

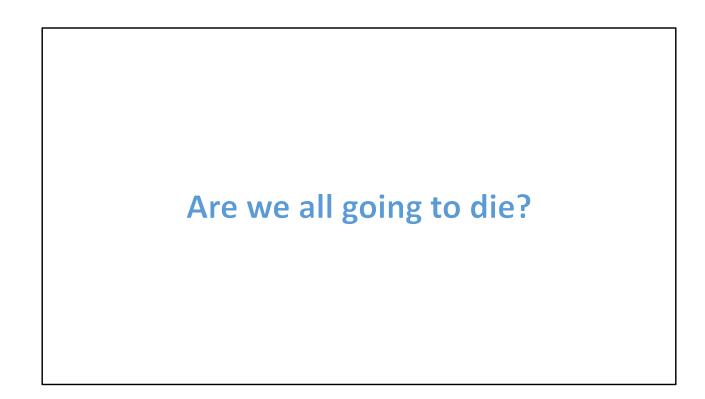


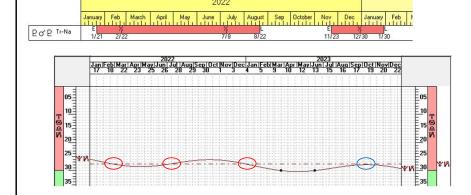
These days I don't really think in terms of making predictions for two reasons. First, a single astrological influence can manifest in many different ways, and second, people always have free will and the ability to respond differently than expected. Thus, instead of predictions, I say that I give weather reports. I can look at a horoscope and determine when things will be stormy and when there will be clear skies, and I can give subjective probabilities regarding what might happen. I just can't predict anything with absolute certainty.

My QUESTions

- 1. Are we all going to die?
- 2. Will the Jupiter/Neptune conjunction be a good thing for the world?
- 3. What has happened in Americ since the last Jupiter/Neptune conjunction?
- 4. How will the Jupiter/Neptune conjunction affect America?
- 5. Will there be a Civil War?
- 6. What's going on with Mars this year?
- 7. What will happen in the midterm elections?
- 8. What's the best time of the decade?

I've put the word "quest" in capital letters because I think that is the higher purpose astrology. In other words, even though many people go to astrologers for information on what I call the three Fs (fame, fortune, and frivolity), the truth, in my opinion, is that we are all on a quest, a hero's journey to learn new things, live creatively, and achieve enlightenment, and the horoscope is a map that shows us how we fit into the great planetary cycles and what directions and lessons we intend to focus on in this life.



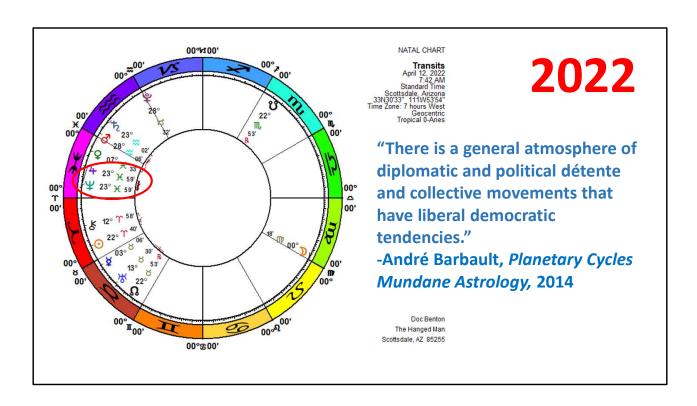


The Pluto Return

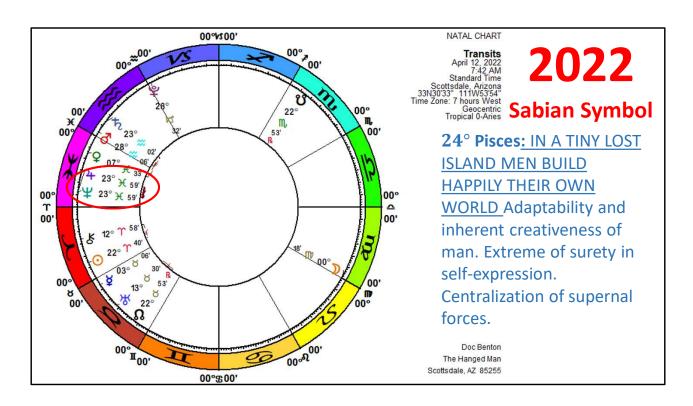
Transiting Pluto, the planet of death and transformation, will conjunct its natal position three times in 2022 and we'll have a near miss in 2023. We may not die, but we will be transformed. We may "build back better," but a lot of our ugliness regarding racism and other fears and prejudices is also being uncovered now. However, the choices we make now can help determine what we will transform into.

