

David Pond - The Astrology of Revolution - by Lisa Carlin, ASA Scribe

Ken briefly interviewed David Pond about his background. David began his professional astrology career in 1976 after a reading by his sister Lucy – he found the reading amazing and was hooked. Before becoming a professional astrologer he was a second grade teacher. The first astrology book he read was A Cosmic Science by Isabel Hickey. His new book, Western Seeker, Eastern Paths, will be published in January 2003.

The following notes were taken verbatim from David's talk.

Tonight's talk is on the astrology of revolution. My interest started in 1996. Why? Pluto entered Sagittarius and Uranus into Aquarius. I predicted revolution of the masses to rise up and demand to be heard in policies regarding our global community. Pluto, Neptune and Uranus are the outer planets that shape and evolve civilizations, whole cultures. Since Uranus entered Aquarius I feel there has been a quickening of the energy base.

This May Pluto will transit opposite Saturn, as it did last August and November. The upcoming May opposition occurs around eclipses and Mars is involved. Notice that when Pluto transited over the USA chart (Sag rising, 5:10 PM July 4th in Philadelphia), we had our terrorist experience.

Previous Pluto and Saturn oppositions and conjunctions show huge global issues:

1965/1966 – Pluto was also conjunct Uranus. We sent our first troops to Vietnam. The civil rights movement was percolating. The Watts riots occurred.

1947 – Pluto and Saturn conjunction. India gains independence from England. In the split from Pakistan, 400,000 lives were lost. India is having conflicts under current transits.

1947 – The state of Israel was also created and is experiencing conflicts under current transits.

1930 was within a year of the great depression. This should tell us about the scope of our Pluto opposite Saturn – after the transits are complete, the effects can last awhile.

1914 – WWI.

1095 – Christian crusades to wipe out the Muslims.

1255 – other crusades

411 and 455 – The Fall of Rome occurred under a transit that is happening to us right now. Goths and Visigoths attacked and sacked the city.

With Pluto starting to transit through the USA's 1st house – this country has the baton of power in the world. This transit is test of our right use of that power to do good in the world.

We also need to look at the dark side of our Pluto in Sagittarius: holding onto fundamentalism, genocide, ethnic cleansing. We can look out at other religions in the world and say “what is wrong with these people that they raise suicide bombers?”. Are we willing to examine our own potential ignorance? This is what I encourage us to do under this transit. If we fail to look at our own dark side of Pluto, we project it and see evil everywhere outside ourselves.

With Pluto opposite Saturn we are overwhelmed by our own shadow and darkness. We will probably feel this in the upcoming May transit. There are 2 types of revolution in astrology – revolution of consciousness and another against fear. The current revolution of consciousness is considerable, and I want to be in the revolution against fear itself and all those who would exploit us with fear.

Let's move through charts. No birth time available for most charts, so I default to noon time. The charts are shown in a random order.

Susan Anthony, one of our first feminists who started Revolution magazine. She has Pluto/Venus/Chiron conjunction with the Moon opposite, and Sun Jupiter and Uranus/Neptune conjunctions. Saturn/Venus sounds like a repression of femininity, with Chiron the awareness of it, but there is that Pluto force.

The times can make the man or woman. Often we will see Uranus and Neptune conjunct or opposition in a revolutionary's chart.

Joan of Arc – the little farm girl who heard voices of St Michael, St. Margaret, and St. Catherine (Neptune opposite Mercury). Note the Mars-Uranus conjunction on the N node and square Jupiter in the 7th house in Aquarius. There are trines to Pluto, which squares the Moon. She was known as the Maid of Orleans, helping to overthrow opposing forces in France and get King Charles on the throne. Later she was denounced and burned at the stake as a heretic (Moon/Pluto square).

Karl Marx wrote the Communist Manifesto when he was 29 years old – his Saturn return. He has a rounded chart. Loose Saturn-Pluto conjunction square Uranus. Neptune square Pluto, which is generational. But again, times make a man.

Dr Martin Luther King is famous for his quote “I have a dream.” His chart has a grand trine with Neptune, Saturn and Jupiter. This shows his potential to be a visionary. Also Saturn opposing Mars shows awareness of his people's frustration.

We are moving in a revolution from an adversarial age to a visionary age. Adversarial age is motivational and addresses a problem. “Here's a problem, how do I fix it?” A visionary moves toward opportunity. “There is an opportunity, how do I move towards

it?” To me, Uranus and Neptune in Aquarius and Pluto in Sagittarius show the shift that is moving us from the adversarial to visionary age.

Gloria Steinem has a strong Sun-Mars conjunction in Aries, both trine the Moon. The 9th house Pluto is T-Square with Uranus and Jupiter. Venus and Saturn are on the 4th house cusp with the South Node. Notice the opposition by sign between the Moon and Venus. This shows a problem accepting the cultural norms for femininity; the individual will have to make their own way. Neptune is opposite Mercury (like Joan of Arc – Visionary) and quincunx Mars. She is a feminist of the 60’s and 70’s. Her magazine publishing is seen by the Ascendant ruler Pluto and Moon in Leo, both in the 9th house.

Carl Jung has an angular Uranus (revolutionary) which is part of a visionary “essential” grand trine. He not only revolted against theories of Freud but also invented the terms anima/animus, states of consciousness, the 4 Levels, etc. He was also an astrologer. The Sun is square Neptune – a “spiritual crisis” aspect. Neptune will haunt until person deals with the spiritual realm. Neptune is also dreams and idealism. Jung’s Sun-Uranus and his Moon-Pluto conjunctions are wide. The wideness is a “luxury” and gives him more objectivity than a tight conjunction would. Saturn is on the ASC shows the scientist part of him; he developed scientific practices and policies. His Mercury conjunct Venus is “thinking, feeling, doing,” and being in a helping profession. Pluto is square Saturn.

