

HAPPY HOLIDAYS;

I hope you enjoyed your Thanksgiving festivities and are making plans to enjoy the upcoming holiday season.

SOLSTICE RITUAL: Don't forget to celebrate the Winter Solstice which occurs on 12/21 with a Full Moon and a Lunar Eclipse. This is a major change period and has been celebrated all over the world as we leave the longest night 12/20 and begin the period of longer days and shorter nights. This "return of the sun" celebration is the focus of the Revels, which are performed in Houston each year in mid-December. I will hold my annual solstice ritual on Monday night, December 20 at 7:00 PM at my house. The cost is \$25. I will send a separate email about how to prepare yourself to maximize this energy change. If you are interested, please email me so I can start the list.

GIFT CERTIFICATES: For any of your holiday gifting needs, I have gift certificates available: 30 minutes for \$80 and 1 hour for \$160.00. Please call my office at 713/520-1551 to arrange a pick up or mailing.

LANDSCAPING: Please take advantage of this month's cooler nights and sunny days to finish your clean up and planting. Tree trimming and planting is also a great idea at this time. If you have any need for help, I am available for consultation and provide all services needed in landscape matters.

DECEMBER ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK;

A good friend of mine read a review of December by another astrologer and called me and asked me if I knew what was going on this month. I will do my best to summarize the many changes and challenges upon us this month:

First, the planet of sudden, revolutionary change, Uranus, starts its slow move out of Pisces on 12/5 at the New Moon. New Moons always signal new beginnings, so if there is anything you want to begin, this is a brilliant time to have wonderful results. Uranus will be joined at the January New Moon 1/4 by Jupiter, also in Pisces, at 27 degrees, which opens up a huge change period, as this degree squares the Galactic Center of the cosmos at 27 degrees Sagittarius. You will hear more about that later when I discuss the other unusual patterns occurring in December. The last time we experienced this pattern was in 1334. I re-read the marvelous book by Barbara W. Tuchman "A Distant Mirror" so I could get some perspective on the times to come, and I recommend it to you as well. Jupiter brings about expansion and spiritual seeking and Uranus is the principle of inventing as a result of necessity and/or chaos. It rules sudden, paradigm shifts in consciousness and technology and produces never before seen events. Barbara Tuchman writes that the 14th century produces two contradictory images: "on the one hand a glittering time of crusades and castles, cathedrals and chivalry and exquisitely illuminated Books of Hours, on the other, a time of ferocity and spiritual agony- a world plunged into chaos".

Stay tuned for change. Hopefully this brief description answers the questions many of you have asked me recently when you say "What is going on!". The answer is "a lot", and we haven't seen it for centuries. I have been feeling lately that things are more different than I have ever experienced, and I am only 67. The planet Uranus has an 84 year cycle, so the movement of Uranus from Pisces into Aries in the next few months hasn't occurred for 84 years.

The usual occurrence that we all know and wonder how we are going to survive is the 3-week period when Mercury goes retrograde (December 10-30). This occurs every three months for 3 weeks. I had a client years ago who said it takes all of the three month period to put everything back in order that Mercury moves around. This is probably true, so be aware of challenges in communication, transportation, decision making and contracts during this time. If you are a Gemini, Virgo, Capricorn or Sagittarius, this month will give you an opportunity to master challenges in these areas. The rest of us will have these opportunities to a lesser degree. Allow more time for everything and check and re-check all your decisions and appointments.

There is a Full Moon Lunar Eclipse at the Winter Solstice 12/21, and the last time this occurred was on 12/21/91, a much shorter time period for us to review, as whatever events were occurring at that time may reappear in a new form. As mentioned in recent months, this is the third Full Moon in a row with the Moon at 29 degrees, which intensifies feelings for all of us. I personally think this 5 month Full Moon cycle is intensifying our feelings so we can be clearer and release and solve our problems so we can be prepared for the changes coming. Getting rid of the old, prepares a place for the new. This is a powerful period of transformation as a total lunar eclipse amplifies our opportunities for profound, second order change. Our consciousness can be rebooted, like our computers, as we receive more bandwidth capable of running a more complex program, especially since this Lunar Eclipse occurs at 29 degrees of Gemini, the sign of the mind. During an eclipse, continual streams of electromagnetic energy emanating from the Sun and Moon are interrupted, weakening the earth's force fields, as well as our own force fields, making it easier to shift grids, dimensions and the patterns of our consciousness. NASA has determined that "dark matter", that mysterious material that exerts a gravitational pull, but does not emit or absorb light, makes up 96% of the universe. Perhaps that is what Rumi meant when he said we should work twice as hard in the invisible world as in the visible. Take some time to be quiet, questioning and imagine the best for yourself, your live and the lives of others at this exceptional time.

If I haven't lost you in the previous paragraphs, there is some further detail to discuss for this period. Mercury begins December in pragmatic Capricorn, helping us plan, see things realistically and communicate with an economy of words. On 12/10, Mercury moves backwards changing the playing field and our perception of reality. It is best to watch and not decide or react for the three weeks Mercury is retrograde (12/10-30). If that is not an option, please think carefully before you speak, and find someone you trust to be a sounding board. On 12/13 Mercury joins Pluto and Mars, which powerfully inform us of facts, circumstances and hidden feelings about what we feel dis-empowered about. The anger which occurs at this time is the fuel of change. Use it wisely. On 12/18, Mercury moves back into Sagittarius and on 12/20 erratic, revolutionary Uranus shocks the mind, which could be a positive jolt for understanding. On 12/21 at the lunar eclipse, Jupiter joins the mix, and it will be very difficult not to speak out loud. Please find a zipper for your mouth and wait till 1/4 to speak about it, a time when the energy is more balanced.

Venus spends December in watery Scorpio and makes no aspects, which keeps it from being in the mix and being disruptive. Those with planets in Scorpio should be more peaceful than the rest of us.

Mars is full of energy and volatility this month. Moving from Sagittarius, where it increases impulsivity to Capricorn where it gathers strength and digs in like a tenacious mountain goat, beginning 12/7. Mars and Uranus have a challenging pattern on 12/3. Be careful of accidents on this day, and it is definitely not a time to discuss hot topics with anyone. On 12/13 Mars joins Pluto in Capricorn. This is a pattern of power struggle in the extreme, and not a time to argue or push the envelope with anyone, especially those who have authority in your life. On 12/29 Mars and Saturn square off, which is another power struggling, potentially violent aspect. Please try to relax this month, be rested, and become an introvert, as much as possible to avoid the challenges of Mars, the God of War.

Saturn remains in Libra, asking all of us to examine our relationships with others to see if balance and power sharing are in operation or need some remodeling.

Jupiter moves to the end of its stay in Pisces and ends the month at 27 degrees, squaring the Galactic Center, which is a once every 12 year opening for change and spiritual development

Pluto continues to move slowly in the first 5 degrees of Capricorn, demanding each of us be the responsible authority in our own lives, and not blame others for any of our experiences.

Neptune moves to the last few degrees of Aquarius finishing its mission before it returns home to Pisces on 4/4/2012, after which all of us with planets in Aquarius and Pisces will begin a new cycle of change.

As you can tell, this month is a time of profound significance for all of us. I encourage you to cut back on your obligations and take some time for yourself and your inner life. As such, I will be in the office all of

December, except for 12/24-26. Please call if you need gift certificates and/or want to make an appointment to receive assistance in understanding how these changes apply to you personally. This is a great time to get a jump start on 2011.

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