Pluto will be in its retrograde zone from January 6, 2022, until January 29, 2023. During that time as it goes from 27 degrees Capricorn to 29 degrees Capricorn, it will conjunct natal Pluto in the USA chart three times. One way or another, radical transformation whether good or bad will begin during this period. It is also likely that ugly sides of America that many Americans don't like to acknowledge will rise to the surface, but motivation for positive transformation may also arise.

Will the Jupiter/Neptune conjunction be a good thing for the world?

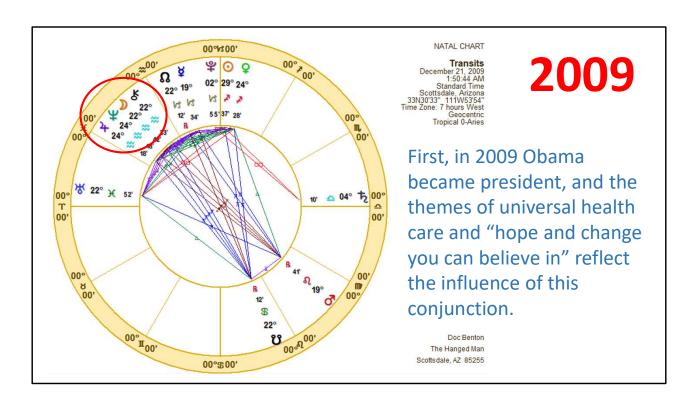


Jupiter and Neptune are co-rulers of Pisces, and over all I expect good things to result from the influx of this higher but unstructured energy into the planet. Democrats may even be able to pass more of their progressive agenda. However, lower expressions of Pisces include misinformation and fanaticism. Also, financial astrologers associate inflation with Jupiter in Pisces.

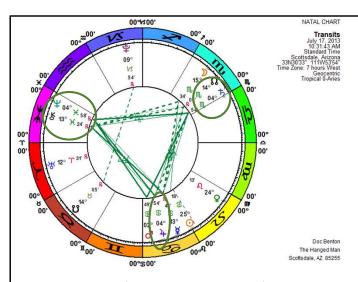


Interestingly, during this pandemic I feel like I have created my own happy little world as I isolate in the island of my home.

What has happened in America since the last Jupiter/Neptune Conjunction?



The last Jupiter/Neptune conjunction was in Aquarius in 2009 when Obama was president. The compassion of Neptune and the universality of Aquarius were reflected in his political agendas. Also, the upcoming conjunction in 2022 represents the assimilation of experience and lessons learned since this 2009 conjunction.

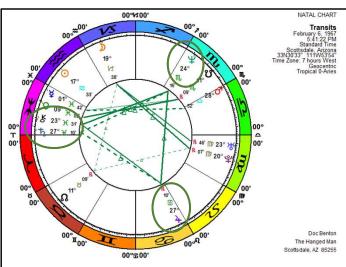


2013

- A grand trine in water signs involving Neptune, Jupiter, Saturn, and Chiron
- SCOTUS ruled the Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional
- Pew polls showed majority support for same-sex marriage and cannabis

- High Times! (Neptune in Pisces)
- Expanded definition of families (Jupiter in Cancer) same-sex marriage and
- Spiritual not religious (Chiron in Pisces)
- Legalization with appropriate regulation(Saturn in Scorpio)

This grand trine was particularly strong since Jupiter, Neptune, and Pisces all occupied the same degree of their respective signs, and Chiron added an important spiritual dimension. Also, while many astrologers focus on Chiron's image as a wounded healer, it lies between Saturn and Uranus, and I perceive it more in terms as a bridge between the personal and the transpersonal. As I see it, Chiron urges us to see the larger reality and to transcend the wants and desires of the personal ego.