Martin Luther, Catholic Priest. In 1519 he started the Protestant Reformation. Visionary ideals – that people don’t need to pray through priests to reach God, they can pray directly. Neptune in the 4th house conjunct Mercury and Uranus in Sagittarius. Pluto opposes Moon, Saturn, Venus and Mars in Scorpio. Leo Asc is a feisty energy.

Timothy Leary. Metaphysics and experimental drugs in the 60s. Moon and Uranus in the 3rd house shows exploration and experimentation. Pluto opposes Mars shows possible violence and danger. Mercury and Venus in Scorpio in the 12th house square Uranus is an avenue of culture for exploring spiritual matters. He took exception to cultural norms for spiritual matters. Neptune in the 9th is unsuspected making it stronger, and shows an urge to access spiritual energy. He did drugs, was a scientist and author.

Pablo Picasso has Sun opposed Saturn, and wide opposition to Neptune. Neptune and Chiron oppose Mercury. The Moon in Sagittarius wide orb opposes Pluto, and Leo rising shows his artistic talents. It is Pluto that gives him the ability to see things from very many perspectives at once.

Elvis Presley has Pluto opposed Mercury, Venus and the Sun. Saturn and Moon conjunction. Uranus T-square into the 5th house shows the flaunting of the gyrating hips and new style of music that was revolutionary. Pluto in the 8th house oppose Sun (life force) is like rolling dice in the game of death. Pluto shows excessiveness/compulsiveness that probably lead to his death. Sun trine Neptune shows his ability to “tune in.”

Jimi Hendrix played the electric guitar and has a grand square including the nodes. Uranus oppose Sun, Venus, Mercury shows his stage presence, lyrics and guitar performance. Saturn oppose Sun, Venus show discipline. He taught himself the guitar. Saturn oppositions like this one can lead to apathy from being beaten down or to an “I’ll show you attitude.” Uranus conjunct Saturn aspect is generational and shared by others such as Bob Dylan and Joan Baez (1941/1942 generation). Jimi’s Sagittarius rising shows his flamboyant taste in outfits. Jupiter Moon conjunction, Uranus Neptune trine shows harmony. T-square with Chiron.

Galileo invented the telescope. He recanted his statement that the earth is not the center of the universe at the end of his life due to pressure from the church. Uranus opposes Neptune and Mars involved with a T-square to the Sun in Pisces. Sun square Neptune shows a spiritual crisis (trouble with the Church) and Jupiter Saturn conjunct in Cancer also shows the Church pressure. Pluto Mercury are conjunct. All outer planets in his chart are making aspects to the personal planets.

Osho Rajnesh is a spiritual leader from India who created an Oregon commune and is known for outlandish behavior. Pluto in the 2nd shows obsessive attachment to material possessions – he was known for collecting Rolex watches and Rolls Royce cars (~100). Pluto opposes Venus –Moon-Saturn – the man was known to be paranoid and had people taste his food first to ensure it wasn’t poisoned. Neptune is in harmony to all Capricorn planets (Mars, Mercury, Venus and Saturn). Osho pursued scholarly information on mysticism and could speak eloquently on any religion.

Yassar Arafat. His Saturn at 23 Sag won’t be transited by Pluto for a few more years. Before becoming a leader of the PLO he was a member of a terrorist organization known for suicide bombers (Sun and Chiron conjunct). He has Pluto on his Cancer ASC with Venus and is making statements like “I want to die in my homeland. Shoot me here I am not leaving.” Uranus is at the top of the chart (10th) opposing Mars. Is Sun conjunct Neptune inspired or deluded? Transiting Saturn on his Jupiter shows the curtailing of movement and travel.

Jay Krisna Verde – picked by the Theosophical Society as a child to be their group’s next leader. When he gets his own voice he tells people to “find your own path” and not join the organization. Moon opposes Venus – not in touch with his feminine side, trouble with relationships with women. Venus-Jupiter and Jupiter-Mars shows his powerful sex drive.

Fidel Castro was part of the revolution to overthrow Bautista and get the wealth to the people, build hospitals, etc. Fought off communism and held onto his vision even when it was not working. Uranus on 10th house cusp. Sun-Neptune opposes Jupiter and T-square to Saturn (reality principle).

Gandhi has Pluto opposing Mars, which is an aspect known for violence. Gandhi is not known for violence but he is not a “peace at all costs” man, not passive. Moon is part of a T-square to Leo, Sun in 12th house. Uranus is trine to MC – finding a harmonious resolution to strife.

Ben Franklin has a Grand Trine. Key player in American Revolution. Neptune on ASC trines Pluto and Mars. He was a diplomat. Uranus-Pluto opposite Mercury is his revolutionary signature.

George Washington was a horse racer, family, military, farmer. Uranus opposite Neptune, Neptune square Sun. He was a man made by the times.

Thomas Jefferson has Pluto opposing Venus – story about slave partner. He was the author of the Declaration of Independence. His Moon is within 1 degree of the USA rising sign.

Patrick Henry. “Give me liberty or give me death.” He has a grand trine and was a great orator, Gemini 9th house, Sun Saturn conjunction.

See you tomorrow for my talk on “Spiritual Indications in a Chart.”