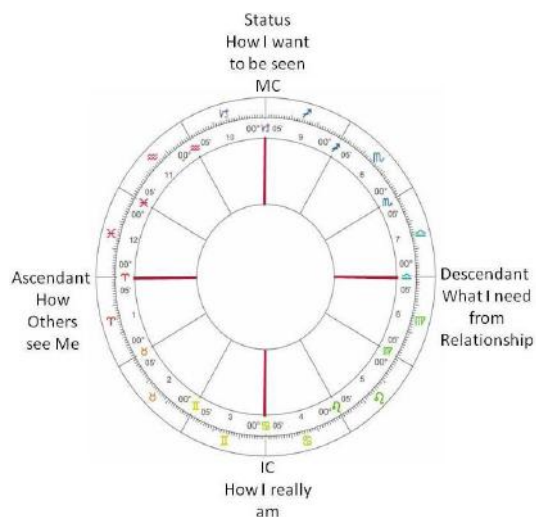


The Tale of Two “Greers”

Ironically, the two extremes in the charts I have studied each belong to a “Greer”! In order to undertake authentic research, I have made comparisons between the charts of those who work with their intuition or earth energy and sceptics or rationalists who need concrete proof in order to believe. Prolific tarot researcher and author Mary Greer has a chart which most strongly demonstrates the signatures I have set out to investigate; by comparison, the chart of acerbic author and sceptical commentator on human life, Germaine Greer, has amongst the least of these connections. Their birth details are available in the public domain, through Lois Rodden’s Astro Databank on the internet at http://www.astro.com/astro-databank/Main_Page.

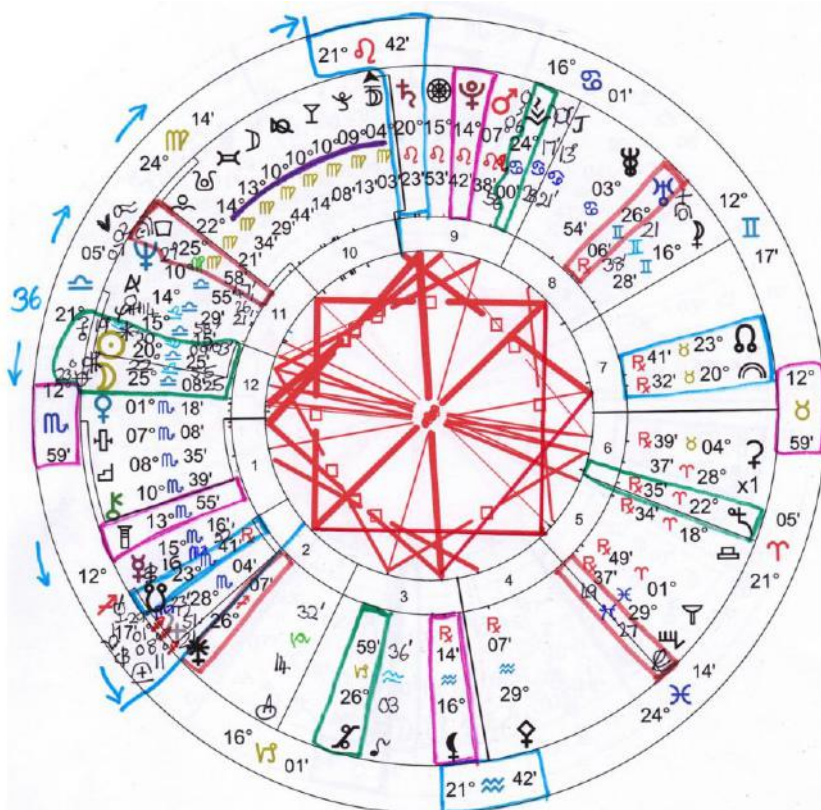
My research involves the addition of asteroids to each individual’s astrological chart, using archetypes associated with magic, oracular ability, healing, astrology or living with the earth, (either through witchcraft or environmental work). I have found that placing 63 points into the 360 degree



circle of the chart produces some very interesting patterns. Astrologers consider it significant when two planetary bodies are next to each other in the same degree or make an angle of 180 degrees to each other (oppositions), or 90 degrees (squares). Every individual has a cross in roughly 90 degree portions generated from the time they are born, as shown left. When a planetary body is within a few degrees of the points shown, its energy will be very significant in that person’s life. This is also true if the planetary body is near to the position of their Sun, Moon or their Lunar Nodes (the points where the Earth’s orbit around the Sun crosses the Moon’s orbit around the Earth ☾☽).