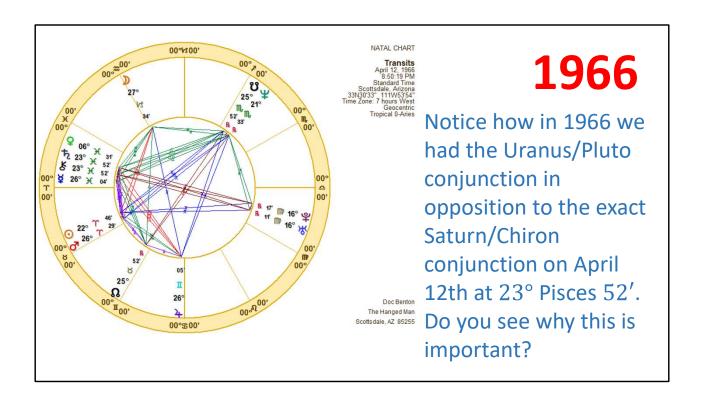


- If it feels good, do it! (Neptune in Scorpio)
- Communes and new families (Jupiter in Cancer)
- Deep spirituality (Chiron in Pisces)
- Weakening of restrictions (Saturn in Pisces)

1967

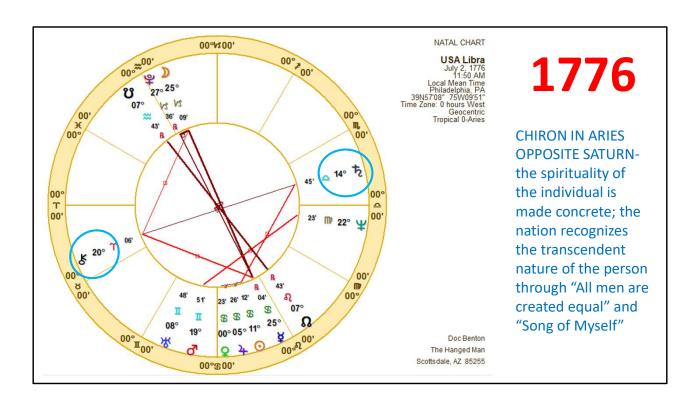
- A grand trine in water signs involving Neptune, Jupiter, Saturn, and Chiron
- Flower children, meditation, marijuana, psychedelics, ISKCON, and environmentalism

There was another strong trine with Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune in 1967, and once again Chiron was involved. But also extremely relevant to the 60's revolution were the 1966 conjunctions of Uranus/Pluto and Saturn/Chiron that were opposite each other on April 12th of 1966. This brought into the world not only several sudden adjustments and transformations, but also a more subtle spiritual revolution.

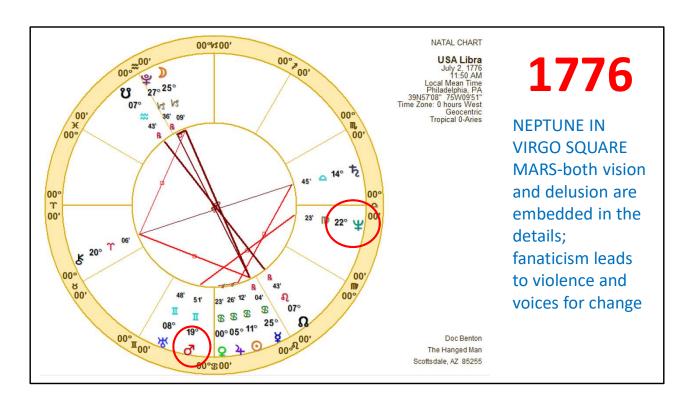


Both the Saturn/Chiron conjunction of 1966 and the Jupiter/Neptune conjunction of 2022 occur on April 12^{th} and within 7 minutes of arc from one another. Hence, the deep spirituality of the 60s is being reactivated.

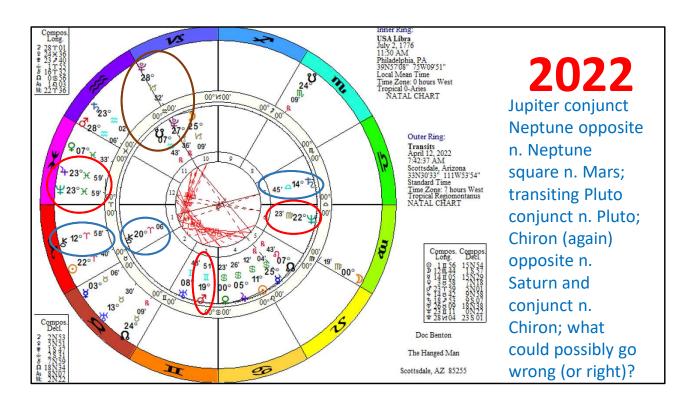
How will the Jupiter/Neptune conjunction affect America?



Many astrologers focus on the image of the "wounded healer" when discussing Chiron, but since Chiron resides between Saturn and Uranus it also represents a bridge between the personal and the transpersonal. With Chiron in Aries opposite Saturn in Libra, America is exceptional in the way that it recognizes the transcendent nature of the individual and tries to actualize it within all people. Also while preparing this presentation, I couldn't help but notice how often Chiron, the urge to transcend the personal, is present at crucial times in America's history.



