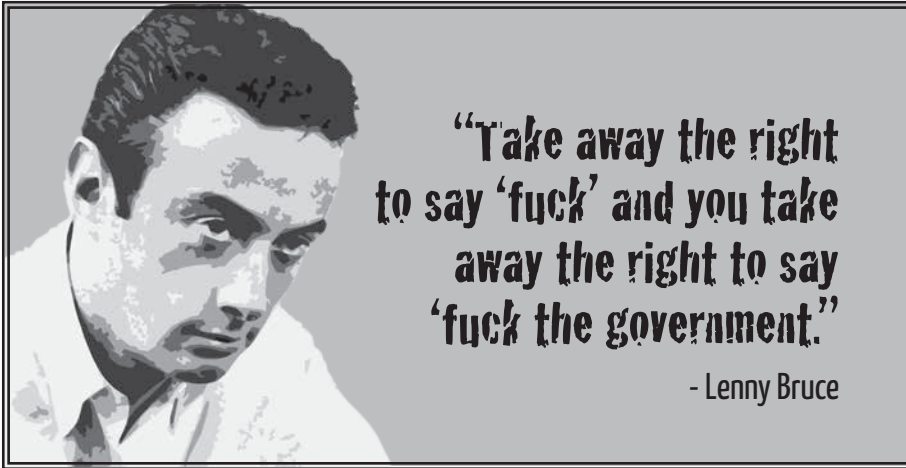
it generated negative attention, even in foreign countries. He was banned from Canada and booted out of Australia after one performance.

**1962-1963:** Mercury was the sole dominant time lord for two years and it distributed an undiluted blast of tenth and seventh house significations. Lenny was arrested eight times for obscenity and drug charges in three different states. Each arrest required numerous court appearances. The sheer volume of legal problems generated astronomical bills, while the bad publicity damaged his reputation and reduced work opportunities. Following the dominant Mercury precedent set in 1943-44, he managed to wriggle out of most of the charges. Lenny became obsessed with legal research.

Kvetching about legal problems began to displace his polished routines during gigs. He was booked to perform in England in the spring of 1963 but refused entry. Upon his return to the United States, he was subjected to a strip search and anal probe by the customs authorities. His mental and physical health deteriorated.

Venus became the Partner in April 1964, the month that Lenny was arrested on obscenity charges in New York City. The 1963 SR Venus and Mercury are not in aspect, and Venus is in detriment in Scorpio. This arrest presented a new and exceptionally dangerous situation. New York's chief prosecutor, Frank Hogan, carefully planned his attack with the goal of incarceration. SR Saturn repeats its natal twelfth house placement, a vicious

Moon-Mercury combination transposes the combination from 1944, when Lenny was booted out of the military. Mercury's weaknesses were publicly visible. His SR Ascendant at 13° Cancer was conjunct natal Pluto. The SR Moon was opposite in Capricorn and conjunct natal Jupiter. The New York judicial panel convicted Lenny on December 21, 1964 and sentenced him to four months in a workhouse. In March 1965, Lenny fell from a third-story hotel window. He was severely injured, required a long hospital stay, and retained a permanent limp. His weight ballooned, and his appearance and hygiene deteriorated. Honey, his mother, and a rotating squad of groupies took care of him, fulfilling the nursing signification of his natal Virgo Moon.



## Long-Term Patterns

Extreme cases prove the rules and show the exceptions. Examining a celebrity's life in hindsight allows for an unparalleled overview. The downside is that interior details are lost or hidden.

Mercury's lengthy service as Lenny's Firdaria Lord from 1943 to 1955 and as Distributor from 1962 until his death greatly influenced the shape and outcomes of his life and legacy. Lenny's natal Mercury-Spica cast him as a performer, but the periods with Mercury as the dominant time lord produced an onslaught of events relating to the Mercury-ruled seventh and tenth houses. In a nutshell, legal matters relating to his career and lifestyle, and reversed decisions. Other natal planets are more powerful, but overall, Mercury was dominant. Why? Perhaps because his Virgo Moon (eighth house ruler), Mars (almuten), Saturn (final dispositor), and Pluto all occupy the bounds of Mercury in the natal chart. Mercury's final dispositor, Saturn-Zuben Elgenubi, claimed the right to judge his performance in the context of contemporary conservative social mores.

Time lord tables allow the astrologer to distill the power players and to look backward and forward simultaneously. It is a means for identifying life patterns that unfold over long periods of time. The thematic narrative of fixed stars gains distinction when the planet conjunct the star is a dominant time lord. Early life time lord combinations define the individual's unique expression of natal significations. When similar time lord combinations are recycled in later years, these significations reach an evolved level of development.

The Moon was the Firdaria lord from 1956 until 1964. The Moon rules the public and occupies his tenth house, and this was his period of peak visibility. When the Moon was a dominant time lord in 1956, 1960 and 1964, Lenny hit emotional crisis points: he divorced in 1956; he reached his professional high-point, bought a house, and was involved a serious relationship in 1960; and his life and career were shattered in 1964 by legal problems and serious health issues.

**1965:** Mercury and Venus were dominant. The Moon handed off her job as Firdaria lord to Saturn. The devastating solar return has Uranus and Pluto conjunct the Virgo Ascendant, while Venus, returned to its natal position, disposes the SR Moon conjunct Caput Algol. Lenny's career was in tatters. His health was ruined, and he was barely able to perform. He declared bankruptcy the day after his 1965 birthday, so he was financially ruined, too.

A foreclosure notice was delivered on the morning of August 3, 1966. Lenny died of an overdose that afternoon. Transiting Mercury was retrograde and progressed Mercury was conjunct his natal Ascendant. Transiting Venus and Mars were conjunct natal Pluto. Some friends suspect he was deliberately given tainted drugs; the coroner's report is vague on

this point. The police re-arranged his naked corpse in a humiliating pose and took pictures. Phil Spector bought the negatives to keep them out of circulation.

## End of the Matter

The seventy-five year Firdaria pattern returned to the Sun in 2000. Lenny's directed Ascendant entered Aries in 2001, and Jupiter became the Distributor and Partner. Jupiter, the Sun and Moon were the dominant time lords when the last legal shadow was finally eliminated from his legacy. Jupiter rules his first and fourth houses and exalts in the eighth. The New York judicial panel's 1964 guilty sentence was reversed posthumously when Lenny was exonerated in 2002.

Lenny Bruce is considered the patron saint of modern comedy because his innovative development of stand-up dialogs and his battles against censorship. His heir apparent, George Carlin, pushed the boundaries even further with his famous "Seven Words You Can't Say on TV" bit. Lenny's legacy continues to influence comedians. The censors retreated into the shadows soon after Lenny's death, but periodically return as new forms of expression arouse the ire of conservative interest groups. The language of censorship law remains blurry and imprecise.

## End Notes

1. Benjamin Dykes. *Persian Nativities III: On Solar Revolutions*. Cazimi Press, 2010.
2. Ben Dykes site: <http://www.bendykes.com/reviews/study.php> see "Tables for Ascensions for Distributors (Directing Through the Bounds)". A pdf provides instructions for tables for calculations. (accessed Sept. 20, 2014)
3. Lenny Bruce, born Leonard Alfred Schneider, October 13, 1925, 11:24 am EST, Mineola, NY. RR: AA, in *Contemporary American Horoscopes*
4. Biographical sources for Lenny Bruce: Lawrence Schiller and Albert Goldman, *Ladies and Gentlemen, Lenny Bruce!!* (Penguin, 1992); and Gerald Nachman, *Seriously Funny: The Rebel Comedians of the 1950's and 1960's*, Pantheon/Random Books, 2003, pp 390 – 435.
5. Obscenity was a misdemeanor, but Hogan pursued Lenny's trial as though it was a major felony charge. Lenny's health faltered and the trial was put on hold while he recovered. In the meantime, the US Supreme Court handed down two landmark decisions on June 22, 1964. These

were: a reversal of the judgment of the Florida district court of appeals in the *Tropic of Cancer* case (*Grove Press v Gerstein*); and the *Jacobellis v Ohio* case, reversing the conviction of Nico Jacobellis, an Ohio theater owner convicted for exhibiting Louis Malle's *The Lovers*. (Edward de Grazia, *Girls Lean Back Everywhere: The Law of Obscenity and the Assault on Genius*, Random House, 1992, p 382, 418) In the 218-page decision written by Justice William Brennan, the new test for obscenity required that the work be assessed *as a whole* and cannot be judged obscene unless it is utterly without *artistic or other social value or importance*. This decision affected the entire country, as Justice Brennan wrote, "the constitutional status of an allegedly obscene work must be

determined on the basis of a national, not a local, standard." (ibid, p 424) The Illinois Supreme Court vacated an earlier conviction of Lenny Bruce (stemming from an arrest for obscenity at the Gate of Horn club) the day after the SCOTUS decision (ibid p 383, 422). The New York judicial panel completely ignored the Supreme Court's new obscenity doctrine during the proceedings in spite of numerous legal protests mounted by Lenny and his legal team. After the panel handed down the sentence, Lenny returned to California, which refused to extradite him to New York. He died before the appeal could be heard. His daughter Kitty was responsible for seeking posthumous justice, which was finally granted by the governor of New York in 2002.

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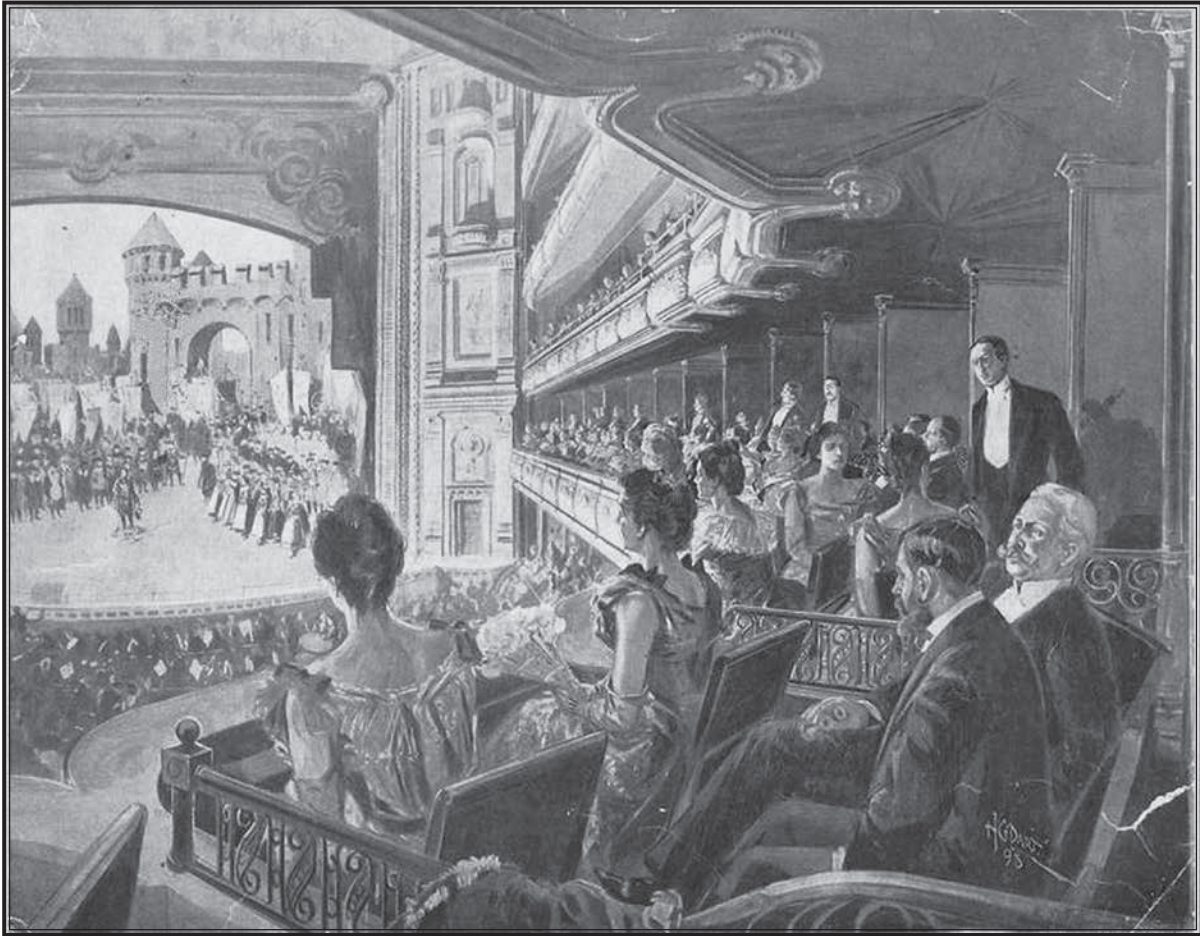
*Tarot Decoded* and the *Whispering Tarot* deck and book. Liz's new literary project is the *Advanced Tarot-Astrology Series*, which begins with *Attributions in Naked Splendor*. Liz is president of SMART, the Ann Arbor NCGR chapter, and presented a lecture on "The Metaphysical Cosmos" at the 2014 SOTA Conference in Niagara Falls. Her weekly blog is at [www.kozmic-kitchen.weebly.com](http://www.kozmic-kitchen.weebly.com). You may send her e-mail at [ehazel@bex.net](mailto:ehazel@bex.net).

"I know that I am mortal by nature, and ephemeral;  
but when I trace at my pleasure the windings  
to and fro of the heavenly bodies  
I no longer touch the earth with my feet:  
I stand in the presence of Zeus himself  
and take my fill of ambrosia."

— Ptolemy, *Ptolemy's Almagest*

"Though my soul may set in darkness,  
it will rise in perfect light.  
I have loved the stars too fondly  
to be fearful of the night."

— Sarah Williams, from "The Old Astronomer"



# Jupiter in Leo and The Metropolitan Opera House

By Kyle Ukes

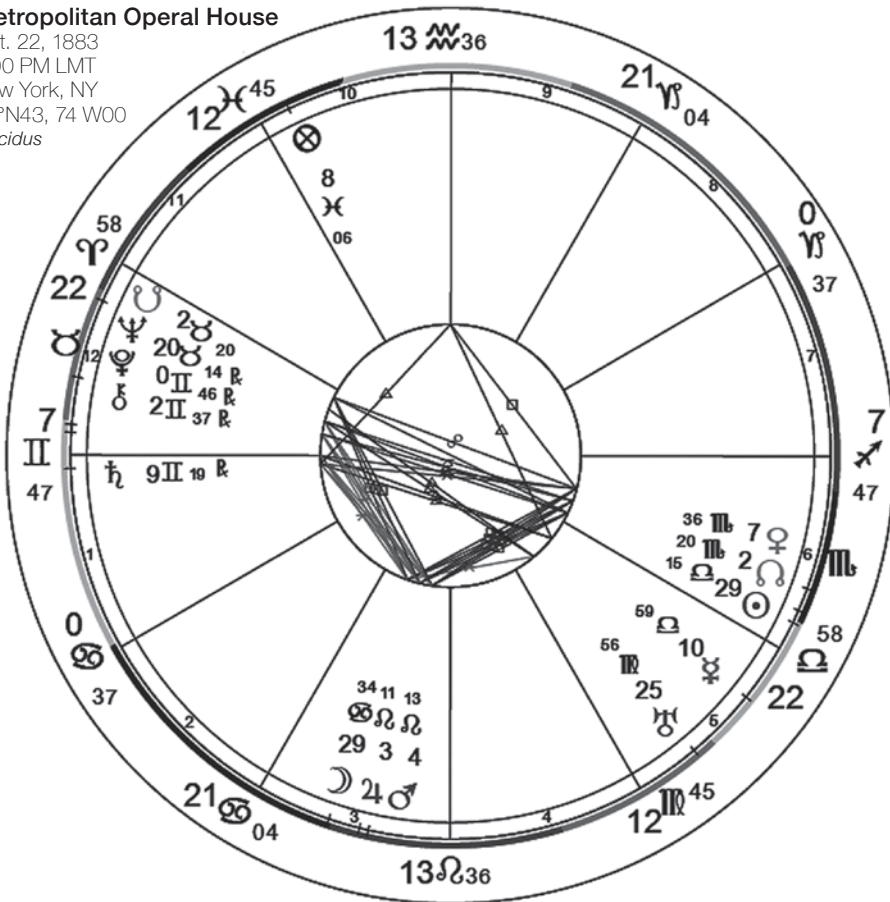
The combination of Jupiter and Leo perfectly embodies the concept of opera. Leo provides the spark of creativity, the inspiration, and theatrical know-with-all. The succession from Leo to Virgo is also seen in opera by the fact that although there are countless people working behind the scenes (stage hands, a 60 - piece orchestra, house staff, etc.), it usually showcases a small group of soloists. It's no wonder that the term *prima donna*, or *diva*, originated from early Italian opera.

Jupiter, ruling Sagittarius and Pisces (traditionally), creates both the soul and the atmosphere where the fire of Leo can grow and transmute into the deeply emotional and expressive. In opera, all of the arts are showcased. Music, words, stage, art (scenery/costumes), and dance amass and become one.

The Metropolitan Opera house, "the Met," located in New York City, is considered to be the international standard of this art form. In the autumn of 2014, the Met celebrated its 131st season and 11th Jupiter return in Leo. But with rocky union contract negotiations and in-fighting muddled with poor artistic direction and management already infiltrating the organization before the 2014 season has even begun, what does the future hold for this hallmark of an institution?

Before the Met found its way to Lincoln Center, it was first located in the garment district at 39th St. and Broadway. The date and time of the inaugural performance was chosen for the birth chart data, October 22nd, 1883 8:00 PM Local mean time, New York, NY (See chart 1, next page, 38 top).

Chart # 1  
**Metropolitan Operal House**  
 Oct. 22, 1883  
 8:00 PM LMT  
 New York, NY  
 40°N43, 74 W00  
 Placidus



## The Key Players

The planets in the birth chart seem to represent the workings of the Met one way or the other. Jupiter, along with Mars in Leo in the 3<sup>rd</sup> house, describes the art itself. The Met productions are lavish, bold, and frequent. It's amazing to think how the house prepares a complete production for one opera, tears it down, and then replaces it with another production within a day or so for the next opera to be showcased.

The intense closing square with the Sun at 29 Libra and the Moon at 29 Cancer explains the world of inner politics within the Met. A lot of emotionally charged egos are involved and all are combating one another for recognition and say. This is good insight to the current predicament the Met is in right now. There are too many people emotionally invested in their stance that backing down or giving in is seen as a defeat in their eyes: or rather, in their ego's eyes.

The three archetypes that seem to represent the key groups of people within the opera house are Saturn (the leadership), the 6<sup>th</sup> House (the workers/unions), and Venus (the patrons).

Saturn in the 1<sup>st</sup>, conjoined the Asc, along with the trine to Mercury in Libra and the MC shows that the leadership is the face of the organization. They call the shots (creative,

METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE.	
MR. HENRY E. ABBEY, . . . . . Director	MR. MAURICE CRAU.
MONDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 22, 1883,	
INAUGURAL NIGHT AND First Night of the Subscription,	
WHEN GOUNOD'S OPERA OF "FAUST."	
Will be presented with the following Cast:	
FAUST, . . . . .	Sig. ITALO CAMPANINI
MEPHISTOPHELES, . . . . .	Sig. FRANCO NOVARA
VALENTINO, . . . . .	Sig. GIUSEPPE DEL PUENTE
WAGNER, . . . . .	Sig. CONTINI
SIEBEL, . . . . .	Mme. SOFIA SCALCHI
MARTA, . . . . .	Mlle. LOUISE LABLACHE
(Who has kindly consented to assume the part at short notice.)	
MARGHERITA, . . . . .	Mme. CHRISTINE NILSSON
Musical Director and Conductor, - Sig. VIANESI	
WEBER PIANO USED.	
Mason & Hamlin's Organ Used.	
All the above Operas performed at this House can be had in every form, Vocal and Instrumental at G. SCHIRMER, No. 35 Union Square, Importer and Publisher of Music.	
The Scenery by Messrs. Fox, Schaeffer, Maeder, and Thompson. The Costumes are entirely new, and were manufactured at Venice by D. Ascoli The Appointments by Mr. Bradwell. Machinists, Messrs. Lundy & Gifford.	
NIGHTLY PRICES OF ADMISSION:	
Boxes, holding six (6) seats, . . . . .	\$50
Orchestra Stalls, . . . . .	6
Balcony Stalls, . . . . .	3
Family Circle (reserved), . . . . .	2
Admission to Family Circle, . . . . .	1
Seats and Boxes can be secured at the Box Office of the Metropolitan Opera House, which will remain open daily from 8 A. M. to 5 P. M.	
Doors open at 7.15. Performances at 8 precisely	
Guerrieri Gabrielson & Son, Flautists to the Metropolitan Opera House.	
Opera Glasses on Hire in the Lobby.	
L. F. Masotto, Caterer.	
Parties desiring Ices can be supplied by the Waiter, in Corridor.	
Business Manager . . . . .	Mr. W. W. TILLOTSON.
Treasurer . . . . .	Mr. CHAS. H. MATHEWS.

PR, and management) and seem to have the biggest connection between the Met and the outside world.

The 6<sup>th</sup> House represents the laborers of the opera house, as well as their unions and union leaders. From musicians to stagehands to technicians, so much goes on behind the scenes. It's quite interesting to see the chart containing a northern hemisphere emphasis. This can be interpreted literally because the orchestra and other workers are hidden either under the stage or behind the stage, behind the line of sight (the Asc/Dsc line).

