

The Fenris Wolf – Issue no.8

“C o n s c i o u s E x I t”

by
Derek R. Seagrief

*“Beyond living and dreaming there is something more important –
waking up.”*



Uranus – the Awakener

That we have entered the 2000 year period known as the Age of Aquarius must be rather obvious to all, since we are currently exposed to such a great intensification of everyday living, experiencing a concentration of 3-days experience into one single day. Our Baptism into the Aquarian vibration radically changes life on planet Earth and our human consciousness. In this article I want to share some of my astrological research regarding planetary patterns on the Death horoscope. My focus will be primarily the appearance of the planet Uranus and the sign Aquarius. Why?

Uranus reflects our capacity, as human beings, to attune ourselves to the larger system, and the sudden recognition of this bigger universe often has the effect of shattering our existing world-view. As we shall see through the astrological examples in this article, the strong presence of Uranus or the sign Aquarius on the Death chart, and related to the radix patterns, invites this accelerated awareness or what I am describing as a “conscious exit”. For the evolved, the movement at death is towards freedom and liberation from the restrictions of the physical form – and an eagerness to meet soul friends awaiting on the other side.

As long as human beings have recorded their perceptions, they have described some kind of cosmic order. Uranus initiates us into the Mind of God.

In the area of life ruled by the house in which Uranus is placed, we all long, consciously or unconsciously, to be Prometheus, the ancient Greek culture-Hero who brought to our world the gift of fire – enlightenment.

It is because there is a promethean spirit within the individual, that is impelled to strive toward a different, freer place in a different, freer world. This spirit perceives society as imperfect and in need of change and reform, and the individual will seek, consciously or unconsciously, to be part of the vanguard which ushers in new social possibilities.

The current 7-year transit of Uranus through Aries (2011-2018) continues to encourage us to be ourselves, to individuate continually and to recognize that our uniqueness is an essential trait that we must nurture, support and express whenever possible.

Conscious Birth & Conscious Exit

When transit Uranus moved into opposition to my natal Leo Sun I was experiencing my 50th. year and had my first child. It was a revolution and a radical change of lifestyle becoming a father. Then within a time frame of exactly 7 years, less one day, my first and my third child were born in the sign of Pisces.

All three children started their existence on planet Earth through water-birth at home, a wonderful alternative method of natural birth, involving both father & mother, in sharp contrast with today's hospital system. This is suggested through my natal placement of Uranus in the water sign Cancer opposing my Capricorn Ascendant. Throughout my life I have often done things different than the norm, so becoming a father at a relatively late age was just another chapter in this continuing journey. When asked the inevitable question about "why so late", I often automatically replied that it was because I had truly met the right woman. But then I started to add that one of the greatest gifts that we as parents can bestow upon our children is the fact that we are "*conscious parents*", self-aware and integrated with body, heart, mind & soul.

I have been an enthusiastic promoter of "*conscious birth*" these past 12 years, so it was almost predictable that I would ultimately find myself progressively more involved with the opposite side of the equation - "*conscious death*" or "*conscious exit*", the title of this article.

It is an unfortunate fact in society that both the miracle of Birth and the Great Adventure of Death has been reduced to a material event.

We are two-fold beings, at once human and divine, finite & infinite, dualistic and non-dualistic. On one hand we have a body and a personality that change, that age, that experience happiness and pain, that eventually die. We also are pure consciousness, living spirit, deathless, the subject that experiences our body and mind as objects. We live in a society preoccupied with the body and the personality, with that which dies. Death becomes the enemy.

One appropriate task as our years roll by on planet Earth is to recognize life and death as a unity. One's own life may be seen in a greater context, and patterns which escape our notice earlier now become vividly apparent.

So, to the extent you or I have been able to bear the brilliant light of love, of joy, the totally open heart while still alive, then dying will simply be another moment of resting in this light.

To the extent we turn away from love and pull back with fear in our separateness, then dying will come too soon and be too terrible to face.

Now is the moment to awaken. Live consciously – die consciously.

