

The Rhythm of Life Is a Powerful Beat

Using the Huber Life Clock

by Faye Cossar

“Prediction is very difficult, especially about the future,” said physicist Niels Bohr. Astrologers would probably agree, yet we still attempt it for our clients — not to mention ourselves. And unless we know some history of our client, forecasting is not only difficult, it is impossible. So, the trick is to have an efficient way of seeing how patterns in a horoscope have worked up until now, and to ask the client questions about their past.

The Life Clock

Swiss astrologer Bruno Huber believed that there *must* be a clock in the horoscope, one that tracked the rhythmic, psychological development of a person. While creating the 72-year Huber Life Clock (also known as Age Progression), he researched many house systems and determined that Koch houses worked best.

Just by looking at the birth chart, we can immediately see the years in someone’s life when a planet is activated. I have worked with this timing technique for many years, and clients seem to intuitively understand the visual nature of the clock, too.

The Age Point

The Age Point (AP) is like a hand of a clock ticking through the degrees of the zodiac. It starts at the Ascendant (which represents birth) and spends six years in each house (regardless of the house size). When a person reaches 72, the AP is

back at the Ascendant and begins moving through the signs and houses again. (See **Figure**, below.)

The Phases

Regardless of our own particular Ascendant sign, the 1st house represents the Aries phase, the 2nd house the Taurus phase, and so on, until the 12th/Pisces phase, which ends at age 72. There is a lot more to this method, and I refer you to the books listed below for more information. For my purposes here, I will discuss just two things that the Age Point can do. Firstly, it can announce the start of a new phase by reaching a house cusp at ages 6, 12, 18, etc. The entries into angular houses at ages 18, 36, 54, and 72, in particular, are major turning points. For instance, the 1st-house/Aries phase (from birth to the sixth birthday) is linked to developing an identity, while the opposite 7th-house/Libra phase (from ages 36 to 42) represents developing an authentic identity *within* a partnership and in society.

Secondly, the AP can aspect a planet. I investigate the ages at which it conjoins or opposes a planet (or, for a younger person, when it makes a square). These are the aspects and life experiences that clients recognize more clearly and quickly. The Age Point trigger to a planet is active (“in

orb”) for about a year (roughly eight months before and four months after exactitude).

An Example: Scilla Elworthy

Last year, I met a very inspiring woman who kindly agreed to an interview. Scilla Elworthy has worked with world leaders on many globally important projects, and has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize three times for her role in developing effective dialogue between nuclear weapons policy-makers.¹

Scilla is very self-aware and is therefore a perfect subject for illustrating how this technique can be used. As I write this, Scilla is approaching age 72, so she has literally been around the clock! At the time I interviewed her, the Age Point was about to conjoin the Sun, having just passed over her other 12th-house planets. (See **Chart**, facing page.)

The Twelfth Phase (Age 66 to 72)

This phase represents pre-birth, a gestation time, a time to go inwards, reflect on life, and prepare for a “rebirth” into the 1st-house/Aries phase. Any pre-birth issues (12th house), as well as wounds from the opposite 6th-house phase (ages 30 to 36), might come to the surface to be healed. The twelfth phase is a time to have a dream for the next cycle, which, in Scilla’s case, starts on her 72nd birthday in 2015. Because of the many planets in Scilla’s 12th house (particularly the Sun), I expected this six-year phase to have been a very important healing time for her, and she acknowledged this.

Age Point Timing

I was interested in what had happened in the sixth phase, between ages 30 and 36, opposite where she is now, as there is always a connection in terms of themes. The dates

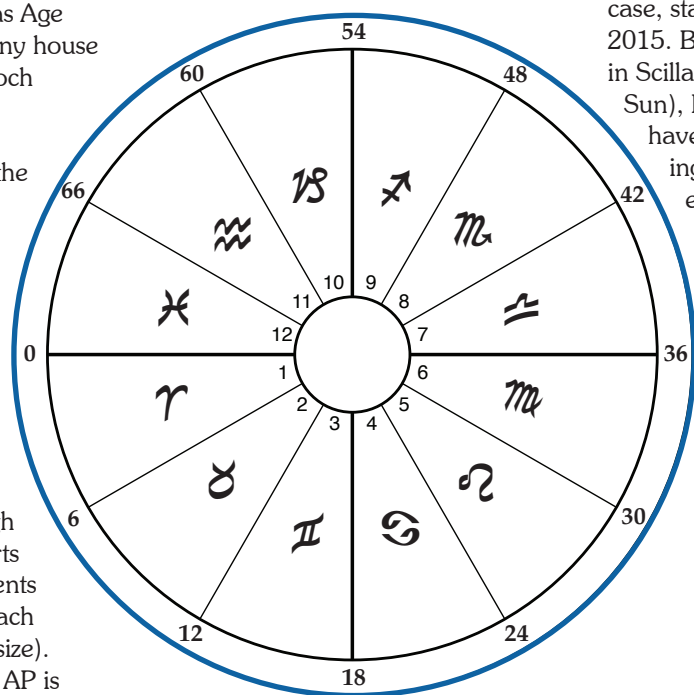


Figure: The Age Point

the Age Point opposes and conjoins each planet are always 36 years apart:

Age Point contact	Opposition date*	Conjunction date*
AP to Ceres	August 3, 1975	August 3, 2011
AP to Mercury	April 1, 1976	April 1, 2012
AP to Uranus	September 29, 1977	September 29, 2013
AP to the Sun	December 27, 1978	December 27, 2014

* Software is available for determining the exact dates an Age Point aspects a natal planet.