Venus, being the 6<sup>th</sup> house ruler, can be interpreted both as the ruler of the patrons and as the ruler of the workers. When seen from the workers' point of view, Venus in Scorpio represents the subservient nature of the craft and power structures that are put in place. The workers clearly have a leadership structure. For example, orchestra takes orders from the conductor, and the conductor takes orders from the artistic director, who takes orders from the chairmen, etc., etc. Likewise union reps take orders from the union, who takes orders from the president, etc. etc. The square of Venus to the MC can show the need for recognition and a say, but this can also explain why the workers are being misheard during in the current contract negotiations.

When it comes to having an influential say, the workers don't have a lot of power.

Venus in Scorpio also represents the patrons of the organization. When the Met was looking for financial backers in the beginning, the upper echelon of the New York aristocracy was not interested in the least. They thought the theatre to be too compacted and not *vogue* enough. The true backers of the Met in its beginnings were those members of the upper class who gained their fortunes through the industrial revolution.

These were the patrons that believed in the Met. When it opened, the Metropolitan opera house was such a huge hit during its inaugural season, that it surpassed its rival, the long-standing Academy of Music opera house: so much so, that they had to close their doors three years later.

The square from Venus to the MC says a lot about "say" in artistic direction and choices in leadership. How much input do the patrons have over the workings of the organization, and is it too much? Not only that, do the financial backers of today come from the same stock as the past or are they more of the richer aristocracy that never really believed in the theatre in the first place? If the latter, it explains the issues with the current infighting. Perhaps if the bigger financial backers came from more humble beginnings, like the ones before them, there would probably be more sympathy and understanding for the laborers. Still, the square to the MC shows that any real say from the patrons with regards to how the organization operates doesn't do any good and they should leave the leadership to those in charge. Furthermore, in order to maintain the balance, those in charge should make a clear stance to the patrons guaranteeing trust in their direction. In other words, get out of their way and allow them create art.

## Significance of *Faust* as Inaugural Performance

*Faust*, a German novel turned into a French opera by composer Charles Gounod and librettists Jules Barbier and Michel Carré, is very telling as the Met's inaugural performance. (See program photo, top opposite page.) The premise of the opera is about the dying scientist *Faust* who sells his soul to the devil in exchange for love and youth.



European artists during the romantic period (1800-1850) had already been exploring and exposing the public to mystical and paranormal themes like monsters, ghosts, the devil, and the like. However, due to the highly Christianized society of America at the time, those ideas had yet to make their way "across the pond". The Met, in their first performance, wanted to go down

in history as the institution who brought new, exciting, and even controversial works to the stage; and it worked! This has a lot to do with the Aquarian MC, and artistic directors at the Met should always be aware that when they push the envelope, the results are favored.

## Saturn in the 1<sup>st</sup> House Fears

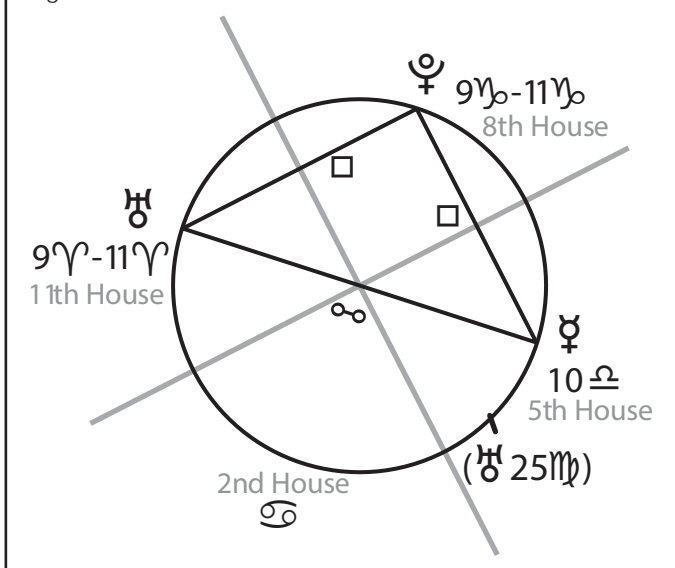
In natal astrology, Saturn in the 1<sup>st</sup> house can bring about fears with the body. People with this placement could suffer from poor body-mind connections and there could be conscious anxieties about literally losing the body or body parts (amputations, deformities, the physical aspect of death). The Met can project these same issues through fears of bankruptcy and, therefore, losing the house (or the body) where everything lies. This concern is probably magnified with the recent bankruptcy and closing of the New York City Opera in 2013. But this fear should be considered as a non-factor if the Met is to get over this psychological hurdle. It's true, the Venus in Scorpio patrons could threaten the restriction of funds and use other means of power over the organization, but the two grand trines the Met has with the Asc, MC, Saturn, and Mercury (3°-6° orbs respectively) demonstrate that the Met is here to stay. This is evidenced by the fact that the Met has survived through two world wars, a fire, which completely obliterated the opera house (see photo, above), and the great depression.

## Uranus/Pluto Square

The Met seems to operate in two different realms: the trine or the square. When the Met works through its grand air trine (Asc, MC, Saturn, and Mercury) there is vision, democracy, calculated risk-taking, security, good art, and advancements. With the square energy (Venus



Diagram 1: T-SQUARE



square MC, Sun square Moon), there is disrespect, power struggles, chaos, threats, fear, and undermining. The Met has been leaning more on the square side of the chart due to the influences of the over arching Uranus/Pluto square.

In 2013, Uranus and Pluto reached an exact square May-June 2013 at 11 Aries/Capricorn and again October-November 2013 at 9 Aries/Capricorn. The Met's Mercury at 10 Libra serves as the midpoint between these two events forming a tight T-square in the 11<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> houses (see diagram 1 - left, and organization chart, below left). This shows that whatever issues the Met is facing now, it seems to have been triggered by the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 seasons. The current 2014-2015 season seems to be a response to these astrological events which explains the conflicts, the possible strike, and the public criticism of the Met having a too standard of a repertoire during this season.

The Met as an organizational body is not immune to the power conflicts and structure-shaking that the Uranus-Pluto square has been bringing to all institutions within our society. For the Met, this means that as a group, they need to work out their issues and resolve it on their own or the planetary influences will do so in a less favorable way.

Gov. Rick Perry of Texas, who was recently indicted for abuse of power, had Uranus transiting into his 12<sup>th</sup> house during this event. For the Met, a similar scandal could occur when Uranus transits into their 12<sup>th</sup> house, retrogrades, and then returns back into the house May 2016/October 2016/March 2017. Tensions could die down this season but with the energies involved, there is always something working underground that could be brought into the light in 2016-2017. However, with Saturn in Sagittarius opposing Saturn in Gemini December 2015 and the next Uranus/Pluto hit at 15 Aries/Capricorn on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015, there could be a trigger event even sooner.

With Pluto in the 8<sup>th</sup> house, there are sure to be secrets revealed that could damage reputations of the people involved. I don't think the Met itself will be destroyed considering the grand trine that has saved the institution in the past, but this could be a big game changer to the people in positions of leadership. However, if they can figure out what to do before this time, they can probably save themselves, and the organization, from a lot of distress and shame. Either way, eager operagoers may have to wait a while for the Met to return to its former glory.

### Jupiter Cycles and the Jupiter Return

It's a real shame that all of this has to happen during the Met's Jupiter return. In the past, this cycle seems to have been an indicator for positive shifts within the company. On the opposite page is a table of previous Jupiter returns

"Chart of an Organization" from <i>The Rulership Book</i> by Rex E. Bills		
House	Areas of Rulership	Planets and Signs Involved
11th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other friendly organizations</li> <li>Fraternal groups and clubs providing social activities</li> <li>The treasury</li> </ul>	♄/♃
5th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Executive personnel (except for president or chairmen of the board)</li> <li>Governing body</li> <li>Attitudes or action of stockholders or board of directors in opposition to the president</li> </ul>	♃/♅ (♃/♁)
8th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Losses or gains through death</li> <li>Financial conditions involved in partnerships, mergers or lawsuits</li> <li>Financial relations with competitors</li> <li>Competitors' financial condition</li> <li>Revenue from investments or liquidations of frozen assets</li> <li>Loans and income from sources not under immediate control of the organization</li> <li>Company treasurer</li> </ul>	♀/♁
2nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liquid assets</li> <li>Voluntary expenditures</li> <li>Ability to earn profits</li> <li>Disposition toward investments</li> </ul>	Opposite focal point of the T-square ♁

## List of Jupiter Returns (3°♃11')

	Direction	Date	Event(s)
1	<b>D</b>	Sept. 21st, 1895	Recovering from fire. Three US premieres including Falstaff.
	<b>Rx</b>	January 31st, 1896	
	<b>D</b>	May 15th, 1896	
2	<b>D</b>	Sept. 2nd, 1907	End of manager Heinrich Conried's tenure. Transition year for two great tenors. Enrico Caruso (1903-1908) and Arturo Vigna (1908-1995). Three US premieres
	<b>Rx</b>	March 31st, 1908*	
	<b>D</b>	April 1st, 1908	
3	<b>D</b>	August 16th, 1919	Opera manager Giulio Gatti-Casazza keeps The Met afloat with premieres and new productions during the brunt of WWI. Three world premieres. One US premiere.
4	<b>D</b>	July 31st, 1931	First radio broadcast which was carried by the largest network of stations to be assembled at the time. One world premiere. Two US premieres.
5	<b>D</b>	July 16th, 1943	High real estate taxes due to WWII. A public appeal for money was made in 1943-44, but with the end of the war and the resumption of touring and increased ticket sales, the Metropolitan Opera was able to post a modest \$6,000 profit.
6	<b>D</b>	June 28th, 1955	Historic debut of African-American vocalists Marian Anderson. One US premiere.
7	<b>D</b>	June 10th, 1967	Banker George S. Moore became president of the organization and began to put the Metropolitan Opera on a sound financial footing. One world premiere. One US premiere.
8	<b>D</b>	Sept. 23rd, 1978	The last two years of the Met's spring tours to Philadelphia. During this time (1974-81), The Met was led by Anthony Bliss, (General Manager), James Levine (Artistic Director), and John Dexter (Director of Production).
	<b>Rx</b>	January 11th, 1979	
	<b>D</b>	Mat 18th, 1979	
9	<b>D</b>	Sept. 21st, 1990	Joseph Volpe was appointed general manager. During his tenure the Met's international touring activities were expanded and, along with conductor Levine, focused on expanding and building the Met's orchestra into a world-class symphonic ensemble with its own Carnegie Hall concert series. Under Volpe the Met considerably expanded its repertory, offering four world premiers and 22 Met premiers. One world premiere in 1991.
	<b>Rx</b>	March 31st, 1991**	
	<b>D</b>	April 1st, 1991	
10	<b>D</b>	August 15th, 2002	Ms. Beverly Sills became Chairman of the Board of the Met in 2002. She launched the "Save the Met Broadcasts" Campaign when the Met's landmark Saturday afternoon radio broadcast series lost its long-time corporate sponsor.
11	<b>D</b>	July 30th, 2014	In-fighting. Possible lock-out of workers. Union contracts on hold.
(12)	<b>(D)</b>	(July 14th, 2026)	(see below)

\*Not a direct hit. Stationed at 3°♃34'. \*\*Not a direct hit. Stationed at 3°♃32'

and subsequent events that have occurred around the same time. From this table, the actions that correlate with Jupiter Returns seem to be:

- Positive changes in management
- Pushing the envelope with technological advancements and performances
- Transition years for performers

It could be the higher influence of the Uranus-Pluto square that is causing the pattern to no longer hold true. If there are people in power who aren't giving up their spots, there is no way for the cycle to complete and start anew. If the Met wants to shift the waters from stagnant to fresh, they need to change management, give more premieres, take more chances, and showcase new performers. During this

**Met's Jupiter Return**

July 30, 2014, 2:28:00 PM EDT  
 New York, NY  
 40°N43, 74 W00  
 Placidus

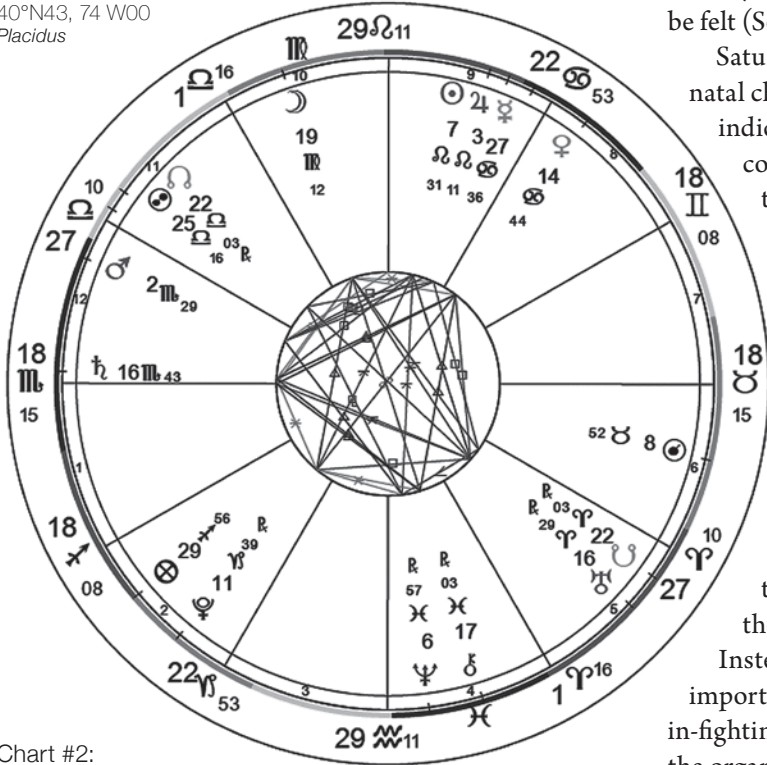


Chart #2:

**Met's Future Jupiter Return**

July 14, 2026, 10:09:00 PM BST  
 New York, NY  
 40°N43, 74 W00  
 Placidus

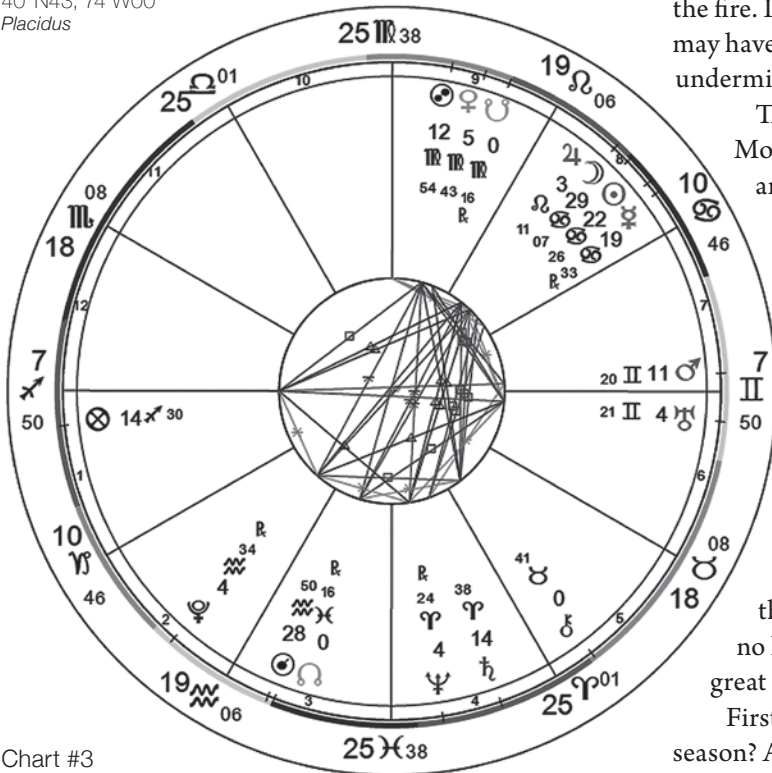


Chart #3

current Jupiter Return, things seem to become more subconscious yet direct. People are going to take stances and they will be felt (See Chart # 2, left).

Saturn, the leaders, tuck away from the 1<sup>st</sup> house in the natal chart to the 12<sup>th</sup> house in the Jupiter return; still indicating that they are the 'face' of the organization by conjunction to the Asc, but no one will really know what they are doing or what they're up to. However, with Mars as the chart ruler (ruling Scorpio traditionally) some may not feel this to be true and/or the workers may feel like they should be the ones to claim the exposure and speak on behalf of the organization. Either way, The Met is now in a world of subconscious fears and projecting these fears within the conflict.

Mars, the 6<sup>th</sup> house ruler, is also in the 12<sup>th</sup> house squaring Jupiter, the Sun, and Mercury. Clearly the workers will have more of the power and thus the capacity to shut operations down. However, the squares show that they are missing the point. Instead of facing the real issues, they are hurting the most important people, the opera patrons. During this conflict of in-fighting, one must never forget that no matter how terrible the organization may be run, the show must go on. Workers should also pay attention to their own leaders, making sure that the decisions being made will be in their best interest and the overall interests of the organization. Needless to say, all parties involved will need to be responsible for their actions.

Venus in the 8<sup>th</sup> house trine Saturn only adds more fuel to the fire. It seems like the high-end patrons of the organizations may have the leadership's back and visa versa. This will only undermine the workers and raise tensions.

The waxing crescent phase between the Sun and the Moon indicates that there is not enough energy to go around. New projects and incentives could be proposed but people are exhausted, tired, and are in no mood for fake encouragement. On the exact day of the Jupiter return, July 30, 2014, I received an email from the Met announcing an update to their mobile device app. They announced that it would henceforth only work on the most recent Mac IOS systems, so if one had an older Mac product, one needed to download the old app within 24 hours or it would stop working. (The 24 hour deadline is quite interesting given that one only had the day of the Jupiter return to complete the action.) Even though one had paid for the on-demand library, it could no longer be accessed through existing mobile devices: a great example of the energies that are in play right now.

First off, why is this the biggest announcement of the season? An app that only works for people who can afford the

most recent technology seems to be favoring one side of the economic class structure. In addition, why is the organization spending funds and resources on an item that only caters to a few? If I were a worker at the Met and saw that email, I could easily see how this would be frustrating. In other words, "I'm trying to get wages raised and they come up with this?!"

Furthermore, last summer I received two expensive, heavy card stock books promoting the season, along with ticketing information. This went out to all people who are registered with the Met: meaning it went out to a lot of people. Why did we get it twice? This seems to be a very expensive and wasteful use of funds. Are they desperate or just absentminded? Again, the poor leadership is adding anger to the situation, albeit consciously or unconsciously.

Staying true to Saturn in Scorpio, this is a cycle of purging, not expansion. The MC at 29 Leo is another indicator of inflamed egos that, if not put into check, could make the entire organization suffer. This is a key element to the conflict: the Met as a group is in this together, everyone will sink or swim. They need to make decisions as a group; there is no alternative, and this resolution seems to be the theme for the next for the next 12 years.

## 2026 Jupiter Return

The Met's Jupiter Return in 2026 (See Chart # 3, page 42; opposite) does not look very promising. With the very new and fragile Moon phase in the 8<sup>th</sup> house, it seems a completely new direction is in order. With the 8<sup>th</sup> house and Cancer involved, this could mean a new marketing campaign geared towards New Yorkers (New York, NY is ruled by Cancer). Perhaps discounted prices for residents or collaboration with community and government efforts. However, with Saturn in Ares squaring Mercury in Cancer, which lies close to this new moon, the leadership at the time could have a hard time convincing patrons of their new vision, or they could just miss the mark all together.

What's more, Venus is in a very tight yod with Neptune and Pluto. Venus in this chart rules the patrons as well as the laborers, being the ruler of the 6<sup>th</sup> house in this chart. This 9<sup>th</sup> house emphasis could mean that the Met might start to branch outside of New York as it has done in the past, performing in Philadelphia and elsewhere. If they do, this means new contract negotiations and new work hands would be involved and the union reps, along with the



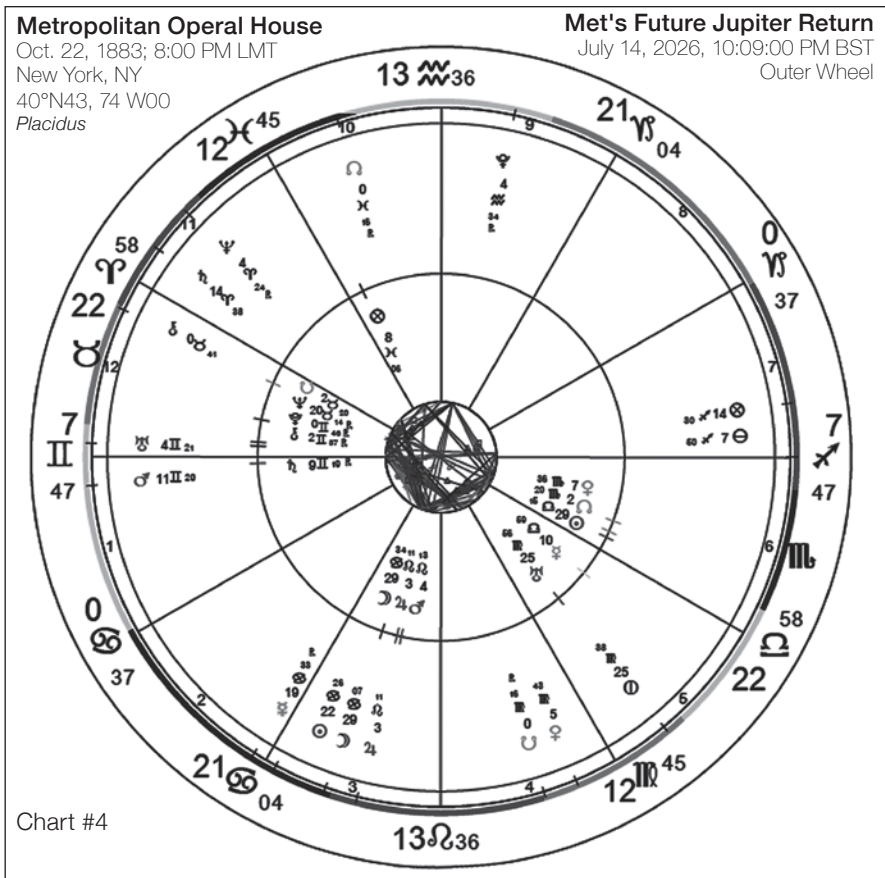
workers and patrons, might not be up for the challenge of figuring out all of the red tape.