Aquarius & radioactivity

The location of Aquarius as the eleventh sign of the zodiac indicates that it governs the 11th. House affairs. Realisation of ideals, bringing the far-away future nearer is the keynote of the house and the sign. One can therefore state that as the future unfolds more and more people will recognize the goal of a “*conscious exit*”, which is the cooperation between the everyday personality and the universal spirit. Spiritual astrology asserts that our 2000 year passage through the vibration of Aquarius makes us “*radio-active*”. The phenomena of radioactivity transcends form.

There is a sudden hastening of the evolution of human consciousness in all planes, as we transcend time and space. Humanity is gaining mastery over the physical plane and steps into the mysteries of space. And with this comes an extraordinary birth - a *new science of immortality is in the making*, as we practice conscious living and dying.

While the conscious mind is asleep, we can learn things and receive instructions & training through inner group contacts. The future promise is that we can live in the state of *Samadhi* while being active in all levels of objectivity inclusive of our duties towards our fellow-beings. *Conscious existence* of man in all planes simultaneously is the definition of this new yoga.



Uranus-Pluto conjunction & square aspect

The current Uranus-square-Pluto signature in the heavens is a powerful and transformative 14-year period (2007-2020) which we could paraphrase into simple keywords – **Awakening (Uranus) to the Underworld (Pluto)**.

The Underworld which belongs to Pluto, is anything that lies beneath the surface of life or the everyday world. From this zone issue forth all those things we regard as dark & dirty, deep & intriguing, horrific & unmentionable, compelling and profound, occult & shamanic, creepy & crawly, gothic & ghostly.

When the great Awakener Uranus logs onto Pluto’s site, we really are forced to wake up and have a good look at his “Face” – at what we and life are like deep down.

We must accept that there are “dark forces” and identify what to do to make something positive out of the situation – which means to accept and understand what the “dark” is all about. At its most basic this Uranus-Pluto process is waking up to the very existence of the subconscious mind – for that is what the underworld simply is in modern terminology.

The actual discovery and naming of the subconscious was, after all, made by Sigmund Freud during the Uranus-Pluto configuration of 1896-1907.

Our current *Awakening to Transformation* involves a personal journey into our own darkness – wherein lies your own truth. And for me, this is our challenge – to unfold a new perception on the phenomena of change & death. Uranus is the ultimate Sky God and Pluto Lord of the Underworld, so we are in a process of a radical reworking of our collective attitudes and beliefs about Heaven & Hell and the Afterlife.

About 30 years ago the conscious dying movement was born in the modern West. Basically, conscious dying is the process of utilizing the dying process as an opportunity to become more present and loving, an opportunity for profound healing, for spiritual awakening. Eastern traditions, such as Hinduism and particularly Buddhism, as well as shamanic traditions, have clear teachings that guide the dying to a conscious and graceful death. In the West however, this wisdom was lost in the rush to industrialization and modernity.

For much of the 20th. Century, death was almost completely denied in the West. Things began to change in the late 1960s when we experienced the conjunction of Uranus & Pluto in the zodiacal sign of Virgo – sign of body-mind relationship and healing. The pioneering work of “grief therapist” Elisabeth Kubler Ross was published and the first hospice opened in London. Before the modern hospice movement – dying with dignity – death was denied. Dying was about the body only, so the mind and the spirit were avoided. The main benefit of the hospice movement and of the work of Elisabeth Kubler Ross was that death could be discussed, psychological issues were addressed directly, families could find closure, and people could make the best of a bad situation.

It is appropriate that the soul called **Elisabeth Kubler-Ross**, who personally liberated thousands of patients from the fear of death and nothingness, who’s life work has positively influenced millions in the collective, should exit when transit Sun & Uranus were in dynamic opposition aspect, and the Death Ascendant at 0-degrees Aries was exactly conjunct her natal Uranus at 29½-degrees Pisces.

Yoganada’s Exit

In Hinduism, the state of mind of the dying person is considered to be of utmost importance to their ultimate destiny – their next incarnation. Like *The Tibetan Book of the Dead*, the Indian classic, *The Bhagavad Gita*, declares that the frame of mind in which you put yourself at the moment of death will determine the state into which you enter at death. Technically this means our journey through the *Bardo* states, or the dimensions in-between lives. To know how a man dies, one teacher writes, is to know the man.

This proper frame of mind is not attained suddenly near the last hour before death, rather, it is cultivated during the life. The emphasis is placed on cultivating throughout life a state of mind which will be stabilized in the Real, the true self which is not subject to the death of the body or other changes in the physical world.

