The Starfire Messenger



A Free Weekly Newsletter From Archetypal Astrologer Maureen Richmond, M.A. Issue #150: January 18 - 24, 2021

Contents

Signs of the Times: The Saturn-Uranus Square of 2021

Daily Analysis and Prediction

The Saturn-Uranus Square of 2021

For everyone, the year 2021 holds a place of importance in the spiritual walk through life, for in this year, the planets Saturn and Uranus come into an exact 90-degree separation within the circle of the zodiac, thus signifying momentous developments within consciousness. These momentous developments within the field of consciousness are marked and prompted by the 90-degree separation, known to astrology as the square, a geometrical positioning which carries within itself profound meaning. Comprehending the implications of this planetary arrangement is thus pivotal to appreciating the present moment in time and all that it offers.

The best way to understand the Saturn-Uranus square of 2021 is to see it within the context of the greater cycle to which it belongs. That's the Saturn-Uranus Cycle, a period of 45 years which begins and ends with a conjunction of these two bodies. The most recent conjunction of Saturn and Uranus occurred in 1988. At that point, a new period of 45 years was initiated. This cycle would see the planets Saturn and Uranus continue in their respective orbits around the Sun, Saturn moving ahead in the zodiac due to its greater zodiacal speed. The difference in the zodiacal speeds of the two planets would allow Saturn to get ahead of Uranus by 90 degrees, then 180, and then would see Saturn begin to gain on Uranus once again, arriving at the closing square in this year, 2021.

To study the Saturn-Uranus Cycle in this manner is to view it in much the same way that we see the phases of the Moon each month. In this sense, the conjunction of the two planets is like unto the conjunction of the Moon and Sun which takes place at every New Moon. The next major step in the cycle is the waxing square, analogous to the First Quarter Moon, which occurs half-way in between New Moon and Full Moon. Then comes the Full Moon, at which time the Moon stands on the opposite side of the Earth from the Sun, forming the opposition. Then the Moon begins to wane, ultimately reaching Third Quarter or waning square. Finally, it returns to the place held by the Sun in the zodiac, and another New Moon occurs at the Sun-Moon conjunction.

Leading twentieth-century transpersonal astrologer Dane Rudhyar articulated this method of cyclic analysis in *The Lunation Cycle*. In *The Lunation Cycle*, Rudhyar revealed a method for understanding the spiritual implications of our experiences in time, a method which can be applied to any cycle defined by the motion of two celestial bodies in the zodiac. As Rudhyar explained in regard to the lunar cycle, the New Moon signals the emergence of what he termed **The Crisis of Inspiration**, a point in time in which the subconscious mind of the human being is implanted with a seed of further spiritual evolution coming from cosmic mind. At this point in the cycle, the inadequacy of prior forms of consciousness and behavior becomes evident to the subconscious mind, which connects with the cosmic storehouse of available ideas and generates a new understanding of truth and a corresponding vision of potential worthy of pursuit. That insight then drives the entire ensuing cycle.

As an organic timing indicator marking out the stages in the process, the Moon with its greater rate of zodiacal speed then moves ahead in the zodiac to the First Quarter, equivalent to the waxing square in any cycle. Rudhyar called the First Quarter or waxing square a **Crisis of Action**, a point in the cycle at which the new seed idea sown into the subconscious at the New Moon moment begins to take visible shape in the form of specific acts and intentions.

The next stage in the process unfolds as the Moon reaches Full Phase, denominated by Rudhyar as the **Crisis of Illumination**, the point in the cycle at which the seed idea implanted by cosmic mind in the human subconscious mind at the New Moon moment is fully enacted and put on plain view in the theatre of life. The brilliance of the Full Moon floating high in the sky and flooding the landscape with shimmering silver illumination is the sign and symbol of this stage.