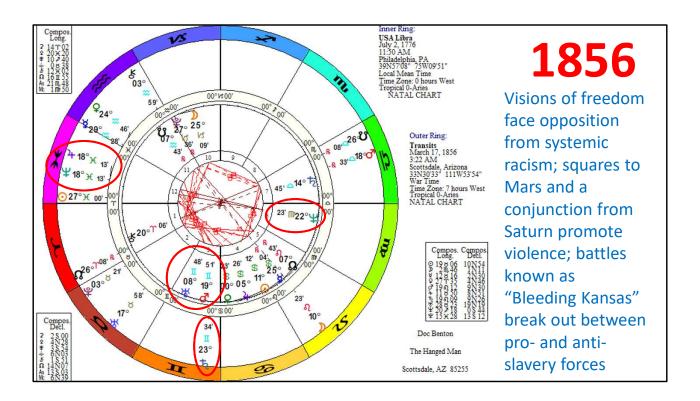
Whenever either of these planets is stimulated in the USA chart, there is always a potential for misinformation, fanaticism and violence.



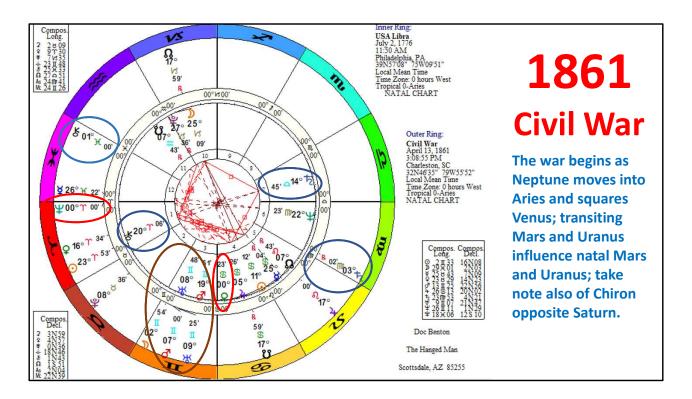
This may be the most important day of the year for America. Transiting Pluto is still within 1 degree of its recent conjunction with natal Pluto, transiting Neptune and Pluto are stimulating the the Neptune/Mars square in th USA chart, and transiting Chiron is in a strong opposition to natal Saturn and widely conjunct natal Chiron indicating the higher ways of acting for the greater good that we are trying to bring into manifestation. Also what is amazing is that this conjunction not only occurs on the same day as the important Saturn/Chiron conjunction of 1966, but also within 7 minutes of the same position in Pisces. Thus, I expect the spiritual yearnings of the 1960s to reemerge in some form or fashion. Also, recall that the Sabian symbol for 24 degrees Pisces says, "IN A TINY LOST ISLAND MEN BUILD HAPPILY THEIR OWN WORLD." Hence, while the establishment is crumbling, many individuals will quietly go about the business of creating a new reality.

Will there be a Civil War?

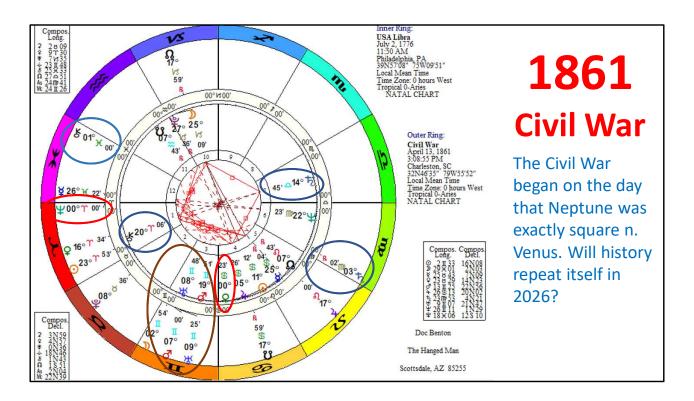
Several historians, political pundits, and people in the media have raised this question over the past year, but the first person that I ever heard raise this possibility was an astrologer friend of mine in Houston about a year ago.