If we look at the chart for Mary Greer, we can see she has a total of 36 points with less than 8 degrees between one body and the next. This is called a stellium. Large stelliums of this nature are the strongest signature I have found in the charts of intuitive individuals; most have at least one stellium of greater than 10 points. Mary’s stellium with many points in Virgo and Scorpio accurately describes an investigative researcher into the spiritual arts. It is also located in the areas of her chart relating to vocation and sharing her wisdom with like-minded groups within the community. She has the asteroid Osiris at 13 degrees Scorpio (circled in pink), roughly 90 degrees from Pluto, at 14 Leo and Black Moon Lilith, at 16 Aquarius. Osiris was the Egyptian god of the underworld and resurrection. Lilith was Adam’s first wife who walked away from Eden because she refused to lie under Adam with her back in the dirt. Pluto or Hades of course is the Greek god of the underworld. These bodies formed a Grand Cross or Square to the horizon in Mary’s chart derived from the time she was born, her Ascendant or Rising Sign at 12 degrees Scorpio and Descendant at 12 degrees Taurus. No wonder Mary became interested in the tarot and its ability to help us delve down into the depths of the psyche, to reclaim our power as women. The Sun and Moon were close together at 20 and 25 degrees of Libra when she was born, just 9 hours after a New Moon. The asteroid named for Asteria, the Titan mother of Hekate and goddess of the stars and astronomy, forms a

cluster with them at 19 Libra, (circled in green), along with Demeter at 20, Circe at 22 and Nemesis at 23.



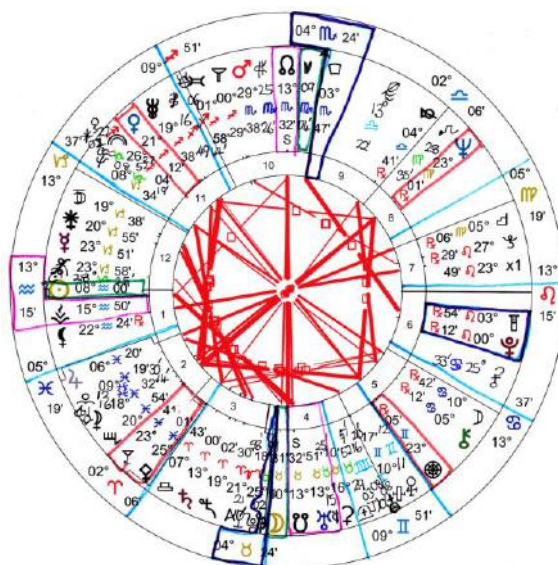
This integration of powerful feminine energy forms another cross in her chart to Asterea representing the ability to integrate and research at 26 Capricorn, Sedna the protector of the sea mammals at 22 Aries, and Vesta keeper of the inner fire at 24 Cancer. Mary has the asteroid of the powerful goddess of transformation and the crossroads, Hekate at 4 degrees of Virgo, in the 10th house of career area, closely connected to six asteroid archetypes spanning just 5 degrees from 9 to 14 degrees of Virgo. Prosperina, Hebe, Diana,

Anubis and Horus have their energies merged, around Apollo god of healing, creativity and oracular powers, positioned at 10 degrees of Virgo. They form a 90 degree triangle to Mnemosyne, goddess of remembering at 11 degrees of Sagittarius and Selena who drives the chariot of the Moon across the sky at night, opposite her 16 degrees of Gemini.

