

AstroUpdate – February 2019

Hi and welcome to the Stella Starwoman February AstroUpdate!

2019 promises to be a bumper year with Jupiter in home sign Sagittarius, Saturn in home sign Capricorn and the Chinese New Year of the Pig, launching on 5th February.

And this month we have no retrograde planets holding us back – YAY! Things are moving forward steadily and predictably and hard work will pay off, so make the most of it until Mercury goes retrograde on the 6th March.

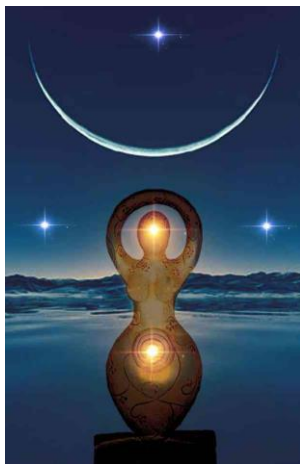
2019 – Year of the Earth Pig



The Chinese New Year falls on the 5th February at the Aquarius new moon heralding the Year of the Earth Pig. The Pig occupies the 12th and final position in the Chinese zodiac and its keywords for 2019 are prosperity and success. 2019 is an auspicious year to make money or invest and also promises good fortune in love and friendship. Those born in the Year of the Pig (2007, 1995, 1983, 1971, 1959, 1947, 1935, 1923) can expect a pleasant and productive year ahead, particularly with regard to finances. Happy Chinese New Year to everyone, especially all you Pigs!!



New Moon in Aquarius



The 29.5 day moon cycle begins on the 5th February with a new moon in air sign Aquarius. With the Sun and Moon conjunct Mercury in flowing alignment with Jupiter, you'll be brimming with creative ideas and energy. Ask yourself: "Where do I need to take action to revolutionise, renew or rectify my life?" Last month we had both lunar and solar eclipses which brought change for everyone. The energy of these eclipses will carry through until July, so now is a great time to reflect on any important shifts and changes over the past month before deciding how and when to move forward.

Mars in Taurus – The Warrior Bull



Action planet Mars leaves ruling sign Aries on the 14th February and heads into earth sign Taurus. Mars is fast, Taurus is slow and steady; Mars is impatient, Taurus is determined; Mars is active; Taurus is passive; Mars is aggressive, Taurus is reliable, but can be stubborn. Meet the Warrior Bull! Pursue your goals with patience, dedication and persistence, focusing on long term achievement and you'll be amazed at what you can achieve over the next six weeks, especially if you have personal planets in Taurus.

Chiron in Aries – Fighting for Peace

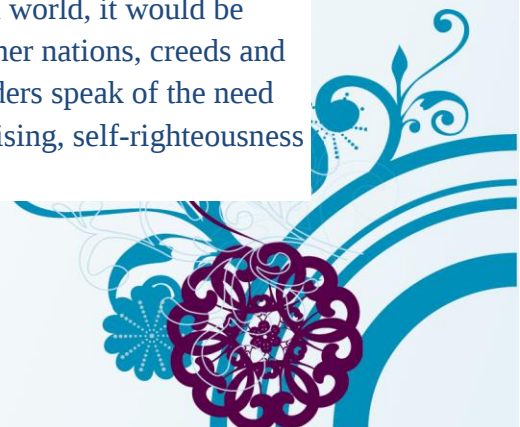
I am not only a pacifist but a
militant pacifist. I am willing to
fight for peace. Nothing will end
war unless the people themselves
refuse to go to war.

Albert Einstein

In mythology, Chiron the Centaur (half god and half horse) is often referred to as the 'wounded healer': a being who has learned to heal others through their own experience of pain. Chiron is the archetype of the broken one; the walking wounded or any character who has ever achieved immortality through suffering. In the eyes of Chiron, pain is a teacher and the gateway to initiation, a healthy and unavoidable consequence of choosing to grow.

