

New Horizons: The Jupiter-Uranus Conjunctions of 2010-11

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Abstract

This is the fifth in a series of astrological commentaries on the current world period. This article focuses on three conjunctions of Jupiter and Uranus between June 2010 and January 2011, and highlights the significance of the ingress of Uranus into Aries. The article also explores the nature and cycles of Jupiter and Uranus historically and esoterically against the backdrop of a number of cardinal squares and oppositions already underway.

Overview

And so we see, God is not until he is born. And also we see there is no end to the birth of God. D.H. Lawrence

The solar system and planets are great living beings engaged in a vast yet highly ordered system of magnetic interplay that is constantly informing and shaping life on Earth. Periodically, under cyclic law, planetary interaction becomes so pronounced that Earth is literally “charged” with revolutionary currents and purposefully shaken to its core. Undoubtedly this is one of those times.

The universe is relentless in its quest to bring everything into alignment with its essential nature. On Earth this is mostly accomplished through a graded series of crises and awakenings where the imposing urge to evolve and awaken meets with the status quo. In the cycle in which we now live we see this process working out in a pronounced and peculiar manner. “Everything is in a state of flux; the old order changeth, and a period of transition is in progress; the old forms, in every department of thought, are disintegrating, but only in order that the life which gave them being may escape, and build for itself that

which will be more satisfactory and adequate.”¹

Against the backdrop of a great transformational shift in Ages, shifting ray cycles, and the end and beginning of a galactic cycle, the current cycle is proceeding in two distinct phases. The first phase from 2008-2011, involves the influx of four major planets into cardinal signs resulting in a myriad of concurrent cardinal squares and oppositions which are causing a breakdown, dismantling and collapse of civilization as we have known it. The second phase from 2012-2024 involves reconstruction and a slow but gradual rebirth of a new world order.

Within these phases there are many sub-plots working out: the ingress of Pluto into Capricorn,² five oppositions between Saturn and Uranus,³ a triple conjunction of Jupiter, Chiron and Neptune and numerous cardinal squares⁴ and oppositions which continue through the end of the current decade. Besides a recent Jupiter-Uranus conjunction in June, the past few months alone have included the ingress of several major planets into new signs, a Jupiter-Saturn opposition, multiple cardinal squares and a cardinal grand square. The gist of all this celestial activity is quite clear: momentous *change*. We are undergoing a collective evolutionary experience which has the power and potential to be another “quantum leap for mankind.”⁵

About the Author

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Although Jupiter-Uranus cycles are relatively minor in comparison to larger planetary cycles, they bear a distinct signature of “the new”—new discoveries, new territory and historical leaps in evolution. In addition, their alliance creates significant metaphysical breakthroughs and genius. Previous cycles resulted in the discovery of a heliocentric solar system and the development of quantum physics, as well as the births of Helena P. Blavatsky, with Sun in Leo in opposition to a Jupiter-Uranus conjunction in Aquarius,⁶ and René Descartes, the father of Modern Philosophy, who was born with a quadruple conjunction of Sun, Jupiter, Uranus and Pluto in his horoscope. Not surprisingly, Albert Einstein, the father of modern physics, born with Jupiter in opposition to Uranus, reportedly always kept a copy of Blavatsky’s Secret Doctrine on his desk.⁷

Moreover, the Apollo 11 first manned moon landing occurred on July 20, 1969 with Jupiter conjunct Uranus at 0 degrees of Libra. And the conjunction of Jupiter and Uranus in Sagittarius in 1900 sparked a “gold rush” in the United States that set a new tone of materiality and acquisition in the western world in the twentieth century that is still being wrought out in the economic crucible of modern times. Clearly, extraordinary events occur and broad new ideas and plans are set in motion when these two giants work in tandem. It is these momentous events that this commentary will seek to explore.