The process continues as the Moon moves to the Third Quarter, equivalent to a waning square in any cycle. Rudhyar characterized the waning square as the **Crisis of Consciousness**, a point in the cycle at which the significance of the entirety of the cycle breaks upon the mind, overwhelming it with the implications of all that has occurred within the cycle from the Crisis of Illumination forward. **This is the point at which all Humanity is now positioned within the Saturn-Uranus Cycle**, for 2021 is the year in which there occurs the waning square of the 45-year SaturnUranus Cycle. This means that the year 2021 is the point in time at which we individually and collectively face and grapple with what has happened for each of us individually and all of us collectively since the most recent conjunction of Saturn and Uranus in 1988. This fact alone would explain much of what the Earth Humanity is now facing.

Here again are the key phases in Rudhyar's Lunation Cycle.

- New Moon or Conjunction: The Crisis of Inspiration
 Death of prior forms of belief and action; implantation of new seed
 idea into the subconscious levels of mind for both individuals and
 collectives.
- 2. First Quarter or Waxing Square: The Crisis of Action Specific actions taken to implement inspiration of the conjunction phase.
- **3. Full Moon or Opposition: The Crisis of Illumination** The objective or purpose of the cycle appears in outward, tangible form through specific actions and intentions.
- 4. Third Quarter or Waning Square: The Crisis of Consciousness A great understanding breaks over the conscious mind as it grapples with all that has occurred since the Crisis of Inspiration.

Applied to the Saturn-Uranus Cycle, this paradigm for understanding the structure of time as a revealer of purpose reveals much. Here are the four stages, with the relevant years and zodiacal positions.

1. Conjunction of Saturn and Uranus; Crisis of Inspiration

February 1988	29 degrees Sagittarius
June 1988	29 degrees Sagittarius
October 1988	28 degrees Sagittarius

Interpretation: Shattering of prior beliefs and models for understanding in the field of Sagittarius, affecting religion, philosophy, theoretical models, metaphysics, higher education, foreign relations, pilgrimages, spiritual journey, and travel. Simultaneously, there occurs the birth of a new vision of truth in the Sagittarius field of metaphysics, religion, philosophy of life.

2. First Quarter/Waxing Square of Saturn/Uranus; Crisis of Action

July 1999	Saturn 16 Taurus/Uranus 16 Aquarius
Nov. 1999	Saturn 13 Taurus/Uranus 16 Aquarius
May 2000	Saturn 21 Taurus/Uranus 21 Aquarius

Interpretation: Specific actions emerge as a result of the tension between the drive for security and consistency (Saturn in Taurus) on one hand, and open intellectual inquiry and affiliation with like minds (Uranus in Aquarius) on the other. Severe obstacles arise in the effort to implement the intentions and momentum arising from the Crisis of Inspiration in 1988. Ease of accomplishment eludes.

3. Full Moon/Opposition of Saturn/Uranus: Crisis of Illumination

Nov. 2008	Saturn 19 Virgo/Uranus 19 Pisces
Feb. 2009	Saturn 21 Virgo/Uranus 21 Pisces
Sept. 2009	Saturn 25 Virgo/Uranus 25 Pisces

Interpretation: The drive toward the conceptualization of a new vehicle for truth and understanding generated in 1988 manifests outwardly in radically altered beliefs and intellectual paradigms. The tension between the logical, mathematical mind (Saturn in Virgo) and the intuitive, imaginative faculty (Uranus in Pisces) sparks and powers the breaking of prior restraints on knowledge and disrupts old beliefs about the methods of gaining knowledge. Much of the situation in 1988 is completely laid to waste; new foundations are made manifest.

4. Third Quarter/Waning Square: Crisis of Consciousness

Feb. 2021	Saturn 7 Aquarius/Uranus 7 Taurus
June 2021	Saturn 13 Aquarius/Uranus 13 Taurus
Dec. 2021	Saturn 11 Aquarius/Uranus 11 Taurus

Interpretation: As in the waxing square, the moment is defined by a tension between the security, comfort, and predictability of Taurus on one hand, and the exhilaration of unfettered intellectual inquiry on the other. Consciousness searches all the way back to events and trends which began in 1988 and tracks the steps and stages through which the process has come, ultimately understanding the objectives and purposes which were liberated into mind in the 1988 Crisis of Inspiration for the Saturn-Uranus Cycle. The battle between comfort and conformity on one hand versus the need for freedom to inquire and think independently on the other is evident. One or the other must be chosen as the dominant objective. It is seen how self-imposed limitations (Saturn) have often driven choices and have limited (Saturn) freedom, creativity, and ingenuity (Uranus). Regret for mistakes and lost opportunities morphs into resolve to pursue the greater challenge.

