

The Uranus/Pluto Revolution

Although in terms of astrology's long history Uranus and Pluto are relative newcomers, these two outer planets are by now fairly well understood. They complete a cycle in relation to each other (from one Conjunction to the next) in approximately 125 years. Within such a cycle between any two planets there are four critical stages at 90 degree or quarterly intervals; the Conjunction, two Squares and the Opposition. The last Conjunction between Uranus and Pluto occurred in the mid 1960's, and now between roughly 2010 and 2017 they arrive at the "first quarter" Square. In a nutshell, the revolutionary social changes that exploded in the world back in the mid-60's have arrived at an important stage of ripening and can take form in a clearly recognizable and developed way.

The cycles of the slower moving planets tend to have special relevance to events and processes of a relatively impersonal nature, such as changes in the world or society as a whole. While such general and impersonal social changes are certainly real and are studied and discussed to some degree by historians, it is not always easy to analyse such things objectively. With astrology we can glimpse (and I use that word deliberately) the real energetic causes of external events; astrology is a language through which we can better understand the *zeitgeist* of a particular period. I believe in the current Uranus/Pluto Square we have an example of astrology providing invaluable "subtitles" to what would otherwise be a mysterious, perplexing and even frightening drama unfolding in the years ahead. It is perhaps all the more valuable in light of the looming doomsday associations with the Mayan calendar supposedly "ending" in December of 2012. The Uranus/Pluto Square occurring in this period affirms that we are indeed in a time of radical change, but also reminds us that it's not, in essence, all that unprecedented, and that there's a purpose in what's happening.

These longer lasting cycles that have clearly discernible global manifestations and importance have their significance for us as individuals too. Astrologers would often be in the position to trace the more personal manifestations of these relatively impersonal processes (that may well manifest through the actions of groups that impact society on a large scale), particularly when slow moving outer planets in aspect to each other form aspects to planets in the natal charts of individuals. The untrained eye may not see the connection between something as trivial as a mechanical breakdown for an individual and larger scale manifestations of social and political unravelling, but the links are there and they're significant. All phenomena are ultimately manifestations of a small handful of basic principles or forces.

In our own personal sphere we absorb, channel, direct and experience the impact of the same energies that are producing striking results in the larger social arena out there that we normally only participate in through "the news", and occasionally through finding ourselves close to the epicentre of big socially significant events. We are all participants in this process, whether we're conscious of it or not. This is a test of our response-ability.

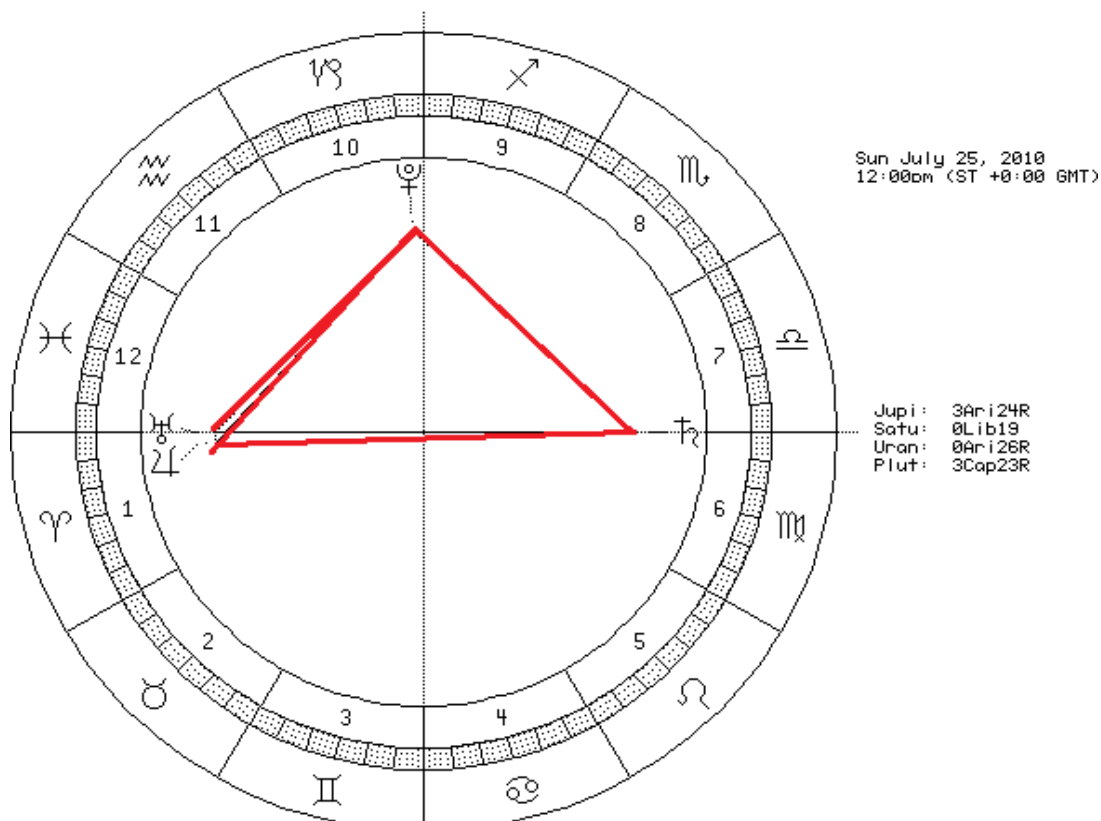
Uranus Square Pluto describes revolution, rebellion and, I dare say, potentially some form of *rebirth* (which is, I suppose, another word for revolution). The suddenness of Uranus combining with the brutally "transformative" qualities of Pluto can manifest as abrupt change; the type of change that occurs in places, in ways, and with a speed and intensity that we would not normally expect. It can catch us unprepared and bewilder us, but it could also spur us into action, force us to adapt, and challenge us to reform and "rebirth" some aspect of our lives. This can be tremendously invigorating. We can be spurred out of complacency and apathy. This may affect the way we run our personal lives and the level of commitment we bring to our own growth, or perhaps our complacency about larger social issues, such as environmental crisis or political corruption may transform into timely and focussed activism. Like 'em or not, the terrorists planting bombs in Mumbai and the rioters in London are not suffering from complacency or passivity, and the result is