The 9<sup>th</sup> house could also mean that artistic help from outside of the country could be helpful and sought for at this time, but this again could come at a price. With Uranus and Mars in Gemini conjoining the Dsc line in the 6<sup>th</sup> house and 7<sup>th</sup> house respectively, squaring Venus in Virgo, it looks like negotiations will be more fueled and biased than moderate and objective. Further more, the laborers and their leaders could try strategies that are more unpredictable and chancy. Either way, art for the sake of art, and the function of the Met as a medium for said art will be completely thrown out window if it gets to this point.

The only positive indications in this chart are the grand fire trines with Jupiter, Neptune, and the Asc along with the Moon in Cancer. As in the past, the grand trine will be there to save the day. The only question is, how? The fact that Sagittarius is the Asc and Jupiter, the ruler of Sag, along with Neptune, its co-ruler of Pisces, are involved; it looks like "art" as an institution is going to save the Met from itself.

It might be possible that the Met's worst fears come true, and the collective organization of Lincoln Center (Avery Fisher Hall/New York Philharmonic, David H. Koch Theater/New York City Ballet, and even possibly the Julliard School and NY Public Arts Library) could somehow take control of the house. The Met is too important of an institution to go down in smoke this way, and artists who are involved in the community but are not involved within the Met's politics know and understand this. With the Gemini/Dsc/Uranus/Mars influence, there could be something regarding contracts that would allow a 3<sup>rd</sup> party to take control of the house and save the Met from drowning.

The chart for the Met's 2026 Jupiter return (See Chart #4, next page) connects to the Met's chart with such an astounding number of significant connections, it seems that this Jupiter return is more of a defining moment than the current Jupiter return. The Met's Asc/Dsc line at 7 Gemini



pride in the work that they do? “Why am I putting up a fight? Is it for my sake or for the Met’s sake?” Again, this is a battle of inflamed egos, and the Met only needs people who truly care for the art and the institution of opera. Only when the Met is treated less like a business and more like an artistic institution, will a more positive direction be sure to emerge as a consequence.

It is clear that the people involved are not going to be able to see eye-to-eye on their own. It will be beneficial if the Met hires a 3<sup>rd</sup> party moderator to bring in an objective, non-biased perspective on the entire situation. This will allow the Met to get past emotion and get to the heart of the real problem.

Financiers of the organization need to step out of the conflict. Their favoritism towards the leaders won’t help and the advice they give, or threats that they make only push things down the wrong path.

The Met needs brave and bold leaders who are going to put their foot down with

/ Sagittarius is switched around in the Jupiter return chart with the Asc at 7 Sagittarius and the Dsc at 7 Gemini. This will probably bring more of the interactions and drama going on between the people at the Met to the surface than is happening right now.

The Moon in the Jupiter Return chart is 29 Cancer, the same position as the Met’s natal moon. A very new moon cycle is occurring during this return and it seems that people will need to get back to their roots and understand why the Met is there and why they are there providing service to this institution.

The MC line at 25 Virgo conjuncts the natal Uranus at 25 Virgo as well. Themes from the current Uranus-Pluto square are also active with the 2026 transiting Pluto at 4 Aquarius opposing the Met’s Mars at 4 Leo and transiting Uranus conjunct the Asc with an orb of 3°. Transiting Mars also conjoins the Met’s Saturn along with the Asc. The leadership might have a little more muscle but given the aspects that the 2026 Jupiter Return’s Saturn makes, this muscle could be used more for fighting than for fixing.

## Conclusion

Everyone involved in the Met’s inner politics needs to examine his or her intentions. Why are they doing the work they do? Why do they work for the Met? Is there

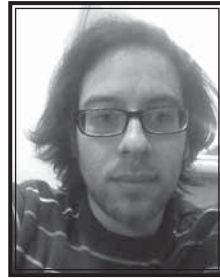
the upper patrons and take bigger chances on the stage. When comparing the list of world and US premieres at the Met from 1970- to the present, the frequency drops from premieres every year to practically none. What happened to the Met’s reputation for introducing new ideas for opera and art? It will help the Met if they focus more on new premieres, and not necessarily just those from American composers. The Met should also be having at least one talent scout in Europe looking for new operatic works that they can bring to the Met and to America.

The Met needs to resurrect its former principals of high art, fresh work, mutual respect, and strong management. If they can tap into the initial spirit that created the opera house in the first place, that Jupiter in Leo eternal flame that sees all things that are possible and brilliant, the Met will have its comeback. When the initial backers of the Met created the opera house, they weren’t thinking of doubt, "what-if's", and tradition. They pulled out all of the stops (pun intended) and premiered a very controversial opera in an opera house that wasn’t really up to par in comparison to others during the time. But did they care? No, their optimism and faith in their decisions brought untold success. Their spirit and drive is what brought the Met its fame and glory, and continuing in this tradition will keep the Met alive for another 131 years.

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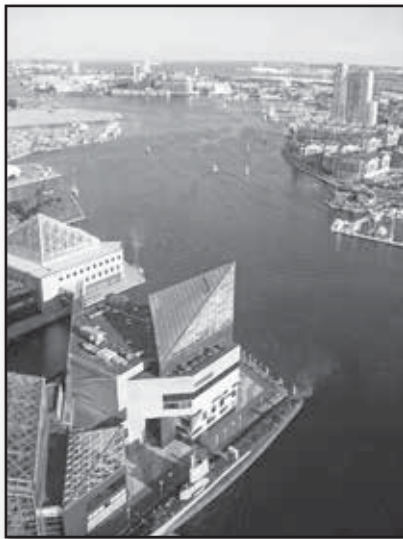


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# THE EIGHTH HOUSE CONFIDENTIAL

By Izabela Podlaska-Konkel

The eighth house is quite infamous among astrologers. Throughout the centuries it has been considered a house of loss, fear and even death. In the 20th century, humanistic astrologers assigned big money, sex and hidden, sinful pleasures to this house. However, is it really as black as it's painted?

## Basic Features

In a chart, the eighth house is located in the third quarter, which describes those relations with others which we form consciously (they're described by the seventh house). This quarter shows the possessions we share with someone (these goods are symbolized by the eighth house) and indicates beliefs, world-view and religion (shown by the ninth house). Therefore, the eighth house belongs to the group which symbolizes what we can create and share with others as well as what we expect from other people and what we want in return. Houses of the third quarter represent respectively: the air element (7th house - communication and relationships), the water element (8th house - emotions, dependencies) and the fire element (9th house - acting in the name of a common cause). It lacks a house which would represent the earth element which gives us a hint that all

the houses comprising this quarter will be less oriented on production, giving the final physical shape or accumulating goods.

The eighth house is succedent, has a fixed quality, is associated with the water element and is connected with the sign of Scorpio. It's not very dynamic, that is the cardinal houses' domain, while in cadent houses things are subject to analysis, change and perfection. In the succedent eighth house, matters and things become recorded and remembered in the vast world of memories and mental conditioning which form the increasingly deeper layers of our psyche. In the succedent houses things are preserved and saved so that they can last forever in their entirety. In connection with the water element, it creates an intangible world of experiences, feelings, emotions, dependencies



and relationships, which eludes our attention and hides deep within us. This is why the eighth house is so difficult in interpretation. We hide everything connected with it, or objects which are inside it, from the world and from ourselves.

The eighth house also belongs to the group of houses which do not form a classical aspect, sextile, square, trine or opposition to the ascendant. This makes it a house not reached by the light symbolized in the chart by the ascendant (or the east point). In the Greek astrology, the aspect was synonymous with providing light for a planet or house. Because of this, darkness and hidden matters were associated with this house in medieval and renaissance astrology

## Before Dusk

In its daily journey through the sky, the Sun rises on the ascendant and becomes stronger as it gets closer to midday and the medium coeli. When it reaches the cusp of the 10th house, it shines the most and gives the most warmth. It is still strong in the 9th house but as it reaches the 8th house and the west, its light and warmth declines. Hours just before the dusk are therefore the time of the day which belongs to the 8th house. The Sun starts to set and lose its light and warmth, which symbolizes its descent into the underworld. Hence, in astrology, the 8th house symbolizes the uncertainty, fear, loss, anxiety and death. The 8th house describes what we hide in our life or what is hidden from us and what we strive to discover throughout our whole life. People who have personal planets or lights in this house often lead a double life, an official and a private (or bashfully hidden) one. They are reluctant to share their secrets, guard their privacy well and never let strangers into their house and life.

THE EIGHTH HOUSE	
<b>Former names:</b>	Gate of Hell, Gate of Hades, Portal of Pluto, Epicataphora ("casting down into the underworld"), House of Death
<b>Rulers:</b>	Mars and Pluto
<b>Colour:</b>	Dark green
<b>Directions:</b>	West, South-West
<b>Type:</b>	Succedent
<b>Gender:</b>	Female
<b>Time of the day:</b>	Night
<b>Sign:</b>	Scorpio
<b>Body parts:</b>	Genitals, reproductive organs
<b>Diseases:</b>	Hemorrhoids, poisonings, gallstones, urination problems, cystitis.

## The Power of Psyche

The eighth house is linked to the sign of Scorpio and the water element and is therefore closely connected with our psyche and the unseen processes of assimilation, bonding together and building hidden connections. Water signs describe our inner, emotional, psychological and spiritual life. Cancer and the 4th house show our family conditioning and the rules of the group we were born into. Pisces and the 12th house describe our sense of belonging to the universe, our relationships with people we don't know but to whom we show compassion, love and attention based on empathy and mutual visions or spiritual inspirations. On the other hand, Scorpio and the 8th house describe our connections with people which are formed consciously as well as our inner world of emotions and psyche.

The 8th house shows how strong (or weak) we are and how great our psychological resilience is. It describes intuition about people, interests in things unknown, such as magic, occultism, hypnosis and psychology, which help understand the hidden motivations behind people's actions. People with a strong 8th house are interested in psychology, they work with people and can understand others' emotions. This makes them good psychologists, astrologers, tarot readers and hypnotists.

The so-called mental sports and all other activities based on stamina and the art of restraining emotions are also associated with this house. Tightrope walking, rock and mountain climbing, free diving and other extreme sports which require concentration and managing ones fears stem from the energy of the 8th house. People with a strong 8th house often practise martial arts such as karate, judo or some forms of self-defence because they feel a need to ready in case someone attacks them. They have a high pain tolerance, don't show fear and are ready to fight their inner demons.

What we don't know about ourselves causes fear and anxiety. That is why the 8th house is associated with anxiety, scaring, horrors and looking for hidden or evil intentions in other people even when such intentions don't exist. The 8th house shows therapy, psychoanalysis, an attempt at recreating a mental map of our self. It's connected with depression, existential crises and overcoming them as well as with habits and addictions, often related to some person or emotional situation which, usually, took place in childhood. In extreme situations it can realize as a need to feed on someone's fear, emotions or sexual energy.

Wesley Craven (see chart next page - 48) is an American director considered to be the king of horror movies. He directed the famous "A Nightmare on Elm Street" which started the craze for such films in Hollywood. He is also behind



the cult series “Scream”, pastiche horror films in which he deliberately used all the genre’s clichés while at the same time creating movies with engaging action and terrifying effects. Craven has the Sun in the artistic sign of Leo in the 8th house, in square to Saturn, so he knows what people fear and likes to show it. The scary Freddy Krueger, the main antagonist of “A Nightmare on Elm Street”, was created basing on psychoanalysis. The movie shows how dreams can influence reality and how sex is connected with death (the teenagers which had sex are killed in their dreams, as well as in reality, by Krueger). Craven has a degree in psychology and philosophy so he knew Freud’s and Jung’s theories very well. At first he pursued an academic career but resigned in favour of another 8th-house occupation: directing porn, a period in his life which he openly admits to. Mercury, also in the sign of Leo and in the 8th house, squares Uranus. In the chart, the Sun’s domification shows in which area we will realize our main ambitions and life goals. Craven took up three different disciplines which are connected with the 8th house: psychology, pornography and horror films.

## Transformation and passing

Traditionally, astrology manuals for centuries have called the 8th house “the house of death”. This doesn’t surprise me as it has also been connected with things unknown and which cause fear, and death is exactly that. Therefore, in this house we will find what we can lose and

what we will never be able to have. It also describes the states which put us in a life-threatening situation, brings us closer to death and make us more accustomed to it. The 8th house is connected with grief, funerals, recuperation after a long disease as well as with surgical operations which, even in the modern world, make people fear for their life. The 8th house describes losses we can suffer, ending of difficult processes, diseases and other life-changing events.

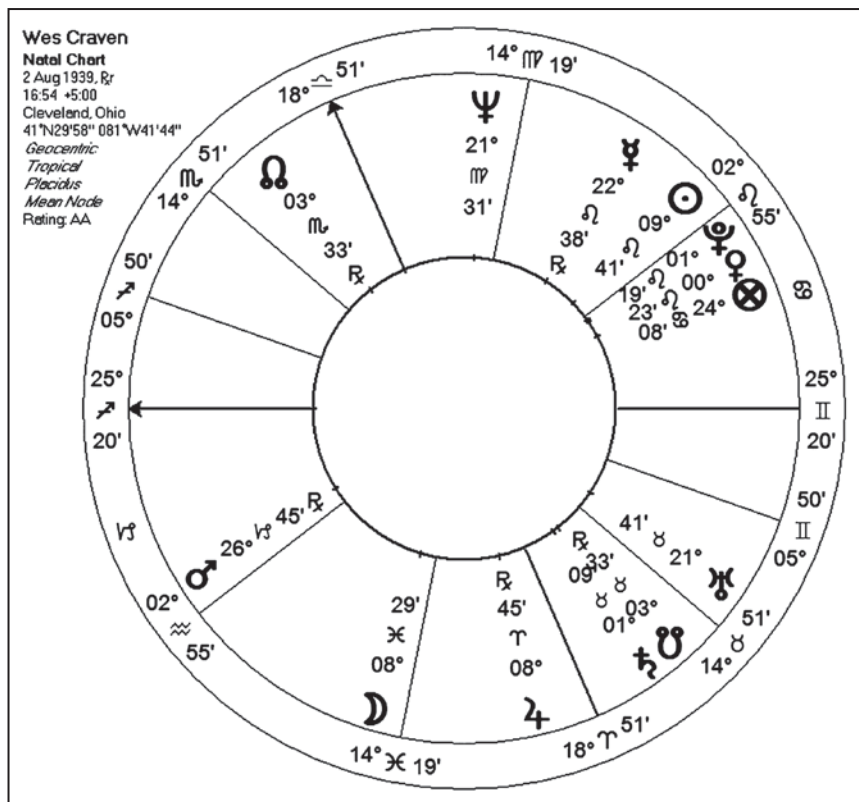
People with a strong 8th house have numerous experiences with life-threatening situations, deaths of close people, surgeries, contacts with ghosts and psychotherapy. They also have an extraordinary ability to regenerate from every crisis and fall.

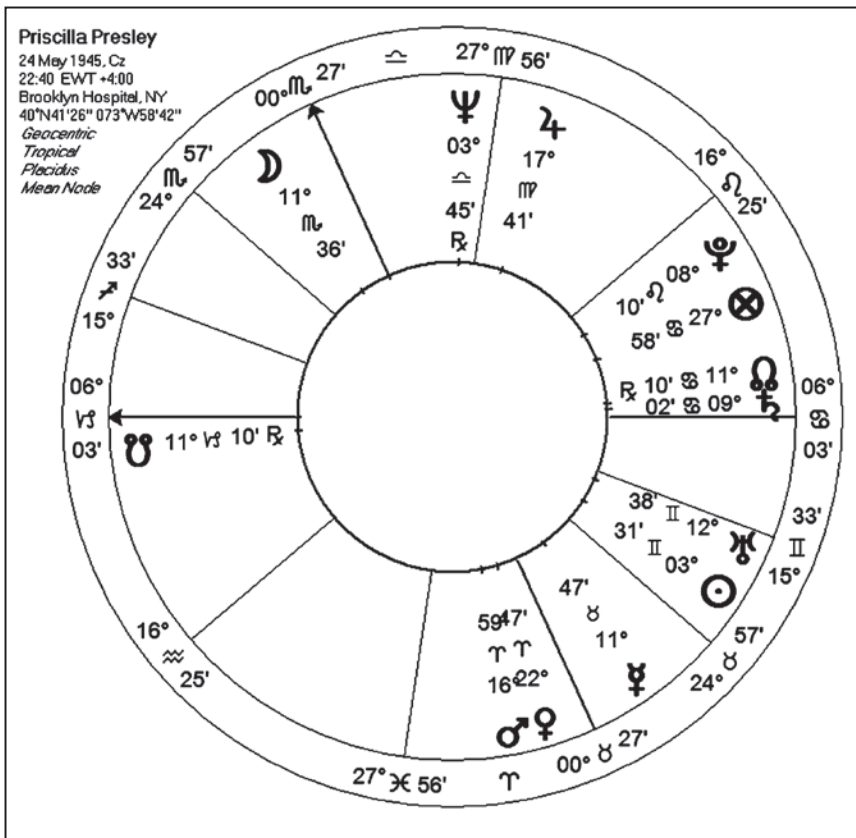
## Money

The 8th house, as second in line when counting from the 7th house, also means the results of negotiations, effects of settlements, what the other side will get as a result of a trial. It’s also a house of declarations of intent, last wills, inheritances and unexpected profits. The opposing 2nd house describes our personal assets and estate. However, the 8th house is the area of money shared with other people, relatives, business or life partners. That’s why loans, funds, virtual money, banks, spouse’s money and, in general, other people’s money which we possess, are assigned to this house. The 8th house shows our creditworthiness and the ability to acquire funding, live on credit and manage virtual or other people’s money.

People with personal planets or lights in the 8th house professionally manage other people’s estate, invest on the stock market, speculate or gamble (in connection with the 5th house) and live off the interest, loans or family or marital estate. Often the 8th house will make one more likely to constantly live on credit, waste assets, fall into a debt spiral, con people out of money and even to commit thefts and tax and financial frauds. However, to be certain we have to analyze other signifiers of wealth and estate in the chart (Venus, Jupiter, rulers of the 2nd and 8th house).

The wife of Elvis Presley, Priscilla, (see chart, opposite page, top) wasn’t born in a wealthy family so she couldn’t hope for any significant inheritance or family support. However, Jupiter is located in her 8th house, which almost always means an inheritance, managing large sums of money and having luck with money in general. The Jupiter is





in a weak condition because it's his exile sign. The cusp of the 8th house is in the sign of the creative Leo while Sun is in the 5th house in the sign of Gemini. Priscilla never cared about the money but she always had it. Since meeting Elvis Presley at the age of 14, things like flights, entertainment or school fees were paid by him. She divorced the singer and received significant alimonies but it wasn't a secret that Elvis was very generous and spent a lot of money on both his daughter and ex-wife anyway. After his death in 1977, the Presley's estate was managed by his father, Vernon. Before his death in 1979, he put Priscilla in charge of Elvis' inheritance as their daughter, Lisa Marie, was only 11. Priscilla faced a tough decision. Graceland, Presley's mansion, was



on the verge of bankruptcy (Jupiter in Virgo - worthless inheritance). However, Priscilla didn't want to sell the family house of her daughter. Her 8th house is ruled by the Sun which is in the sign of the ingenious and resourceful Gemini. Priscilla decided to turn Graceland into a museum and allow visitors in, which took place on 7th

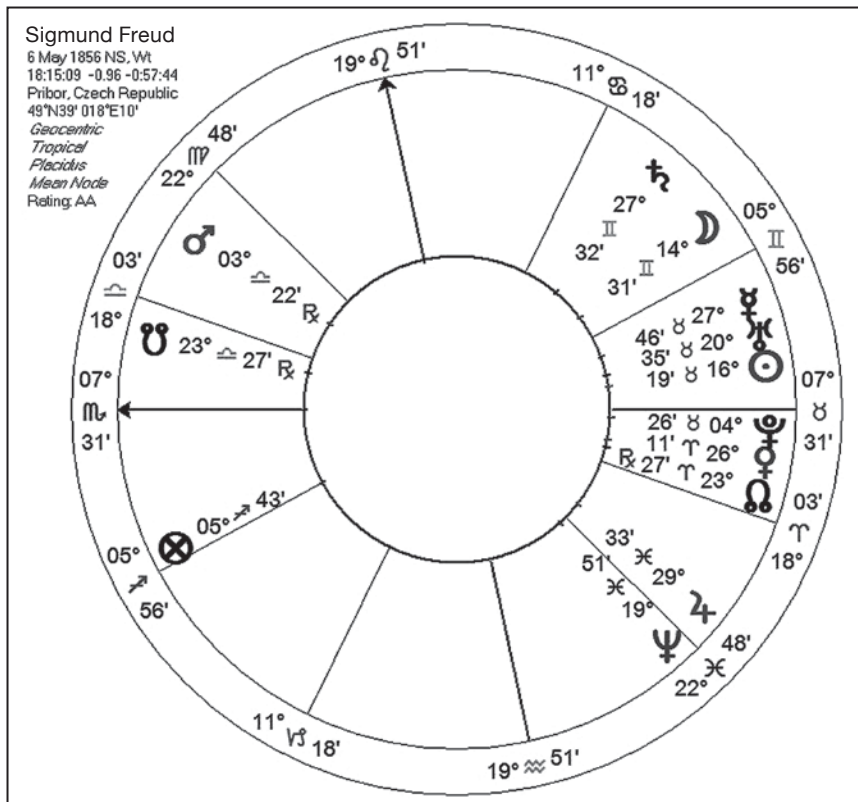
June 1982. Additionally, she expanded the shops with souvenirs. Her Jupiter in the 8th house started to act and yield multi-million dollar profits. She turned a crumbling mansion into a company with an average profit of 100 million dollars per year. Graceland, after the White House, is the second most visited residence in the USA. As we can see, Priscilla with Jupiter in Virgo, was facing bankruptcy (Jupiter in exile) but was able to pull herself together and realize the aim of the 8th house, which is being creative (Leo on the cusp of the 8th house and the Sun in the 5th house) in managing other people's money (her daughter's inheritance).

