

RICO'S COSMIC WEATHER REPORT NEW YEAR 2010 AND THE COSMIC CROSS

2010: the "Narrow Gate" and the "Hourglass"

Be Here Wow! Whatever unfolds in 2012, the year 2010 looks to be the "bottleneck" or the "hourglass" that is the narrow passage on the way there. (Actually, what is even more interesting to contemplate is 2013, because when the star-dust settles, it will be fun to see what new stories emerge to explain all the theories!) 2010 can also be viewed a pivotal year of decision. Which gate will we choose? Will we enter the gate of frenzy or the gate of the still center?

My plan is to write the first few paragraphs of this Report with minimal astrological jargon and then slowly interject more further along. If you start getting in over your head, then simply swim back to shore, dry off and move on.

In our western culture, the New Year begins one instant after midnight on January first. This makes for certain astrological features being accented year after year. In other cultures that, for instance, choose to celebrate a new year according to a lunar aspect such as a full or new moon, then each year will vary somewhat more astrologically than in our culture.

The choice to begin the new year near midwinter in the northern hemisphere always lends that wintery serious tone, but also accents striving to create the "season to be jolly." Because of when the year starts, Venus, the goddess of love, is especially accented each year and this year she, too, is rather serious. Her placement in 2010 can be linked to our financial woes and other apocalyptic concerns. "Tough love" will be her motto.

The Cosmic Cross

Astrologically, the cross symbol is highlighted throughout the coming year because of the arrangement of the planets in the cardinal signs. The symbol of the cross can be interpreted as serious, as in "hung up" or "cross", meaning irritated, angry or annoyed; or it can offer a powerful image of focusing on the center. The dictionary has 17 meanings for the noun, and 11 for the verb "cross." It appears to be a very popular word. One meaning that arises when pondering the 2010 cross is of attempting to integrate two or more very different things. We are being called to action and we want to cross the line, but we are feeling thwarted and pulled in many directions. The cross creates the place of intersection – right here, right now, and the option to stay centered amidst the push and pull of outer events.

In 2010 it appears that Time will be even more of the essence, as always it looms large, but with a special gravity now, especially in relationships. Our old patterns keep falling out of the closet and into our basic identity. How can there be not enough time when its always a matter of only doing what we can do? Maybe it's the urgency. To both do and to dwell in the stillness is the call.

I guess we could say that we are feeling pulled in many directions and away from center . . . and back. Even more than usual (and there is no “usual” anymore) we are feeling the pull to be home and to make our mark out in the world; to be alone and to serve others; to feel our deep feelings and surrender, while being responsible in our actions.

Create Your Story

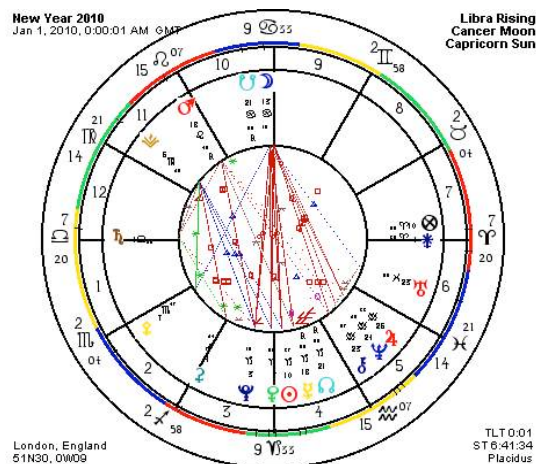
Creativity could be high, in fact heavenly, vacillating between cool and hot, alone and in groups. What we might want to create is deep and ideal with lots of inspiration and a healing edge. The key is looking with objectivity, the lock is old wounds that no longer bind but rather propel, the door is transition into . . . (add your personal goals here). All this is aided by a nearly perfect balance between masculine and feminine principles, as represented in the planetary arrangements. The golden masculine is moving towards new experiences that make deep impressions on the soul, while the silvery feminine is moving towards nurturing so profoundly that old experiences no longer matter.

These astrological events will all be happening across the board, of course, locally, nationally, globally, galactically and universally. There might be pushes to travel, but a big pull to stay home, save some money and re-view. Lots of energy that seems to not be going anywhere, however, in the balance point is a portal to all the energy and resources in the universe. When we are identified with our center, we need nothing, and everything necessary flows organically towards us. If we can stay with the extreme fullness of the heart center, it will transform from tension to attention. This is the place of the zero point field of all possibilities, the still center of the cyclone.

A big question will be, what to keep and what to let go of . . . what is of value here and now?

