

longevity circuit

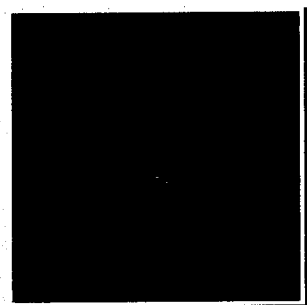
Perpetuating techniques which contribute to a longevity lifestyle.

Longevity Circuit

Volume 15, no 1, Summer 2003

In This Issue

- Venus.....1
- Calendar for Summer.....2
- Movie Review.....3
- Transcript4
- Price List6



Venus

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Venus

The astronomy of the planet Venus is rather interesting. It is closer to the Sun than the Earth and consequently is never seen very far from the Sun (always within 48°). A person can't be born with Venus opposite or square the Sun for instance which tells us how important this energy symbol is. Since Venus represents the energy of desire, love, attraction, basic principles that make life on earth possible, there can't be a basic disagreement between your personal individuality/creativity/consciousness and that which you desire. If there were, you wouldn't be born! (The same is true for Mercury, the symbol for your mental acuity and communication, which is never more than 28° from the Sun: you can't think of something that doesn't exist in your consciousness! Similarly, anything you can think of exists!)

Because of its proximity to the Sun, Venus only can be viewed as a morning star or evening star, when it is too close to the Sun, it is invisible. Before the techniques of modern astronomy were developed, Venus was believed to be two stars: The morning or Eastern Star, also known as Phosphoros; and the evening star, in the west called Hesperos or Aphrodite, the goddess of beauty, fertility, sex and peace. The morning star was considered goddess of the hunt and battle, while the evening star was the goddess of love. Even today we find these two meanings in our modern astrology: Venus as ruler of Libra tells us about open warfare in mundane charts, and marital war in personal charts; while Venus as ruler of Taurus relates more to love, desire and beauty. These two aspects of Venus have rarely found a balance. Throughout most of



Figure 1- Venus Plot

Continued on page 5

SUMMER CALENDAR

The lineup: The 3 transpersonal (not visible to the naked eye) planets (Pluto, Neptune and Uranus) are retrograde. The emphasis is on individual issues this summer. In particular, Jupiter and Saturn are noteworthy.

Saturn has just moved into a new constellation, Cancer, the sign of the Crab. This is a water sign and Saturn is not happy here, being the ruler of Capricorn, The Crab's opposite sign. Saturn constricts, limits, structures, and disciplines. Water is none of these things. How will Saturn be felt here in his new 2.5 year home? Usually he dampens emotions, lowers real estate values, creates problems at home with issues of responsibility and parental authority. While Saturn was in Gemini our thoughts were affected, many people becoming cynical or serious thinkers; now the trend will be on the emotional level. Perhaps we will see more people working at home as companies continue to down size.

Saturn in the U.S. chart is now in the 5th house where he will regulate the stock market, secondary education, ambassadors and entertainment. These are topics that are already predominant. In the next 2 and 1/2 years some solutions could be found. Saturn is currently conjoined with the U.S. chart Uranus exacerbating the already strong frustration about limited freedoms. Saturn here uses force to get what he wants and acts with parental authority.

Jupiter is whizzing through Leo. This great giant informs us of

excess, adventure, expansion, great expectations. Some examples of excess currently in the news would be the actions of G.W. Bush and Martha Stewart. Both have an abundance of Leo in their charts: G.W. has the rising sign and 3 planets and Martha is a Leo Sun sign with the midheaven, and two other planets. Her indictment comes exactly when transiting Leo is conjoining her Midheaven and conjuncting her Sun. How often have I told my clients that Jupiter wears two faces: the one of self-aggrandizement, the other of self-effacement. There is an understanding amongst astrologers that Leos who don't get positive attention will be quite happy to get negative attention. The key is attention as Leo is the only sign that needs it: all the rest of us want it! Leo is talking when Hollywood says that any publicity, even bad publicity, is good publicity. Another function of Leo is political pomposity: making impossible promises, wanting to change the world, acting like a king without consent of the masses.