### Power and influence

**H**aving money means having power. The 8th house determines our capabilities of taking action depending on funds and resources which we can acquire. That's why this house is strong in the charts of people or companies which want to gain monopoly and dominate markets, which usually means charts of large corporations. It can also indicate a belonging to secret groups or organized crime. People with personal planets in the 8th house have a tendency to act in a covert manner, as *éminence grise*, or to represent people who wish to remain anonymous. The 8th house is the mental energy and influence over other people.

### Shadow archetype

**M**odern astrologers assigned the shadow archetype to the 8th house. It emerged from the concepts of human psyche's structure, proposed by Carl Gustav Jung in the early 20th century. It's closely related to Freud's concept of "id". In our psyche, the shadow takes a form of complexes or taboos which our consciousness rejects (this is an extremely brief and simplified description). As there are two different types of shadow: personal and group one, our complexes can also act on two levels. The complexes we have are not only our own but also inherited from our ancestors and family. These aspects of our subconscious are located in the 8th house, where we keep them locked with no intention of ever seeing them. In other words, we want to forget about them. The 2nd house describes the tradition in which we were brought up and the morality and ethical rules which we adhere to in our life. The 8th house on the other hand hides things forbidden, immoral, sinful



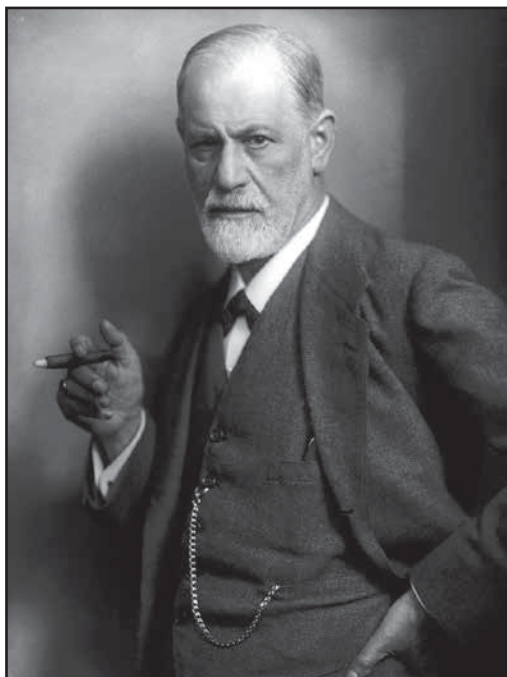
theory of drives influenced culture, art and psychology of the 20th century. The death drive and libido are a reflection of the planets in the 8th house: the Moon, which describes the urge to fulfil pleasures and the need of intimacy and Saturn, which perfectly describes the death and destruction drive. However, he believed that certain sexual practices, like masturbation, led to neuroses and psychoses. Saturn in the 8th house did not let him openly approve all the sexual activities which, at the time, were considered indecent. In his later works he shared his views on sexuality by expressing his support for a non-restrained sexual life. However, he also added that he did not exercise such freedom. Freud had as many as three planets in a traditional and moral sign of Taurus in the 7th house (the Sun, Uranus and Mercury), which forced him to take the public opinion into account. However, the Moon in the double sign of Gemini shows that his model of forming close emotional

or indecent, things we don't want to admit to even in front of ourselves, like animalistic urges which we negate as they contradict our human nature and morality. To reach this side of our personality we must first admit that it has its darker sides as well. It is a moral dilemma with which we have to face at some point in our life.

In Sigmund Freud's chart (next page - 50), the Moon and Saturn, which are in the sign of intellectual and curious Gemini, are located in the 8th house. It's no surprise that as a psychiatrist he was interested in hidden motives behind people's actions. He created a very popular theory according to which people are not driven by reason but by animal instincts, irrational and emotional responses which determine one's attitudes and choices in life. His pioneer model of psychoanalysis, which focuses on analyzing childhood memories and relationships with parents (the Moon) is still used today. He linked sexual issues with neuroses and strong emotions which, as adults, we try to repress from our conscience (water and stable 8th house as taboo). He claimed that they are created in early childhood when our sexuality is forming. His

relationships was somewhat different than the widely accepted one.. For many years he had an affair with his wife's sister and, supposedly, with many of his female patients. Mars in Libra indicates a weakness for women and fondness for affairs.

Due to the theories by Jung and Freud (who considered libido and the death drive to be the two opposing forces which motivate a man to live and act), 20th century astrologers came to call the 8th house the "house of sex",



forgetting that for centuries eroticism was associated with the 5th and 7th house. In the 8th house there is plenty of psychological violence, fantasies, hidden desires and lust, often unfulfilled. A strong 8th house indicates a weakness for BDSM and orgies (when the aim of this house is realized: having access to other people's energy, in this case sexual). People with personal planets in the 8th house can face sexual abuse, psychological manipulation, sexual violence in childhood (as victims or observers) in their life or can be victims of paedophilia.

Fulfilling someone's hidden sexual fantasies (or own) is a precise realization of the 8th house energy.

Often we don't want to admit that we like certain sexual activities (commonly condemned ones) or violence and subliminate our drive by watching others do it (on film, during orgies etc.). From my observations of different charts and biographies of their owners it seems that the 8th house is rather an area of sexual taboo, fantasies, mobbing, sexual violence, fear of sexual intercourse, of fulfilling sexual desires and even refraining from sex and not satisfying one's erotic needs. People with a strong 8th house very often think and talk about sex, however, in their psyche and behavior, this topic is always connected with fear of something. This can be a fear of pregnancy, opinion on their hidden sexual fantasies, sexual disabilities or of the partner.

### Hostages of the 8th house

A planet in the 8th house is in some way imprisoned, or even, using this house's symbolism, hidden from the world (it does not form classical aspects with the ascendant). Therefore, if we have the Sun or the Moon in the 8th house, a part of our personality is not revealed even to our closest relatives. If an unsuspected planet is in this house, the access to its energy and realization of its needs is often neglected by the chart's owner and realized later than the energies of other planets in the chart. The negative meanings of the 8th house should not be the only ones one focuses on as the activity of the planet which is inside it depends also on the sign in which it resides and potential aspects which it forms with other elements of the chart.

The 8th house is the area which is never fully known in our chart. Together with the 6th and 12th house they form a group of cursed houses which aren't well understood in astrology. However, it is advisable to cast prejudices aside and to focus not only on its negative but also on the positive meanings it carries.

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### Izabela Podlaska-Konkel

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# HOW TO MAKE AN ASTROLOGICAL PREDICTION... AND WHY

by John Marchesella

Prediction is astrology's unique gift to the helping professions. When used responsibly and accurately, prediction offers a cathartic experience for the client by providing a beginning, middle, and an end to a crisis.

Predictive work also can validate the client's goals and expectations, or clarify them, if need be, and it can broaden the vision of possibilities for those clients who are stuck in the box of limited thinking without goals and expectations.

Similarly, when a client is locked in just one option or another, prediction might offer a third choice.

Even when a prediction is not clear to the astrologer or the client, we might at least be able to indicate *when* a decision might be made, an action taken, the other shoe might

be dropping. In some situations, that can be comforting and helpful because it brings the client's confusion into shape.

Prediction presents a timetable for practical business matters and other things the client wants to accomplish.

When practiced appropriately, prediction gives a realistic perspective on time. It is true that, even in practicing sensitively, we might sometimes dash the dreams of the client in favor of offering some realism. However, even in these cases, which are much more the exception than the norm in this astrologer's clientele, predictive work offers hope, and what else should astrologers do, but offer hope.

Most important, prediction is the manifestation of the natal potential. And when seen from this perspective, there

really is no difference between prediction and the interpretation of the natal chart. Prediction is that simple....when used responsibly and accurately.

Through this article, it will be assumed the reader is responsible in the use of predictive astrology. Irresponsible astrologers are a topic for an article on another day. And it is hoped this article will help the reader be more accurate in prediction.

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF ASTROLOGY AND THE ASTROLOGER

In addition to the dynamics of prediction, this article stresses this other point. Our work as astrologers changes and evolves as we grow individually. As we age, mature and become more seasoned, so too our understanding and use of astrology ripens.

Indeed, astrology, itself, evolves as the skies change. That's how it survived through the ages.

For instance, how astrology is practiced under the current transiting square of Uranus and Pluto is very different than the practice of astrology during the time of Pluto in Scorpio merely some thirty years ago. Although that might be an obvious point, many astrologers overlook it regarding their own work as well as in our conversations with each other. And our clients don't even realize it.

Somewhere along the line, some how, it seems the expectations on astrology got very rigid. Much of the general public has the misconception that astrology works according to a handful of rules, that there's a limited amount of techniques that astrologers need to learn in order to practice, and that once an interpretation or prediction is made it is etched in stone, never to evolve into another thought or possibility.

At least in the clientele of this astrologer, clients are shocked when they hear about the variety of systems astrology and astrological thought, i.e., Western, Vedic, Uranian, and so on.

They are also not a little surprised, when one astrologer presents an interpretation or prediction, and it is completely different from the interpretation or prediction of another astrologer. Just like one plus one always equals two, transiting Uranus in square to Venus should always have the same meaning to all astrologers, the client expects. What helps clients understand the difference in interpretations from one astrologer to another is the analogy of one doctor's prognosis of an illness from another doctor's, or one actor's interpretation of a character from another actor's.

And it sometimes seems astrologers can be as hard and fast with each other too, unfortunately, when actually one of the great strengths of astrology itself is to be very inclusive of so many schools of thought and never so black-or-white.

A frequent expression that is applied, whether it's for natal interpretation or prediction, is, "Astrologers are often wrong, but astrology is always right."

## WHAT IS A PREDICTION?

Before we get too far along, let's define what is meant by a "prediction" because there are different kinds, but this article does not distinguish how to predict one kind of event over another. Again, that would be an article for another day.

We certainly do *not* mean to predict what color socks the client will wear next Tuesday! What purpose would that serve? All predictive work must be kept purposeful and meaningful. After all, if astrology is based on the seasons, as this astrologer believes it is, then simply knowing what season it is, will let the client know what task to take on, i.e., spring time is for planting seeds, in summer one tends the garden, autumn is the harvest, and winter is the time to enjoy the fruit of the labor. Those are basically the four quadrants of the horoscope in short order.

First, there are the most obvious predictions of outer events in real life, i.e., the new job next November, a move to a new home in September, starting a significant romantic relationship next summer. Those are the ones that our clients most expect, at least if they know they are visiting a predictive astrologer or are coming to the appointment with such concerns. These readings are more practical in nature, but they do not have to be devoid of any psychological interpretation.

However, if we are more focused, not just on what may happen outwardly with such events, but rather *why* these events would happen, we begin to shift attention on inner events, so to speak, and the client's self-understanding.

Such "inner events" provide the explanation on the purpose of the event in the client's broader story and what lies in the motivation of the outer event. This helps clients understand *why* they are doing what they're doing. It often leads to the "Aha!" moment for the client.

Argument can then be made, as to whether such awareness can change the course of the outer event. This astrologer thinks sometimes yes, and sometimes no. That might have to be taken case by case. However, these readings tend



to balance the psychological interpretations of astrology and the aforementioned practical uses of prediction.

Similar to the prediction of inner events, some astrologers prefer to use the word, “forecast.” These predictions are not so hard and fast nor specific in description and timing as our first two definitions. Perhaps the word, “trends,” can be used for them too.

Forecasts and trends might foretell the emotional weather, if you will. This might prepare the client for a more anxiety-ridden period on the forefront, or an experience of depression, or a time of inner conflict, and so on. Hopefully, these readings also include *why* such emotional states are in the making and their approximate time frame, and perhaps what the client might do alleviate them, i.e., a recommendation to a psychotherapist, a suggestion of meditation, some inspirational literature, etc. Such readings are more directly psychological in nature (although not exclusively), and the client might come to expect more counseling from this kind of reading.

Yet another kind of prediction might be considered a superficial use of astrology, but nevertheless, decades and decades of astrologers practiced this way, if not centuries and centuries, focuses on the external while ignoring a deeper relevance. For instance, “This year is filled with foreign travel,” or “It looks like you might need a new car and it’s a good time to buy one.” And it takes all kinds of readings in a well-rounded practice of astrology.

Even with such superficiality, a skillful astrologer can still make the connection for the client with follow-up remarks, such as, “Well, of course, it’s a good time for foreign travel. We already talked about how important it is this year to expand your world view of things,” or “Naturally, you’d be getting a new car. We already just discussed how important it is to make your means of communications more effective.”

The gods are speaking to these clients through everyday events, such as vacations and new vehicles, but a message from the gods is a message from the gods, so to speak. Perhaps working with some clients in such a way helps to get them to realize there is a little more significance to their activities than meets the naked eye.

It never ceases to amaze this astrologer how clients can listen with bated breath to the description of a deep and intense Pluto transit, for instance, and which is followed by, “Oh, by the way, you might be needing a root canal too.” That last remark opens their eyes with wonder, and we respond, “Well, Pluto might be digging up *all* of your roots!” That really does help clients to see the connection of body, mind and spirit at work in all of our lives all of the time.

Conversely from all these cases is when there is nothing to predict even though the client is expecting something big to happen, i.e., the big new job or the big relocation. When nothing comes to pass, as was predicted, it might help the client understand there was no failure or error on his or her part, but rather, just not the right timing for it. Perhaps we can help that client adjust his or her expectations and accept what the current moment is really about.

Astrologers may prefer one of these ways of working. Others might want not want to get into predictive work

at all, and stick only with the interpretation of the natal chart. And if one sticks with the practice of astrology for many, many years, through many outer planets changing through many astrological signs, you might find yourself developing from one of these ways of working to another and another.

In whatever way you might work, however, especially in predictive astrology, a few words of advice: pay close attention to your vocabulary. Craft your words consciously

and deliberately, particularly when using language such as “should,” “could,” “would,” “will,” “won’t” and “must.”

True, clients will always hear what they want to hear, and in a stretch of time after the reading, that becomes “clients heard what they needed to hear.” (And that’s why it’s helpful for the client to have a recording of the conversation). However, for the sake of the astrologer’s integrity, no matter what the clients hear, it’s important that you chose your words with awareness.

Furthermore, remember that a prediction is *not* making a decision for the client, nor helping them to avoid a decision. This statement is geared toward astrologers who might be too heavy-handed in their use of prediction, but it is also meant to lighten up the insecurities of the astrologers who are fearful of the responsibilities that come with prediction.

## THE NATAL POTENTIAL AND THE PREDICTION

The primary rule of predictive astrology is prediction is simply the manifestation of the natal potential. One must understand the natal potential before making an accurate prediction.

Those two mighty points, on the one hand, are obvious to some readers. They are certainly a part of Astrology 101. However, the statement is meant also for those astrologers who are fearful of the responsibilities that come with prediction.

For instance, in some cases, the interpretation of the natal horoscope is well known to client already. The client



nods in agreement with us. He or she might smile, laugh or giggle at our descriptions, knowing how true they are.

Then, there are times, when we speak about a client's potential and it comes as a surprise. Some of those times we might be hitting on a sore nerve or dark spot in his or her character. Those cases, of course, must be handled sensitively and with effective counseling skills.

However, in the following anecdote, that surprise was a pleasant one.

Here's the story. Some 20 years ago, a client came for her second reading with me, still feeling stuck in her mid-level career and burdened with the responsibilities of single motherhood to a boy in his tweens. It was suggested to her in this reading that she consider going to law school. She was amazed at the suggestion. She questioned the reasoning of it, so the answer was the English translation of the astrological indications, i.e., what it means to have the ruler of the MC in the 9<sup>th</sup> house, Sagittarius Rising, and three important planets in Libra. As March & McEvers would say, "Voila!" Furthermore, a natal Mars in Virgo in the 8<sup>th</sup> house, which would give her the necessary determination and conscientiousness to get it done. That information alone was enough to set her envisioning the possibility of law school at the ripe old age of 38!

No predictive methods were applied in this interpretation and no time frame was given at that point. Nevertheless, isn't that a prediction? We simply discussed the manifestation of her natal potential, or least the possibility of it.

Indeed, the following year on her return visit or her third reading, she announced she had started law school in a night program for working adults! And when she moaned about the thought of being in school for five years, then we used some timing techniques and it was easily seen that she could do it in four years with no problem. Again, she was amazed. And again, she was encouraged. Not only did she finish in four years, she passed the bar on the first try!

Once a year for all these years, she thanked me for offering the idea and support. And of course, I let her know I had nothing to do with it. It was just her natal potential waiting to happen, and just one day, she was ready to hear it and have it happen!

To use another example, such as when we speak to the client with an Aries Ascendant, ruled by Mars in Gemini, and we try to bring an awareness of an impatient nature, a tendency to leap without looking, and infamously, biting off more than he or she can chew. Perhaps the pattern will be acknowledged or not, but what this client wants to discuss most is the new business idea that came about last week and the expectation that it can be up and running in



a couple of months in a hot but competitive market. Is it a prediction to say the idea is likely to stumble? Or is it just yet another manifestation of this natal pattern of impulsiveness? And of course, sometimes an astrologer just needs common sense and no charts at all!

Predictions are not always statements with an absolute timing factor, but instead, statements of character.

True, not all potential will manifest. Nor will all limitations. We need not etch anything in stone, be it a prediction or a natal interpretation. However, we do need to speak with some conviction and certainty too, otherwise the client is left up in the air. All things in moderation.

A useful rule of thumb was given to me early in my training. If there is one indication of something in a chart, it's possibly true. If there are two indications of the same thing, it's probably true. And if there are three indications of it, then it's definitely true.

## HOW TO MAKE A PREDICTION

There is no one single way to make a prediction. Astrologers have a myriad of techniques. We each have our favorites. And our favorites will come in and out of favor depending on our own personal developments and experiences a/k/a our own transits, progressions, etc. And of course, what does and doesn't work depends on our natal potential too.

These methods presented here, however, are offered as suggestions for the "bones" of your predictive work, but they are hardly meant as the be-all-and-end-all of techniques.

To start with, secondary progressions provide a backdrop for what we are "ready" to do or have happen. They represent what we are open to, what we will "allow" to happen in our lives during a given time.

They also symbolize how we change, not by becoming something other than what we're meant to be, but by becoming *more* of what we were always meant to be. Secondary progressions represent how and when the acorn becomes the oak tree. However, the acorn will never become a lemon tree. It doesn't have the potential for that.

Do we change? Yes. Not always when the ego wants to and not necessarily how the ego wants to, but we do change, again, by becoming more of what we were always meant to be.

Each chart at any given period will have its own set of secondary progressions to consider, of course, but the single most important one is the relationship between the



progressed Sun and the progressed Moon. This is the cycle of the progressed lunar phase, and it represents our level of energy, our life force, prana, or “chi,” if you will, at various stages of life.

These phases are worth an article onto themselves, but some keyword descriptions for them are:

- 0 to 45 – New – the energy to germinate ideas for new projects and directions
- 45 to 90 – Crescent – the energy to manifest and value these ideas
- 90 to 135 – First Quarter – the evidence on the growth of these ideas
- 135 to 180 – Gibbous – applying energy to the perfection of these ideas
- 180 to 225 – Full – consciousness of what has been created
- 225 to 270 – Disseminating – energizing the spread of what has been created
- 270 to 315 – Last Quarter – the energy to bring things to full realization
- 315 to 360 – Balsamic – a lack of energy and the need to recuperate and rest

These progressed lunar phases, along with the other active progressions, help us to determine the range of events that may or may not occur or develop and the magnitude of change during a given time.

Transits, on the other hand, represent what can happen, given the nature of our secondary progressions. They might be more obvious, tangible and visceral than progressions, and they certainly change us too. Just ask anyone who has had a Pluto transit! However, they do not necessarily make for the kind of evolution of character that progressions do.

Like with all progressions, all transits must be considered in making an accurate and well-timed prediction. More than other transit, though, it is transiting Saturn through the houses of the horoscope that lets us know what season we’re in, so to speak. If we know the current season of our lives, then we will know the task at hand, and that will enable us to live productive and purposeful lives.

Transiting Saturn through the houses and the progressed lunar phases will guarantee a strong foundation in prediction because they represent the yolk of the cycles of form and energy respectively.

True, sometimes they contradict each other, so be creative in your interpretation. How many times do we start things for the

purpose of ending things! Think of the person who goes back to school to finally complete an unfinished degree. Or think of the person who buys a house for a purpose of flipping it for investment. And the reverse is possible too. How many of us go back to an old relationship, job or family issue with the intention of starting over again!