Apocalypse 2010

Here is the chart for the very first moment of the New Year, 2010:



This chart, coming just after the December, 2009, Solstice and Christmas and occurring in these generally charged times approaching 2012, with major anticipation regarding transformation, seems to be a harbinger of cosmic drama on a galactic level of intensity!

Regarding the apocalyptic rumblings that will resound throughout the year, it is wise to envision letting go of every-thing, knowing that the phenomenal swirl is already on its way out of our grasp anyway. Imagine releasing cars, houses, relationships, money, jobs, etc., etc., right down to the body/mind. "If you ain't got nothing, ya got nothing to lose". On the other hand, imagine how we all can move from our own self-preservation to service to others who are not yet ready for the tsunami of change swelling on the horizon. Health will be one of those surprising issues.

"Cardinal" means Fundamentally Important

Cardinal signs in a cosmic cross are accented, and these are the signs related to movement, yet the 90 and 180 degree angles are viewed astrologically as fixed, like being nailed to a cross. The five planets most obviously involved are Saturn, old father Time, ON THE ASCENDANT; Venus, the goddess of Love, and the Sun, the royal central One, are together at the very bottom; lovely Venus, ruler of the chart, is serious in Capricorn (each year she is our beautiful but not entirely unproblematic ruler; note that Venus and Saturn are in each other's ruling sign, putting extra emphasis on their strained relationship); Juno, yin power broker for the feminine asteroids; and Lady Luna herself at the midheaven. At midnight new year's eve, the full Moon will be beaming brightly in her home sign of Cancer, following closely her partial eclipse on the 31st, soon she will be meeting the Tail of the Dragon, daemon of letting go, the shadowy Ketu. There are 11 cardinal (mover and shaker) signs, counting the ascendent and midheaven, or 13 if you count all the angles!

The feminine is here in great strength. On the other side of the gender fence, mighty and commanding Saturn is holding his own, and exalted in Libra, while the Sun is not quite his royal brilliant presence here at midwinter and midnight. Gender issues seem to be up for evaluation on this grand cross and the balance is close. The midnight Sun at New Year I have called Morpheus as he is the divinity who shapes us via dreams.

Apocalyptic Values

Ruling Venus also translates as our values, and since in 2010 she is found in the embrace of Pluto or Hades, divinity of the apocalypse, perhaps we can learn something from the myth of Persephone and realize that we are in for a major under-taking in terms of what we value and how we value ourSelves. Everything we do needs to be looked at with an eye to creating lasting sustainable value, otherwise it won't survive the journey into Hades' realm and back. The bittersweet pomegranate seed that Persephone eats may represent the essential Self that we will need to befriend as all the layers and masks are stripped away. Over the next few years, Pluto will be moving within range of the new year midnight Sun, who hangs out around 10 degrees of Capricorn, which I am also calling the Morpheus point, and this looks to be bumpy ride into the dark night of the soul.

At the opening of this pivotal year, we find Mercury/Hermes moving backwards and also in Capricorn. Among Hermes' many talents, he was known to the Greeks as the guide of souls to Hades' underworld realm. With Pluto close to the galactic center or what I like to call the "Great Central Gal" or "GCG", I envision this underworldly remover of masks as the final portal of unveiling that will help us drop all the pre-tense in preparation of meeting the Great Mother. She is the dual goddess who, on the one hand, nurtures us in her milky way, rocking us in her spiral arms, yet also draws us back like Kali to her massive black hole of death and rebirth. As the moon's north node or Rahu approaches the Morpheus point and Pluto at the beginning of Capricorn, eclipses will be occurring along this exact alignment with the GCG putting even more stress on the archetypal dimension of death as Rahu and Ketu swallow the Sun and Moon.

Although the December solstice Sun was exactly conjunct the galactic equator in 1998 and will not be exactly conjunct the galactic center until about 2222, still this time is stacking up to be quite likely what the Mayan calendar wanted to point out to us with the ending of their Long Count. For those of you who follow Calleman's imaginative interpretation of the Mayan time steps, we recently entered the 6th night or 12th of the 13 steps leading to the completion of the galactic underworld. The finale is slated for 28 October of 2011. This 6th night is considered to be a dark passage of preparation for the massive positive transformation of 2012 and beyond. I certainly hope there is indeed light at the end of this tunnel, however, the problem with making such grandiose claims is that folks will think that a magical transformation will do their work for them and when it doesn't turn out that easy, then they will think the whole scenario is a farce. Guess what folks . . . we still have to do the work. Being right on the ascendant, Saturn is highly involved, meaning we can't avoid regular spiritual practice and living virtuously.

