

Light Speed Astrology: Diving into the Heart of the Chart

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Credentials

- ◆ Lectured at NCGR 2007 (Free Speech), The Blast 2007 (faculty)
- ◆ Co-host of *This Week in Astrology*, the #1 astrology podcast on iTunes
- ◆ Astrology columnist for *Aquarius*, the Southeast's largest and longest-running metaphysical and holistic publication, and *AspireNow.com*.
- ◆ Graduate, Kelly Lee Phipps' Professional Astrologer Certification Program
- ◆ Member, NCGR, ISAR, and OPA (Director of Marketing & nonvoting board member)
- ◆ Faculty member, 2009 OPA Retreat
- ◆ Successfully completed ISAR's professional courses in Ethics and Counseling Skills
- ◆ Has done approx. 1600 consultations with a worldwide client base
- ◆ Has done hundreds of no-prep walk-up readings

How to do light speed astrology

Find out what the client wants up front and, if possible and appropriate, give it to them!
Ask without using astrologese

Use a computer

For natal work: be fluent in the meanings of the planets, signs, houses and aspects.

For moving planet work: be fluent in the meanings of transits and secondary progressions. (I rarely use solar arcs in short sessions.)

It's best to use a program that *animates* the moving planets, such as Solar Fire.

Much faster than an ephemeris

"A picture's worth a thousand words"

Letting the animation run for a few seconds (in one-day mode) makes it easy for clients to understand how the transiting and other moving planets cycle

Bonus: way-cool "gee whiz" factor!

Always display natal chart view with aspect grid

"Fuzz your eyes" and observe general chart emphases

Stelliums

Houses

Hemispheres or quadrants

Splay patterns

Focus on energies received by:
the personal planets (Sun through Mars),
angles, and
angular rulers,
either by aspect or moving energy.

Look for the most unusual and powerful things in the chart

You only need to be one or two steps ahead
Think less like a classical musician and more like a jazz improviser

Learn to "split your brain" so that you can scan the chart while the client is talking, yet fully tune in and respond to what they're saying.

Now and then, ask the client for confirmation or comment on what you're saying. This:
Lets you know if your interpretation is on the right track
Fills in specific details the chart doesn't show, letting you fine-tune your interpretation
Buys you time for further chart study while they talk!

Open up empowering possibilities rather than making concrete predictions
If you are also sharing psychic/intuitive information, clearly differentiate which is which.

Be helpful. Don't just identify the problem – give the client ideas or tools that will help them solve it!

Examples: my "Divine Saturation Snap Meditation" & "Divine Dictation" exercises (also at ItsAllGoodAstrology.com on the Articles page).

My preference: all things being equal, start with transiting Pluto and work in to transiting Jupiter

The slowest planets have the most powerful effects
There's also a lot to be said for starting with outer planet conjunctions to sensitive natal points!

Jupiter through Pluto: know where they are, where they've been and where they're going

CURRENT POSITIONS (rounded to nearest half-degree)

- **Pluto:** 0° 30' Capricorn (Rx)
- **Neptune:** 24° Aquarius (w/b Rx 5/26)
- **Uranus:** 22° Pisces (w/b Rx 6/26)
- **Chiron:** 21° Aquarius (w/b Rx 5/25)
- **Saturn:** 2° Virgo (went direct 5/2)
- **Jupiter:** 22° Capricorn (Rx)

CURRENT ANNUAL RATE OF TRAVEL

Pluto: just over 2°

Neptune: about 3°

Uranus: just under 4°

Chiron: 5° currently (slowing to about 4° by 2010)

Saturn: about 14°

Jupiter: about 28°

Helpful hint: the degree number of the annual rate of travel is about equal to the number of days, plus one year, until the next SD or SRx

AVERAGE SD / Rx DISTANCE

“Two steps forward, one step back”

Pluto: just under 5° / just under 3°

Neptune: 5° / just under 3°

Uranus: about 8° / about 4°

Chiron: about 10° / about 5°

Exceptions:

Saturn: about 20° / about 7°

Jupiter: about 44° / about 10°

SD DATES

Fall/Early Winter

Pluto: every September

9/7/07, 9/8/08, 9/11/09, 9/14/10, etc.

Neptune: every November (except 2007)

10/31/07, 11/2/08, 11/4/9, 11/7/10, etc.

Uranus: late November/early December (except 2007)

11/24/07, 11/27/08, 12/1/09, 12/5/10, etc.

Chiron: October/early November

10/19/07, 10/25/08, 10/31/09, 11/5/10, etc.

Less Predictable

Saturn: April/May

4/19/07, 5/2/08, 5/16/09, 5/30/10, etc.

Jupiter: about a month later each year

8/6/07, 9/8/08, 10/13/09, 11/18/10, etc.

SRx DATES

Spring/Summer

Pluto: every April (except 2007)

3/31/07, 4/2/08, 4/4/09, 4/6/10, etc.