Zen Buddhist Masters are known to say to their students – “Why do you want to know what will happen to you after you die? Find out who you are NOW!”

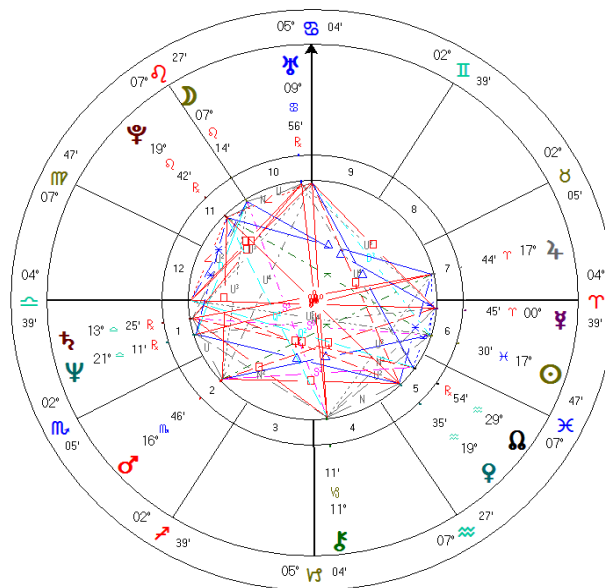
Yoganada is celebrated as a beloved World Teacher, one of the greatest emissaries to the West of India’s ancient wisdom. His life and teachings continue to be a source of light & inspiration to people of all races, cultures and creeds. You have probably read his classic book – “Autobiography of a Yogi” - but do you know how he died? His physical death came on March 7th. 1952 during an evening banquet in Los Angeles, California, to honour India’s ambassador to USA. It was a sudden death – while reciting his own poem “My India”. He entered into **Mahasamadhi**, a conscious exit of the spirit from the body. And what an amazing choice of exit, reading his own devotional poem, full of his ecstatic relationship with India! And if you had a choice (which you do) – how would you like to exit from the physical plane?

20 days later, according to a signed statement from the medical doctor, “....no physical disintegration was visited upon his body....it was apparently in a phenomenal state of immutability.”

This is what happens when the level of integration between the outer & inner vehicles is so intimate.

Yoganada was encouraged to pursue his own spiritual path at an early age. By age 11 he was having mystical experiences. His spiritual quest led him to Swami Sri Yukteswar in 1910 and for the next years he studied under this Master’s loving discipline. Then one week after his Guru died, 19th. June 1936 at 3pm Bombay time, his teacher came to him in a vision and gave him a tour of the Astral & Casual planes. Astrologically, transit Uranus was moving into opposition aspect to Yoganada’s natal position of Uranus in Scorpio, while transit Jupiter, known as the Explorer or Traveller, the “Guru” in Sanskrit, was conjunct his natal Venus in Sagittarius. His Guru did indeed give him a glimpse of the Cosmic workings!

Death of Yogananda
Natal Chart
 7 Mar 1952, Fri
 19:12, PST +8:00
 Los Angeles, California
 34°N 03°08" 118°W 14'34"
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 Mean Node



If you look at his natal chart, Uranus is conjunct the South Node in 3rd. house Scorpio. The suggestion here is that he had already become liberated in past lives.

In my book, *“The Astrology of Death – Entry & Exit: Your Birth & Death Horoscope”*, published in Swedish 2012, I emphasize the significance of the zodiac sign on the Descendant as symbolic of the death – and its planetary ruler as always being strongly present in the exit from the physical dimension.

This is so because if the Ascendant represents the moment of birth then the opposite point is the moment of death or disembodiment. Dying is the personal experience of letting go of the physical body and become senseless.

In Yoganada’s radix it is 29-degrees of Aquarius which occupies the 7th. House cusp. On his Death horoscope it is transit Uranus at 10-degrees Cancer which occupies the highest point, the culminating Midheaven at 5-degrees Cancer, and forms the opposition aspect to his natal Capricorn Sun. Planets at the top of the chart suggest a highly developed sense of full expression, as this represents the noon station of the Sun’s journey, it’s highest point of influence during the day.