Symbolically, Chiron acts as a link between the conscious and unconscious mind with his orbit being between Saturn (the last planet visible with the naked eye) and Uranus (the first non-visible planet). Chiron's role is to heal through the pathways of mediation, reconciliation, compromise and acceptance.

Last November's celebrations marking the centenary of the end of WW1, (ironically dubbed 'the war to end all wars') have focused on the 40 million soldiers and civilians who lost their lives. But millions more have died in wars and conflicts since WW1. One would think in our modern, interconnected, multi-cultural world, it would be increasingly difficult and outmoded to see individuals from other nations, creeds and colours as enemies. But even as our religious and political leaders speak of the need for peace, tolerance and compassion, nationalist sentiment is rising, self-righteousness is rampant and all over the world, wars are raging or brewing.



We should pay special heed to the lessons of WW1 – war and aggression never lead to healing. With Chiron in warrior sign Aries from now until 2027, we will increasingly recognise the true impact of war and its futility. Hopefully there will be a renewed passion and willingness to fight for the survival and healing of our planet and its inhabitants via the pathways of Chiron – mediation, reconciliation, compromise and acceptance. Lest we forget.

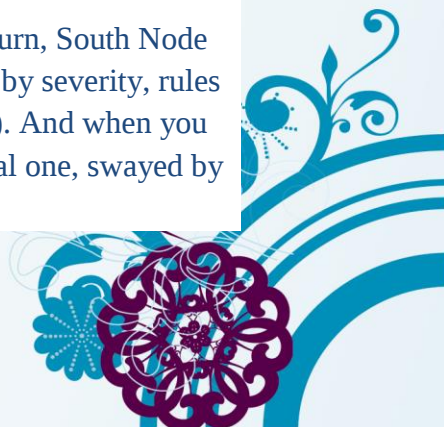
If you were born with Chiron in Aries (1969-1977) you will have your Chiron Return over the next few years; an astrological event which always takes place around age 50. The Chiron Return is one of life's major milestones and is often associated with a healing crisis. Material pursuits become less important and there's a greater respect for and focus on the spiritual and emotional sides of life.

The Astrology of Brexit



I've managed to avoid writing about this hot potato topic until now, though living in the UK, it's virtually impossible to avoid discussions and arguments about Brexit. No one really knows what will happen after March 29th, the day the UK is set to leave the European Union, but everyone has an opinion. I decided to cast a chart for that date to check the astrological energy surrounding this crucial milestone.