that we're reacting to their initiatives. Unfortunately people rarely display comparable zeal for more constructive and necessary revolutions, but there is some potential for that to change with this Uranus/Pluto Square. I'm not suggesting that we need a world full over over-eager agitators, but many of the world's problems, and on a parallel level many personal problems individuals are confronted with, can be traced to an apathy and complacency, expressed as non-action in the presence of a recognized and developing crisis .

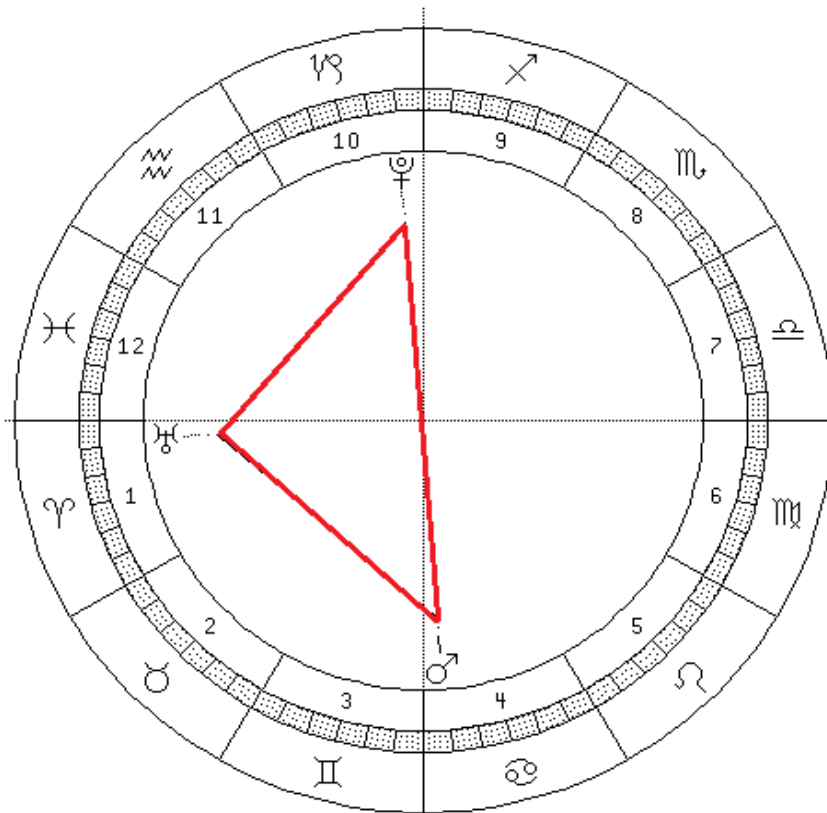
If Uranus Square Pluto calls you to change, to dare, to pioneer, or to completely transform some aspect of your personal life into something more progressive, go for it and embrace the process; but make sure you are changing what needs changing and purging what is valueless and that you are not being compulsively, impulsively and destructively rebellious. Remember that you are the friend of all people, even those on the opposite side of the causes you may come to feel more strongly about than ever.

Perhaps some external friction and tension is unavoidable when drastic change occurs so suddenly, but if we remember that we are not *fundamentally* against or really different from anyone we will avoid many possible pitfalls in this coming period in which we are either instigating and facilitating, or responding to and grappling with, dramatic social and personal changes. "*Become the change you want to see*", as Gandhi put it; there isn't a more effective way of contributing to your revolution of choice.

The diagrams that follow show some of the more potent stages of the Uranus/Pluto Square when other dynamic planets combine with Uranus and Pluto to form more complex and also more potent configurations. These more complex combinations are likely to bring the Uranus/Pluto Squares' influence into sharper focus.