There is also the exact contact between the transit nodal Axis at 30-degrees Aquarius-Leo, passing through his natal horizon line. Birth & Death had already become a Unity before his physical exit.

A person’s true desire is revealed at Death

Emanuel Swedenborg who lived from 1688 until 1772 was born in Stockholm. The parallels between the afterlife experiences of Swedenborg and near-death experiences are quite remarkable. So remarkable in fact that Dr. Raymond Moody’s ground-breaking book on near-death experiences, *“Life After Life”*, has a section where those parallels are specifically discussed.

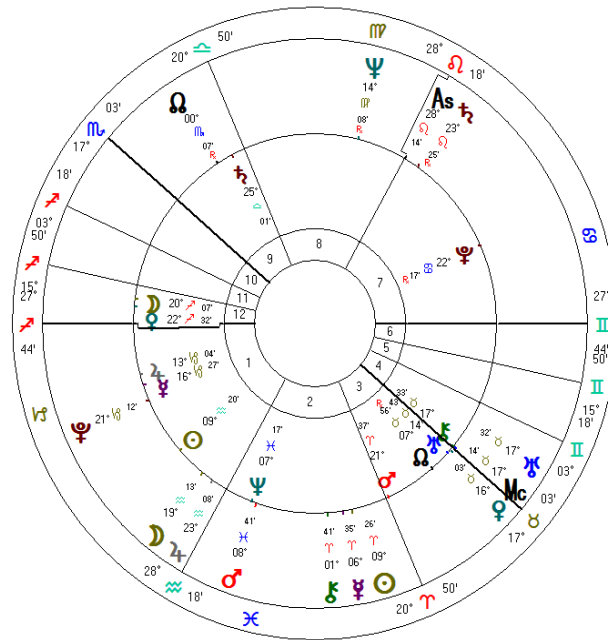
In his search to locate the human soul and prove its immortality, Swedenborg went through various transcendent religious experiences which begun in 1743. He wrote a series of 30 volumes describing that Heaven & Hell are not places, but states of being.

Swedenborg’s journey into the afterlife provides more than just a glimpse into the exciting journey awaiting us all – it gives a very clear picture. He writes that after death, people are their desire, or their *strongest desire*, which is a similar teaching to that of the East. Everyone has a number of desires, but they all go back to the strongest desire which makes them one, or taken all together, compose it. Taken all together, they make up a kind of kingdom, also called dimensions or planes of being. As astrologers we can state that the horoscope pattern at death becomes at the same time that of the birth into the spiritual realms.

These teachings make it clear that whatever our mind focusses upon, we become, or get to experience. Therefore the soul within will utilize any life experience in order to awaken us, which is the significance of us becoming clearer in our brain cells before we leave the physical plane. This is our conscious goal of increased livingness.

Inner Wheel
Emanuel Swedenborg
Natal Chart
 29 Jan 1688 NS, Thu
 06:25 LMT -1:12:12
 Stockholm, Sweden
 59°N20' 018"E03'
*Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 Mean Node*

Outer Wheel
Death of Emanuel Swedenborg
Natal Chart
 29 Mar 1772 NS, Sun
 14:29 LMT +0:00:40
 London, UK
 51°N30' 000"W10'
*Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 Mean Node*



Swedenborg was born a 1st. House Sun Aquarian with Uranus placed at the bottom of his chart, conjunct his Taurus 4th.house cusp, yet technically still within his 3rd. house.

With his scholarly interests, he established Sweden's first scientific journal and anticipated a number of modern inventions, including prototype submarines and aeroplanes. He also published works on cosmology, chemistry, physics, the circulation of the blood etc.

He accurately predicted the time of his own death, 29th. March 1772. He died in London aged 84, significantly during his Uranus return. Transit Uranus was not only *exactly* conjunct his natal 4th. house angle, traditionally representing "end of life conditions", and just 3-degrees from it's radix placement – but on the Death chart this placement reveals Uranus having reached the top of the chart, the Taurus Midheaven.

From birth – with Uranus at the IC angle – to death, with Uranus at the opposite MC angle, this man's spinal axis had been activated by kundalini rising and he was free to explore the universe. This was indeed a "conscious exit".