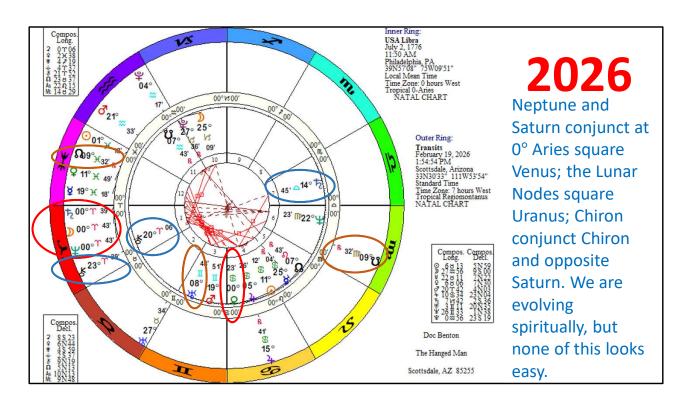
The last time there was a Jupiter/Neptune conjunction in Pisces was in 1856, and it, too, stimulated the Neptune/Mars square in the USA chart. Notice, too, how transiting Saturn is stimulating natal Mars. We'll see something like that again when we look at the near future for America.



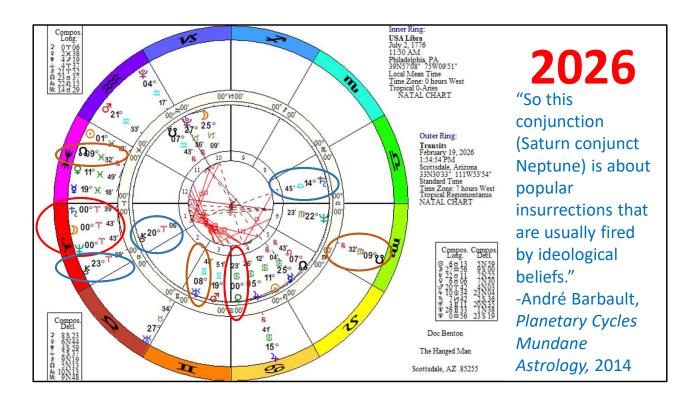
Transiting Mars and Uranus are greatly stirring the pot as they pass over natal Uranus and Mars, but notice, too, how transiting Chiron and Saturn are forming an opposition that is reminiscent of the Saturn/Chrion opposition in the USA chart. Interestingly, there is once again a subtle spiritual growth that is also occurring during this conflict.



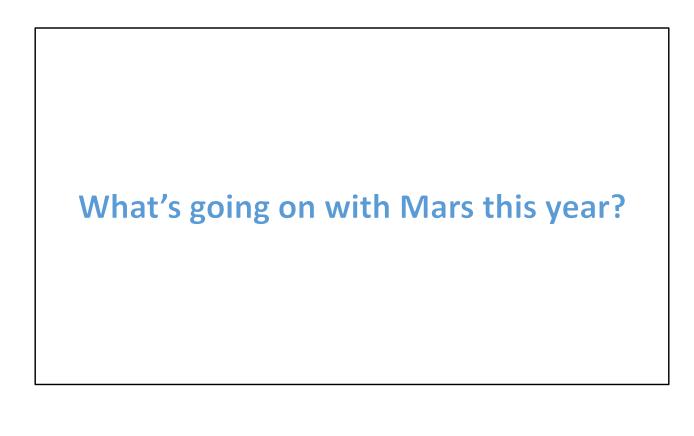
The American Civil War began on the exact day that transiting Neptune moved into Aries, and in the July 2nd chart for America, Neptune was exactly square natal Venus on this day. That's one reason why I have a slight preference for this chart over the various July 4th charts.



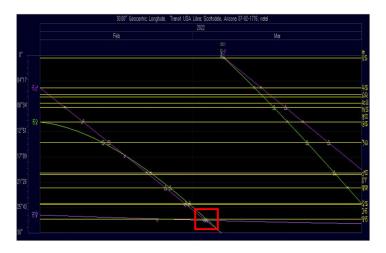
Now if we skip to 2026, we see many of the configurations that signaled the Civil War repeating themselves. Neptune enters Aries to square natal Venus, and this time it is joined by the Moon and Saturn. Additionally, recall how during the unrest in 1856 that preceded the Civil War that transiting Saturn was conjunct natal Mars. The point here is that Saturn is once again involved. Also, the transiting nodes will be conjunct natal Uranus, and that may intensify revolutionary fervor. And lastly, note how again we have transiting Chiron conjunct natal Chiron and opposite natal Saturn, thus urging us to find a spiritual solution to our conflicts.



Will there be another Civil War in 2026? Right now a repeat of 1861 seems unlikely to me since we seem too intertwined for any sort of dissolution to be possible. Of course, some say there will be a civil war, but that it will be fought in the courts rather than on the battle field. What I do know for certain, though, is that this will likely be a time of great unrest and transition for America. Thus, may we all heed the voices of our higher angels at this time!