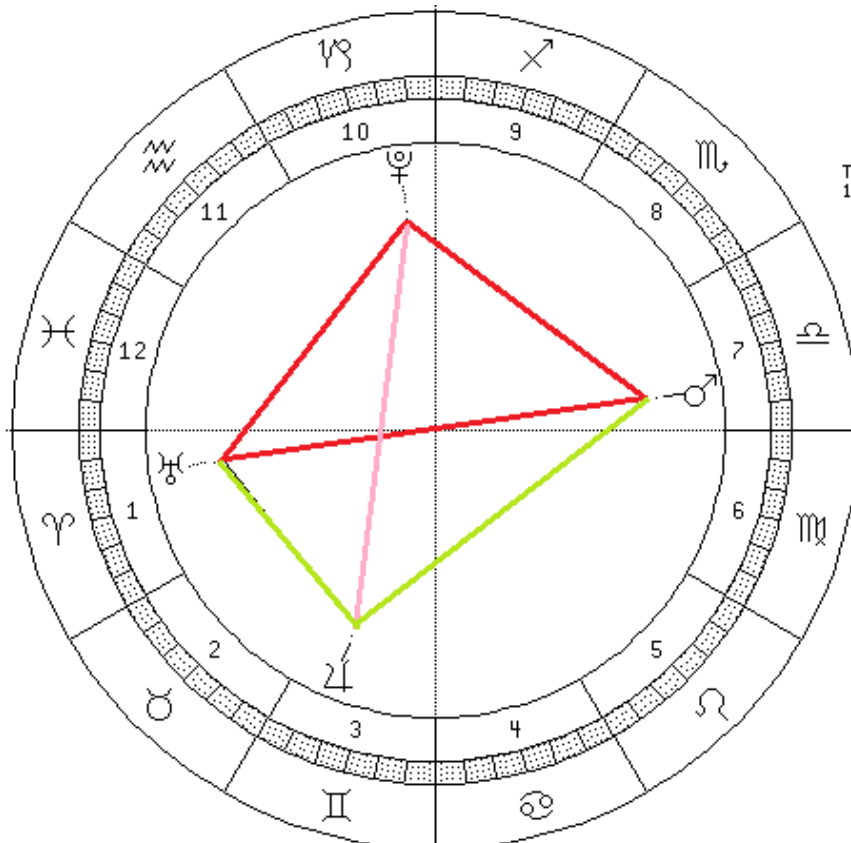
Around July/August 2010 the Uranus/Pluto Square came to within about 3 degrees of exact, and although not precise at the time, this Square was then part of a more complex configuration involving Jupiter and Saturn. It could be argued that this was the real "kick-off" of the Uranus/Pluto process. I suspect that the "seeds of dissent" were germinating around this time and became more visible a little later, when Jupiter ("justice") returned to this position and again formed a Square to Pluto early in 2011 after spending some months retrograde, coinciding with the the beginning of the ongoing protests and rebellion in the Arab world since early 2011.



Tue August 9, 2011
12:00pm (ST +0:00 GMT)

Mars: 4Can04
Uran: 4Ari12R
Plut: 5Cap14R

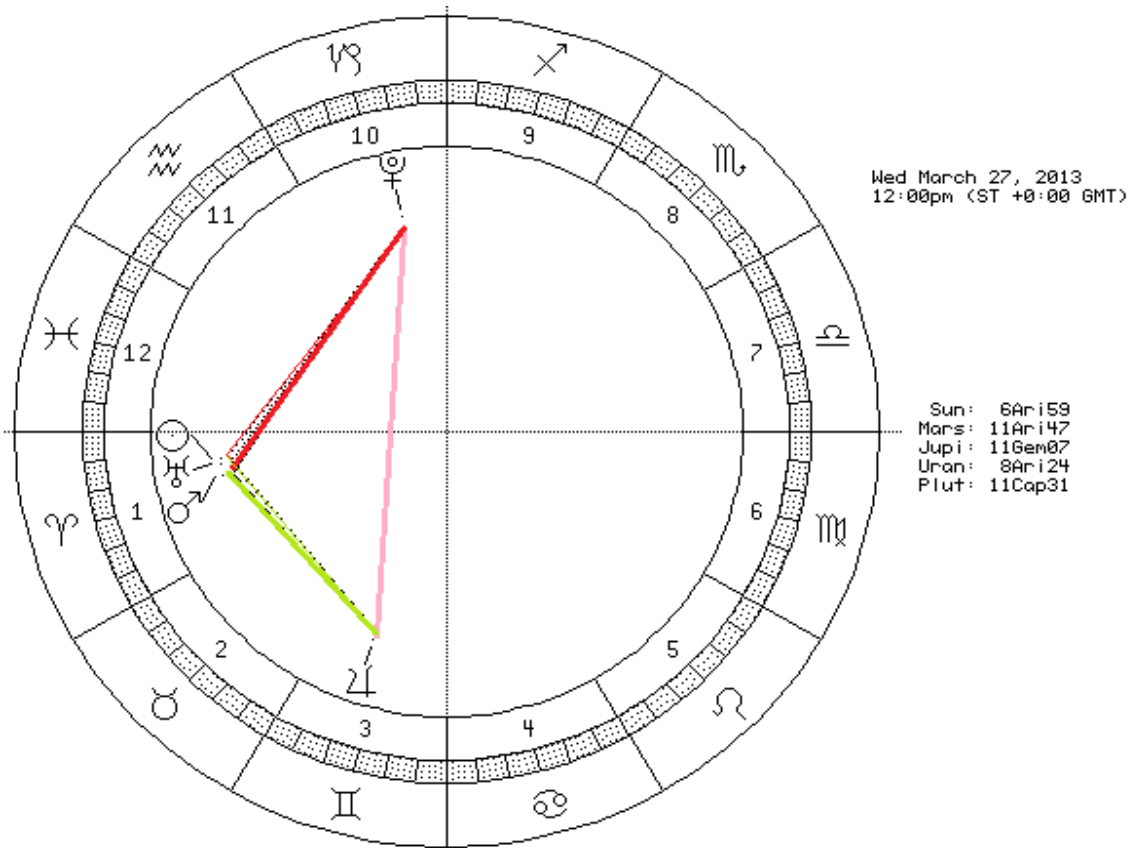
During July/August 2011 Uranus and Pluto come to within about 1 degree of an exact Square. A number of incidents occurred globally in July 2011 that may be connected to this, such as the bombs that exploded in Mumbai in July, but most striking of all was what transpired when Mars plugged into this Uranus/Pluto Square for a few days just over a week into August. Thousands of youths in London and other cities in England went on the rampage, looting and destroying public and private property.