Her chart contains many powerful Grand Squares including one between her MC/IC axis and the axis of her Lunar Nodes (circled in light blue), which represents the emotions brought forward from past lives around complexity and intense personal experiences, driving a need to find security in this lifetime, through relationship and simplicity using the intuitive side of her mind through her North Node and Iris the female messenger to the gods, at 23 and 20 degrees of Taurus. This is strengthened by the presence of Saturn at 20 degrees of Leo on her MC, giving her the self-discipline and organisation and passion to write and research so consistently over so many years. A fourth very tight Grand Square is formed between Uranus, the planet of individuality, independence and change at 26 Gemini (circled in orange), opposite the asteroid Juno, at 26 Sagittarius, the long suffering wife of Zeus, Queen of Olympus, squaring Sekhmet at 27 and Pandora at 25 degrees of Virgo in opposition to Hopi at 27 Pisces. Sekhmet teaches us to integrate our feminine anger with our nurturing and healing mother energy, while Pandora let all the evils out of the box into the world. Opposite the wisdom from the Hopi Indian seers, this suggests someone who is here to help us both learn to heal the Earth using the influence of our intuitive energies, so undervalued in the world of finance and science. It also suggests her role in the unveiling of a new model of relationship and marriage from which we can stand independently as women but maintain our basic femininity.

Germaine Greer's chart is typical of the more extreme end of my sceptic control group. We can see the planetary bodies are much more evenly spaced out around the chart than they were in Mary Greer's chart.

The largest number of points within 8 degrees of each other is only 8, (the light blue lines demonstrating a gap of more than 8 degrees between two bodies). Germaine's Nodal Axis at 13 degrees of Scorpio and Taurus, (circled in pink), runs at 90 degrees to her Ascendant/Descendant axis at 13 degrees of Aquarius and Leo making up a Grand Square. However, in this case, only the asteroid Vesta, at 15 degrees of Aquarius, makes a significant connection to these points. Vesta was the Roman Goddess of the hearth and the sacred flame. The Vestal Virgins were pure and privileged in Roman times, a position that sits well with Germaine, as she is often very judgemental of the actions of others as if she is somehow at a purer level. Artemis or Diana at 15 degrees of Taurus is merged with the South Node along with Uranus, another virginal archetype who preferred the company of animals to men. There is a triangle aspect or T Square from her MC /IC axis at 4 degrees of Scorpio and Taurus to a merging of Pluto and Osiris in her 6th house of daily routines and the workplace reflecting the work Germaine effected transforming the role of women in the workforce. Another T Square is evident between her Sun and Moon with Amun the King of the Egyptian cosmology suggesting a need to achieve power and ascendancy in the fields of her endeavours. Germaine has a second Grand Square between Neptune at 23 degrees Virgo opposite to the asteroid Hebe, Cupbearer to the Gods at 23 degrees Pisces, making squares to Arachne the Weaver of Destiny at 23 degrees Gemini and Venus at 21 Sagittarius. Arachne was a mortal who boasted that her weaving was as good as that of Pallas Athena. When challenged to a contest, she wove disrespectful scenes of the Gods, like Zeus raping nymphs, so Pallas turned her into a spider. Historian on Greek Mythology, Robert Graves maintains that the nectar Hebe supplied the Gods with consisted of "magic mushrooms" and Neptune can relate to hallucinations or the dulling of the senses through the use of drugs or alcohol. While Germaine's chart has some of these patterns evident, they are mainly made up of the conventional planets and points used in astrology, with a much reduced influence from the asteroids to that seen in Mary's chart. With the exception of Osiris, the archetypes of the few asteroids involved (Vesta, Artemis, Amun, Hebe, Arachne, Pandora and Pallas Athena), relate more strongly to purity and being right, than to having a strongly transformative or magickal influence. This seems to fit quite well with the tone of most of the pronouncements we hear from Germaine these days!



The comparison of these two charts clearly demonstrates the stronger patterns formed by these archetypes in the chart of an intuitive compared with that of a sceptical rationalist. It is also interesting to observe how specific asteroid connections resonate with the life experience and characteristics of the individual in question.

Sara Gilbert

The Magician, Tarot Guild of Australia, Winter/Spring 2012

Sara Gilbert is a Professional member of the Tarot Guild of Australia, and is based in the Frankston area. She is also a member of the Association of Professional Astrologers and holds the Practitioners Diploma in Astrology from the Federation of Australian Astrologers. She teaches and consults in many modalities such as Palmistry, Numerology & the Kabbalah Tree of Life, as well as Tarot and Astrology. Sara undertakes Astrology Consultations using the Goddess Asteroids she is researching and is also able to provide her clients with a creative Goddess Sheet featuring the most prominent archetype in their chart. In the Summer issue of *The Magician*, Sara will share with us her analysis of the asteroids influential in the natal charts of some key members of the Golden Dawn.