Mars and Venus will be in close conjunction from about mid-February through mid-March, and Mars, Venus, and Pluto will be conjunct the USA n. Pluto on March 2nd, 2022.

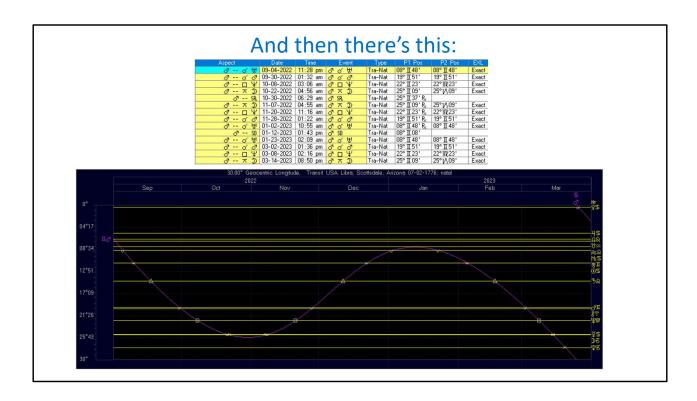


Mars usually spends about two months in each sign, but in 2022-2023 Mars will spend over seven months in Gemini.

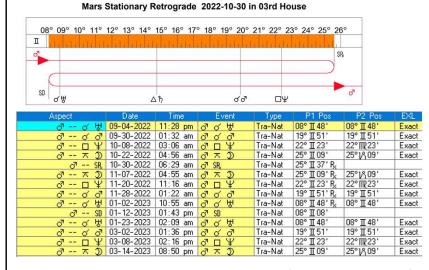


Barbault Cycle Index hits its low for the century in March 2022.

Venus represents the pleasure principle, but through the process of deciding what feels good and what doesn't we create a non-verbal map in our right brains of what we value and what we don't. From mid-February through mid-March competing sets of values (Venus) may battle (Mars) for control (Capricorn). Also, the Barbault Cycle Index appears to hit its low for the century in March 2022. This index is a cumulative sum of the distances between the outer planets, and when its low that means the planets aren't as evenly distributed around the zodiac as they should, and this creates an imbalance that can be quite difficult.



The squares and conjunctions from Mars that occur during this retrograde period may coincide with aggressive passions and unrest in America from September of 2022 through March of 2023.

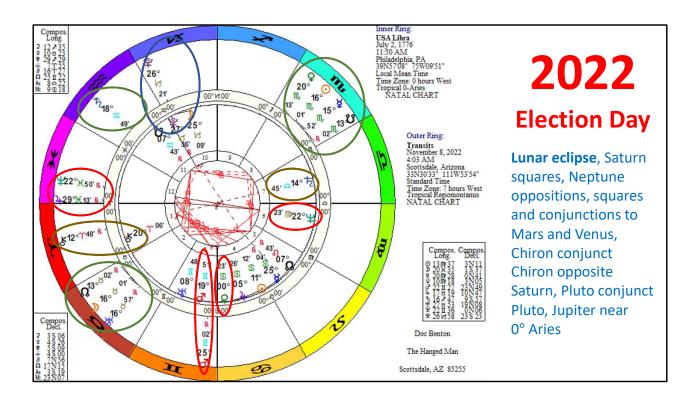


 The late, great mundane astrologer André Barbault felt that stationary periods for Mars were associated with wars and conflict.

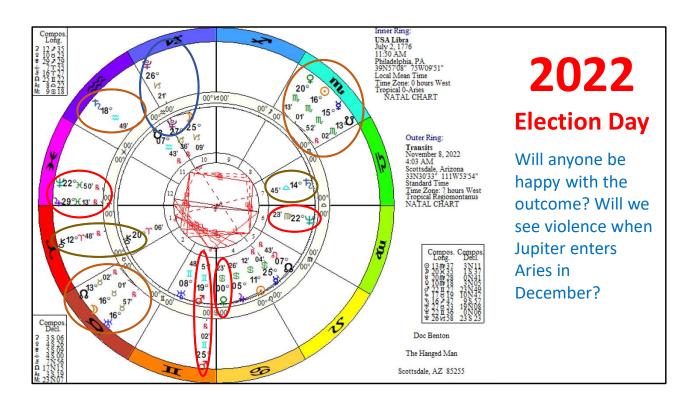
- Mars is conjunct n. Uranus when it enters the shadow zone.
- Mars is inconjunct n. Moon/Pluto when it turns stationary retrograde.
- Mars is conjunct n. Uranus when it turns stationary direct.