Here are some keywords for these Saturn transits:

- 1<sup>st</sup> house – a time to discover what we have to work with in life
- 2<sup>nd</sup> house – a time to value what we have to work with and invest in it
- 3<sup>rd</sup> house – a time to find peers with a similar investment and values
- 4<sup>th</sup> house – a time to pay respect to the past as a way to individuate away from it
- 5<sup>th</sup> house – if all went well so far, a time to *learn* how to bask in our life’s work
- 6<sup>th</sup> house – a time for self-perfection, weeding of the garden
- 7<sup>th</sup> house – a time to see the choices for our future
- 8<sup>th</sup> house – a time to commit, do or die, to a choice for the future
- 9<sup>th</sup> house – a time to search for where we are in our development and find its meaning
- 10<sup>th</sup> house – the arrival at our destination in the fulfillment of our life’s work
- 11<sup>th</sup> house – a time to enjoy (as well as share) the fruit of the labor
- 12<sup>th</sup> house – a time to surrender to a higher power and prepare to begin again

Due to the nature of Saturn’s process of crystallization and definiteness, more than any other transit, Saturn will have us *see* where we are in the story of our lives. Yes, it might take longer than the ego prefers and we might have to wade through darkness, but eventually, Saturn will, indeed, have us see.

Eclipses, on the other hand, represent where we are, well, eclipsed, in the dark, blind or blindsided, and due to the nature of “proceeding without seeing clearly,” eclipses will often appear as fated events, i.e., events that are not of one’s own doing, but instead what shocks us. Nevertheless, whether we see what was coming with a solar or lunar eclipse, they are instrumental in making accurate and well-timed predictions.

When we lived in more certain times, it was helpful to be very pinpointed with the timing of events, and for that, we’d rely on the



transits of the inner planets and lunations with narrow orbs, which served as “triggers” for the significant happenings of the horoscope.

Interesting, though, that with a few exceptions, clients no longer need or request such precision of timing. Electional astrology is certainly one of those exceptions, as is the pinpointing of important business matters, so it’s good to know how to work the triggers when needed. Most clients, however, are just as satisfied with knowing a picture of time and meaning, and not so focused on details.

Funnily enough, in this day and age of uncertainty, the transits of the outer planets do not play as much of a role in the predicting of events for this astrologer as they did in more predictable times. The outer planets play a huge role in the counseling end of each and every reading, and they also are considered in the effect on events, both inner and outer, that are likely to occur. We do *not* ignore the outer planets in any day and age! And surely, this astrologer will return to using them for prediction when life once again becomes more predictable.

In the meantime, clients have benefited from understanding the current movement of the outer planets as the astrological reasoning for such uncertainty, chaos and confusion in the world as a collective and in each of our individual lives. Clients seem to be much more satisfied knowing



the astrological symbolism of our current process of the evolution of human consciousness, if you will. They are also interested to see when else such planetary formations took place and made for such chaos *and* creativity, and they are relieved to hear it will not last forever!

Another perspective on the personal transits of the outer planets is that they are not *about* the thing, or what the naked eye sees. In other words, if Uranus transiting natal Venus brings a love affair, it’s not *about* the relationship. It’s *about* the awareness of relationships. If transiting Neptune at the MC appears to bring a new job, it’s not *about* the career advancement. It’s *about* the spiritual transcendence that the experience of the new job will bring. If Pluto transits the Moon and relocation occurs, it’s not *about* the new place. It’s *about* the catharsis!

## AN EXAMPLE OF THE “READINESS” OF SECONDARY PROGRESSIONS

Transits and eclipses are easy to understand (or so the student thinks) because, as stated, they are more visceral, and we think of them as more “real” or actual, even though they are not any more so than progressions. However, until a student “gets the hang” of secondaries, they can remain a little elusive, so here’s a simple example of secondary progressions at work.

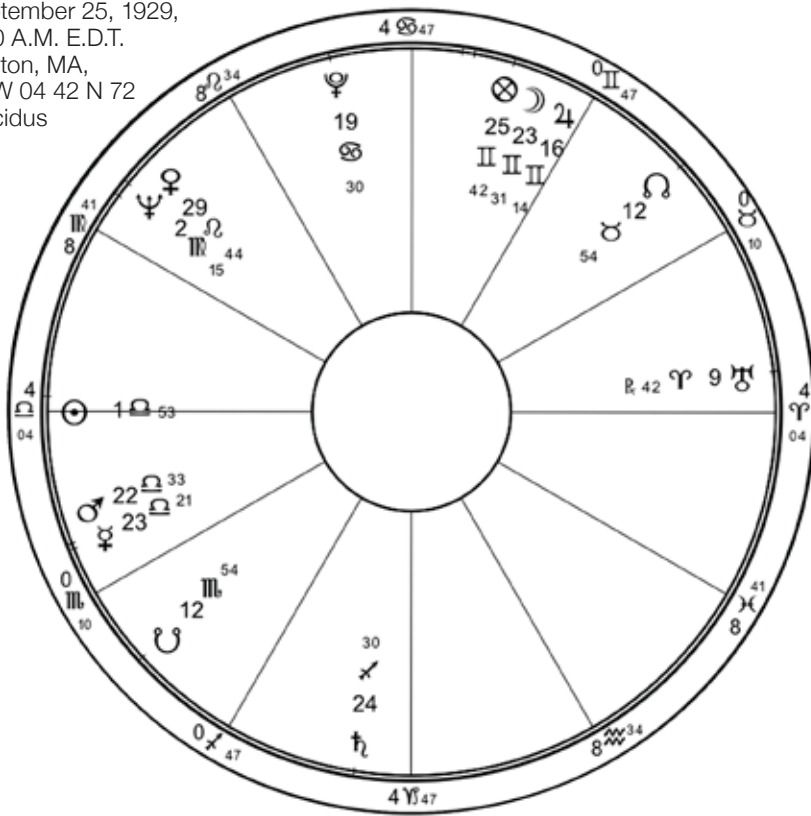
Long time TV host and interviewer, Barbara Walters, retired after an enduring and successful career on May 16, 2014.

A quick look at her natal chart immediately reveals her Sun and angles in the early degrees of the cardinal signs where Pluto, Saturn, and Uranus were transiting respectively since at least 2009, even using a tight orb.

Her natal Uranus, representative of broadcasting and media, is at 9 Aries, also being transited in recent years, not only by Saturn and Uranus, but also seeing her Uranus Return! And to boot, it is conjoined to an angle, emphasizing its powerful energy and explaining her successful career in television.

Through all these many intense transits, all of which were indicating significant endings and beginnings and transitions, she actually did not retire. Yes, tensions between her and her network

**Barbara Walters**  
September 25, 1929,  
6:50 A.M. E.D.T.  
Boston, MA,  
71 W 04 42 N 72  
Placidus





as well as power struggles between her and her co-workers were well known, but still no retirement.

Why? She was not “ready.” No progressions were indicating that sort of willingness to let go, to move on, to end her position in the limelight.

In 2014, however, her MC progressed to 29 Virgo, and *that* indicated, finally,

the willingness to move on, to give in, to let go, to end her career, i.e., the end of a sign at the place of her career, reputation and status. Furthermore, the ends of the mutable signs are a little more dramatic of an ending because they not only end the sign, but also the season! And of course, they herald the degrees of the World Axis too.

Also interesting in this example, is that Virgo is the sign of the “sisterhood,” so to speak, and on her last broadcast, twenty-nine (count ‘em, 29!) younger female newscasters attended the event to pay their respect and homage to her.

By the way, in speaking cyclically, Ms. Walters began her TV career when the MC progressed from Cancer to Leo, and she had one of her significant triumphs at ABC when it progressed from Leo to Virgo! There we see cycles at work.

## THE BEST WAY TO LEARN ABOUT PREDICTION....AND WHY

**E**specially when one is in the early days of learning prediction in action, the most effective course of study is simply to look at your past!

There are two ways to do this. Either sit with your ephemeris, “the astrologer’s Bible,” and go through line by line after your birth looking for when progressions changed signs, direction and houses in your horoscope, the passing of your lunar phases, and all else that might be important in the understanding of secondary progressions. This will help you see how things progressed in your chart as well as in your life, according to the aforementioned various kinds of predictions. Of course, you can do the same for transits and eclipses, page by page through your years.

You can also just take the years of significant events as well as inner development and see what timing factors were coinciding. What might be particularly interesting for you are the “universal events,” of your life, i.e., puberty, loss of virginity, starting college, getting your first job, death of beloved grandparent, etc. These are events, which every

adult experienced, but your own transits, progressions and eclipses made these universal events personal to you.

In this way, predictive techniques, ironically, help us understand the past, process it and put it in perspective. So, ironically, predictive techniques also help us clarify the past.

We can also see the effect of planetary cycles, i.e., the recurring themes, events and experiences in the bigger picture of our lives. For instance, in an every life span, everyone will experience a few progressed new moons. How are they similar to each other? What’s the repeating story for your Saturn cycle? Or, what’s in the story of transiting Uranus in aspect to natal Uranus? Eclipses are cyclical and bring recurring themes too. And so on.

## CONCLUSION

**S**imilar to a doctor making an accurate and responsible prognosis of an illness, and a financial advisor making accurate and responsible forecasts of our investments, so too, astrologers make predictions that are helpful and purposeful when made as responsibly and accurately as possible.

In fact, some might think of these as predictions, but in actuality, they are really just the manifestation of the natal potential.

An old adage comes to mind here. Tell me a man’s past and I will show you his future. Understand the client’s natal potential as fully as possible, and make accurate, responsible and purposeful predictions.

Such understanding will come with good learning with good teachers, maybe with this certification or that certification, making lots of mistakes with clients, and learning from the mistakes of our teachers. It will come with practice, patience and diligence, and with the love of astrology, itself. And of course, it will come with non-judgment of ourselves and our clients. And most of all, it will come with our personal development and the unfoldment of astrology through the decades that we’ll see, and through future centuries which we won’t see, but to which we can only contribute.

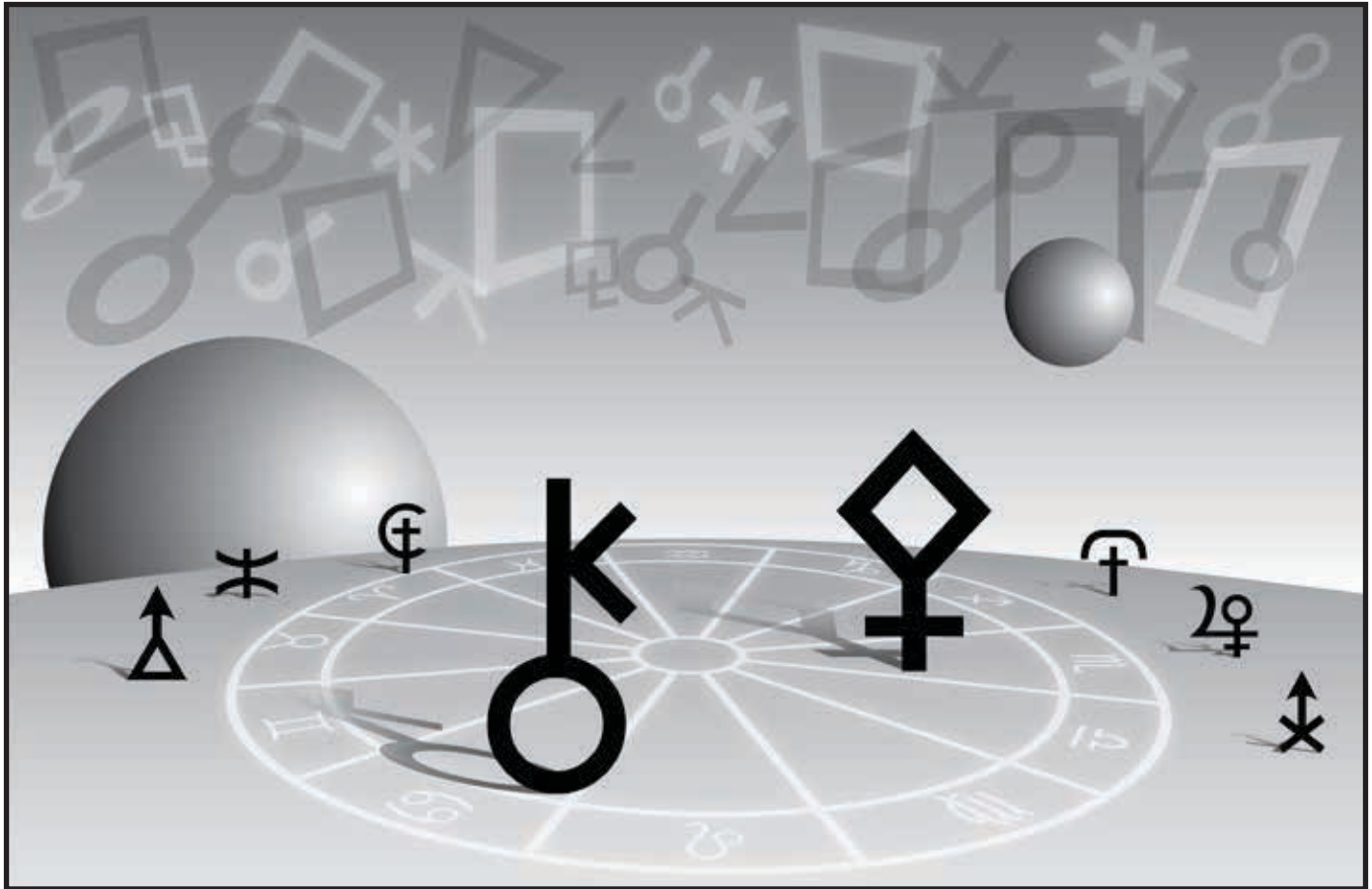
Birth data: Barbara Walters, September 25, 1929, 6:50 A.M. E.D.T., Boston, MA, 71 W 04 42 N 72

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## Pallas and Chiron

By Faith McInerney

### PALLAS

♀ Pallas is the goddess of wisdom, courage, inspiration, civilization, law and justice, just warfare, mathematics, strength, strategy and skill.

In this astrologer's experience, Pallas is reliable for information about profession and work—from the natal promise to the timing and description of work events. The work events may be your own, your employer's or those of someone with whom you work or employ.

### CHIRON

♁ His birth was the result of the rape of the nymph Philya by the god Cronos. Abandoned by both parents, he felt alienation from others for the rest of his life; he was a loner, even aloof from the family he created. Accomplished in healing, music and animals,

he was the most intelligent and refined of the otherwise uncultivated Centaurs, but his excellence in so many categories would be noteworthy in comparison to any other beings.

Injured by an arrow in his leg, the pain never left and eventually motivated him to relinquish immortality.

What I've found is emphasized natal Chiron is associated with physical or psychological pathology or healing; isolation and alienation.

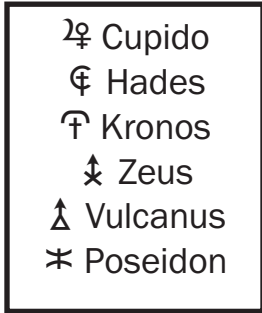
Pallas/Chiron pictures by aspect or midpoint can be interpreted as injurious work situations or the efforts to remedy those situations. The causes are, in most cases: a difficult employer or job associates; limitations as a result of an employer or someone else who limits your work; physical or psychological injury resulting from work; poor performance or behavior which undermines your work; bad luck with the job.

Some examples of Pallas operating with Chiron are in natal charts; others are in progressions, solar returns and transits.

Regarding aspects and orbs: only hard aspects are used (with just one exception, in the section on Harry Truman). Some of the less familiar aspects are the sesquiquadrate (135 degrees), the semisquare (45 degrees) and the octile (22.5 degrees), which are considered major aspects on the 90 degree dial. When the = sign is used, it means the planet are in any hard aspect or in a midpoint picture. In one instance, you'll see an example of Chiron and Pallas joined by antiscia which are degrees mirroring each other from the cardinal axis, the effect of which is identical to a major aspect.

Unless indicated, the orbs are no greater than 30'. When there is no time of birth (no T.O.B.) the chart was done for 12:00 a.m. and for 11:59 p.m. and the widest orb was given (e.g., "no greater than 25").

Occasionally, Uranian points are used. They are also called TransNeptunian planets and hypothetical points. Like traditional planets and asteroids, most of them have a range of meanings. The ones used in this article are: Cupido which corresponds with art and societies; Hades which symbolizes (in this article) lower level workers; Kronos, corresponds with authority; Zeus (in this article), associated with warfare; Vulcanus which corresponds with intensity and Poseidon which signifies (in this article) that which is religious or ideological.



Chiron no greater than 45' orb) began publishing *The Liberator* "The object for which the *Liberator* was commenced—the extermination of chattel slavery" <sup>1</sup> in 1831, with solar return Mercury = Pallas/Chiron (no greater than 43' orb) and on the day when the Anti-Slavery Society was formed, transiting Mars was on the natal configuration.<sup>1</sup>

Garrison's complete natal picture was Pallas = Chiron = Cupido = Hades. There is some overlap in meaning between Hades/Cupido and Pallas/Chiron, as they both apply to being disadvantaged or dealing with societies of disadvantaged people. Nat Turner 10/2/1800 Southampton County, VA: natal Mars = Hades = Cupido = Chiron) was a slave who led a slave rebellion which left over 150 people dead.

More recently, President Jacques Chirac (11/29/1932 12 p.m. Paris, France (FR): Pallas = Chiron 1° 35') apologized for France's participation in slavery. On the days in which Chirac held ceremonies, transiting Chiron = natal Pallas/Chiron (1/30/2006) and transiting Uranus and Jupiter = natal Pallas/Chiron (5/11/2010).

Chirac also has North Node in Pisces. There is some overlap between Chiron and Piscean events and people. Pisces symbolism is also associated with slavery and other conditions characterized by confinement and/or victimization.

Chirac's speeches paid tribute to Victor Schoelcher (7/22/1804, 1:00 p.m. Paris, FR: Pallas = Chiron), French Abolitionist. He wrote the decree of April 27, 1848 in which the French government announced that slavery was abolished in all of its colonies when his progressed Chiron = natal Saturn/Uranus.

It could be argued that the Chiron/Pallas symbolism corresponds with helping (or *healing*) the plight of slaves. But later you'll read about Chiron/Pallas artists and writers whose work dramatizes slavery and other oppressive labor conditions.

## PALLAS/CHIRON HISTORY: SLAVERY

Slaves were once a universally accepted class of workers. Slavery is still used to describe a bad job.

Chiron/Pallas was often a symbolic component—sometimes the most significant—in the founding of abolitionist societies and in the natal charts, progressions and solar returns of the abolitionists who founded them. For example, when Abraham Lincoln (2 /12/1809 6:54 a.m. Hodgenville, KY) signed the Emancipation Proclamation, on January 1, 1863, with Progressed Ascendant exactly on with the natal Chiron/Pallas midpoint.

Few of the most famous abolitionists had available birth times. One exception was John Greenleaf Whittier (Node = Chiron/Pallas; 2/10/1807, 9:00 a.m. Haverhill, MA.) who published the anti-slavery pamphlet *Justice and Expediency* in 1833, when his solar return contained Sun = Pallas/Chiron (32' orb).

But even with no time of birth, the Pallas/Chiron symbolism is often unmistakable. William Lloyd Garrison (12/10/1905 Newburyport, MA. no T.O.B. : Pallas =

## THE ASSEMBLY LINE

Key to the industrial revolution was the assembly line and mass production, which became synonymous with alienating work conditions. Important in the history of assembly line work—its invention, introduction and popularization—were people with natal Chiron/Pallas symbolism.

The invention of the cotton gin introduced the assembly line, and also played a role in the history of American slavery. Before the cotton gin, slavery had been declining. Slaveholders were giving away their slaves. But by making cotton picking profitable, **the cotton gin rejuvenated**

**plantations—and slavery**—although this was not the intention of its inventor, Eli Whitney. (12/8/1765 Westboro, MA, no T.O.B. : Pallas/Chiron = Saturn & Node — no greater than 7' orb).

The assembly line was introduced to the auto industry by Oldsmobile's founder, Ransom Olds (6/3/1864, Geneva, OH, no T.O.B. : Chiron conjunct Pallas no greater than 42' orb) and then popularized by Henry Ford (7/30/1863, 7:00 a.m. Dearborn, MI: Chiron = Pallas = Saturn). Ford was proud of raising pay and cutting hours for his workers, reasoning that he wanted to establish a middle class to buy the product. But Ford was also motivated to stop the attrition in his company—the result of workers abandoning the tedium of the assembly line. Since hiring and training replacements was expensive, raising pay was “one of the finest cost cutting moves we ever made.”<sup>2</sup>

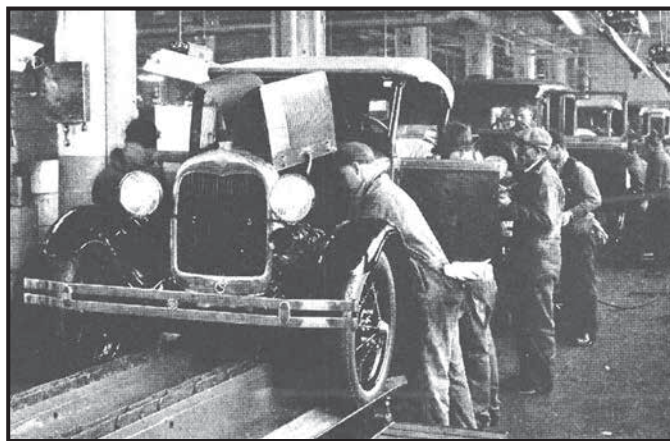
Ford was the stereotype of the cold blooded boss. When he wanted to fire even a loyal executive, he'd empty the employee's office and have the contents — including the furniture — chopped up and stacked, without ever saying a word.<sup>3</sup>

Ford abhorred labor unions. 1941 was a year of massive strikes, which closed down Ford's plants. In April 1941 he finally relented and agreed to recognize the United Auto Workers Union. Transiting Chiron was stationing, forming a square to his natal Chiron, triggering his natal Saturn/Chiron/Pallas picture. Transiting Pallas was less than a degree away. Ford's natal Moon = Chiron/Pallas (6' orb) and it was his wife who pushed, uncharacteristically, for the settlement.