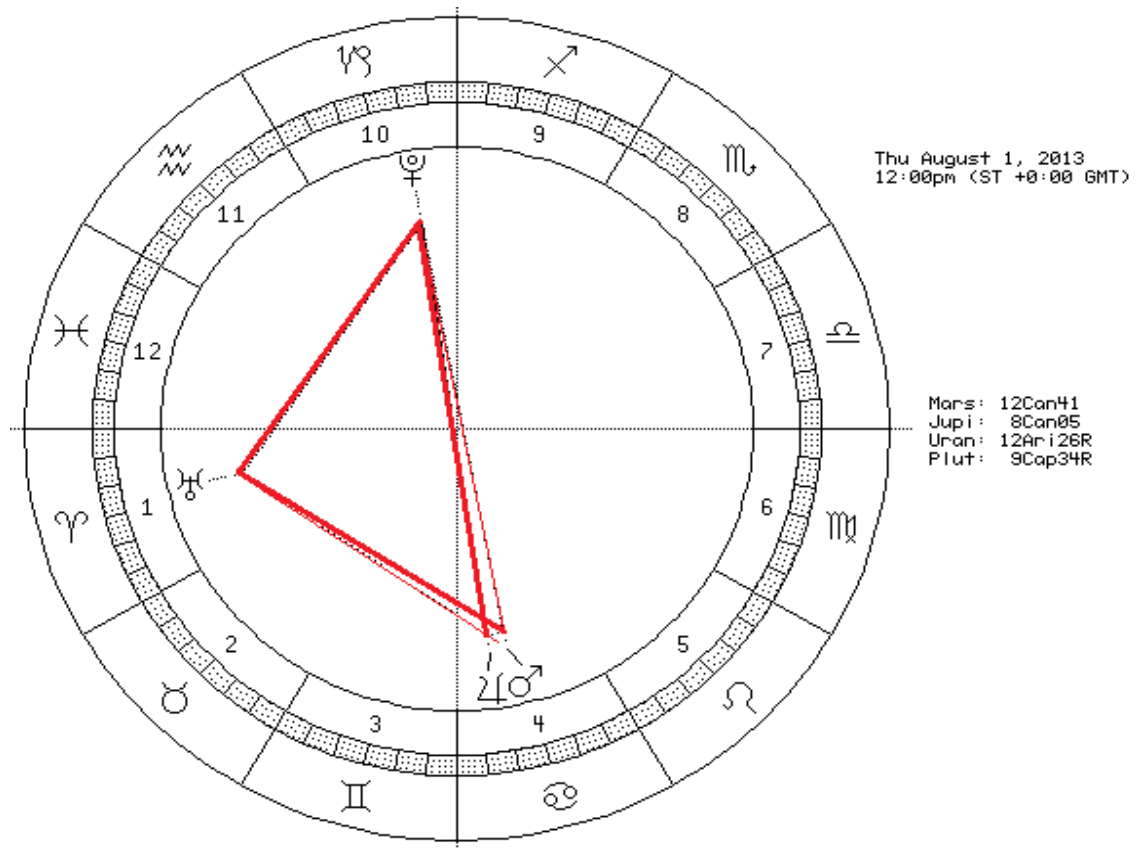
Thu July 19, 2012
12:00pm (ST +0:00 GMT)

Mars: 8Lib45
Jupi: 8Gem00
Uran: 8Ari31R
Plut: 7Cap46R

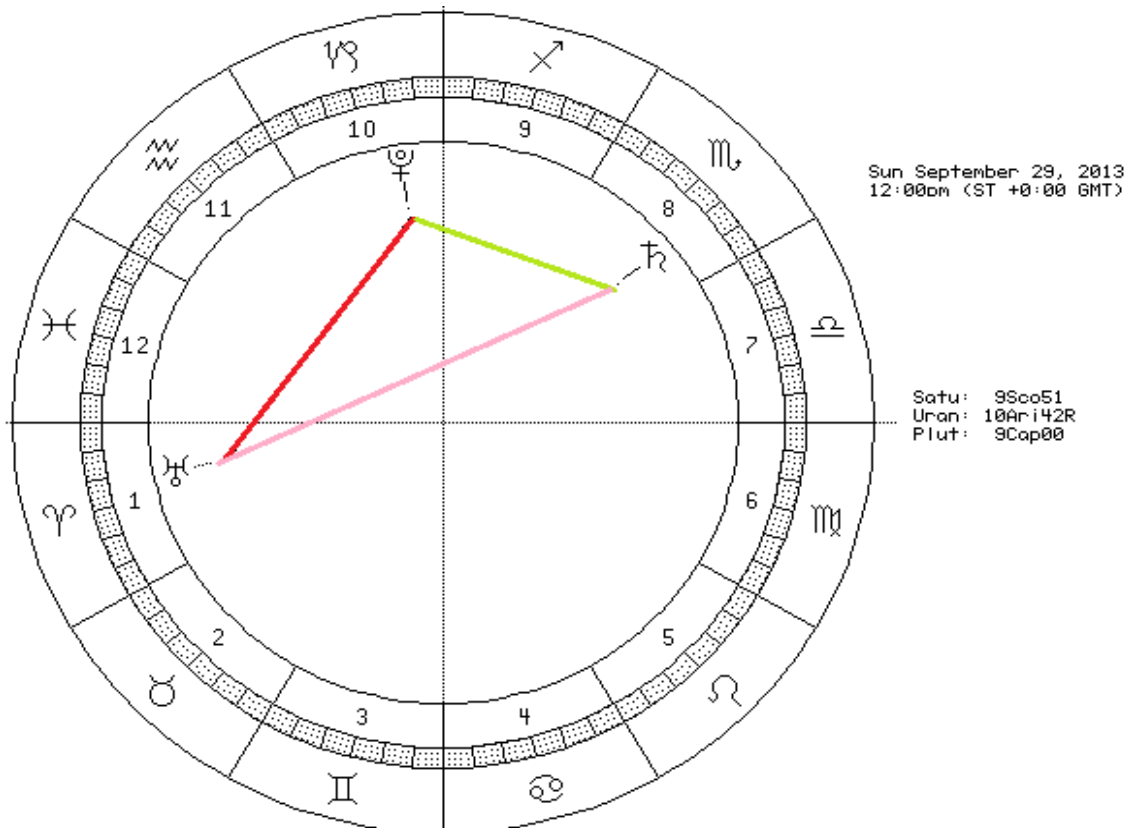
Around mid 2012 Uranus and Pluto will arrive at an exact Square to each other. Mars and Jupiter join them to form the above configuration around mid-July and for a week or so thereafter.