The Uranus Return, which occurs at 84 years, is not guaranteed for us all. Although statistics keep changing and we are living longer now than we did a decade ago, we still cannot assume that we will reach this ripe age. Uranus is the first transpersonal planet that we can experience within our physical body. The next planet is Neptune but with its cycle of 146 years this is far beyond the human life-span. Yet it is the presence of Uranus at the time of death that can offer us a sense of larger cosmos, which provides a new perspective on death and a new sense of one's role as part of that greater unity.

Past & current examples

Carl Jung was born with an Aquarian Ascendant and Uranus 11-degrees from a conjunction with his Leo Sun, yet exactly in square 90-degree aspect to his Taurian Moon. These liberating contacts speeded-up his awareness of the masculine (Sun) and feminine (Moon) centers within the psyche. He emphasized the modern *path of self-individualization*. He died 1961 at 85 years of heart (Sun) and circulatory troubles (Uranus) as transit Uranus at death had returned to its natal placement and was forming the opposition aspect to transit Saturn in Aquarius.

When the great Danish Cosmologist, **Martinus**, died in March 1981 age 91 - the death horoscope reveals Uranus 3-degrees from the Sagittarian Ascendant, with an exact Jupiter-Saturn conjunction culminating on the Libra Midheaven. His continuing journey, education and exploration of the higher worlds was clearly shown, as well as his enthusiasm to embrace the ever-present reality of the Cosmic now. The death chart becomes the template for determining the future incarnation. The advantage of having a "conscious exit" becomes clear to the evolving soul-personality.

Aleister Crowley's death chart I wrote extensively about in *Ferris Wolf 6*. Was his death at the age 72, a "conscious exit"? Born with an exact Uranus-Saturn opposition at birth, co-rulers of his 7th. and 8th. Houses, he died when both transit Saturn and Uranus were significantly positioned. Transit Saturn was moving through the sign Leo, forming the conjunction to his natal Uranus and opposing his natal Saturn in Aquarius. At the end he was experiencing increased isolation, "...with nothing but pipe and wit", going through a series of detachments from the physical plane. Destiny was knocking at his door, while transit Uranus in Gemini, was forming the dynamic square aspect to both his natal Pisces Moon (past) and his progressed Virgo Ascendant (future). Professional astrologers will quickly see the significance of these contacts to promote Crowley's liberation (Uranus) from form (Saturn) and provide the Magus with a conscious exit.

Nelson Mandela has become a household name. Born into the family sign of Cancer, it is significant that he had been a controversial figure for most of his life. The South African anti-apartheid revolutionary and politician served as President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999. He was the first black South African to hold the office.

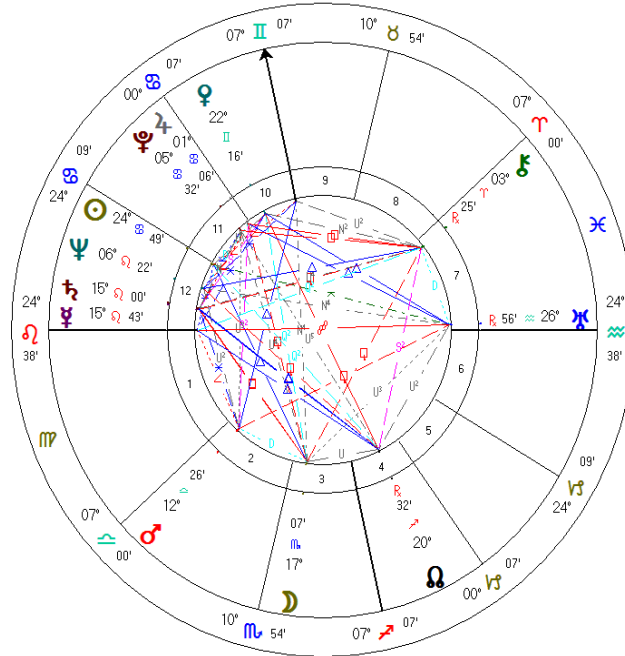
He was born with natal Uranus situated in its own sign at 27-degrees Aquarius, significantly placed within his 7th. House and opposing his Leo Ascendant.

His rebellion ultimately led to democracy - but before that he was arrested and put into prison in 1962 as transit Uranus reached his Leo Ascendant and formed the opposition to its natal placement. Right-wing critics denounced him as a terrorist and communist sympathiser. Mandela served no less than 27 years in prison. The 4 planets in his 12th. House, that department of life that connects us with the institution of prisons and imprisonment, including his Cancerian Sun, led to a lifetime in prison - yet when he emerged, he became the founding Father of the new nation.