## SYMPATHY TOWARDS WORKERS

**P**allas/Chiron appears in the charts of people who focus on the conditions of workers, including a king and a pope. George V of England (6/3/1865, 1:18 a.m. London UK: natal Pallas = Chiron 18' orb) took the side of the workers during the General Strike of 1926, when transiting Chiron was conjunct his south node: “Try living on their wages before you judge them.”<sup>4</sup>

Upon the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand, occasioning the beginning of World War I, transiting Chiron was stationary on George's natal Pallas/Chiron configuration. On October 29, 1915, he sustained an injury, while transiting Jupiter and Chiron were both stationary and conjunct, and both conjunct his natal Chiron (Chiron return). The configuration triggered his natal Pallas/Chiron configuration. While visiting soldiers on the front, their cheers surprised the King's horse and he fell. The King fractured his pelvis incurring a **job related injury involving a horse!** This event may also illustrate Pallas' association with war.



Nor are the concerns of workers a secular province. A landmark in workers' rights was the 1891 encyclical *Rerum Novarum*, which for the first time addressed social inequality focusing on the rights and duties of capital and labor. Written by Pope Leo XIII (3/2/1810, 7:00 p.m. Carpineto, Italy), called “Pope of the Workers.” His natal chart had Possidon = Pallas/Chiron. The year the encyclical was written, his solar return contained Sun = Pallas/Chiron.

Naturally, Pallas/Chiron configurations are not uncommon in the charts of labor leaders. Union leader Jimmy Hoffa (2/14/1913, 6:52 a.m. Brazil, IN: Sun = Pallas/Chiron 3' orb) is arguably history's most famous labor leader. Pallas/Chiron sometimes appears when strikes themselves occur.

## WHEN THE UNION STRIKES OUT

**T**he Homestead Strike pitted iron and steel workers against the Carnegie Steel Company in history's bloodiest strike. Henry Frick, known for his anti-union stance was in charge while Andrew Carnegie was away. (Frick 12/19/1849, no T.O.B. : Pallas = Chiron no greater than 17' orb). He hired Pinkerton security to deal with the strikers, resulting in 17 deaths, many injuries and an attempt on Frick's life. In June 1892, when the strike was most intense, transiting Chiron was opposite a station of transiting Mars, just one degree from Andrew Carnegie's Pallas. (Andrew Carnegie (11/25/1835, 6:00 a.m. Dunfermline, Scotland)

Lane Kirkland (March 12, 1922; 12:01 a.m. Camden, SC: Pallas = Chiron with the sun 1° and 4' away) was President of the AFL-CIO. During much of his tenure, transiting Vulcanus formed a T-square to his natal opposition. During that long transit there were two important setbacks to unions.

When Ronald Reagan broke the PATCO (air traffic controllers) strike on 8/5/1981, transiting Chiron and transiting Pallas were antisicia to each other; transiting Uranus turned stationary direct (SD) in aspect with transiting Mars and Zeus—all connecting with Kirkland's natal picture of

Pallas/Chiron = Sun. In Reagan's chart, a station of Chiron triggered his natal Pallas and his progressed Mercury was just 4' from his natal Pallas/Chiron midpoint. (2/6/1911 4:16 a.m. Tampico, IL)

Another major union defeat for Kirkland was the Hormel Food Strike, settled June 5, 1986, when transiting *Jupiter* / Uranus / Pluto / Vulcanus were all in aspect to each other and contacting Kirkland's natal Pallas/Chiron picture.

## OTHER ATTEMPTS TO HELP

Pallas/Chiron is found in the charts of some people who try to help the needy, such as Mia Farrow (2/9/1945, 11:27 a.m. Los Angeles, CA: Sun = Chiron/Pallas) and Bob Geldof (10/5/1951, 2:20 p.m. Dublin, Ireland: Sun = Pallas/Chiron). When Tony Blair (5/6/1953, 6:10 p.m. Edinburgh, Scotland) started the Faith Foundation in 2008, he had progressed Poseidon = Pallas/Chiron.

## WORLD LEADERS

A number of tyrants have Pallas/Chiron variants. However, not every tyrant has Pallas/Chiron nor is every leader with Pallas/Chiron despotic to the extreme. The clearest examples are Adolph Hitler (4/20/1889, 6:30 p.m. Braunau Inn, Austria) whose Pallas/Chiron midpoint = Ascendant (Asc) = Zeus = Vulcanus (30' orb); and Saddam Hussein (4/28/1939 Tikrit, Iraq, no T.O.B.) whose Chiron = Sun/Pallas with an orb no greater than 1°.

Both Mao (12/26/1893, 7:30 a.m. Siangtan, China) and Stalin (12/18/1878, 12:00 p.m. Gori, USSR) had natal Cupido = Pallas/Chiron. To this astrologer, that can be interpreted as the repression of artists in both regimes.

Joe McCarthy (11/14/1908, 3 p.m. Grand Chute, WI: Chiron = Pallas = Jupiter = Saturn), although less powerful, was behind the anti-Communist movement, resulting in thousands of Americans accused unjustly of subversion to lose their jobs.

## HARRY TRUMAN

(5/8/1884, 4:00 p.m. Lamar, MO: Pallas conj. Chiron 14' orb)

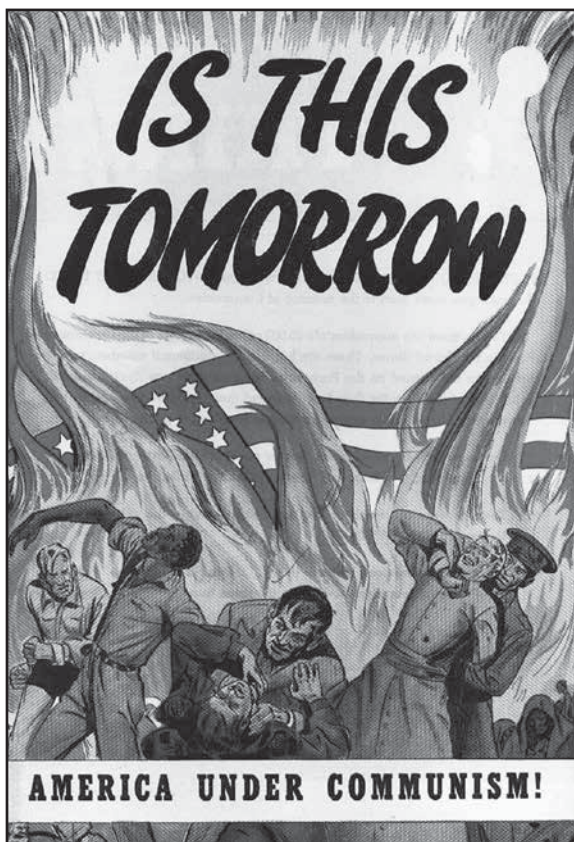
Starting with the presumption that Truman was neither Tyrant nor even worse than the average boss, his career has a lot to teach us about Pallas and Chiron operating together. When he became Vice-President and then President, controversial details emerged about his early political career. In 1933, upon his Chiron return (also conjunct natal Pallas), he was named Missouri's director for Federal Re-Employment—a federal job at the state level. The appointment was seen as a payback to the corrupt local political boss (Thomas Pendergast (7/22/1872 no T.O.B.: natal Chiron = Pallas no greater than 10' orb) for delivering votes to Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR) in the previous election. Pendergast's control over federal patronage jobs in Missouri led to imprisonment for tax evasion.

Truman was as innocent as any politician can be, but the way he obtained this job injured his professional reputation. That's one way Pallas and Chiron operate together. On April 27, 2013 the news reported patronage jobs in Andrew Cuomo's administration (12/6/1957, no T.O.B.) when transiting Pallas squared his natal Chiron exactly and his solar return contained Sun = Pallas/Chiron (1° orb).

During Truman's administration he dealt with a *strike wave*, including railroad workers. "President Harry Truman decided that the unions had gone too far, and after the rail-

road workers rejected a settlement (threatening to bring the nation to a halt), he seized control of the railroads. Despite the government takeover, the workers continued with their strike plans. As a result, on May 24, 1946, Truman issued an ultimatum declaring that the government would operate the railroads and use the army as strikebreakers. When the deadline passed, Truman went before Congress to seek the power to deny seniority rights to strikers and to draft strikers into the armed forces. Just as Truman reached the climax of his speech, he received a note saying that the strike was 'settled on the terms proposed by the President'.<sup>5</sup>

Transiting Chiron and Pallas were square each other on that day, and a station of transiting Pluto formed an aspect to the



transiting sun, both triggering Truman's natal Pallas/Chiron conjunction.

One year earlier, on 8/6/1945, the bombing of Hiroshima occurred. On that day, transiting Pluto formed an exact aspect to Truman's natal Pallas/Chiron conjunction; with transiting Saturn and Jupiter both one degree away, and transiting Chiron trine the natal conjunction (1° orb).

## WINSTON CHURCHILL

(11/30/1874 1:30 a.m. Woodstock, UK: Chiron/Pallas = Aries = Ascendant = MC = Kronos)

Churchill's many career setbacks also illustrate a variety of Pallas/Chiron conditions and consequences. His personality flaws got in the way of his professional conduct. "You do not win trust even where you command admiration" Prime Minister Lloyd George wrote to him.<sup>6</sup> His reputation suffered from friendships with press barons and financiers, then considered unsavory associates (he had Saturn in Aquarius); and he experienced some plain old bad luck.

His brilliance with tactical warfare was a decisive factor in Hitler's defeat in WW2, but during WW1, he was blamed for the great loss at Gallipoli. Today, history regards Churchill's judgment at Gallipoli as accurate; with the loss resulting from a series of snafus such as the failure of inexperienced civilians who, early in the battle, were ill-equipped to carry out Churchill's orders correctly. Right from the start, these difficulties set in motion a series of events that all worked against the Allies. At the same time the Allied Armies and Navies (and their best equipment) were occupied in the war against Germany. When they finally became available—6 weeks later—the Turks had had ample chance to prepare. Additionally, at the last minute, the key officer who planned the attack became ill and was hastily replaced. Even the weather was uncooperative. The loss at Gallipoli cost Churchill his job as Lord of the Admiralty, marked by progressed Kronos = natal Pallas/Chiron, precisely.

Another major setback occurred on October 27, 1931, when he was excluded from a Cabinet appointment in the government, beginning his "wilderness years."<sup>7</sup> At the time of his exclusion, transiting Pluto and Neptune both stationed triggering his natal Pallas/Chiron (= Ascendant = MC = Kronos), and a transit of Saturn squared natal Mars and Chiron. His solar return, beginning one month later, contained Pallas opposite Chiron.

During his 'wilderness years' Churchill became a productive writer. His description of the job of writing books reflects Pallas/Chiron: "It is a toy and an amusement; then

it becomes a mistress, and then it becomes a master, and then a *tyrant*" (author's emphasis).<sup>8</sup>

## HOW PALLAS/CHIRON WORK EVERY DAY

**THE BAD BOSS** "*The plight of one man is the benefit of another*" Michel de Montaigne (2/28/1533 11:30 a.m. Chateau St. Michel, France: Pallas conjunct Chiron 17' orb.)

A common reason for a Pallas/Chiron job problem is a difficult boss. Pallas/Chiron pictures can appear for both the boss and the employee.

Anna Wintour (11/3/1949, London, UK; no T.O.B. : Sun = Pallas/Chiron no greater than 30' orb) *put herself* at the top of the list of Worst US Bosses, earning the name "Nuclear Wintour"<sup>9</sup> and inspiring "The Devil Wore Prada." With her success, she self-imposed exile. Like "the wings of stately home, she closed off large sections of her personality to the public."<sup>10</sup> "She enjoys not being completely approachable... You have to walk about a mile into the office before you get to her desk and it's intentional."<sup>11</sup>

The anecdotes about Henry Kissinger (5/27/1923, 5:30 a.m. Furth, Germany: Sun = Pallas/Chiron 17' orb) paint him as a cartoonish, high-handed boss who could make work a drudgery. He "famously ordered brilliant aides to write draft after draft of policy position papers, and then critically inquired as each version was delivered to him, "Is this really the very best you can do?" Only after the third or fourth version reached him did Kissinger say to the exhausted author, "Okay, now I'll read it."<sup>12</sup>

Many difficult bosses and power abusers have had memorable achievements. Louis Pasteur (12/27/1822, 2:00 a.m. Dole, France: Sun = Pallas/Chiron 0' orb) applied exacting strictness to his work, the key to his brilliant achievements. When put in a supervisory role, he held others to the same standards, with bad results. Early in his career, he lost a job as a school administrator when students staged a protest against him. "Pasteur's handling of student discipline betrayed an inflexible and rather authoritarian spirit." His relations with students were described as "hardly frequent" but "often disagreeable."<sup>13</sup> Finally he was fired because of his opposition to a student protest involving free speech. Years later, after he'd suffered a stroke, Pasteur had to rely on assistants and developed a bad reputation for being as demanding of assistants as he was of himself. Even Michelangelo (3/6/1475, 1:50 a.m. Caprese Michelangelo, Italy: Sun = Pallas/Chiron 11' orb) hired and fired his assistants on a regular basis so that none of them could claim credit for any part of their participation in his work.<sup>14</sup>

Some notorious contemporary cases of international



exploitation also include Chiron/Pallas pictures. Kathie Lee Gifford (8/16/1953, 11:30 p.m. Neuilly Sur Seine, France) faced accusations of using child labor in sweatshops for her budget line of clothing. When she came under fire in March of 1995, her SR contained Chiron = Pallas (with Saturn less than 30' away) and when her hearing occurred the following year, her SR contained Ascendant = Chiron /Pallas. Bill Bowerman (2/19/1911, no.T.O.B., Pallas/Chiron), the founder of Nike, became known for "Nike Sweatshops".

It was a surprise to learn that Robert Redford (8/18/1936, 8:02 a.m. Santa Monica, CA: Sun = Pallas/Chiron 5' orb) is considered a difficult boss. A self-taught intellectual, he challenges himself and anyone else who will not allow him to proceed as he envisions.<sup>15</sup> And—another surprise—"The Little Sparrow", Edith Piaf (12/19/1915, 12:00 a.m. Paris, France: Pallas conjunct Chiron 21' orb) "in her role of mentor she could also be a tyrant" to those she helped make famous, such as Yves Montand and Maurice Chevalier.<sup>16</sup>

Chiron/Pallas can also symbolize the disgruntled colleague. Dan White (9/2/1946, 8:13 a.m. Bellflower, CA: Pallas = Chiron) murdered his associate, San Francisco mayor Harvey Milk, over a work related issue. Transiting Chiron was forming an aspect to Milk's Pallas and in Milk's solar return, the MC = Pallas/Chiron. (Harvey Milk 5/22/1930, 1:00 a.m. Woodmere, NY)

## BAD BEHAVIOR AT THE JOB

Negative consequences to one's professional reputation as a result of questionable career choices or bad personal behavior is also symbolized by Pallas/Chiron.

**F**or example, unlike anyone before him in British history, Anthony Armstrong Jones (3/17/1930, 6:15 p.m. London, England: Sun = Pallas/Chiron 15' orb) would not waive his right to sit in parliament after his divorce from Princess Margaret, accepting the position but showing no interest in his Parliamentary responsibilities.<sup>17</sup>

Humphrey Bogart (11 25 1899, 1:30 p.m. New York, NY: Pallas conjunct Chiron 10' orb) suffered frequent hangovers and was fired repeatedly from live theatrical work for blowing his lines. However, he was so much in demand that he continued to be hired,<sup>18</sup> and found his perfect medium in movies where he had ample opportunity to get his lines right.

Whitney Houston (8/19/1963, 8:55 p.m. Newark, NJ: Pallas = Chiron 44' orb with Saturn = Pallas = Chiron 1° 15') damaged her voice by smoking and had a reputation for unreliability due to drug use. She was fired from

the Academy Awards "officially because of a sore throat, but reputedly due to poor rehearsals and a generally out-of-it quality."<sup>19</sup> Her solar return contained no Chiron/Pallas picture, nor did her transits, but Burt Bacharach, the musical director (and personal friend) who fired her had Sun = Mars = Pallas/Chiron in his solar return, representing a problem colleague.

Jim Carrey (1/17/1962, 2:30 a.m. Newmarket, Canada: Sun = Pallas/Chiron 3' orb) is described as *scary* by colleagues reporting instances of "unbidden public urination." When confronted, he replied, "You should stop right now because what you are about to say may mess up my creativity for the rest of this movie."<sup>20</sup>

Greta Garbo (9/18/1905, 7:30 p.m. Stockholm, Sweden; Pallas conjunct Chiron 42' orb), when displeased, would threaten, "I think I'll go back to Sweden!"<sup>21</sup> During her famous close-ups, she insisted that sets be closed and black curtains surround her. She was also said to be unfair to employees, promising an inheritance to her housekeeper and companion of 30 years, but leaving her just \$3,500. Her financial advisor recalled, "I worked for her for fourteen years for nothing because I was promised to be in the will."<sup>22</sup>

An interviewer wrote of Lauren Bacall (9/16/1924, 2:00 a.m. New York, NY: Pallas = Chiron 43' orb) "Of all the people I ever interviewed (she) was by far the most difficult. Trying to fix an interview with her was a nightmare. Our appointment had been scheduled and rescheduled at least half a dozen times by a series of ever-changing secretaries." (Writer's note: employee turnover is common among employers with Pallas/Chiron.) She arrived late, and when the interviewer offered his hand,

"She looked at my hand, 'You were early,' she said accusingly, 'I do not expect people to arrive early,' she snapped. 'Do you mind if I use a tape recorder?' I said.

'Goddamn it!' she snarled, 'Haven't you set up your stuff yet?'"<sup>23</sup>

Ineptitude is another Chiron/Pallas possibility. One football player earned the name "Oops" because despite his speed on the court, he couldn't play the rest of the game well. (9/10/1946, no T.O.B. : Pallas = Chiron approx. 5' orb)

When transiting Chiron was stationing, forming an aspect to my natal Pallas (and Uranus), I publicly predicted President Romney.

## HEALTH

**C**onsidering Chiron's healing skills as well as his wound, it makes sense that there would be a correspondence between healing or health concerns and Chiron/Pallas symbolism, particularly in the workplace or effecting one's work.

In addition to health issues brought on by personal neglect (such as singers who smoke), some performers and athletes have had career setbacks and changes stemming from health problems attributable to their jobs.

Bruce Jenner (10/28/1949, 6:15 a.m. Mt. Kisco, NY: Pallas /Chiron = MC 28' orb) changed his sport because of an injury. Tracy Austin

(12/12/1962, 6:18 a.m. Redondo Beach, CA: Pallas = Chiron 1° orb) retired from tennis due to a back injury while she was still young. Burt Reynolds' (2/11/1936, 12:10 p.m. Lansing MI: Sun = Pallas/Chiron 1' orb) injuries ended his sports career. Later, during the making of a film, he suffered an accident in which his jaw was broken, changing his appearance so radically that rumors spread that he had AIDS. Poet Emily Dickinson (12/10/1830, 5:00 a.m. Amherst, MA: Mercury = Pallas = Chiron 1° 22' orb) suffered with an eye illness and was ordered by doctors not to read and to write only with a pencil.

Stage fright or performance anxiety is another way Chiron and Pallas can operate together. Performers like Carly Simon (6/25/1945, New York, NY, no TOB: Pallas conjunct Chiron no greater than 1° 8' orb) and Barbra Streisand (4/24/1942, 5:04 a.m. Brooklyn, NY: Pallas/Chiron = Aries = Mars 37' orb) suffer stage fright, as do ordinary people who are afraid to work for no apparent reason.

## PALLAS/CHIRON IN ART AND LITERATURE

An interesting way to see how planetary aspects and midpoint pictures work is in the creative work of artists in whose horoscopes they appear. The natal symbolism will often convey the title or content of their most important work(s). Since Pallas/Chiron symbolizes particular employment circumstances and relationships, the Pallas/Chiron pictures also describe the artists' professional conditions, colleagues and behavior.

**Orson Welles** (May 6, 1915, 7:00 a.m. Kenosha, WI.: Pallas conjunct Chiron 26' orb)

Welles will always be identified with *Citizen Kane* and the role of William Randolph Hearst, the newspaper magnate so powerful that he almost succeeded in a real life campaign to suppress the film. Hearst did manage to block Welles from winning the many Academy Awards for which he was nominated, including Best Film, Best Director and



Best Actor. "All Welles' later problems could be traced... to the virulent reaction by Hearst and Hollywood. *Kane* barely escaped being burned to placate the powerful publisher"<sup>24</sup> making it almost impossible for him to get his films financed within the United States, all compounded by Welles' own notorious reputation for being a director for whom it was difficult to work.<sup>25</sup>

**Cecil B. ("Ready when you are, CB") DeMille** (8/12/1881, 5:14 a.m. Ashfield, MA)

DeMille had natal Chiron opposite Pallas (2° orb) with Jupiter exactly at the midpoint and is best remembered for *The Ten Commandments* in which Moses led the Hebrew slaves to freedom. On the set "He was an ugly, bald man in riding breeches with a whip. He wanted terror, he wanted confusion, and when he got what he wanted he would get an erection. Such that everyone could see; there was no missing it."<sup>26</sup> Upon meeting a former employee he greeted him warmly: "I remember you. You worked for me about ten years ago on a picture. You were great, you were wonderful... why didn't you ever come back?" The employee replied "Mr. DeMille, I never got over the first time I worked for you."<sup>27</sup> Staunchly anti-union and anti-Communist, DeMille compiled lists of those with leftist affiliations which he eventually shared with Joseph McCarthy's HUAC.