As the World Turns

Transits will create some of the most dramatic aspects among some of the most intense "astro actors" in 2010. First, let's see what part mighty Mars will be playing. This divinity of direct forceful action has a rare role in the beginning of 2010, moving backwards and opposing a powerful trinity. Mars may give us reason to re-examine and re-evaluate our aggressive actions of late. When the fiery red planet turns retro it means that he is on the same side of the Sun as the Earth and will make the closest approach at the beginning of 2010 of his 2 year cycle. Symbolically this suggests the heating up of tension areas, but also the likelihood of re-viewing our martial stance, both personally and as countries. The trinity Mars opposes is composed of none other than Chiron, universal teacher, maverick and wounded healer; Neptune, divinity of deep oceanic realms; and Jupiter, king of the gods, Vedic guru to the gods and representative of the GCG in our solar system. These three have been having a long conclave and, similar to when the cardinals meet in Rome to elect a new pope, their meeting is having a profound effect. Located as they are in Aquarius and in the 5th house, their summit meeting portends great creativity and is a key to turning the energy of the times towards more healing, depth and spiritual communion.

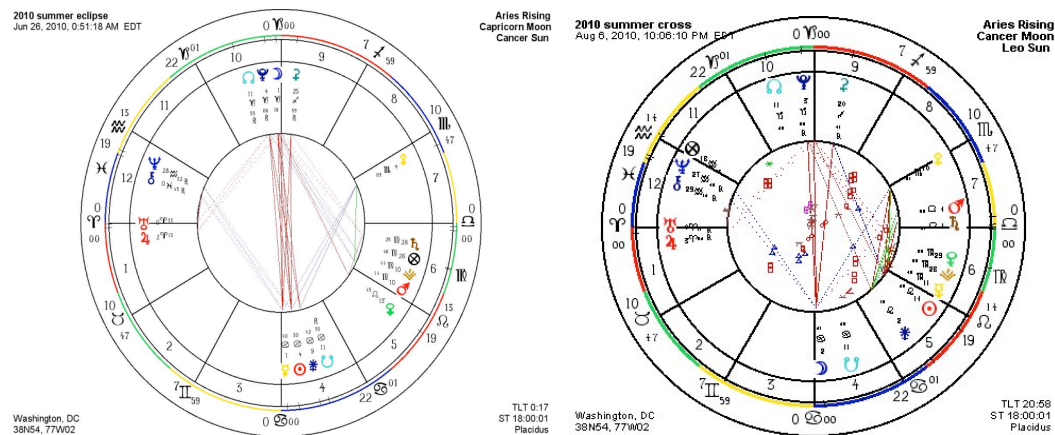
The two big brothers of the classical Greek Trinity, Jupiter and Neptune, can be seen in mutual reception with Uranus in Pisces and thereby accented even more if that is even possible. Chiron as the wise centaur can be viewed as honorary co-ruler with Jupiter of Sagittarius and fits right into the picture. In the alchemical arrangement (see my article on 2012 at www.hermeticastronomy.org/articles.html) Chiron, whose orbit is between Saturn and Uranus and whose glyph resembles a key, is indeed a key to turn the energy from the eternal cyclical reoccurrence of the twelve signs of the zodiac to a new quantum path which has symbolic connections to the rising of the kundalini. Uranus is the first planet following Chiron in this central path, followed by Neptune, Pluto and perhaps Eris. Many of these same astro actors are very involved and hopefully E-volved in this 2010 astro-drama.

It is fascinating to note that Chiron was conjunct Jupiter in Cancer during the 1989-90 alignment of the century that sparked major transformations, including the fall of the Berlin wall. The present extended meeting with Jupiter and Neptune is surely related to all the commotion over changes many attribute to the 2012 phenomenon and it is their first conjunction since that portentous one in 1990.

Jupiter will be leaving the weighty triad to move through his comfortable home sign Pisces and on to encounters with Uranus in early Aries in time for the cardinal cross during the summer of 2010. Although it is no small matter that Jupiter will be transiting his home sign of oceanic consciousness and preparing us on the Piscean collective unconscious level, it is the great summer tee-off, when Jupiter enters Aries, that is catching most of the attention. Much has been written and speculation runs rampant concerning this very significant astrological event involving all the heavy hitters in the astrological lineup. So lets see if we can unpack some of its significance.

The Narrow Passage

Here are a couple charts to consider for the summer of our content/discontent:



Both could potentially be triggers for the 2010 crossbow and of course there are many other candidates to pull the trigger, these just happen to be very spectacular. At the end of June, this full Moon eclipse shortly after the summer solstice with the Moon conjunct Pluto near the galactic center looks especially loaded. And the early August cross with Mars also in the mix and the Moon in Cancer as in the 2010 New Year chart,

with the added attraction of a dramatic Sun in Leo . . . all I can say is, yikes! To my mind, the summer's astrological line ups represent the narrowest passage in the hourglass and as with the symbol of the cross we discussed above, the question is, "What will all the tension produce?"