The Nature of Jupiter and Uranus

Our wind whereby we are moved and our being are of thy gift; our whole existence is from thy bringing into being. Rumi

Jupiter and Uranus are two of seven sacred planets in our solar system which receive ray energies directly from the Sun and transmit those energies to Earth via the zodiac signs. These two planets embody and express the Second and Seventh Rays and are the Soul and orthodox rulers of Aquarius and the incoming Age of Aquarius. As vehicles for the Second and Seventh Rays, both planets

express two of the four rays now in *active* manifestation.⁸

The Second and Seventh Rays have an important affinity. They are both primary rays of healing⁹ and building and, along with the Third Ray, are responsible for the creation of new forms. We are told that “there is a close creative reaction or impulsive interplay”¹⁰ between these two rays and that the Seventh Ray is “a ray which becomes active when the attractive, magnetic work of the building rays is ready to precipitate into the phenomenal world and bring about—under the Law of Ritual and of Divine Ceremonial—new phases of work.”¹¹ Likewise, both rays are rays of synthesis. The Second Ray is the paramount synthetic ray which synthesizes all of life, while the Seventh Ray synthesizes all that has to do with form.¹²

Jupiter

Astronomically, Jupiter is the largest planet with the strongest gravitational pull of any planet in our solar system. As a result, and due to its position in the solar system, it is often referred to as the solar system’s vacuum cleaner because it receives more cometary and space debris impacts than any other planet. As recently as June 3, 2010, just prior to the first Jupiter-Uranus conjunction in the series under consideration, Jupiter received a significant fireball impact¹³ which seems relevant to this discussion. Impacts to Jupiter, the systemic heart centre, naturally reverberate throughout the whole system.

Although Jupiter is huge, its composition of rarefied gases makes it extremely light, allowing it to completely rotate in under ten hours—faster than any other planet! Its accelerated rotation speaks to Jupiter’s agility and propensity for rapid movement. It takes Jupiter about twelve years to revolve around the Sun which is significant both numerologically and esoterically. The number twelve has many associations: the twelve tribes of Israel, the twelve disciples of Jesus, twelve signs of the zodiac, twelve planets and the twelve Creative Hierarchies. Notably “our solar system is a twelve-petalled lotus”¹⁴ and is based on the number twelve

throughout. Energy flows through twelve-petalled lotuses on the logoic, solar, planetary and egoic levels, underscoring the significance of Jupiter and its cycle.

The glyph that represents Jupiter, a crescent moon turned outward and rising above the left arm of a base

cross, indicates the redemption of matter through a process of acquired wisdom and evolution. This idea is also reflected in the zodiac sign Virgo with its Soul and hierarchical rulers, the Moon and Jupiter. We are told that “the result of the Jupiterian influence is to ‘open the door of the womb in Virgo’¹⁵ and reveal the hidden

spiritual reality. Not coincidentally, Jupiter rules the first decanate of Libra¹⁶ (the sign immediately following Virgo), emphasizing the role that Jupiter plays in opening the door of ascent onto the path of higher evolution following the birth of the Christ consciousness in Virgo.

Relative to its immense size, the chief function of Jupiter is *expansion*—expansions in consciousness, growth, increased understanding, and greater inclusivity. As an expression of the Second Ray, Jupiter’s function is to open and expand the heart, resulting in the capacity to move beyond perceived limitations, broaden horizons, and think in wider terms. As the body of manifestation of the Lord of Love-Wisdom, Jupiter innately promotes wisdom in every department of life, and as a heart center, is keyed to Love, coherence, generosity, benevolence, grace and gratitude.

As one esoteric astrologer points out, “Lord Jupiter is here to ‘round out’ our planetary life and turn our squares into triangles, as it were. This change or re-patterning in the etheric field of our planetary life is not only a planetary event but also has systemic ramifi-

cations. It is also part of the process of welcoming our planet gradually into the community of sacred planets. Hence, it is about the moving out of the Third Ray personality into the Second Ray Soul of the Earth. The Soul of Jupiter is on the Second Ray of Love and Wisdom and so is the Soul of Earth. This

makes for a rare spiritual connection between the two planetary lives along the major ray line of the whole system.”¹⁷

In Vedic Astrology, Jupiter is named after Brihaspati, teacher of the Gods, more commonly known as “Guru,” which underscores Jupiter’s legendary role as a wise teacher, and is why Jupiter is associated

with high culture, principles, courts and laws, higher learning, and travel as an avenue for learning and enculturation into a wider sphere.