He died at 95 years and the death chart shows transit Uranus within 1-degree of his Aries Midheaven, the top of his chart and transit Saturn exactly conjunct his Scorpio Moon.

Just as the previous examples of Yoganada & Emanuel Swedenborg, with transit Uranus on the Midheaven in their Death charts, Nelson Mandela is another clear example of a conscious exit.

Nelson Mandela
Natal Chart
 18 Jul 1918, Thu
 08:45 EET -2:00
 Umtata, South Africa
 31°S35' 028"E47'
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 Mean Node



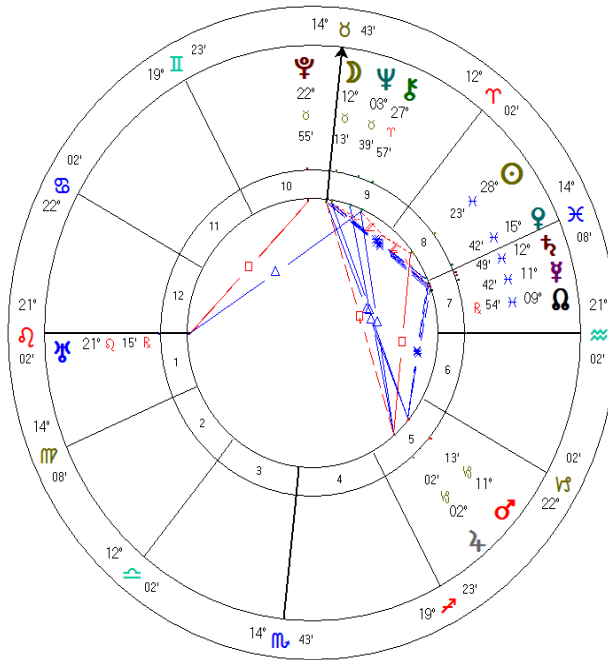
Leonardo da Vinci is celebrated as a Renaissance man, a genius, centuries ahead of his time. Scientific Saturn, representing the “Golden Age” was elevated in Libra upon his Midheaven at birth. Death came in his 67th. year as transit Saturn was exactly in opposition to his natal Uranus, while transit Uranus had just past his natal Taurian Sun and was in exact conjunction to transit Mercury (Descendant ruler) and the transit Sun (8th. house intercepted sign Leo). Again and again in these examples we see how the Lord of Time & Fate – the planet Saturn joins together with the planet of Liberation – Uranus to give birth into the spiritual dimensions. Leonardo was well aware of the approaching opportunity for cooperation with the soul’s intention. His too, was a “conscious exit”.

Edgar Cayce, the famous “*Sleeping Prophet*”, was a unique personality who in his trance state entered into the Cosmic Bank or Akashic records with his 8th. house Pisces Sun and left humanity with a huge range of psychic readings that he gave to thousands of clients.

Cayce urged us to recognize that what we are today is the result of what we have done about our ideals and our knowledge of God (or the Creative Forces) in past lives.

Born with Uranus exactly on the birth position of his 21-degrees Leo Ascendant – this pattern was repeated upon his exit from the physical plane, because at death transit Uranus was a few degrees from a Gemini Ascendant on the Death chart, with the sign Aquarius culminating at the Midheaven.

Edgar Cayce
Natal Chart
 18 Mar 1877 NS, Sun
 15:03 LMT +5:49:57
 Hopkinsville, Kentucky
 36°N51'56" 087°W29'19"
*Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 Mean Node*