Going with the image of a crossbow, it could co-relate with shooting arrows all over the place or if aimed at the center of the target and the target is the heart center, then the energy could be helpful in remembering our true essential nature.

In order to assist in the second outcome, I have put together a short guided meditation video of journeying to the galactic center. Hopefully, it will be available on YouTube soon. If, in fact, these highly charged astrological times correlate to beaming in nourishing wisdom from the Great Central Gal, then let's get prepared to be good receptors of the message. Attuning to the still center within and coming to understand how the mind creates problems are some of the positive benefits of meditation.

Here are some of the high or low points:

~Saturn will be square to Pluto.

Imagine Old Father Time relating with the Radical Rebel. The dance between these two co-relates to challenging events. They were opposite during the momentous mid-sixties and again during the Twin Towers tragedy. Now they are moving into the next hard aspect.

~Uranus will also be square to Pluto.

When the Awakener met the divinity of the apocalypse in the mid-sixties, there was a huge shift in consciousness. We will now be experiencing the next hard aspect (read "crisis") between these two powerhouses. The monumental shifts that occurred in the sixties will be revisited and re-discovered.

~Saturn will be opposite to Uranus as they also were in the 60s.

So once again we can expect some of the degree of intensity for change, both encouraging and difficult. In one way of looking at 2010, we can see that the actors of the 60s have now come full circle with more maturity and an even larger stage of history on which to hold the astro-drama.

~Jupiter will be opposite to Saturn.

Although, in general, Jupiter is considered to be a very beneficial presence, this opposition does portend an impassioned dialog between the forces of contraction and expansion. On the physical plane, these are the two largest planets in our solar system and their oppositions and conjunctions correlate to geophysical pushing, pulling and shakeups.

~Jupiter will be conjunct Uranus.

When these two giants get together, the sparks fly. I like to think of Uranus' glyph to be shaped like a TV antenna. When Jupiter's lightning bolt hits Uranus' antenna, electrons surge through the whole house. As the image portrays, this much energy can be dangerous, but also enlightening. Surprising brilliant insights fit the bill as well as huge social shocks and transformations.

~Jupiter will be square to Pluto.

Although this hard aspect between the Big Brothers of Heaven and Hell is not so difficult as some of the others, this relationship of extremes nevertheless lends another element of intensity to the overall scene.

~Rahu and Ketu are nearby in Capricorn and Cancer.

The head of the Dragon will pass by Pluto at the end of the year. Both the June and December eclipses will be very exact and accenting the galactic center and the Cosmic Cross. The exact alignment of eclipses adds exponential power to the formations. Dragon power is best respected and figured into the mix! As is noted above, the 2010 New Year starts off with a bang following closely after a Cosmic Cross lunar eclipse. The old year 2010 goes out shortly after a similar eclipse right on the solstice. Sun and Moon in sensitive Cancer add the 4th arm to the cross with deep emotional overtones.

All the eclipses in 2010, which happen to fall near the sensitive solstice alignment with the Great Central Gal, and all equinoxes will accent the Cosmic Cross. It is for this reason that I so strongly recommend utilizing these times to tune into the vast waves of energy. Meditation as much as possible is highly advised not only to make use of the wonder-full streams of wise information but to re-member the still center in the vast swirl of transformation.

Here are some of these highly charged moments ripe for meditation:

*Christmas, 2009, with the Sun and Venus conjunct Pluto at the galactic center, square to Saturn and the Moon at the cross.

*New Year's Eve full moon eclipse on the Cosmic Cross. Sitting facing north (in the northern hemisphere or south in the southern hemisphere) with the full Moon powerful in Her ruling sign of Cancer shining down on the back of your head while focusing through the Earth out towards the Sun and a bunch of planets in Capricorn towards the GCG, should be positively amazing. Saturn and Uranus will be on the arms of the Cross.

*March equinox with the Sun exactly opposite Saturn and conjunct Uranus, again emphasizing the Cross.

*June solstice and, more pointedly, the full Moon eclipse of June 26 has Uranus and Jupiter conjunct in Aries. Sparks could fly!

*The super Cross of August 6 and 7 with the Moon in Cancer and Sun at the Midpoint of Leo or the Leo New Moon of August 9, all look to be very dramatic with Libra and Aries packed with explosive potential.

*September equinox features a full Moon conjunct the dynamic duo of Jupiter and Uranus.

*2010 exits spectacularly with another full Moon eclipse at the December solstice in resonance with 2012 at the very end of Sagittarius and right on the galactic center. With plenty of planetary action around the edges, it is a fitting climax to an outrageous year.