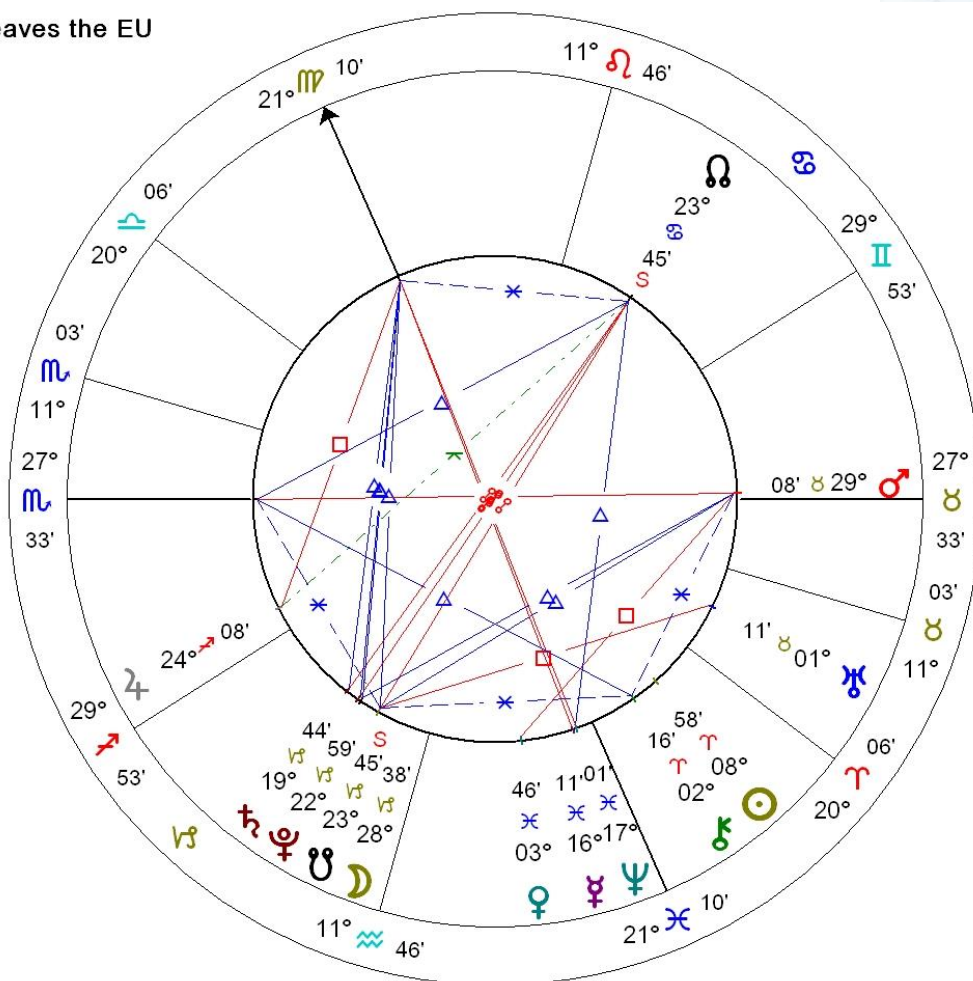
At first glance the Brexit chart looks grim. A tight Moon, Pluto, Saturn, South Node conjunction in Capricorn symbolises endings (South Node) marked by severity, rules and structure (Capricorn) that promise to be final and deadly (Pluto). And when you add the Moon into the mix, the ending looks to be a highly emotional one, swayed by public opinion, rather than by logic.



Brexit – Britain Leaves the EU

Natal Chart

29 Mar 2019, Fri
11:00 pm GMT +0:00
London, UK
51°N30' 000°W10'
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
True Node



In fact, there is no logic in this chart at all – clearly an astrologer did not choose the date! Firstly, all the planets are in the bottom half of the chart (below the horizon) meaning views are subjective, not objective. Secondly Mercury, planet of contracts and deals, is not only stationery direct (meaning it's standing still and for the previous three weeks has been retrograde and therefore in reflective, intuitive mode rather than moving forward at full strength) but Mercury is also in Pisces, sign of its detriment and one of the least favourable zodiac signs for clear decision making. Thirdly, Mercury is next door to elusive and watery Neptune, muddying things even further. A Mercury-Neptune conjunction in Pisces is ideal for a romantic weekend away listening to music and sipping wine watching the sunset, not a day for finalising a complex, political deal with far reaching consequences! Yes....Mercury-Neptune in politics or business means Confusion, Confusion, Confusion! But Mercury-Neptune can also signify that things are not as they seem – there could be some hidden agenda or secret plan behind the apparent confusion and obfuscation!

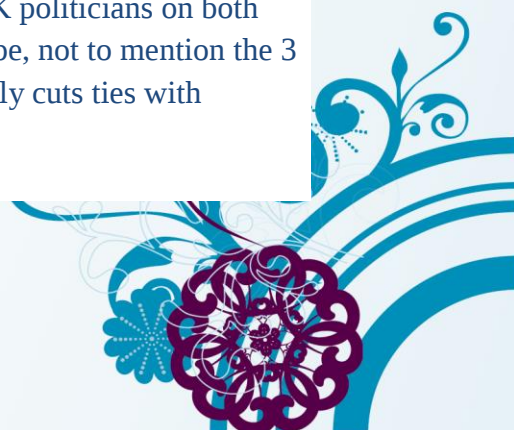
On the other hand, the Sun is powerfully placed in dynamic Aries – zodiac sign of the warrior, sign of the Sun's exaltation and a sign associated with England, a country often referred to as the 'seat of Mars'. Aries is the pioneer seeking new beginnings, excitement, fresh energy and independence. But the Sun is conjunct Chiron – there is a wound, a sacrifice that needs to be made for this new beginning to eventuate. Plus the conflict and clash between the Aries Sun (a dash for freedom and independence) and the Capricorn Moon (a dutiful, law-abiding energy) is intense.