Revolutionary tendencies (Uranus) will be greatly stimulated by Mars during this retrograde period, and discord is likely. However, as individuals we can always choose positive creativity over negative destruction.

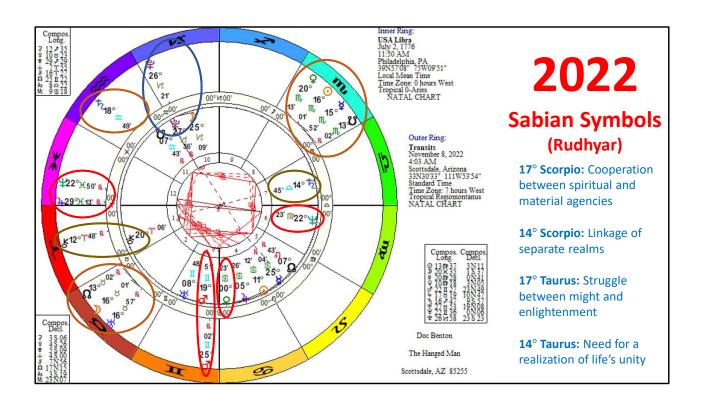
What will happen during the midterm elections this year?

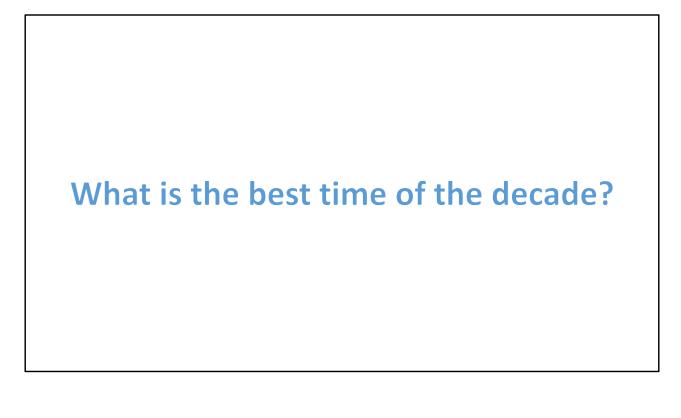


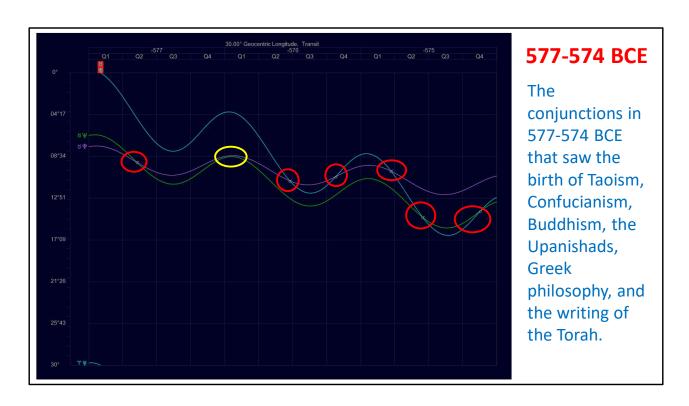
Even without the consideration of the transits to the USA chart, there are astrologers who consider this eclipse to be a stinker due to squares to the Sun and Moon from Saturn and a conjunction between Uranus and the Moon. Also, Chiron is inconjunct the Sun and semisextle the Moon indicating an impulse toward spiritual adjustments that will likely occur in the background.



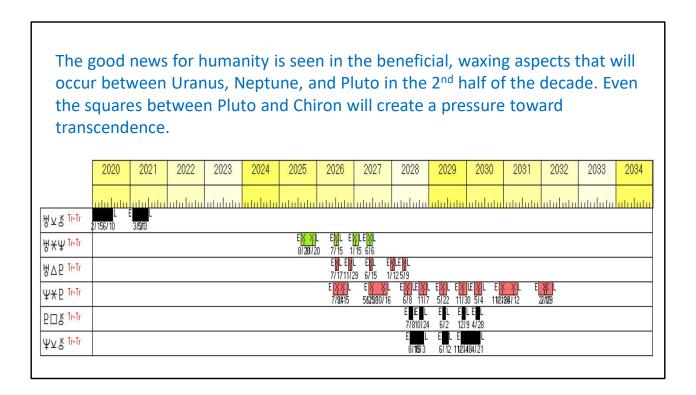
Right before election day Jupiter will retrograde back into Pisces, and after the election it will move back into Aries. This may result in some euphoria or false hope around election day that may take a more aggressive turn when Jupiter returns to Aries.