Neptune: every May

5/24/07, 5/26/08, 5/29/09, 5/31/10, etc.

Uranus: every June/July

6/23/07, 6/26/08, 7/1/09, 7/5/10, etc.

Chiron: every May/June

5/20/07, 5/25/07, 5/30/09, 6/4/10, etc.

Less Predictable

Saturn: every December/January

12/19/07, 12/31/08, 1/13/10, etc.

Jupiter: about a month later each year

4/5/07, 5/9/08, 6/15/09, 7/23/10, etc.

Emphasize the upside of everything, *especially* the challenges

Translate immediately! Clients can easily feel lost unless you immediately translate all astrologese into plain English.

Keep it simple. The more plain and clear your English translation of your astrologese, the more easily the client will understand and benefit from your words. *What now seems elementary and basic to the astrologer may be profound and life-changing for the client.*

Less can be more. Don't race to see how many chart factors or transits you can pile into your interpretation. It's better for your client to have a clear understanding of how they can make the best use of the single most important thing than a superficial understanding of many points. *It only takes one major "aha!" for the client to feel that their session was worthwhile.*

At the same time, don't dwell endlessly on the same point. Cover enough things to give as solid an overview as time permits.

Consider looking at the same planet in different ways. If a planet is natively powerful, and/or being strongly activated, consider following this sequence:

its "naked" meaning

add the sign

add the house (primary field of life experience)

add any aspects

add any other houses it rules (secondary fields of life experience)

I use both ancient and modern rulers

I like to do most of my moving planet work from a biwheel (transits outside natal).

Set it up to *display aspect lines*

The primary challenges that bring clients to astrologers are usually stimulated by transits (not progressions or solar arcs), so look to transits first

Take cues from transiting Saturn's house placement

30-year career/accomplishment cycle

IC to MC – 15-year “rise to fame”

MC – pinnacle of achievement (if earned through hard work)

11th – achievement continues

12th – the Big Release (can also be spiritual/creative crystallization)

1st – new beginning

Which aspects to focus on? Balance these three factors:

The natural power of the aspect

The less the circle is divided, the more powerful it is

1/1 – conjunction

1/2 – opposition

1/3 – trine

1/4 – square

1/5 – quincunx

1/6 – sextile

The tightness of the aspect's orb

The importance of the planets aspecting and being aspected

Progressions are subtler but still important. The juice is usually with the *personal* progressed planets (Sun through Mars), since the progressed planets from Jupiter out creep so slowly that they rarely make significant aspects to the natal chart.

The speed rule for transiting planets (the slowest planets get the most attention) is reversed for progressions (look first to the fastest movers).

Moon, Sun, (Mercury, Venus), Mars

Watch especially for:

Change of sign or house

Aspects to sensitive natal point (1° orb, except 3° for Progressed Moon)

Change of direction

Return to natal position

Progressed New Moon (P-Sun conjunct P-Moon)

Transits aspecting progressions

I use this occasionally – usually only with conjunctions

There's usually plenty to talk about in short readings without using this technique

BONUS MATERIAL: More precise transit info, organized by planet

Pluto: currently traveling just over 2° per year and slowing

SD: about 4° 50'

going direct every September

9/7/07, 9/8/08, 9/11/09, 9/14/10, etc.

SRx: about 2° 40'

going Rx every April (except 2007)

3/31/07, 4/2/08, 4/4/09, 4/6/10, etc.

Neptune: currently traveling about 3° 8' per year

SD: exactly or almost exactly 5°

going direct every November (except 2007)

10/31/07, 11/2/08, 11/4/9, 11/7/10, etc.

SRx: about 2° 47'

going Rx every May

5/24/07, 5/26/08, 5/29/09, 5/31/10, etc.

Uranus: currently traveling about 3° 45' per year

SD: about 8°

going direct late November/early December (except 2007)

11/24/07, 11/27/08, 12/1/09, 12/5/10, etc.

SRx: about 4°

going Rx every June/July

6/23/07, 6/26/08, 7/1/09, 7/5/10, etc.

Chiron: currently traveling 4-1/2 to 5° per year (slowing)

SD: about 10.5°

going direct October/early November

10/19/07, 10/25/08, 10/31/09, 11/5/10, etc.

SRx: about 5°

going Rx every May/June

5/20/07, 5/25/08, 5/30/09, 6/4/10, etc.

Saturn: currently traveling about 14° per year (slowing)

SD: about 20°

going direct April/May

4/19/07, 5/2/08, 5/16/09, 5/30/10, etc.

SRx: about 7°

going Rx every December/January

12/19/07, 12/31/08, 1/13/10, etc.

Jupiter: currently traveling about 28 ° per year

SD: about 44°

going direct about a month later each year

8/6/07, 9/8/08, 10/13/09, 11/18/10, etc.

SRx: about 10°

going Rx about a month later each year

4/5/07, 5/9/08, 6/15/09, 7/23/10, etc. if