5. New Moon/Conjunction: Crisis of Inspiration June 2032 Saturn and Uranus 28 degrees Gemini

Interpretation: This conjunction occurs precisely opposite the position of the conjunction of 1988, thus bringing the exploration of mind full circle, and completing the 45-year cycle.

The above points in time can be used for understanding either the personal path of one incarnated soul or the collective path of Humanity. Doing so will help to bring to mind the significance of the present year, which marks a major phase in the creative process as it works through the Saturn-Uranus Cycle. This cycle is of considerable importance in the evolution of Humanity, driving much in culture and in personal change. Now is an excellent time for us all to take stock of where we fit in this process. Those born before 1988 will be able to view the cycle in terms of personal experience; those born after 1988 will have personal experience in only part of the cycle. Still, the exercise is worthy for all. As the weight of this coming influence from the Saturn-Uranus square of 2021 bears down on all in the form of world events, it is more important than ever to penetrate into the underlying causes of our choices and actions. Now is the perfect time to examine the time map of one's life and understand more than ever. If enough people comprehend the workings of time at this level, the scales of judgement could well tip in a new and better direction for all.

Daily Analysis and Prediction for January 18 – 24, 2010

This week is dominated by militant, impulsive Mars as it activates the existing wild-card Jupiter-Uranus square. As Mars moves through 7 – 8 degrees of Taurus this week, it will conjunct Uranus and square Jupiter, thus stirring up intense energies in the direction of social renewal, innovation, and renaissance, while also agitating the already turbulent atmosphere of political contention and upheaval. The Moon waxes all week, thus adding to the theme of intensification. A smidge of serenity emerges on the weekend while Venus makes the calming sextile to Neptune and the Sun conjuncts sedentary Saturn. Even so, there's more than enough excitement (and anxiety) to go around. The conflict between the establishment status quo and demos-driven creative change remains a big deal. Whether one is talking censorship of free speech, debate about scientific procedure, or what have you, the beat goes on. **Monday January 18** is not quiet. The Moon enters active and combative Aries at 1:07 am CST, stirring up the tendency to challenge and confront.

Tuesday January 19 sees the Sun enter Aquarius at 2:40 pm CST, shifting attention to the themes of the community conscious Water-Bearer for a solar month, thus adding to the already prevalent Aquarius theme promoted by the presence of Mercury, Jupiter, and Saturn in that sign. Different interest groups rule the conversation, but the chat is not so nice, for the coming Mars-Uranus conjunction intensifies all feelings, especially those of contestation, argumentation, agitation, impatience, resentment, and retaliation. Those who do not enjoy such things best be at creative projects in the homesite doing something not too tricky.

Wednesday January 20 is dominated by Mars conjunct Uranus in the 7th degree of Taurus. This signifies maximum upheaval and radical change in the field of Taurus, which is to say, in the area of money, commercial exchange, cash, assets, and valuables. The great valuable of settled conditions is subject to the whims of Mars and Uranus. These two together are not known for their sedate manners. Anything but. So beware.

Thursday January 21 sees the very same themes carried over from Wednesday, especially 1 am – 4 am CST while the Moon in Taurus activates the Mars-Jupiter-Uranus configuration. Do not go out at that time if your objective is quiet bliss. Home-ified art projects and such are better.

Friday January 22 More of the same. Mars squares Jupiter, exact tomorrow just before 2 am CST. Enthusiasm runs high, but so does over-reaction.

Saturday January 23 brings a very slight reprieve in the form of reduced tensions. Venus sextiles Neptune and the Sun conjuncts Saturn; events slow down a bit. Still the Mars-Jupiter square drives conflict.

Sunday January 24 also is slightly more restful, but not much, for the Sun prepares to square Uranus next week, and "ever-helpful" retrograde Hermes is just about to make an appearance, doing so on January 30.