Uranus

As the seventh planet from the Sun, Uranus expresses the incoming Seventh Ray which is waxing powerfully at this time. “The prime cosmic function of the Seventh Ray is to perform the magical work of blending spirit and matter in order to produce the manifested form through which the life will reveal the glory of God.”¹⁸ Therefore, Uranus’ mission is not only to ignite and fuse the relationship between Spirit and Matter but to quite literally anchor Heaven on Earth.

Uranus is the exoteric ruler of Aquarius, the Soul ruler of Libra and the hierarchical ruler of Aries—the sign that Uranus recently entered, and will largely remain in for the next seven years. Along with Mercury and Saturn, Uranus is one of the three major planetary influences today. “Uranus gives innate spontaneous activity and this produces evolutionary development—both natural and spiritual. It is the urge to better conditions.”¹⁹

Heaven and Earth are clashing about between the stronghold of the past and the birth of the new. Along with a startling increase in solar activity, Earth has been positioned in a hot zone between Jupiter-Uranus in Aries and Saturn in Libra, square Pluto in Capricorn, commanding massive change, restructuring, and rebirth.

Uranus' glyph has an inverted symbol for Venus at its center (a cross of matter above the circle-spirit instead of below) with two adjoining semi-circles on each side pointing outward to represent spiritual receptivity and intuition; hence Uranus' association with enlightenment, innovation and progress.

Astronomically, the planet Uranus distinctively rotates on its side, presenting each of its poles to the Sun at the same time in its irregular orbital movement. This places one hemisphere in the light and the other in the dark for long periods within its 84-year revolution around the Sun, thereby demonstrating its eccentric nature. Due to its erratic orbital pattern, Uranus celebrates uniqueness and originality. It also embodies "electric fire" demonstrating as vitality or the will-to-be. It is Uranus' nature to enliven and revolutionize everything that it touches, thus its penchant for radical change and those unexpected bolts out-of-the-blue that awaken consciousness in us.

As a transpersonal planet, Uranus is impersonal and naturally oriented to broader group interests, consciousness, service and purpose. It is one of the three synthesizing planets, fostering greater inclusiveness, the group spirit and spiritual awareness. Through magical and ordered cyclical processes, Uranus imposes a new rhythm and order that is simultaneously liberating and destabilizing. As the exoteric ruler of Aquarius and the Aquarian Age, it is enormously significant and peculiarly active at this time. As the Soul ruler of Libra and hierarchical ruler of Aries, it indicates that only through sacred union—the marriage of heaven and earth—the highest and the lowest—can true liberation occur.

The Jupiter-Uranus Conjunctions

Let the rumpus begin! Maurice Sendak

Although Jupiter and Uranus cycles are relatively short (about fourteen years), their conjunctions are legendary. Whenever these two celestial bodies merge, powerful surges of creativity, breakthroughs, cultural

milestones and sheer genius occur that are historic and ground-breaking. The energies of Jupiter and Uranus—*expansion and radical change*—unite to produce surges of global expansion, sudden leaps forward, unprecedented risk taking and eureka moments that are often highly celebrated.

In Richard Tarnas' research of planetary cycles, he discovered that each conjunction and opposition of Jupiter and Uranus "seems to serve as a punctuation point in the continuing cycle: as a culmination of what preceded it...yet also a breakthrough into a new level of creativity that unfolds through the succeeding years—with revolutionary ideas entering public discourse, with long-germinating creative processes suddenly breaking the surface, with new works born and disseminated, new horizons explored, new associations begun, new movements initiated, new freedoms won, new understandings awakened."²⁰

Because of the rate of recurrence of Jupiter-Uranus conjunctions, there are innumerable examples and many remarkable manifestations of their alliance in every department of life. Jupiter-Uranus conjunctions are credited with countless "firsts"—the first hot air balloon launch, the first trans-Atlantic and rocket flights; the first radio and television broadcasts; the first electric light bulb; the first telegraph transmission; the first color television—the list is endless. However, even more startling is the historical time line of revelatory events coincident with their conjunctions and oppositions that cyclically link and expand upon one another. For example, during a conjunction of Jupiter and Uranus in Sagittarius in 1900, German physicist, Max Planck introduced a hypothesis on "relative theory" that unwittingly set the quantum physics revolution in motion. Through succeeding years, Albert Einstein worked and expanded on Planck's theory which eventually resulted in his historic General Theory of Relativity that was tested and formally endorsed by the Royal Society on a Jupiter-Uranus opposition in 1919. Their discoveries launched the new field of quantum physics.