Jupiter, planet of international affairs is in ruling sign Sagittarius. Perhaps Jupiter in Sagittarius represents the European Union – an eclectic mix of countries and cultures who have decided to work together to benefit the whole. Or, being in the first house of the chart, Jupiter could represent the Remainers – the Brits who want to stay in the European Union. If this is the case, their position is strong with Jupiter in rulership. (If Jupiter represents the EU, it suggests the EU is in a stronger position than Britain.)

Action planet Mars in Taurus is favourably aligned to all the Capricorn planets, but, though he rules the Brexit chart, Mars is in detriment and setting on the western horizon (Descendant), meaning things could drag on interminably with all parties digging in their heels. And anger will be a big issue – we are likely to see demonstrations, aggression and violence on Brexit Day.

At the time of writing (two months before the 29th March) more than 3,000 troops are on high alert in case of civil unrest, while councils are braced for possible runs on banks, fuel and food. This may seem overly-dramatic but with a no-deal Brexit looking increasingly likely and UK citizens realising the full extent of the likely consequences of leaving the EU, tempers are running high with many feeling they have been duped and had their futures ruined. Others are angry that the referendum decision to leave the EU is being challenged and the will of the people overturned.

My feeling is that Britain will not leave the EU on the 29th March with a no-deal Brexit. I believe with all the confusion and contradictions in the Brexit chart, some political ruse or ploy will be found to either extend the deadline or find a loophole, thereby mitigating the more drastic consequences of Brexit. We have three weeks of Mercury retrograde (6th-29th March) in the lead up to Brexit suggesting lots of behind the scenes dealings with promises reneged, laws changed and positions challenged. After all, millions of peoples' futures are at stake including UK politicians on both sides of Parliament and all Britons who live and work in Europe, not to mention the 3 million Europeans who live and work in the UK. If the UK truly cuts ties with Europe, it will mark a turning point in European history.



One bright note is that Mars will shift into adaptable and brainy Gemini just two days after the 29th March bringing fresh ideas and new points of view. Another positive is that on Brexit Day the divine feminine planet Venus is in Pisces sextile Uranus, planet of revolution and change. It is possible that by using feminine energy a way will be found through the impasse. By this I mean a softer approach - negotiation, compromise and union. Venus and Mars are square in the Brexit chart, but Venus is the stronger planet (being exalted in Pisces), whereas Mars is in detriment in Taurus. Force and stubbornness will not prevail but we'll have to wait until April to see how things pan out in reality! I'm glad I'm not a politician....

Full Moon in Virgo



The February full moon falls on the 20th in earth sign Virgo. With the Sun in imaginative and creative Pisces opposite the Moon in sensible, grounded Virgo, there's bound to be a clash between the need to be practical and hard-headed vs the desire to chase dreams and let your fantasies run wild. Of course these two paths are not mutually exclusive – this full moon asks you to choose a dream that's particularly close to your heart and then take practical steps to make it come true. Now is a good time to make serious choices in personal and business relationships with Venus conjunct Saturn in Capricorn. The Virgo-Pisces polarity also opens the pathway to healing by providing an intrinsic and intuitive connection between body and soul.



Happy Birthday Pisces!



From the 19th February to the 21st March this year, the sun travels through mutable water sign Pisces, noted for her dreaminess, escapist nature and love of fantasy. Piscean sensitivity picks up all the subtle layers of meaning in life, enhancing the imagination, providing instinctive understanding and the ability to download ideas and images from the collective unconscious. Now is the perfect time to focus on your dreams and visions for the future and release the past.