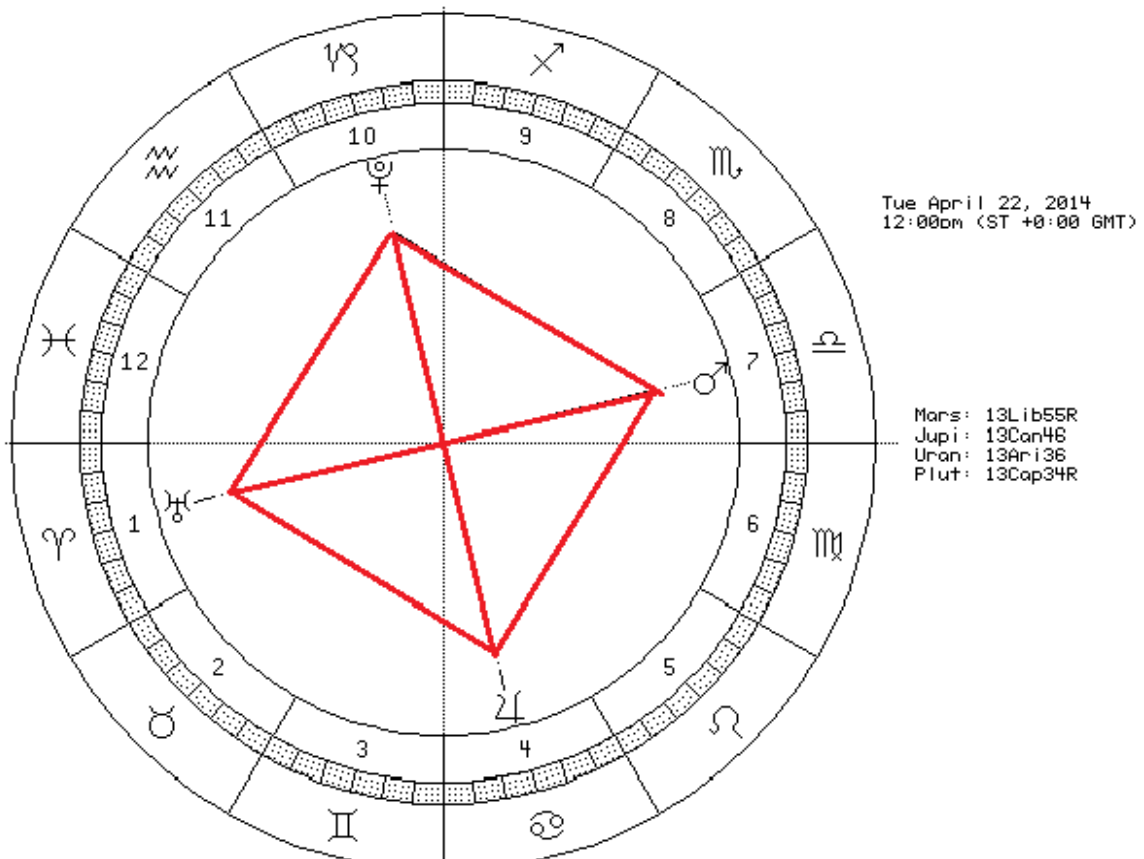
Towards the end of March 2013 the Sun and Mars join Uranus and all three form Square aspects to Pluto. Jupiter also gets involved. When Jupiter combines with bold and assertive planets like Mars, Uranus or Pluto it often manifests as "indignation" or an outraged sense of justice. This can result in a "righteous" aggression or rebellion.