Jupiter-Uranus' inclination for *serial events* is apparent in many genres including literature and technology. J.K. Rowling published her first Harry Potter book in the Harry Potter series during a conjunction of Jupiter-Uranus in Aquarius in 1997. Likewise, the first successful internet transmission was introduced during a conjunction of Jupiter-Uranus in Libra in 1969, while standardized protocols for the internet were not officially implemented until the next Jupiter-Uranus conjunction in Sagittarius in 1982-83. As researcher Richard Tarnas points out, "major cyclical alignments of the outer planets coincide with a mutual

activation of the corresponding archetypal principles, but rather than simply signifying a mechanical 'switching on' and 'switching off' during the transit, each alignment seems to represent a more complex and subtle unfolding of archetypal wave patterns,"²¹ that continue to develop and endure over time.

Jupiter-Uranus alignments coincide with many historical events besides those mentioned—the American and French Revolutions, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the discovery of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), the historic release of Nelson Mandela from prison, Darwin's Theory of Evolution, the first personal computer, and the launching of the worldwide web. However, one of the most remarkable demonstrations in recent history occurred during the period from 1927-28 during a conjunction in Aries that prompted a host of significant events—the establishment of the communist party in China, the Stalin Revolution in Russia, the Stock Market Crash and the beginning of the Great Depression, Lindbergh's successful

first trans-Atlantic flight, Georges Lemaître's proposition on the Big Bang Theory, the first talking motion picture, and the discovery of penicillin.

In the present cycle, Jupiter and Uranus will align on three separate occasions between June 2010 and January 2011. Although multiple conjunctions were once quite rare, beginning with the 20th century the rate of recurrence is escalating. Statistically, each century from 1400-1900 had only one triple conjunction, but in the last century this figure rose to four and the 21st century will have five—a trend that is, in itself, quite telling. Life is accelerating and with the new pace comes increased opportunity for growth, change, discovery and revelation, which is precisely what Jupiter-Uranus alignments promote.

The larger Uranus cycle we are now entering began with the ingress of Uranus into Aries in May 2010 where, with the exception of an interval between August 2010 and March 2011 when Uranus will retrograde back into Pisces, it will remain until May 2018. The transition this year from Uranus in Pisces to Uranus in Aries brings an 84-year cycle that began in 1927 to a close, and commences a whole new Uranus cycle that will culminate at the end of this century.

Over the next seven years Uranus' journey through Aries will inaugurate a whole new cycle of existence where we will begin to experience and understand life in a totally new way. There will be starts and stops as Jupiter and Uranus fluctuate between Pisces and Aries. As the last sign of the zodiac, Pisces is a sign of endings, completion and liberation from one cycle to the next. This is accomplished through soul-searching inner

The Jupiter-Uranus conjunctions signal a shift in destiny, an awakening, where the impossible becomes possible. They are punctuation points in the continuing cycle when new relationships or alliances will be formed, new ideas or plans will be set in motion, shifts will take place and new vistas will open that will expand our worldview, inviting us to be bolder and more innovative, to think outside of the box, and to be more daring.

work and the transformational power of Pluto, the Soul ruler of Pisces, whose goal is to bring about the death and dissolution of forms that are no longer suitable. Therefore, what is percolating in the background in Pisces will surface in Aries; what has been hidden in the dark will be brought into the light, and there will be a growing urgency to release the past and move forward.

The first conjunction of Jupiter-Uranus in this series took place on June 8, 2010 at 0 degrees of Aries, which is an exalted point on the zodiacal horizon that corresponds with Spring Equinox, birth and new beginnings. The second two conjunctions take place in Pisces on September 19, 2010 and January 4, 2011. The recent September conjunction coincided with the Autumnal Equinox phase at a time when Jupiter was closer to Earth than it will be at any other time until 2022,²² perhaps symbolizing a unique occasion in the relationship between Jupiter and Earth while Jupiter is positioned in Pisces, the sign it exoterically rules.