Pisces is the twelfth and final sign of the zodiac with keywords, “I merge” and “I seek redemption”. With Pisces, the inner self is preparing for retreat from the world and as the ego dissolves, boundaries are weakened and impressionability and sensitivity increases. Pisceans are versatile and adaptable, gentle and compassionate. They are often psychic and highly attuned to the spiritual plane. Those born under the sign of the Fishes excel as counsellors, healers, actors, artists and musicians. Many are attracted to the fashion, beauty and movie industries whilst others work with those on the fringe of society – the elderly and sick, people with a disability or special needs and those in jail, detention or rehab centres. At best Pisceans serve humanity and practice unconditional love. Negatively, they can be victims and martyrs, known for self-sabotage or self-sacrifice. There is also a tendency to rescue or ‘save’ others. In medical astrology, Pisces rules the toes, feet and lymphatic system. There is sometimes a reflex effect on the abdominal region governed by opposite sign, Virgo. When Pisceans are out of balance they often suffer from foot trouble, intestinal diseases and fluid build-up. Addiction to drugs and alcohol is also common. The Pisces colours are sea green, purple and the various shades of blue. Pisces’ greatest lesson is to learn discrimination and to protect and ground themselves.



February & March Moon Calendar

Launch projects a couple of days after the New Moon, bring them to completion in the period from just before the Full Moon to the Third Quarter phase and wind them down and reflect on developments in the week before the next New Moon. The period between the New Moon and the Full Moon is the waxing moon (moon getting bigger and fuller). The period between the Full Moon and the New Moon is the waning moon (moon getting smaller and thinner).

Use this moon table to select the most favourable days to slow or increase hair regrowth. Full instructions can be found in my [Lunar Hair Care](#) guidelines but to get you started I've marked the best dates for waxing/shaving to slow regrowth in yellow and the best dates to cut hair for thicker, lusher growth in green. If you're serious about Lunar Hair Care – why not purchase a moon calendar, available at most esoteric book stores, then you'll know exactly what time of day the moon changes from one zodiac sign to the next, meaning you can fine-tune your activities with confidence.

FEBRUARY

Date	Sign	Element	Moon phase
1 st	Sagittarius	Fire	
1 st -4 th	Capricorn	Earth	
4 th -6 th	Aquarius	Air	New Moon 5 th Chinese New Year
6 th -9 th	Pisces	Water	
9 th -11 th	Aries	Fire	
11 th -13 th	Taurus	Earth	First Quarter
13 th -16 th	Gemini	Air	
16 th -18 th	Cancer	Water	
18 th -20 th	Leo	Fire	
20 th -22 nd	Virgo	Earth	Full Moon 20 th
22 nd -24 th	Libra	Air	
24 th -26 th	Scorpio	Water	
26 th -28 th	Sagittarius	Fire	Third Quarter
28 th -3 rd Mar	Capricorn	Earth	



MARCH

Date	Sign	Element	Moon phase
1 st -3 rd	Capricorn	Earth	New Moon 7th
3 rd -5 th	Aquarius	Air	
5 th -8 th	Pisces	Water	
8 th -10 th	Aries	Fire	First Quarter
10 th -13 th	Taurus	Earth	
13 th -15 th	Gemini	Air	
15 th -17 th	Cancer	Water	Full Moon 21st
17 th -19 th	Leo	Fire	
19 th -21 st	Virgo	Earth	
21 st -23 rd	Libra	Air	Third Quarter
23 rd -25 th	Scorpio	Water	
25 th -28 th	Sagittarius	Fire	
28 th -30 th	Capricorn	Earth	
30 th -2 nd April	Aquarius	Air	

Thanks for being part of AstroUpdate. If there's something you'd like to see featured, or have something you think would interest others, please contact me at stella@stellastarwoman.com

Happy Stargazing

Stella Woods

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