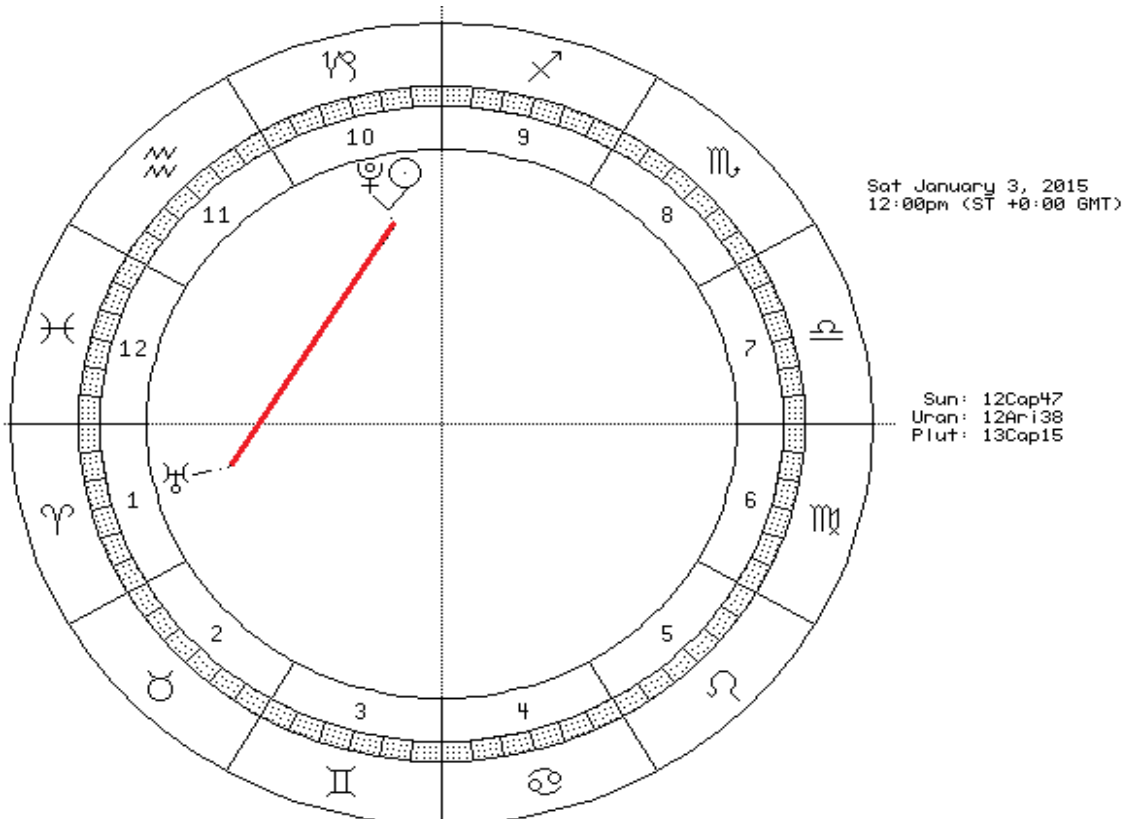
Toward the end of July/early August 2013 Mars and Jupiter together build onto the Uranus/Pluto Square. Again there's some likelihood of a "justified" aggression or rebellion



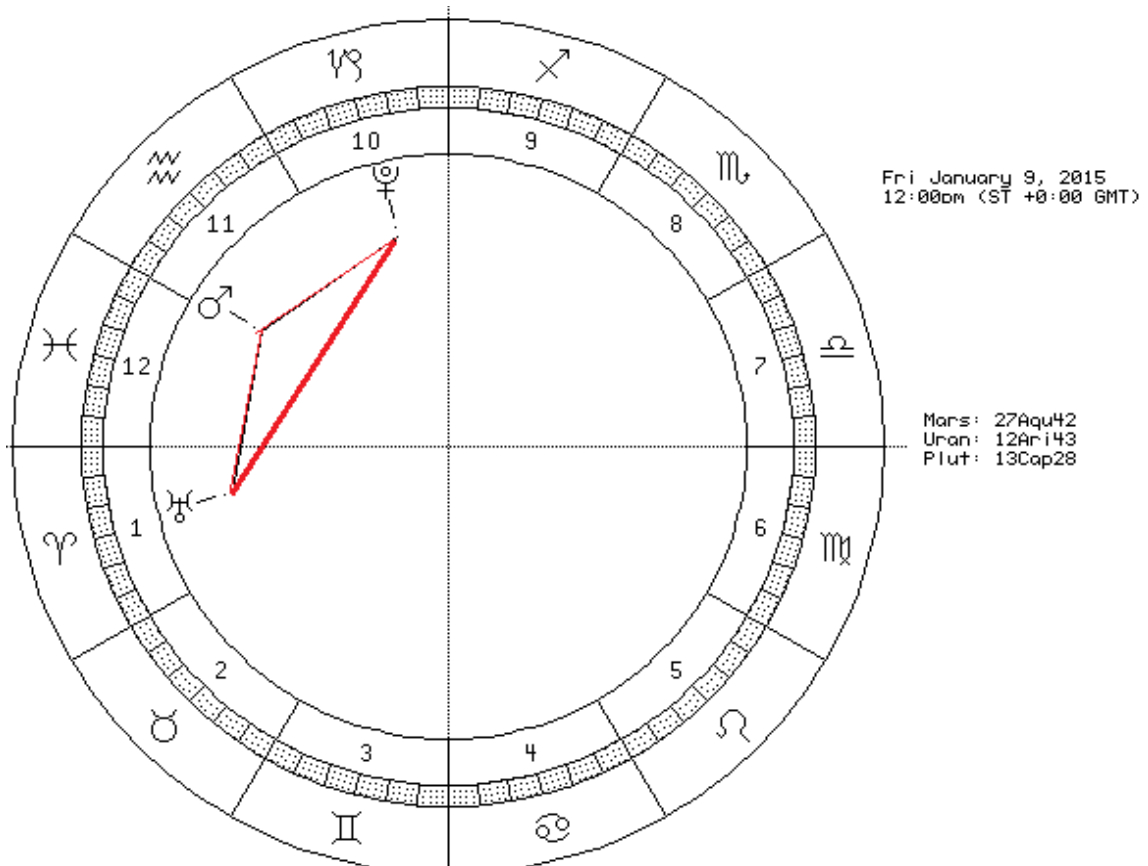
Around the latter part of September and early October of 2013 Saturn aspects Uranus and Pluto. If the aspects from Saturn were Squares or Oppositions it would indicate something more dire, but even here this is not frivolous or nurturing energy. At best it may represent intense efforts to reshape or restore something on a concrete level or in a practical way. It may also point to an intense and strenuous resistance to change.