Astrologically, it is difficult to isolate or pinpoint Jupiter-Uranus manifestations amidst all the other celestial activity at this time, but several events do stand out. In May it was announced that scientists had successfully created artificial life in a laboratory—a highly controversial discovery that has the potential to open the door to untold possibilities that could lead to cleaner fuel sources and better medicines. The volcanic eruption of Eyjafjallajökull in Iceland, the Yushu earthquake in China, a plethora of firestorms, and extreme flooding throughout the world, particularly in Pakistan where the worst floods in history have displaced an astounding 20 million people, can also be linked to Jupiter-Uranus' proclivity toward sudden global catastrophes. The surprising and rapid growth of Tea Party movements in the United States and abroad, the outrage and aftermath over Israeli killings of nine pro-Palestinian civilians on a ship carrying humanitarian aid to Gaza, and the political unrest in dozens of countries throughout the world, can also be linked to Jupiter-Uranus'

natural tendency toward liberation and social and political rebellion.

Conclusion

You have been telling the people that this is the Eleventh Hour. Now you must go back and tell people that this is the Hour. Elders Oraibi, Arizona Hopi Nation

Heaven and Earth are clashing about between the stronghold of the past and the birth of the new. Along with a startling increase in solar activity,²³ Earth has been positioned in a hot zone between Jupiter-Uranus in Aries and Saturn in Libra, square Pluto in Capricorn, commanding massive change, restructuring, and rebirth. As one astrologer points out, birth is “messy and crazy and uncertain and thrilling, with a lot of pressure pushing you forward. And it’s often the only way something truly *new* can emerge.”²⁴

Alice Bailey makes the following point:

...as the New Age is ushered in—there must inevitably come a judgment day (speaking symbolically) and the emergence of a clear line of demarcation between that which is new and that which is of the old age; there must appear the distinction between exoteric happenings and esoteric attitudes and between those who see a new world order, developed and brought to functioning activity by the Forces of Light, through cooperation, coordination and understanding, and a world order which will be imposed by terror, through dictatorial government, by the suppression of liberty of conscience, and by the enthronement of a race whose values are, at this time, anti-spiritual and anti-social. This judgment day is now upon humanity, and the final decision will be arrived at by those whose normal inclinations and natural tendencies are on the side of law and order, and whose will-to-good is directed towards right human relations and true human welfare. These enlightened people will back their judgment with a focused will to bring in the era wherein these values will dominate, and those who are willing to take

the necessary measures to make these values possible.²⁵

Over the next two years Saturn in Libra will promote right relations, greater harmony and balance between competing realities. Bailey reminds us that “the rays which are related to or are expressing themselves through Aries are curiously balanced; Rays 1 and 7 are the highest and the lowest, and therefore demand a point of balance upon the wheel which is provided in Libra.”²⁶ Saturn is exalted in Libra. Therefore, we are standing at a crossroad where important decisions will have to be made. Only through right relationships, finding common ground, creating win-win situations, maintaining equipoise and “choosing the way which leads between two great lines of force” can we successfully bring this critical battle to resolution. Libra is a sign of peace. Not passive peace that deflects the battle, but active peace. In the words of Robert Fulgham, “Peace is not something you wish for; it’s something you make, something you do, something you are, and something you give away.”

We can look to the spiritual potency of Uranus in Aries to initiate a new direction and forge a new way.