If you think that all astrological energies are good as I do, then you must ask yourself why is this happening. The answer lies in the fact that for growth to occur there must be challenge. We are an apathetic nation that does not vote, a long time defect. Edmund Burke said in the 1700's that all it takes to have an "evil government is for good people to do nothing." What better way to arouse the interest of the electorate than to take away its freedoms? And the Aquarian Age signifies that governments will become increasingly corrupt until the grassroots level becomes more powerful. We're right on cue, but how long will it take is the next question.

Jupiter in Leo doesn't have to be problematical. Actually this energy is best used by those evolved souls who use it for generosity of spirit; love of friendship; enjoyment and creativity.

On August 27, Jupiter will have completed his sojourn through Leo and will enter the constellation of Virgo. While he is in Leo, Jupiter is full of ideas, big ideas. Now in Virgo those ideas must be grounded, the details must be noted and resolved. The daily grind to bring the idea to manifestation must occur. Who said invention is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration? That's a good description of Jupiter energy transmuting from Leo to Virgo. August 27 is also a new moon giving a little push to Leo in his new home. New Moons are excellent beginnings. And the next day, August 28, brings a Mercury retrograde in Virgo and change of direction for Pluto as well who will now be moving forward once again. As for the Mercury retrograde, it affects some people more than others and seems to have a lot to

Continued on page 5

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is a quarterly newsletter dedicated to perpetuating techniques which contribute to a longevity lifestyle

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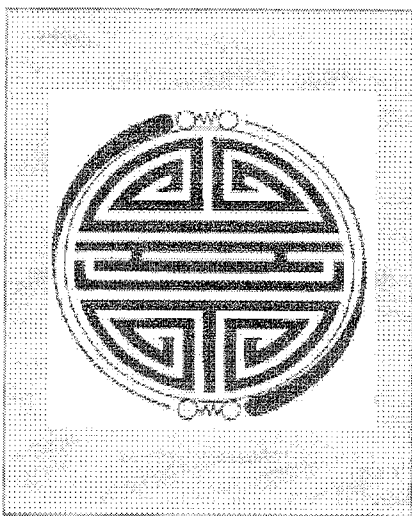
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The Matrix

I haven't written about a movie in a long, long time. In the 90's we had a lot of what I would call 'teaching' movies; movies that had a redeeming message or gave us another point of view that energized us in our evolutionary growth process. Remember "Remo Williams," "Circle of Iron" or "Ground Hog Day?" They weren't *great* movies, but they were memorable and fun to watch over

Where are you now
before the oxygen
came in to make
you conscious?
Adano Koan

again because they made us feel good and reminded us about something that we wanted to foster within ourselves. A couple of years ago we got another one. "The Matrix." This was a high-tech movie about the unreality of so-called reality, that an evil computer is dreaming our existence. It was a lot of other things as well, but



basically it spoke to our deep, even unconscious, awareness that the life we are living isn't real. Let me remind you: this is not a new idea. The ancient religions have long informed us to this truth. For example, "Since everything is but an apparition, perfect in being what it is, having nothing to do with good or bad, acceptance or rejection, one may well burst out in laughter." Longchempa is a Tibetan Buddhist. Or, "The soul dreams the body." Yogananda is an Indian Master. And from Adano Ley, a koan: "Where are you now before the oxygen came in to make you conscious?"

Even though *The Matrix* was made in 1999, there is a sequel out now that has brought the original movie to my attention. For my money, the sequel isn't worth seeing, but the first one, the original one, is. Many things in our current culture encourage paranoia: managed news, political fictions, loss of control. How many people today feel like automatons with a plugged-in existence? But you have a choice. In the movie, the main character is challenged: "You take the blue pill, the story ends, you wake up in your bed and believe whatever you want to believe. You take the red pill and I show you how deep the rabbit hole goes."

What's wrong with "The Matrix" is that it is negative. Concepts in themselves are delusional, which is probably why some religions won't let you utter the name of G-d, the unknowable and unnameable, being beyond concept and accessed only intuitively. We don't need some massive computer with sleeping brains to program us: we're very good at doing it ourselves. We agree to believe all these horrible

concepts like "War on Terrorism" "Weapons of Mass Destruction" (now referred to as WMD) and "Homeland Security."