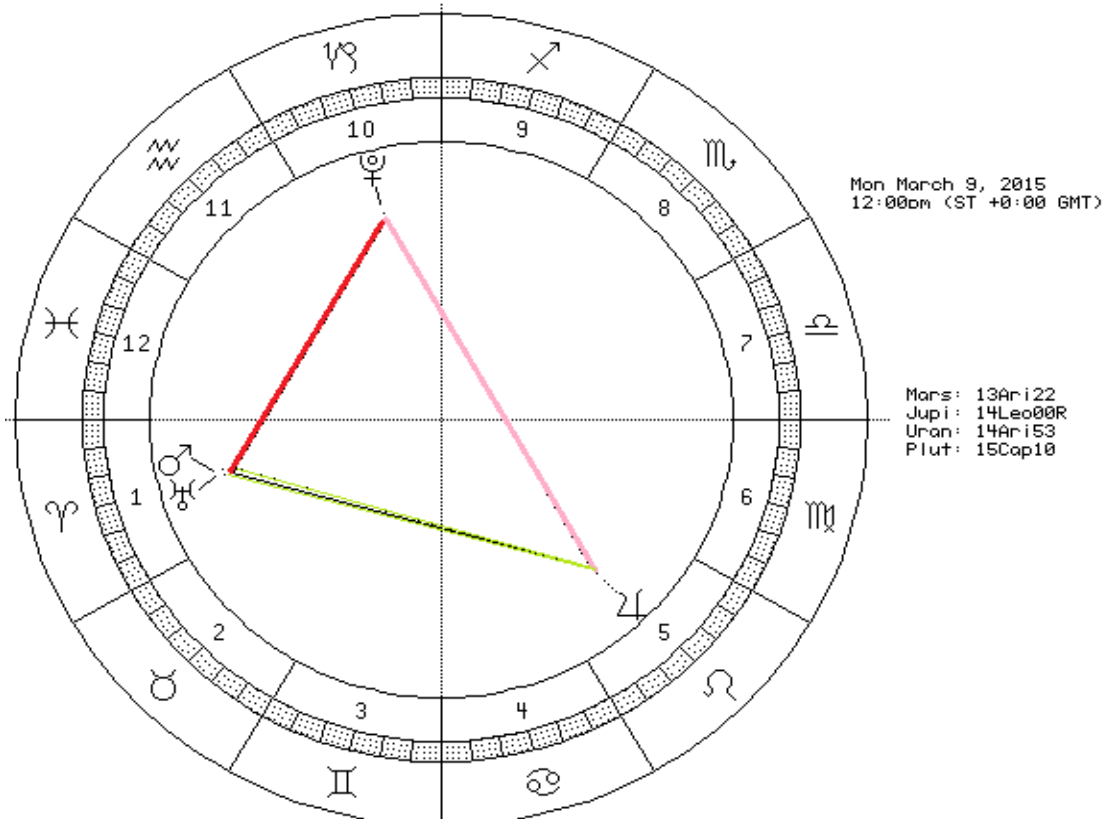


This near precise "Grand Cross" forms during the second half of April 2014. A huge release of energy, and again quite likely some "justified" rebellion or aggression

