

Cosmic Views

Scorpio & Sagittarius Ingresses

October 23, 2007 & November 22, 2007

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Here a Retrograde; There a Retrograde; Everywhere a Retrograde

By Carole Devine

It has been a retro year. Saturn started off in that condition at the beginning of 2007, overlapped by Mercury from February 14th to March 7th; then just before Saturn went direct, Jupiter began backing up in April as did Pluto. Neptune joined the backward dance in late May just in time for another Mercury retrograde beginning June 15th. Uranus joined them on June 23rd. Venus began a rare retrograde time on July 27th ending September 8th, the day after Pluto went direct. Mercury retrograded again the last three weeks of October. But the reprieve is short-lived since Mars begins a backward motion November 15th, and if we include the shadow time, it will not be clear until early April next year. Have you felt that just about everything has taken *forever* this year to finish up? Well, now you know why. I am still waiting for my “don’t complain” bracelets ordered months ago!

We all know the old traditional thinking about Mercury retrograde—how we should double check everything, not start anything new, etc. But I just got a new twist on it all from Tom Roma who says that it’s a good time to buy used things. So October was a good time to hit the garage sales and flea markets. Keep that in mind for the next Mercury retrograde period. His 2008 date book is now available, by the way, from Amass Publishing, P.O. 217, Swarthmore, PA 19081. www.tomjeromeroma.net.

Mars retrogrades every couple years, and it starts this time on November 15th at 12:27 Cancer. It will go direct on January 30th at 24:05 Gemini. The shadow will remain until it again reaches 12:27 Cancer on April 4, 2008. Personally, I can’t just suspend things that long, so although mindful of the shadow, I don’t really give it the same weight as the retrograde period.

The USA Sun (and George Bush’s Sun) is located at 13 Cancer, just minutes away from the retrograde point, and it will also be square USA natal Saturn, not to mention square the vicinity of the USA progressed Mars which went retrograde for the first time in our history last year. It, the coming transiting retrograde Mars, will go direct near the degrees of the USA natal Neptune/Mars square. Since we have never experienced a progressed retrograde Mars in our history, it is hard to say how this transiting Mars will affect us.

Generally speaking, Mars is action, conflict, martial affairs—all that we think of as masculine energy. When retrograde, historically, there are blockages to those

things. Obstacles to overcome before action can be completed. At the very least we can expect delays over the holidays and through out January. It will, of course, especially affect those who have planets or mathematical points in their charts near the stationing degrees mentioned above.

There are two phenomena in the next 6 weeks (before the Capricorn Ingress) that are particularly interesting. One is Uranus stationing (to go direct) quincunx the USA Saturn within minutes on November 24th, and the other is Saturn stationing (to go retrograde) square the USA Uranus within minutes on December 19th. When there are vice-versa configurations like this it is very important. In the USA chart these two planets have to do with money and collective thought at the grassroots level. A quincunx is a shift or separation that is so profound there is no comparison to it. It is a dislocation of a sort. With the dollar being so low in value and China being our creditor and essentially holding a lot of power, it is not surprising that we might shift our thinking about money to some extent. I know I have very recently viewed it all very differently than even a few months ago. The square of Saturn to Uranus says in a nutshell, "We have to do what we have to do." Or to put it another way, there is discipline and a sobering effect over our Uranian thought processes, which are usually free-wheeling.

Adding Mars retrograde at the same time during the holiday season, and we have a mixture that could put a damper on our consumptive habits. In the next newsletter I'll write an article about what we can expect in 2008 and expand on these things.

Fred Thompson

When George Bush was first running for president, I tried to delineate his chart in a positive way, concentrating on his Libra Moon/Jupiter conjunction. There are always positive and negative ways of using *any* energy in a chart which is largely up to our free will choices. Otherwise we'd be no more than puppets dangling on strings, wouldn't we? In the years that followed it was evident that his Leo ascendant and planets in Leo took center stage, and he chose very negative ways of expressing all of his attributes.

Fred Thompson's chart (*Aug. 19, 1942 at 6:17 a.m. in Sheffield, AL, the time for which is rated AA by the Rodden system, meaning there is evidence like a birth certificate in hand*) is similar to Bush's, but stronger in the same direction. He doesn't have the softening effect of Jupiter and Moon in Libra. Instead he has the Moon in Scorpio square the Sun and Ascendant in Leo. His mind is more impulsive than Bush's with Mercury conjunct Mars in Virgo *in the first house (!)*—*meaning more impulsiveness*—with both exactly square Saturn, meaning he has doubts about his decisions and may stubbornly maintain a stance out of pride (all that Leo).

We are in precarious times, and what we need is a president who understands the Asian mindset and is flexible enough to see that we have to adjust to a global culture, rather than an insulated western view. We are not going to be the only power anymore. After all, China is our banker (all because of the Iraq war!); and we are going to have to understand China to adjust to all the change ahead. Fred Thompson doesn't even come close to qualifying for this unique ability. Our votes

next year are critical, and before voting, *Istrongly* urge you and anyone you know to get the book, *Soul-Sick Nation* from either Amazon or www.mothersky.com. I'm not profiting from promoting this book; I just think it's important. So important, in fact, that I'm sending one to Oprah in hopes that she will see its value. And if many of us sent her one, or sent a letter suggesting she read it, she would really notice! We Americans have no clue what has been happening in our history. It is time we recognized it and make our voices heard.

Christmas is coming!

Every year I try to offer something special for Christmas. This year there are two things: One is the sampler at the old price. It is now \$30, but for Christmas if you want to gift someone, it is \$25 until December 10th. That gives me enough time to get it done in time for gifting.

The other—also until Dec. 10th—is to extend the 20% discount (now available to anyone who orders a chart in their birthday month) to NEW people who have never had a chart done before. If you would like to give the gift of understanding one's self to a friend who has never experienced a chart interpretation, this is your chance to save 20%. See the website www.devineadvantage.com for all the choices and prices.

And for next year, you might want to consider ordering an oil painting of an interpretation of a loved one's chart. See "Inspired art" on the website.

If you plan to do take advantage of these offers, please order early so that I won't have a last minute deluge, which is what usually happens. I would really appreciate that.

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