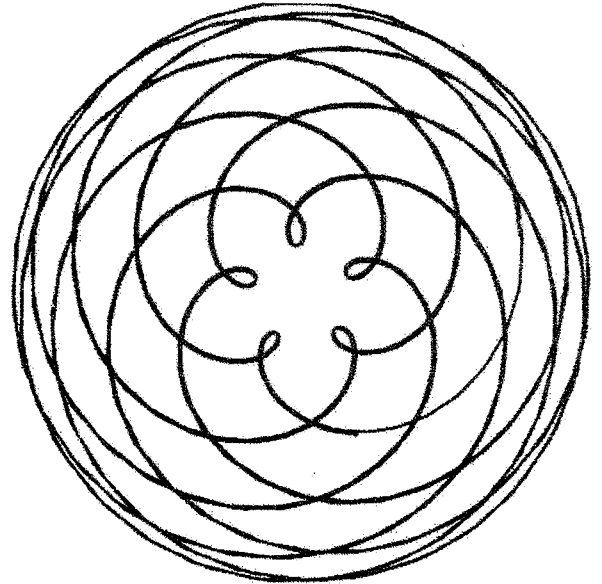


Figure 2, Venus plot

rity." It adds up to fear and sets an excellent example for Churchill's powerful statement during WWII: "We have nothing to fear except fear itself."

Hey! Let's all grap a RED pill!

"Since everything is
but an apparition,
perfect in being what
it is,
having nothing to do
with good or bad,
acceptance or rejection,
one may well burst
out in laughter."
Longchempa

WHO IS ADANO LEY

Times are hard- war, cultural tensions, poor economy , to name a few - it seems like everything is wrong with our world. This quote from Durkheim was given to me by Adano in 1972 to remind me that spiritual growth feeds on challenge. There are no easy answers since the only way to change the world is by changing ourselves. I hope you find these paragraphs helpful.

THE WAY OF TRANSFORMATION

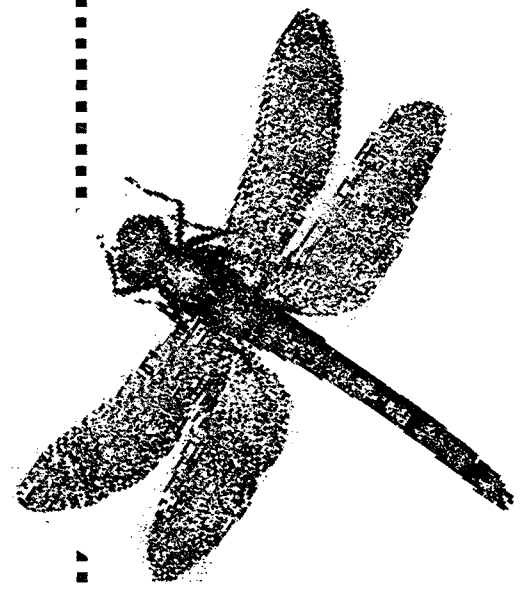
“The man who, being really on the Way, falls upon hard times in the world will not, as a consequence, turn to that friend who offers him refuge and comfort and encourages his old self to survive. Rather, he will seek out someone who will faithfully and inexorably help him to risk himself, so that he may endure the suffering and pass courageously through it, thus making of it a “raft that leads to the far shore.” Only to the extent that man exposes himself over and over again to annihilation, can that which is indestructible arise within him. In this lies the dignity of daring. Thus, the aim of practice is not to develop an attitude which allows a man to acquire a state of harmony and peace wherein nothing can ever



trouble him. On the contrary, practice should teach him to let himself be assaulted, perturbed, moved, insulted, broken and battered — that is to say, it should enable him to dare to let go his futile hankering after harmony, surcease from pain, and a comfortable life in order that he may discover, in doing battle with the forces that oppose him, that which awaits him beyond the world of opposites. The first necessity is that we should have the courage to face life, and to encounter all that is most perilous in the world. When this is possible, meditation itself becomes the means by which we accept and welcome the demons which arise from the unconscious — a process very different from the practice of concentration on some object as a protection against such forces. Only if we venture repeatedly through zones of annihilation can our contact with Divine Being, which is beyond annihilation, become firm and stable. The more a man learns whole-heartedly to confront the world that threatens him with isolation, the more are the depths of the Ground of Being revealed and the possibilities of new life and Becoming opened.”

From the book *The Way of Transformation* by
Karlfried Gras van Durkheim





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