**Prince (The Artist)** (6/7/1958, 6:17 p.m. Minneapolis, MN: Chiron= Pallas 4' orb)

At the time Prince recorded for Warner Brothers, he blamed the label for limiting his artistic potential by releasing far less music than he was producing. The dispute began in 1992, when transiting Chiron was opposite natal Chiron, triggering his natal Pallas/Chiron configuration. At that time he released a record using a symbol (glyph) rather than his name, to avoid the limitations of the contract he'd signed with his name. In 1995, shortly after progressed Pallas was semisquare to progressed Chiron and transiting Saturn in Pisces was square to his sun, he appeared in concert with the word "slave" drawn on his face.

**Alexander Solzhenitsyn** (12/11/1918)

Solzhenitsyn wrote his most famous novels about Soviet forced labor camps, drawing from his own experience.

Decorated during WW2, he was charged with “founding a hostile organization” for a private letter he wrote criticizing Stalin’s conduct of the war and served an eight year sentence working a series of menial jobs in sub-human conditions—laying bricks in weather so cold, the mortar froze before he had time to place the next brick. There is no time of birth for Solzhenitsyn, but natal Mercury = Pallas/Chiron is within 30’ orb, no matter what time of day he was born.

**Giuseppe Verdi** (10/10/1813, 8 p.m. Parma, Italy: Vulcanus = Pallas / Chiron 2’ orb)

Slavery is a theme in two Verdi operas. *Aida* is an Ethiopian princess who is captured and brought into slavery, and the best known number from *Nabucco* is “Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves.” Verdi’s work made great demands on singers. An opera singing acquaintance describes the difficulty: “The arias have wide ranges (high and low notes) and big orchestras, so you have to be loud even in parts of the voice that aren’t. So you need big powerhouse singers who can also sing fast and elegantly—not a common combo.” As a result of his popularity, great demands were made of him as well, in addition to problems he experienced with censorship.

**Charlie Chaplin** (4/16/1889, 8:00 a.m. London, UK: Sun = Pallas/Chiron 1° 22’ orb)

His personal life was colored by battles with the government and family court system (He also had Venus = Pallas / Chiron). Despite the relatively wide orb of over 1°, the titles and content of several of his films convey vividly the range of Chiron / Pallas working conditions: the jobless outcast, the assembly line worker and the tyrant.

“The Tramp”, his most famous character, is a vagrant who takes what work is available but attempts to escape authority figures who will not tolerate his antics. He cobbled

together the costume and played the character for the first time in 1914, when his solar return contained Juno and Cupido on the Pallas/Chiron midpoint (less than 30’ orb). In *Modern Times*, The Tramp gets a job as a factory worker who suffers a comedic nervous breakdown after the accelerating assembly line forces him to screw nuts into machinery at a super-human speed. At the other end of the Pallas/Chiron spectrum is *The Great Dictator*, a satire of Hitler and Mussolini, whom he called “machine men with machine minds and machine hearts.”<sup>28</sup>

**Lucille Ball** (8/6/1911, 5:00 p.m. Jamestown, NY)

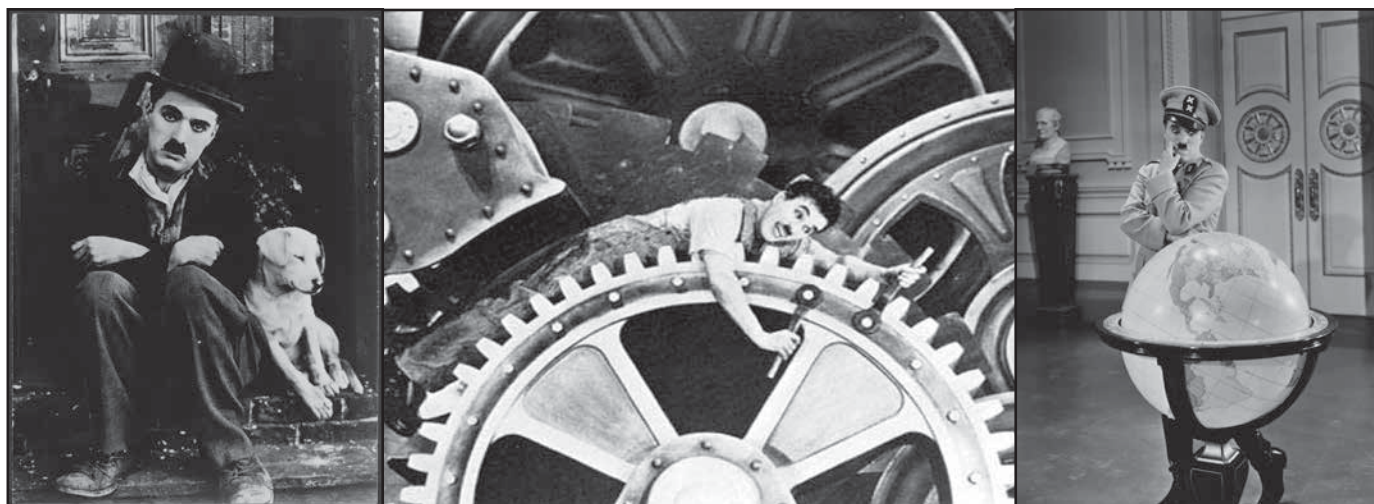
Lucille Ball’s unforgettably funny spoof of a candy factory assembly line appeared during her 9/15/1952 lunar return, which contained Chiron square Pallas (52’ orb) with the Moon = Chiron = Pallas (1°30’ orb).

**SALLY FIELD** (11/6/1946, 4:23 a.m. Pasadena, CA: Sun = Pallas/Chiron 29’ orb)

Sally Field won an Academy Award for “Norma Rae” where she portrayed a factory worker who becomes involved with the labor union.

**FRIDA KAHLO** (7/6/1907, 8:30 a.m. Coyoacan, Mexico: Pallas = Chiron ssq 1.5 ° orb)

Kahlo was a victim of polio with legs of different sizes which she hid with long skirts. She planned on becoming a doctor but was impaled in a traffic accident, changing her life forever. Bedridden for months, her mother handed her paints and she began to paint renderings of the physical and psychological wounds of many operations, several miscarriages and a difficult personal life. Both her life and art reflect several natal Chiron configurations including Pallas = Chiron = Cupido (1.5° degree orb), and Aries = Pallas =



Saturn / Chiron (48' orb). Chiron/Pallas' association with unreliable or difficult work associates was also a part of Kahlo's professional experience. By age 30 she was still unrecognized but when progressed Chiron = natal Pallas, her work was discovered by French Surrealist Andre Breton who offered to arrange a show in Paris. When she arrived in France she found he hadn't even bothered to get her work out of customs. The exhibit was not a financial success, but it ended well: the Louvre acquired one of her pieces.

When Kahlo was 44, progressed Pallas = natal Chiron and her health deteriorated to the point where she needed to wear a steel corset for five months, rendered in the self-portrait she painted at the time, called "The Broken Column" where she is crying all alone.

## ARTISTISTIC LIMITATIONS

Some artists with Pallas/Chiron such as Prince, Verdi and Welles are limited for political or business reasons. Emily Dickinson's work was seen as too unconventional by her publishers and they altered her poems significantly; so much so, that she did not want her work published during her lifetime. Dmitri Shostakovich (9/25/1906, 5:00 p.m. St. Petersburg, USSR: Sun = Ascendant = Chiron/Pallas 13' orb) was one of the most visible victims of the suppression of artists whose work was not consistent with Stalin's Soviet vision. Stalin had Cupido = Pallas / Chiron (approximately 5' orb) and his purge led "to a dead end in the development of music, to the liquidation of musical art."<sup>29</sup>

## HOW YOU CAN USE PALLAS / CHIRON

Some reliable ways to time a Pallas/Chiron event include a progression or transit of Chiron making contact to Pallas, or the reverse: Pallas to Chiron (a station is particularly noticeable, but even a one day transit will reflect the symbolism in some way), a progressed planet or solar arc direction to the midpoint, Pallas = Chiron in the solar return or lunar return (also look for any descriptive planets at the midpoint).

When you have the picture, avoid a career move that could come back to bite, like my Romney prediction. If you have no choice, keep in mind the greats in history who've survived bad bosses and co-workers, unfair working conditions and assaults to their reputations—and have prevailed.

Particularly inspirational is the story of how Boston's Symphony Hall became one of the world's top concert halls for acoustics. The founder of architectural



acoustics, physicist Wallace Clement Sabine (6/13/1868, 4:20 p.m. Richwood, OH: Pallas = Chiron = Aries =Asc 58' orb) was a Harvard lecturer with no background in sound. He was delegated a task that was deemed insurmountable by everyone senior to him in the Physics Department at Harvard: learn why the newly constructed lecture hall was acoustically unacceptable

and correct it. He was low man on the totem pole and had no choice. Each night for the next few years, Sabine and his assistants borrowed seat cushions, rugs, a pipe organ and a stopwatch to perform thousands of measurements of the timing of various frequencies in different environments. Each morning, the materials used in the experiments were returned to the lecture halls in time for classes. This long, painstaking method resulted in identifying the most important characteristic for gauging a room's acoustical quality, called reverberation time. This cemented his career and led to his assignment as acoustical consultant for Boston's Symphony Hall: still considered of the best in the world. The unit of sound absorption, the sabin, was named in his honor.

**PIERRE CURIE** (12/27/1822, 2:00 a.m. Dole, France: Sun = Chiron/Pallas 18' orb)

Regarded as great today, during his lifetime Curie was frequently denied positions he deserved. Privately tutored, Curie was never fully accepted by the French scientific establishment or university system due to his unconventional education. Seeking a position was an "ugly necessity" and "demoralizing."<sup>30</sup> Turned down for the Chair of Physical Chemistry at the Sorbonne in 1898, he was instead he appointed to the inferior position of assistant professor at the Polytechnic School. In 1902 he tried and failed to enter the French Academy of Sciences and was then rejected for a professorship of mineralogy. Said Marie Curie, "It is easy to overlook those who have not the active support of influential persons."<sup>31</sup>

Like Chiron, Curie was a maverick. He rejected the prestigious decoration of the Legion of Honor, writing in response, "I pray to thank the Minister and to inform him I do not in the least feel the need of a decoration, but I do feel the greatest need for a laboratory."<sup>31</sup> The Nobel Prize spurred unrelenting public attention, impeding his work. "A whole year has passed since I was able to do any work... I have not found the way of defending us against frittering away our time, and yet it is very necessary. It is a question of life or death from the intellectual point of view."<sup>32</sup> He died just one year later, a towering figure in the history of medicine who never got the laboratory he needed.

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# WISHONTTARI DASHA IN VEDIC CHART PREDICTIONS

By Jagdish Maheshri



The application of the unique influence of planetary cycles based on the Moon's position in the natal chart—commonly referred to as *Dasha* in Vedic astrology—is presented here. First, its application in traditional Vedic astrology (sidereal zodiac with the Whole House division system) is explained, then its evolution and application to a contemporary Vedic chart (sidereal zodiac with the Placidus House division system) is presented.

## Introduction

When it comes to analyzing and interpreting a natal chart one takes into account the interrelationships among the planets themselves, the respective zodiac signs and the houses the planets occupy, and the influence of the house rulers and their intricate connections to other planets through angles and the zodiac signs. The interpretation of a natal chart, typically deals extensively with various

aspects of an individual's life. These may include personality, education, career, profession, business, money matters, relationships, marriages, family life, children, travel, good times, spiritual trends, and religious activities. In addition, it deals with the degree of success a person can have in a particular endeavor. The next obvious question is **when?** When is a certain event likely to happen in a person's life?

In Vedic astrology, one of the popular techniques for working with the “**When**” part is the application of the *Wishonttari Dasha* [1, 2]. *Wishonttari* in Sanskrit means 120 and *Dasha* means cycles. The underlying concept behind the *Wishonttari Dasha* is the great 120 year planetary cycles. And this concept forms the basis for predicting the time(s) when a certain event is likely to occur.

Also, there is another technique

known as *Ashtonttari Dasha* [1, 2] which is a 108 year planetary cycle; although few astrologers use this concept for predicting the time of an event. This article will focus on the 120 year planetary cycles, the *Wishonttari Dasha*.

The basic assumption of the great planetary cycle is that the conventional (astrological) nine planets (Sun, Moon, Mars, Mercury, Jupiter, Venus, Saturn, Rahu, and Ketu) influence an individual only during their respective cycles. Note that the modern planets Pluto, Neptune, and Uranus are excluded from the list. It is because they were not discovered and therefore not known to astrologers more than three thousand years ago when this system was believed to be invented [1, 2]. However, according to the K.P. (*Krishnamurti Paddhati*) [3] system as discussed later, the influence of the modern planets is realized during the cycles of their respective constellations rulers.

Each of the nine conventional planets as mentioned above is assigned a certain number of years [1, 2] for its major cycle and in a certain sequence as follows:

Ketu	7 years
Venus	20 years
Sun	6 years
Moon	10 years
Mars	7 years
Rahu	18 years
Jupiter	16 years
Saturn	19 years
Mercury	17 years
.....	
	120 years

Thus, Ketu's major cycle is 7 years Venus's major cycle is 20 years, Sun's major cycle is 6 years and so on.

Further a major cycle is split into nine intermediate cycles, and the first intermediate cycle begins with the major cycle planet, and the duration of the intermediate cycles of the all planets are proportional to their major cycle years. Thus, as an example, under the Moon's major cycle the intermediate cycles are:

Moon	10 months
Mars	7 months
Rahu	18 months
Jupiter	16 months
Saturn	19 months
Mercury	17 months
Ketu	7 months
Venus	20 months
Sun	6 months
.....	
	120 months
	or 10 years

Furthermore an intermediate cycle of a planet consists of nine sub-cycles. The duration of each of the sub-cycle is proportional to its major cycle year, and the first sub-cycle begins with the intermediate cycle ruler. Thus, under the Moon's major cycle the intermediate cycle of Venus consists of the nine sub-cycles as follow:

Venus	3 months	10 days
Sun	1 month	
Moon	1 month	20 days
Mars	1 month	5 days
Rahu	3 months	
Jupiter	2 months	20 days
Saturn	3 months	5 days
Mercury	2 months	25 days
Ketu	1 month	5 days
.....		
	20 months	

There are a total of 729 sub-cycles, eighty one sub-cycles per every major cycle.

## Constellations (*Nakshatras*)

These major cycle rulers correspond to the zodiac divisions called the constellations (*Nakshatras*). According to the system employed here, the sidereal zodiac is distributed over 27 constellations of 13°- 20' zodiac band each. The first, tenth, and the nineteenth constellations which correspond to the first 13°- 20' of Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius are assigned to Ketu. In other words, the first 13°- 20' of Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius are ruled by Ketu.

Similarly, the next successive constellations, 13°- 21' through 26°- 40' of the same three zodiac signs (Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius) are ruled by the planet Venus and so on, and the last set consisting of the ninth, eighteenth, and the twenty seventh constellations corresponding to the last 13°- 20' of Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces (namely the zone from 16°- 40' to 30°- 00') are assigned to Mercury as their ruler. Table 1 (opposite page) lists the 27 constellations of the zodiac and their rulers.

Table 2 (opposite page) lists the Sanskrit names of these 27 constellations (*Nakshatras*).

Let us consider an example of President Obama's natal chart [4] as shown below. This is the north Indian style Vedic chart format.

## President Obama's Sidereal Natal Chart

In this chart (opposite page) the houses are shown with Roman numerals (I, II, etc.). The cardinal houses (I, IV, VII and X) are full diamond shape houses shown in the middle of chart. The first house (ascendant) begins at the top in the center and the successive houses follow in the counter-clockwise fashion. The non-cardinal houses are half diamond

Table-1

Rulers	Constellations	Constellations	Constellations
<b>Ketu</b>	Aries 0° - 13°:20'	Leo 0°- 13°:20'	Sagittarius 0°- 13°:20'
<b>Venus</b>	Aries 13°:20' - 26°:40'	Leo 13°:20' - 26°:40'	Sagittarius 13°:20'- 26°:40'
<b>Sun</b>	Aries 26°:40'- Taurus 10°	Leo 26°:40'- Virgo 10°	Sagittarius 26°:40'- Capricorn 10°
<b>Moon</b>	Taurus 10° - 23°:20'	Virgo 10°- 23°:20'	Capricorn 10°- 23°:20'
<b>Mars</b>	Taurus 23°:20'- Gemini 6°:40'	Virgo 23°:20'- Libra 6°:40'	Capricorn 23°:20'- Aquarius 6°:40'
<b>Rahu</b>	Gemini 6°:40'- 20°	Libra 6°:40'- 20°	Aquarius 6°:40'- 20°
<b>Jupiter</b>	Gemini 20°- Cancer 3°:20'	Libra 20°- Scorpio 3°:20'	Aquarius 20°- Pisces 3°:20'
<b>Saturn</b>	Cancer 3°:20'- 16°:40'	Scorpio 3°:20'- 16°:40'	Pisces 3°:20'- 16°:40'
<b>Mercury</b>	Cancer 16°:40'- 30°	Scorpio 16°:40'- 30°	Pisces 16°:40'- 30°

Table-2

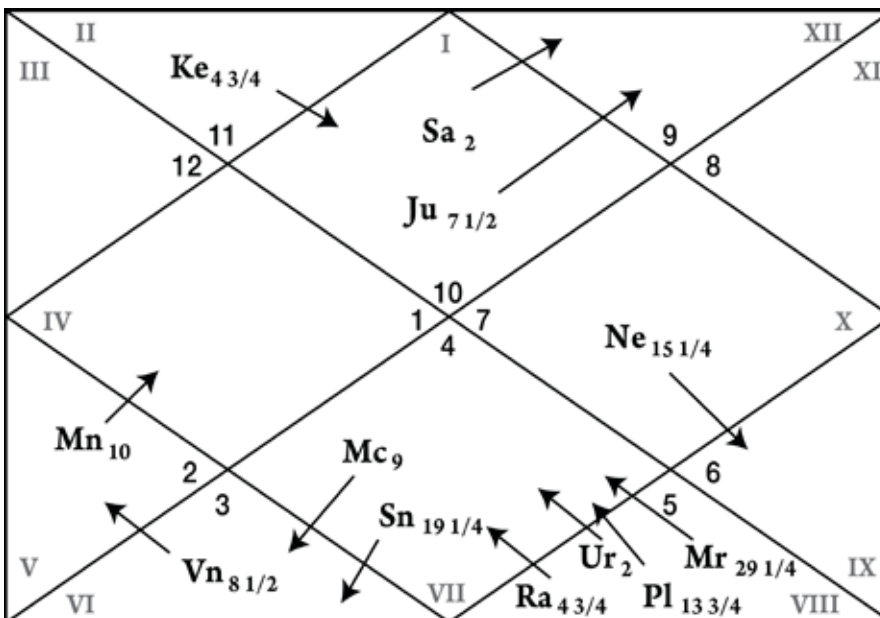
Rulers	Constellations	Constellations	Constellations
<b>Ketu</b>	Ashwini	Magha	Mula
<b>Venus</b>	Bharani	Poorva	Poorwashadha
<b>Sun</b>	Krutika	Uttara	Uttarashadha
<b>Moon</b>	Rohini	Hasta	Shrawan
<b>Mars</b>	Mrug	Chitra	Dhanishta
<b>Rahu</b>	Aadra	Swati	Shatataraka
<b>Jupiter</b>	Punarwasu	Wishakha	Poorwbhadrapada
<b>Saturn</b>	Pushya	Anuradha	Uttarbhadrapada
<b>Mercury</b>	Aashlesha	Jeshta	Rewati

shaped houses. The ascendant, in this case Capricorn, is indicated by the number “10” in the first house, and all twelve zodiac signs are mapped in this chart with the successive houses. Thus, in the second house (which is at the 11 o'clock position indicated by the Roman numeral II), the zodiac sign Aquarius is shown with number 11. The planets are placed in the chart according to their sidereal zodiac sign positions. For instance, Saturn (Sa) which is at 2° Capricorn is placed in the first house as Sa<sub>2</sub>, the 10° Taurus Moon (Mn) is placed in the 5<sup>th</sup> house as Mn<sub>10</sub>.

In the traditional Whole House based Vedic chart each house maps into a whole zodiac sign. Thus the first house in this case is all Capricorn; the second house all Aquarius; and so on. There are no house cusps. Therefore, in the traditional natal chart of president Obama, Saturn and Jupiter are placed in the first house, Ketu in the second, Moon in the fifth, Venus in the sixth, Sun and Mercury in the seventh, Uranus, Rahu, Mars and Pluto in the eighth and Neptune in the tenth house.

However, in the contemporary (Placidus house division based) Vedic chart the first house cusp is at Capricorn 23° – 53'. Therefore, Saturn which is at 2° Capricorn, is placed in the first

Chart 1: President Obama's Sidereal Natal Chart





house as Sa, and is shown with an arrow pointing towards the 12<sup>th</sup> house. It means the 2 degree Capricorn Saturn occupies the 12<sup>th</sup> house.

Notice that all the planets placed in chart 1, shown previously (page 71), have arrows pointing to their previous houses. Thus, when arrows in the above chart are ignored it becomes the traditional Vedic chart and when not ignored it becomes the contemporary Vedic chart. The house cusps for the contemporary Vedic chart are not shown in the previous chart 1 (pg. 71).

In the contemporary Vedic chart of president Obama, Saturn and Jupiter are placed in the twelfth house; Ketu in the first; Moon in the fourth; Venus in the fifth; Sun and Mercury in the sixth; Uranus, Rahu, Mars and Pluto in the seventh; and Neptune in the ninth house.

### Computation of *Wishonttari Dasha* cycles for a Vedic Chart

For a given natal chart, the major, the intermediate, and the sub-cycles that were operative at the time of birth are determined based on the Moon's zodiac position at the time of birth.

