

Cosmic Views

Aquarius Ingress January 20, 2008

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Pluto/Mars Opposition

By Carole Devine

Have you noticed that there has been a tendency in your relationships to “not take it anymore?” Or have you found it frustrating to just get things done? Mars has been retrograding in late Gemini and early Cancer since November 19, 2007, and since around December 20 (depending on the orbs you use) it has been opposing Pluto. Such an opposition can be wearing in that it can increase tension and lead to obsessive tendencies. Nothing seems minor. Tempers are harder to keep in check now—note the exchanges between Hillary and Obama, as well as outbursts from Mr. Clinton. It’s hard to know when one has gone too far.

Mars stations and goes direct on January 30, but it stays in orb of opposing Pluto until late March. If you have anything in your chart from about 22 of a mutable sign (Pisces, Gemini, Virgo and Sagittarius) all the way to the first 3 degrees of a cardinal sign (Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn), then you are going to feel this the most. The area of your life where it will manifest would depend on the house position or house ruled by the contacted planet or mathematical point. It is especially potent for the last couple degrees of the mutables to the first few degrees of the cardinals. (As a side note, Mercury will retrograde on January 28th until February 19th.)

The compulsion to clean things out or transform them is strong. This can be a cleanout of habits, relationships, jobs, closets, files—anything. On January 27th Pluto enters Capricorn where it will stay for only part of the year, retrograding back into Sagittarius and then forward into Capricorn on November 27th to stay until the year 2023. Pluto usually indicates major change in a life, so those people with the above degrees being activated can expect great change over the next couple years, and some of you have already started experiencing it. It will also indicate major change in all things “Capricornian,” which includes government, authority figures, corporations and big business. The last time Pluto entered Capricorn was around 1762 and led to the formation of the United States, which was a protest of other forms of government.

In our personal lives, with this opposition in effect, it’s a good idea to think before you speak, wait for a quieter moment before you act, and in general, practice prudence. One way to use the energy well is to tackle a project that needs

a lot of muscle or focus. This is, after all, just energy, and you can use it any way you want. Remember our solar system just impels; it doesn't *compel*.

The USA Midheaven

The 9/11 attack dramatically validated the Sibley USA chart, and now we have another opportunity to test it. That chart's MC is 1:03 Libra, which is going to be affected when Pluto stations on April 2nd at 1:09 Capricorn, making a close square to that degree. Plus, on March 7th, Mars will oppose Pluto and also square the MC. Although a few minutes shy of partile, this will trigger that configuration. The US MC is the leader of the country—the president. There could be a major “presidential” event. I'll be watching that time period for validation of this chart. Another potent time is December 28, 2008 when Mars conjoins Pluto at this same position in Capricorn. That, too, should be significant.

Heath Ledger

We were all shocked and saddened by the sudden death of talented actor, Heath Ledger, on January 22nd. I don't have a time of birth for him, but on the day he was born, April 4, 1979 in Perth, Australia, there was a Mars/Mercury conjunction all day at 26 and 27 degrees of Pisces, which was being affected by the above mentioned Mars/Pluto opposition. This can be impatience with a situation or to “get something done.” He had been having trouble sleeping and said he was lucky to get two hours a night. With the obsessive tendencies of all these energies, it would not be surprising if he took more of a sleep remedy than recommended.

However, he was born with a Venus/Saturn opposition, as well. That can indicate a feeling of unworthiness. It was being activated within less than a degree by transiting Saturn—in fact, he was having his Saturn return; it had just stationed on its natal position. We don't know the houses they rule, so it's impossible right now to know what part of his life would have been on his mind, but usually in a general way, this contributes to a feeling of loneliness, not being appreciated, even not being paid enough—or life costing too much.

On the day he was born, the Moon was in Cancer all day. I've often noticed that people with a strong Aries/Cancer combination, and especially with Pisces strong, too, as it is in this case, can be super sensitive to the slightest things. And, with Mars conjoining Mercury, he could have been quick to respond, as well. More than likely this was an accident, but it is interesting that the Mars/Pluto opposition played a part.

And, another interesting thing is that during the estimated time of his death, the transiting ascendant was very close to conjoining Mars in that opposition and, indeed, could have been right on it.

Eclipses

The eclipse on February 6th will activate the 18th degree of fixed signs (Aquarius, Taurus, Leo and Scorpio) The 18th degree is between 17 and 18 degrees since the Zodiac starts with zero—i.e. zero to one is the first degree. We allow a five degree orb for eclipses' influence, however, so many people born the first ten days or so of February, May, August and November will especially feel this energy. You can expect to find your attention drawn to the affairs of whatever house the eclipse activates for the next six months at least. It is said, however, that fixed sign eclipses last longer than others, and that seems to hold true.

On February 20/21 (depending on where you live in the world) the eclipse will activate the second degree of Virgo; ergo, if you were born within five days of those dates in February, May, August, and November, the same holds true. Every six months we have a pair of eclipses two weeks apart—one lunar and one solar—so this is an ongoing phenomenon and a great timer for major turning points in your life.

Don't forget.....

If you were born within 30 days of today, you can have 20% off any service except the intensive forecast. (*The intensive forecast, which includes all forecasting techniques I use plus lunar return charts, has not changed price—\$25 per month—for many years. It can be ordered for as little as two months at a time and offers much detail.*) The reason I'm offering the discount is selfish: If you get a forecast near your birthday, I only have to do one solar return instead of two, so I'm trying to lure most clients to get an update within 30 days of their birthday. This special offer is going to be in effect until June 30, 2008. That will be the one year mark since I began this effort.

Also don't forget UAC! The United Astrology Conference in Denver, CO is co-sponsored by ACVA/CVA, AFAN, ISAR and NCGR. The dates are May 15-20, 2008. This is the premier conference in the Astrological community. I'll be giving two presentations and look forward to meeting many of you in person. Go to www.uacastrology.com for more information.

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