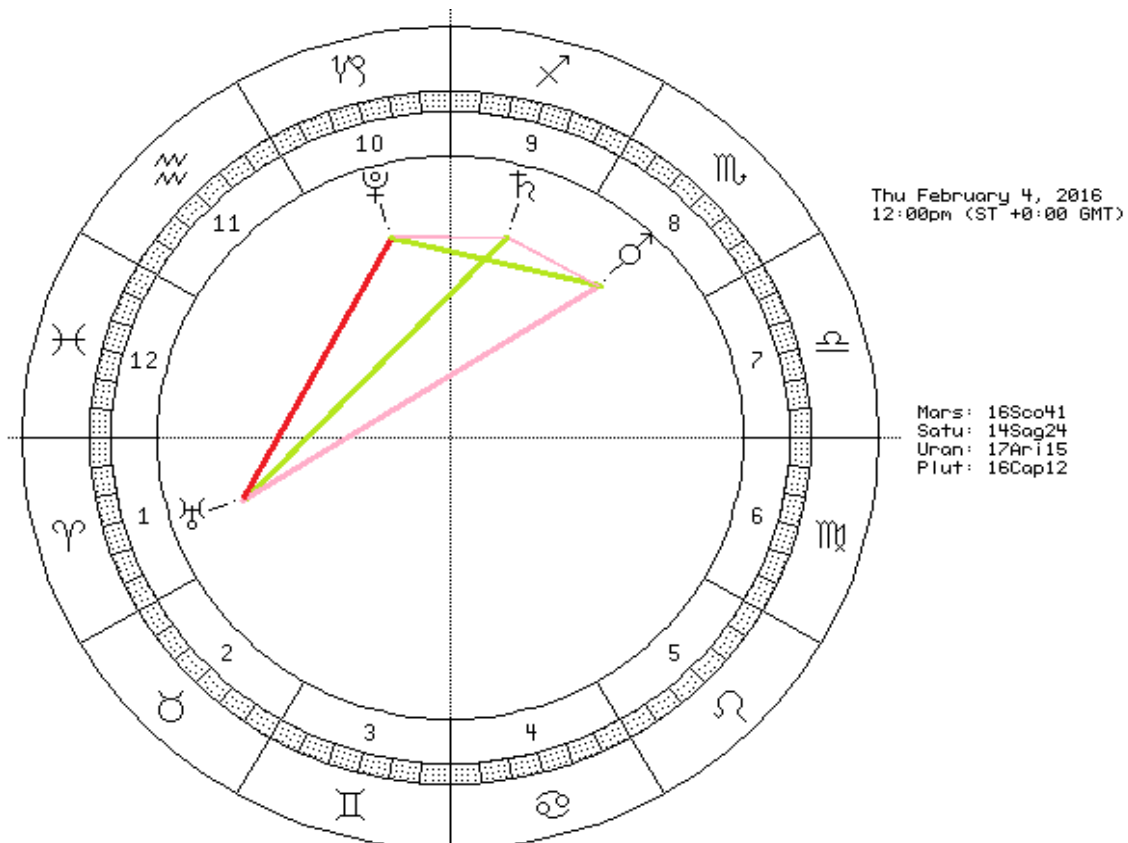


Towards the end of 2014 and the beginning of 2015 Uranus and Pluto are again in close Square. The Sun triggers this Square early in January 2015 when it arrives at a Conjunction with Pluto. A few days later Mars arrives at the Midpoint of the Uranus/Pluto Square (in Semi-Square or 45 degree aspect to both)- see diagram below

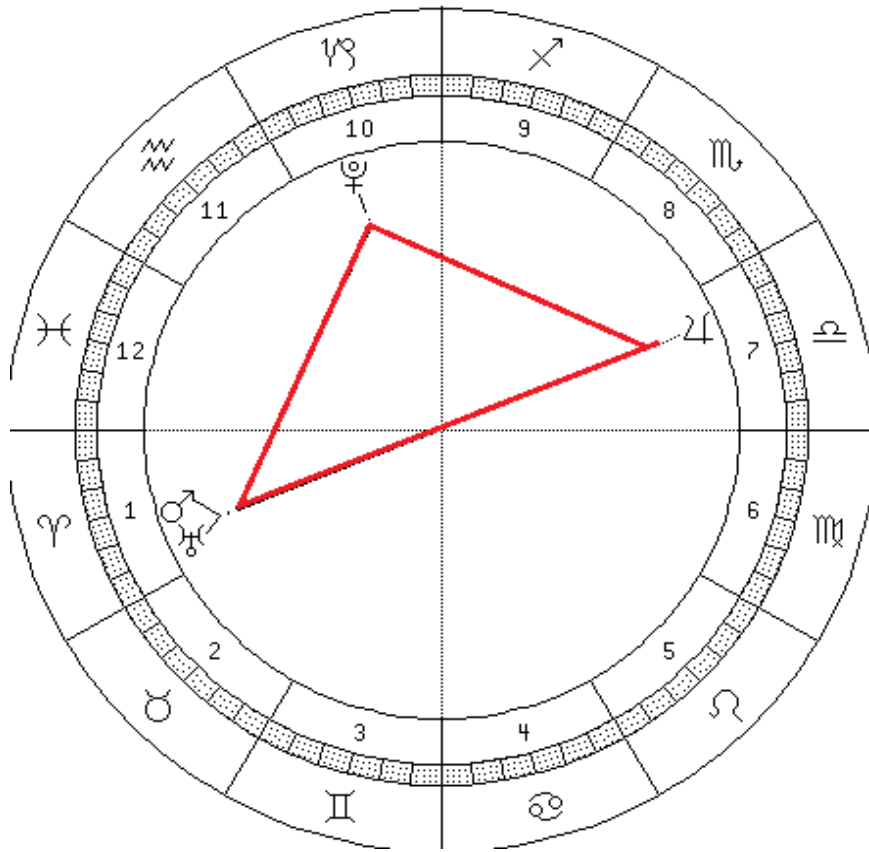




During the second week of March 2015 Mars and Jupiter again build on the Uranus/Pluto Square. March 2015 sees the final exact Square between Uranus and Pluto, but during the first weeks of 2016 they again come to within just over one degree of an exact 90 degree angle, which is certainly close enough to be effective.



During late January and early February Uranus and Pluto are within about 1 degree of an exact Square, and early in February Mars and Saturn get involved. Intense effort is described; any combination of these planets will tend to manifest some amount of tension or roughness. It would probably have been worse if all the aspects were Squares or Oppositions



Sun February 26, 2017
12:00pm (ST +0:00 GMT)

Mars: 21Ari38
Jupi: 22Lib30R
Uran: 21Ari59
Plut: 18Cap43

As late as the beginning of 2017 Uranus and Pluto are just over 2 degrees from an exact Square, and, towards the end of February 2017 Mars and Jupiter again join the fray.