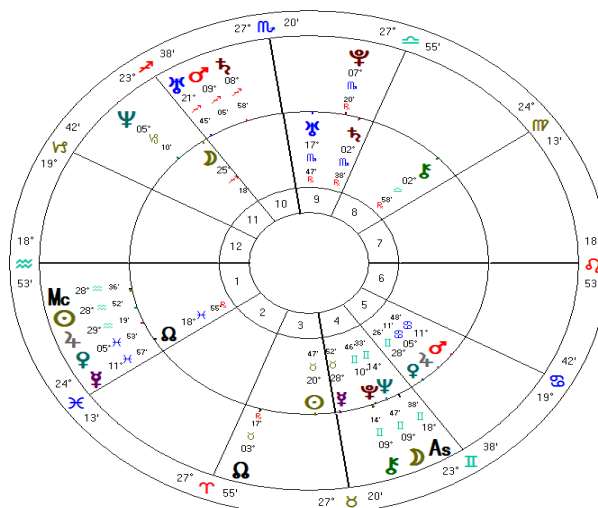


The remarkable teacher **Krishnamurti** continues to fascinate seekers of truth with his core teachings around the theme of freedom – a very typical Uranian theme. Hailed by the Theosophical leaders as the new World Teacher or *Matreya*, he announced his break with the Theosophical Society in 1929 before an audience of thousands.

His belief was that “truth is a pathless land” and taught a doctrine of independent salvation by right conduct. Tradition and doctrine might be barriers to personal progress, for each person must find their own path and their own link with the infinite.

He was born, as you can imagine, with a very strong Uranian presence – Aquarius rises, 20-degrees on the Ascendant, with Uranus placed in 9th. House Scorpio forming the opposition aspect to a 3rd. house Taurian Sun – the planetary ruler of his Leo Descendant. He was a revolutionary teacher and set up educational centers for young people in India, UK & USA, which was another way of honouring this 3rd.-9th. house axis - the *educational axis* on the horoscope.

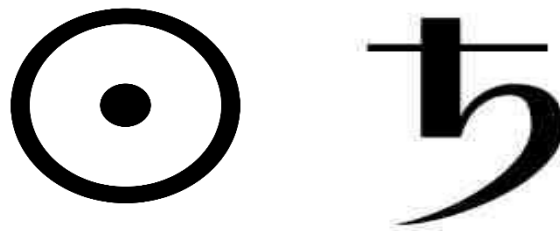
Inner Wheel
Jiddu Krishnamurti
Natal Chart
 12 May 1895 NS, Sun
 00:30 -5:21
 Madenapalle, India
 13°N33' 078°E30'
*Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 Mean Node*



Outer Wheel
Death of Jiddu Krishnamurti
Natal Chart
 17 Feb 1986, Mon
 12:10 PST -8:00
 Ojai, California
 34°N26'53" 119°W14'31"
*Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 Mean Node*

On his Death horoscope we see transit Sun at 29-degrees Aquarius was exactly conjunct both the Midheaven and Jupiter, while transit Uranus formed the opposition aspect to the Gemini Ascendant. This was indeed a conscious death and fast exit to the higher worlds.

Krishnamurti was himself a synthesis of East & West, born a Brahmin to a Hindu mother and Theosophist father. Detachment, a very Uranian-Aquarian word, was a highly developed attribute of this teacher, one of whose books is entitled: *Freedom from the Known*. He never “prepared” for a lecture and often would sit on silence for a period of time before speaking, apparently tuning into his audience and what the message would be for that occasion. This form of telepathy is characteristic of developed Uranian personalities.



The ego & self-individualization

We cannot really make sense of Uranus in the birth chart without looking at the Sun and Saturn as well, because these two are, in a way, the brackets around the individual's personality. These are the two planets most concerned with ego and ego-development, and because of this they are the vessels for containing, grounding and individualizing the outer planets. In the natural Zodiac we can see this relationship shown by the polar signs of Leo-Aquarius & Cancer-Capricorn. Saturn co-rules Aquarius. He is the son and castrator of Uranus in myth. They are intimately linked and inseparable, and this is reflected in their joint rulership of Aquarius.

The Sun is also intimately linked and inseparable, because it is solar fire that Prometheus steals, and this is reflected in Leo's natural opposition to Aquarius. Each needs the other - they are two halves of the same story.

The polarity of Uranus-Saturn shapes and moulds our solar and lunar consciousness. When you explore the prominence of Uranus and the sign Aquarius in these examples of “conscious exit”, you will also recognize the significant role that Saturn also plays in the birth and death chart. As you might know from any practical work with astrology, the planets act as a “team of energies”.

Let us redefine our commitment to the Aquarian goals of no-more-automatic-pilot as we embrace a more conscious living and our soul destiny – *a conscious exit!*

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