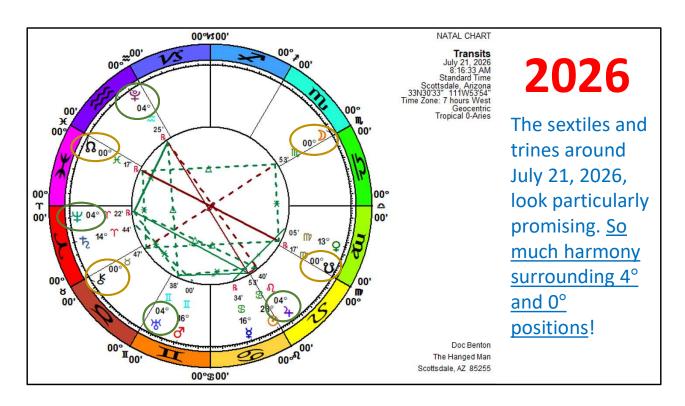




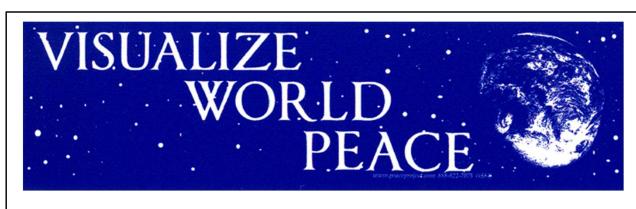
So many religions and world philosophies began around the time of these great conjunctions, and this is good evidence for the validity of astrology.



These aspects and the current generation of teenagers and young adults give me some hope for the future. Many of them are far more sophisticated and far more knowledgeable of the world around them than I was at their age. I see the baby boomers as a great generation that promoted individual spirituality, environmentalism, and an end to racism, but this generation coming up may be even greater, and it has to be given the challenges that face humanity. And while I don't really understand their music, that may be simply because their level of sophistication is beyond my understanding. If the boomers were "Humanity 2.0," then the zoomers may be "Humanity 10.0."



All of these outer planet aspects are essentially waxing aspects (including Chiron/North Node and Moon/South Node), and thus, we are in the building period for these cycles. I really hope to live to see this day.



A THOUGHT IS A POWERFUL THING



Back in the eighties a friend of mine, Ginny Hayes, created the "visualize World Peace" bumper sticker, and I was there when she opened the first box of stickers hot off the presses. Also, at the bottom of the original bumper sticker were the words "A thought is a powerful thing." As we go through this period from now through early May of Jupiter and Neptune in Pisces, this is a time for all people to dream dreams and to have visions for a better world to come (Joel 2:28 in Christian Bibles and Joel 3:1 in Hebrew Bibles). May it be so.

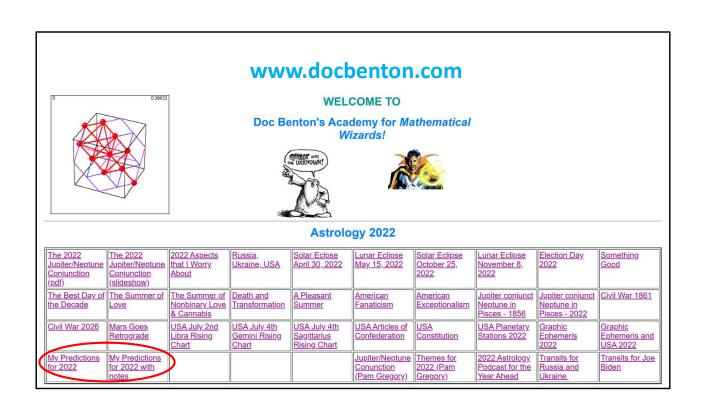


What is our mission for 2022? Simple!

"This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!"

If we focus more on creating beauty and less on just reacting to others, we might survive.

I realized this past year that we often spend much of our lives simply reacting to things, often out of fear. However, I believe that instead of just reacting to things our purpose in this life is to learn things and to create things with the light that we brought with us into this life. We are meant to be creators within this universe, and each us comes here with something good that we are meant to create. May each of us create a better world as we go forward!



If you go to my webpage, www.docbenton.com, then you will find a lot of mathematical stuff at the top, but at the very bottom you will see a list of astrological resources for 2022, and at the very bottom on the left you will find two pdf copies of this presentation, one that includes my notes and another without. Enjoy!