Aries, the Inaugurator, is rendered effective on the Earth through the organizing potency of Uranus. Aries is the source, the beginning and the initiator of the New Age and its coming civilizations, of the appearance of the kingdom of God on earth and also of the individual initiate into the Mysteries. Aquarius is the present Determiner of the future. That which is now initiated in Aries will become manifested in Aquarius, and Libra will enforce the achievement of a point of balance or (esoterically speaking) of the “escape from opposing forces at the midway point between the source and the goal.”²⁷

The Jupiter-Uranus conjunctions signal a shift in destiny, an awakening, where the impossible becomes possible. They are punctuation points in the continuing cycle when new relationships or alliances will be formed,

new ideas or plans will be set in motion, shifts will take place and new vistas will open that will expand our worldview, inviting us to be bolder and more innovative, to think outside of the box, and to be more daring. Having passed through a difficult quagmire of collective tests and challenges this past summer, the energies of Jupiter-Uranus are now drawing our attention to something bigger and greater than ourselves. They signal a time for movement and expansion into uncharted territory; toward fresh ideas and bold enterprises, while tempering the youthful exuberance of the “new” with contemplation, moderation and sound effort.

In line with the proposed date for the externalization of Hierarchy (2025), the current Jupiter-Uranus cycle culminates in April of 2024 along with Pluto’s ingress into Aquarius. We are only midway in the current series of Jupiter-Uranus conjunctions and the full significance of their alliance has not been fully realized. However, we can expect the unexpected and will need to remember that “...loss is the great awakener. It is a potential opening if you don’t run away from it. What is usually condemned as ‘bad’ by the mind and the mind-made self is actually grace coming into your life.”²⁸ And so it is with Jupiter-Uranus. We have to be *willing* to lose ourselves and the world we have known; to shed our old skins and ways of thinking, and boldly embrace the mystery and grace of revolutionary change in our lives and in the world.

¹ Alice A. Bailey, *The Consciousness of the Atom* (New York: Lucis Trust Publishing Company, 1961), 65.

² Jan Detrich, *The Emergence of Pluto in Capricorn*, Esoteric Quarterly Summer 2008.

³ Jan Detrich, *When Heaven and Earth Meet*, Esoteric Quarterly, Winter 2009.

⁴ Jan Detrich, *Standing at the Crossroads*, Esoteric Quarterly, Winter 2010.

⁵ Neil Armstrong, *Apollo 11 Moon Landing*, July 20, 1969.

⁶ <http://www.makara.us/04mdr/01writing/03tg/bios.Blavatsky.htm..>

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- ⁷ Iverson Harris, *The Journal of San Diego History* (San Diego: Historical Society, Summer 1974), 16.
- ⁸ Alice A. Bailey, *Esoteric Psychology I* (New York: Lucis Trust Publishing Company, 1962), 26.
- ⁹ Alice A. Bailey, *Discipleship in the New Age I* (New York: Lucis Trust Publishing Company, 1944), 641.
- ¹⁰ Alice A. Bailey, *Discipleship in the New Age II* (New York: Lucis Trust Publishing Company, 1955), 582.
- ¹¹ *Ibid.*, 454.
- ¹² Alice A. Bailey, *Letters on Occult Mediation* (New York: Lucis Trust Publishing Company, 1950), 221.
- ¹³ <http://jupiter.samba.org/jupiter/20100603-203129-impact/index.html>.
- ¹⁴ Alice A. Bailey, *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire* (New York: Lucis Trust Publishing Company, 1951), 1018.
- ¹⁵ Alice A. Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology* (New York: Lucis Trust Publishing Company, 1951), 251.
- ¹⁶ *Ibid.*, 251.
- ¹⁷ Niklas Nihlen, November 12, 2004, <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/CosmoCycles1/message/949>.
- ¹⁸ Bailey, *Esoteric Psychology I*, 369.
- ¹⁹ Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, 139.
- ²⁰ Richard Tarnas, *Cosmos and Psyche* (New York: Penguin Group 2006), 349.
- ²¹ *Ibid.*, 317.
- ²² <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/39232860>.
- ²³ <http://news.carrentals.co.uk/us-secretary-of-defence-expands-on-solar-flare-dangers-34214832.html>.
- ²⁴ <http://www.evolvedoor.ca/miscarticles/mythology-cardinal-cross.htm>.
- ²⁵ Alice A. Bailey, *The Externalisation of the Hierarchy* (New York: Lucis Trust Publishing Company, 1957), 230.
- ²⁶ Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology* 101.
- ²⁷ *Ibid.*, 548.
- ²⁸ www.facebook.com/Eckhartolle/posts/148730465141327.