The computation of *Dasha* cycles,

the major, the intermediate, and the sub-cycles, that were operative at the time of president Obama's birth, is as follow. In his Vedic natal chart (shown above) Moon is placed at Taurus 10<sup>o</sup>-7'. Thus, as shown in the Tables 1 and 2, he was born under *Rohini Nakshatra* extending from Taurus 10<sup>o</sup> to Taurus 23<sup>o</sup>:20', and the *Rohini Nakshatra* is ruled by Moon.

Clearly, thus, at the time of his birth Moon's major cycle was operative. At the time of his birth, the Moon was placed at 7' away from the beginning of the Moon's constellation. In other words, the Moon was 13<sup>o</sup>-23' or 793' away before it could reach the end of the Moon's constellation. Therefore, the balance or the remaining duration of the Moon's major cycle at his birth time was (793 / 800 \* 10) years or 9 years 10 months and 28 days. In other words, 1 month and 2 days of the Moon's major cycle had elapsed at the time of President Obama's birth. Consequently, the intermediate cycle at the time of his birth also corresponds to that of the Moon that began as the major cycle at the time of his birth. Similarly further computation yields the sub-cycle of Mars at the time of his birth.

The major cycles and the corresponding dates (or duration) according to President Obama's natal chart

are shown in the table below:

### Traditional Application of *Wishonttari Dasha* Cycles

According to the traditional application of *Wishonttari Dasha*, the influence of a planet that affects matters related to the house it occupies and the zodiac sign it belongs to is typically materialized during that planet's major or intermediate or sub-cycle.

In president Obama's natal chart he has Capricorn rising, and according to the traditional Vedic chart, Venus being the ruler of the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 10<sup>th</sup> house [1, 2, 4], it is a very auspicious planet for him, and therefore, under Venus *Dasha* cycles, he enjoys a positive period, and the Sun (being the ruler of the 8<sup>th</sup> house [1, 2, 4]) is unfavorable and therefore, under the Sun *Dasha* cycles he is likely to face surmountable challenges. One can thus apply the *Dasha* cycles based on the planetary strength, house dispositions and house rulers in a natal chart and predict the possibility of positive and challenging periods.

Obama was elected as president of the United States on November 4, 2008. At the time, his *Dasha* cycles were: Jupiter (major), Moon (intermediate) and Ketu (sub).

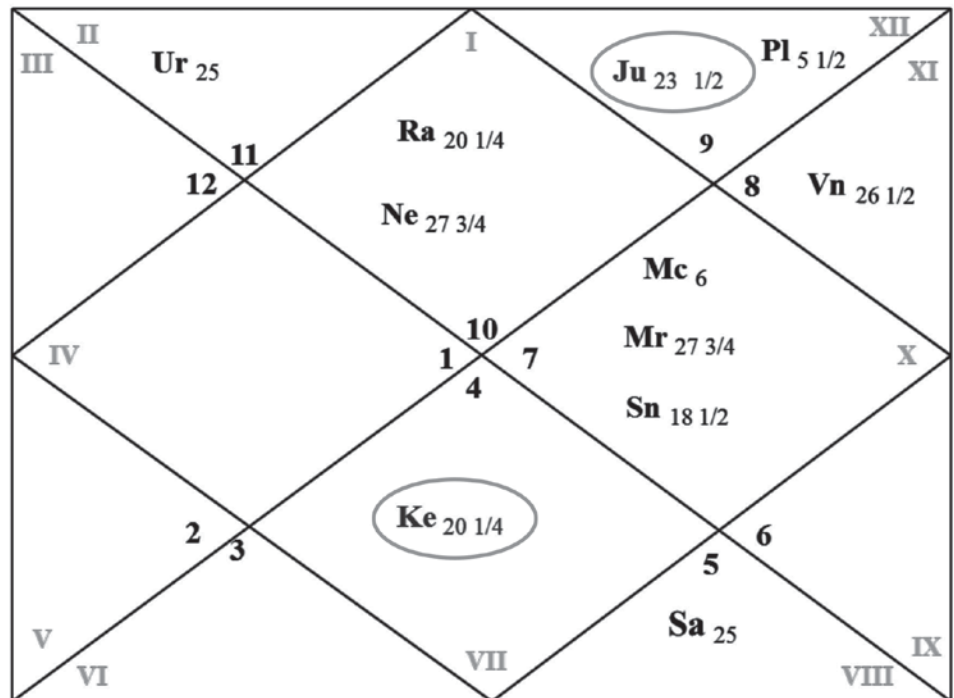
According to his traditional natal chart (the whole house division system) he has Jupiter in the 1<sup>st</sup> house, exalted Moon in the 5<sup>th</sup> and Ketu in the 2<sup>nd</sup> house. Jupiter rules the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 12<sup>th</sup> house, and the Moon rules the 7<sup>th</sup> house.

In Vedic astrology the planets that influence a person at a given time are not only due to the operating *Dasha* cycle rulers, but also due to the *Dasha* cycle ruler's transiting positions from either the natal ascendant or the moon-sign.[5] Because in President Obama's natal chart, the exalted Moon occupies the fourth house (the

Table-3

Major Cycle rulers	Cycle Duration	Starts on	Ends on
<b>Moon</b>	9 Yrs. 10 Mo. 28 Days	August 5, 1961	July 3, 1971
<b>Mars</b>	7 Years	July 3, 1971	July 3, 1978
<b>Rahu</b>	18 Years	July 3, 1978	July 3, 1996
<b>Jupiter</b>	16 Years	July 3, 1996	July 3, 2012
<b>Saturn</b>	19 Years	July 3, 2012	July 3, 2031
<b>Mercury</b>	17 Years	July 3, 2031	July 3, 2048
<b>Ketu</b>	7 Years	July 3, 2048	July 3, 2055
<b>Venus</b>	20 Years	July 3, 2055	July 3, 2075
<b>Sun</b>	7 Years	July 3, 2075	July 3, 2081

Chart 2: Obama's Traditional Progressive chart November 4, 2008



most favorable house for Moon) the transiting Moon's position (which changes the sign every two and half days on average) is always considered positive and therefore not included in the discussion.

On the day of the 2008 presidential election, as shown in here (chart 2), Jupiter was in Sagittarius and Ketu was in Cancer. Although the Moon is favorably placed in the natal chart, one could argue that Jupiter being the 12th house ruler is not so favorable. Also, while Jupiter being in Sagittarius at the time of his election, transiting Jupiter occupied the 12th house of his natal chart or the 8th house from the moon-sign Taurus. Thus, the traditional approach of the *Wishonttari* Dasha cycles is not very convincing to justify his victory.

The above analysis reflects that although the great 120 year cycle concept has been popular for over three thousand years, the degree of success achieved by applying this concept with a traditional Vedic chart was not always satisfactory. In some cases it seemed to work well while for others it seemed to fail.

### KP application of *Wishonttari* Dasha Cycles

About seventy years ago, a well-known astrologer Mr. Krishnamurti from the Southern part of India applied the traditional method to hundreds of thousands of birth charts and successfully ended up modifying the way the great 120 year cycle was applied. His modified approach of the constellation ruler concept along with the inclusion of the Placidus House division system instead of the traditional Whole House system has come to known then as the KP. (Krishnamurti Paddhati) system [3].

In my opinion, the essence of the K.P. system lies in the realization of

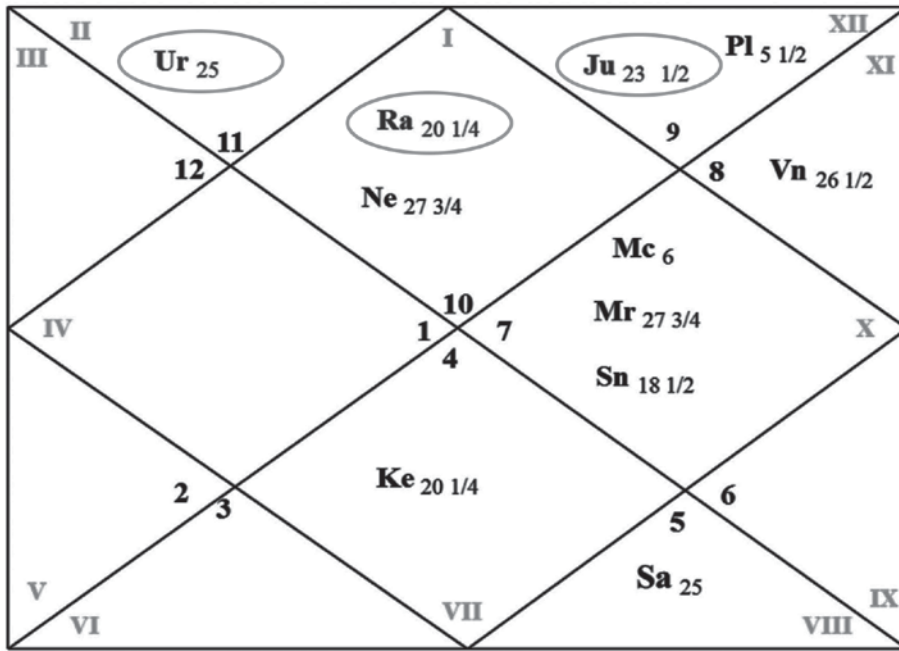
a prediction due to a certain planet occur not during the cycle of that planet but during the cycle of its constellation ruler unless either that planet is in its own constellation or there are no planets belong to the constellations ruled by the planet whose cycle is in operation. This was one of the most brilliant contributions of the K.P. system to the modern Indian astrology. In addition, it allows including the influence of the modern planets Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto during the cycles of their respective constellation rulers.

In president Obama's natal chart he has Capricorn rising, and according to the contemporary (Placidus house division) Vedic chart, Venus being the ruler of the 4<sup>th</sup> and the 9<sup>th</sup> house [1, 2, 5], and Saturn being the ruler of the 1<sup>st</sup> house; Venus and Saturn are very auspicious planets for him, and therefore, under Rahu (Venus is in the constellation of Rahu) and Sun (Saturn is in the constellation of Sun) *Dasha* cycles, he enjoys positive period. Mercury on the other hand, being the ruler of the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 8<sup>th</sup> house [1, 2, 5] is

unfavorable and therefore, under the Saturn (Mercury is in the constellation of Saturn) *Dasha* cycle he is likely to face surmountable challenges. One can thus apply the *Dasha* cycles based on the planetary strength, house dispositions and house rulers in a natal chart and predict the possibility of positive and challenging periods.

As mentioned before, on the day of the 2008 presidential election, president Obama's *Dasha* cycles were: Jupiter (major), Moon (intermediate) and Ketu (sub). According to the KP system during the Jupiter-Moon-Ketu period of president Obama, planets in the constellations of *Dasha* rulers (Jupiter, Moon and Ketu) are: none in the constellation ruled by Jupiter, Moon in the constellation ruled by Moon, and Uranus and Rahu in the constellation ruled by Ketu. According to the KP system, if there's no planet in the constellation ruled by *Dasha* ruler, then the *Dasha* ruler becomes the planet of influence. Thus, the *operating planets* that influenced president Obama at the time of the election were: Jupiter, Moon, Rahu and Uranus.

Chart 3: KP Based Obama's Progressive chart November 4, 2008



Notice that the KP system allows the inclusion of the modern planets, such as Uranus in this case.

As shown by arrows in the natal chart (page 71), Jupiter and Moon occupy the 12<sup>th</sup> and the 4<sup>th</sup> house respectively. Since Jupiter rules 2<sup>nd</sup> (the house of gain), 11<sup>th</sup> (the house of success) and the 12<sup>th</sup> house (spirituality, righteousness), and since Jupiter conjuncts the auspicious 1<sup>st</sup> house ruler Saturn in the 12<sup>th</sup> house, Jupiter is extremely favorably placed in his natal chart. Thus, while in the traditional Vedic chart Jupiter seems to be not so favorable, in the contemporary Vedic chart it's extremely favorable. Also the exalted Moon (the ruler of the 7<sup>th</sup> house) is favorably placed in the 4<sup>th</sup> house. In addition, Uranus and Rahu being in the 7<sup>th</sup> house (the house of dealing with the masses) are also favorably placed.

At the time of election, the transiting Jupiter was in Sagittarius, transiting Uranus in Aquarius and transiting Rahu in Capricorn. Although Jupiter, Moon, Rahu and Uranus being favorably placed in his natal chart, one could argue that the

transiting Jupiter, being in Sagittarius at the time of his election, gets placed in the 12<sup>th</sup> house of his natal chart or in the 8<sup>th</sup> house from the moon-sign Taurus. This placement of the transiting Jupiter is not favorable [5]. Similarly the transiting Capricorn Rahu and Aquarius Uranus get placed in the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> house of his natal chart

or in the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> house from the moon-sign. And these placements of the transiting Rahu and Uranus are somewhat favorable but not favorable enough to justify the victory.

### Application of *Wishonttari* Dasha Cycles with Ninefold (*Navamansa*) Ascendant

I was exposed to the KP system in late sixties. I extensively employed it by applying it to almost every birth chart I analyzed. However, while it did appear to work better over the traditional approach, there were still some cases where either of these approaches would not yield a satisfactory result. I tried a few variations of the K.P. system on my own but they did not prove satisfactory either. I continued my pursuit to find better approach. It was not until early nineties when I accidentally discovered a new approach that blends the concepts of a ninefold (*navamansa*) chart progression, the constellation rulers of the popular K.P. system, and the great 120 year planetary cycles. In this new approach, instead of using

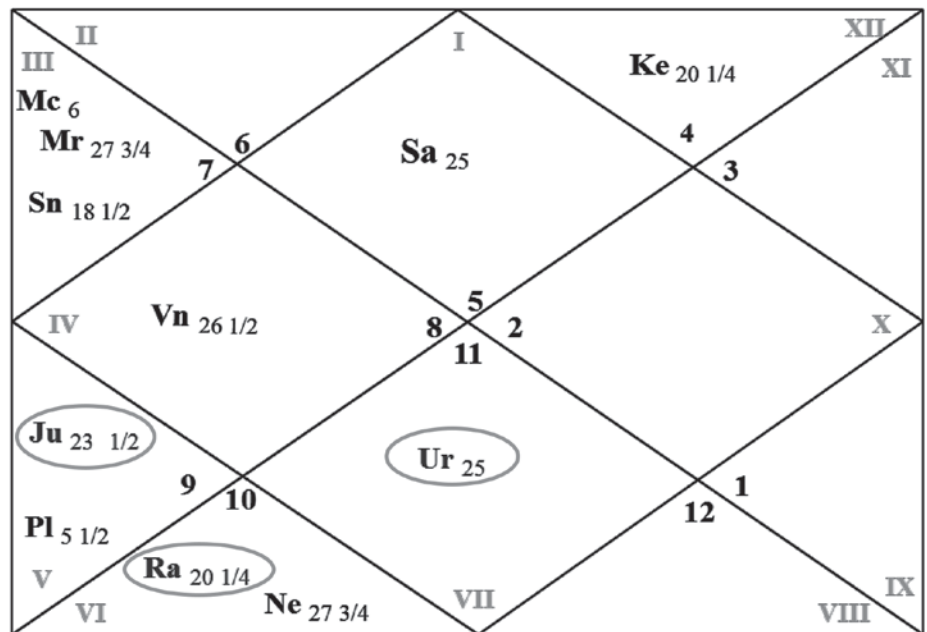


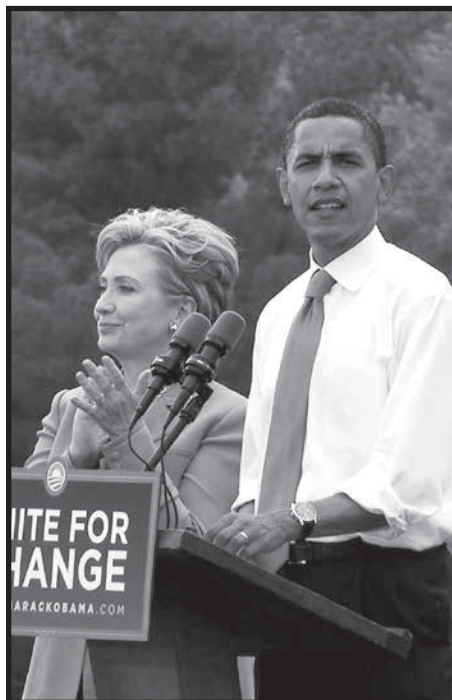
Chart 4: Obama's progressive chart with Ninefold ascendant for November 4, 2008

either the natal ascendant or the moon-sign as the reference sign for the operating planet's transiting positions, it uses the ninefold (*navamansa*) ascendant of the natal chart (natal Ninefold ascendant)

The ninefold natal ascendant [6] for president Obama's chart is Leo, [4] and his progressive chart for the 2008 Election Day (below, opposite page, 74).

At the time of election, the transiting Jupiter was in Sagittarius, transiting Uranus in Aquarius and transiting Rahu in Capricorn. Therefore, as shown in the progressive chart (page 74), transiting Jupiter, being in Sagittarius at the time of his election, gets placed in the 5<sup>th</sup> house (the house of success) of this chart [5]. Similarly the transiting Capricorn Rahu and Aquarius Uranus get placed in the 6<sup>th</sup> (the house of victory) and the 7<sup>th</sup> house (the dealing with the masses) respectively in this chart. Thus, the placements of the transiting operating planets Jupiter, Rahu and Uranus are very favorable to guarantee him the victory.

As listed earlier, president Obama's major Jupiter cycle ended on July 3, 2012 and the next major cycle of Saturn began. There is only one planet in the constellations ruled by Saturn (3<sup>o</sup>:20' - 16<sup>o</sup>:40' of Cancer, Scorpio and Pisces as shown in Table 1) in Obama's natal chart, and that is Mercury. Mercury being the ruler of the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> (adversaries, hidden enemies) and the 8<sup>th</sup> house (delays, disappointment, less opportunities, obstacles and frustration), he started facing more political challenges with less and less success in overcoming them. The assassinations of US ambassador and three other Americans to Libya by Al Qaeda militants in Benghazi occurred soon after his major Saturn cycle began with Mercury as the operating planet. The second term presidential election was not easy for him and he barely



managed to survive. His popularity has been going down since then. The latest event supporting the influence of Mercury is clearly reflected in losing the both Houses (Congress and Senate) to the Republicans in 2014 midterm elections.

The traditional application of *Wishonttari Dasha* doesn't quite explain the influence of Saturn's major cycle because Saturn, being the ruler of the first house as auspicious planet was expected to provide him with the positive period and success in dealing with the political challenges. But the KP based application does explain the difficulties that Mr. Obama has been facing with diminishing success and consequently his dwindling popularity.

Furthermore, the comparison between the KP based application and the ninefold ascendant based application of the *Dasha* reveals that Mercury's transit through the zodiac signs is better correlated with the events that happened in last two years using the Ninefold ascendant based application of the *Dasha*, rather than the KP based application [7].

## Endnotes

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7. [www.astroinsight.com](http://www.astroinsight.com)



## Jagdish Maheshri

NCGR Research Director since 2010, Jagdish Maheshri presented papers on the "Earthquake Prediction Model" at NCGR conferences in Baltimore, MA, and Philadelphia, PA. In 2012 he spoke at UAC in New Orleans, LA. Jagdish holds a PhD in chemical engineering, and teaches Vedic astrology (online). Author of several articles, he also conducts workshops and appears on radio shows. He is a self-taught contemporary Vedic astrologer. His prime research interests are natural and man-made calamities (e.g., earthquakes). In 1995, he discovered a unique "Ninefold Progression Technique" explained in his book, *It's All in Timing*. His website is [www.astroinsight.com](http://www.astroinsight.com). Use [jmaheshri@astroinsight.com](mailto:jmaheshri@astroinsight.com) to reach him by email.

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4801 Yellowwood Rd.,  
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## MASSACHUSETTS

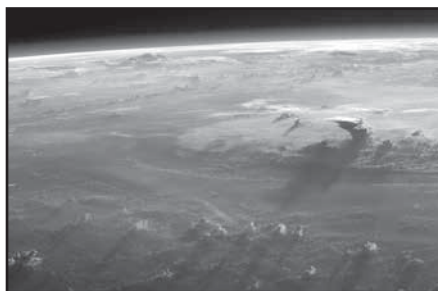
### Boston Chapter

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## MICHIGAN

### Southeast Michigan Astrologer's Round Table (SMART)

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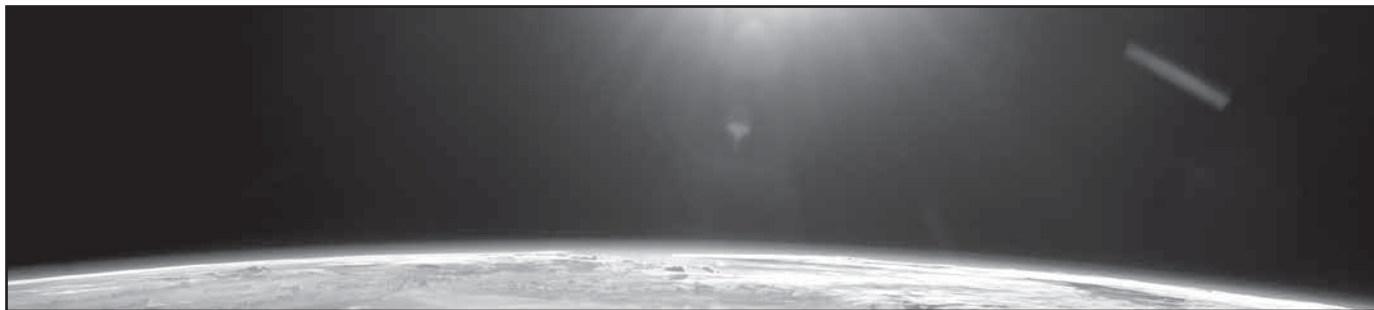
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*(Continued...)*

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### DECL SIG (Declination)

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