Ceres Age Points

In 1975, Scilla began organising the building and launch of the Market Theatre, South Africa's first multiracial theatre. Between 1970 and 1976, she was also chair of Kupugani, the South African nutrition education organisation. Some of Ceres' themes are democracy, food, the green movement, the environment, tough negotiation, and women's rights. I asked Scilla if any of these were also relevant in 2011. "Absolutely — all of them!" During that year, she was a keynote speaker and a director of programmes for the World Peace Festival. She published a book and won

a World Peace Award. All of Ceres' themes were highlighted in her work and, she said, are "right up my street."

Mercury Age Points

In April 1974, Scilla had a brain disease that left her in a coma for two weeks. This was devastating, because it meant that she could no longer feed or have contact with her six-week-old daughter. When the AP reached Mercury in 1976, although she still had trouble thinking, there was one question going round in her mind: "Who am I — who am I *really*?" She started an inner dialogue with herself by way of therapy with a Jungian analyst. It took her six years to recover from her illness, but during this period, she began the process of finding her own voice. "The gift was self-knowledge," she told me.

Scilla had always been frightened of people being sarcastic, which at times prevented her from speaking. With the AP over Mercury and through Gemini in recent years, I suspected that she might have finally found her unique voice. She said, "Yes! I am speaking in public and not minding my manners anymore! I am often invited to be a keynote speaker and speak my truth."

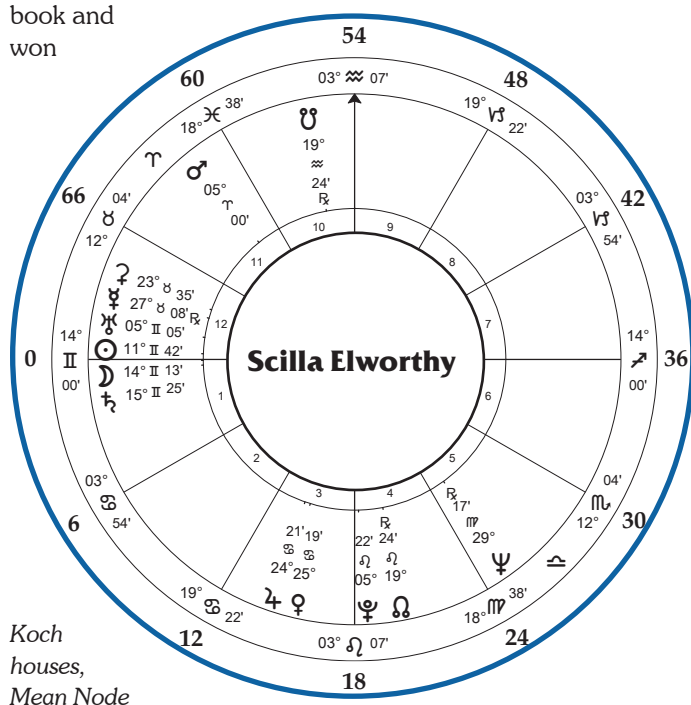
Sun-Uranus Age Points

Scilla's father didn't like children. She never really knew him and always found him difficult. He died when she

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was 18, with the Age Point conjunct Pluto in the 4th house. When the AP reached the opposition point of her Sun-Uranus conjunction in 1977-78, she started working with UNESCO to track minority rights and began a campaign against female genital mutilation (Sun-Uranus in Gemini: speaking out for change). Difficulties with her husband arose at this point, as he was used to being centre stage, and now Scilla was becoming more "authentic": the networking Scilla (Gemini) and rebel (Uranus) who was speaking out (Gemini) against unfairness and inequality (Uranus). This eventually led to the breakup of her marriage. Looking back, she recognizes this time as the beginning of her manifesting her true calling (Sun).

Recently, Scilla began a new venture that is very close to her heart, since it encompasses her Gemini stellium. Rising Women, Rising World — a circle of experienced women specialists who support initiatives for a better global future — is a practical (Saturn) network



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Life Clock

(Gemini) to help women (Moon/Ceres) do the inner work necessary (12th house) to create change (Uranus) in the world. She says, "Things are now blossoming and breaking through." A cycle is completed.

Other Age Points

Scilla is a powerful activist (Mars trine Pluto) who started Peace Direct, an international non-governmental organisation that supports local peace-building in conflict zones, so I wanted to highlight when this exact aspect was triggered by the Age Point (AP).

- AP conjunct Pluto (age 18): She travelled to some very dangerous places, such as war zones and refugee camps, where she saw the darker side of life. The outrage she felt fuelled her wish to change the world.
- AP opposite Pluto (age 54): This was triggered during the most crucial of the nuclear decision-makers' meetings. Scilla had integrated her "swashbuckling bravado activism" with meditation to achieve impressive results. She also split with her long-term partner who had been

dishonest with her (not advisable when Pluto is triggered!).

- AP opposite Mars (age 25): She learned to fly!
- AP conjunct Mars (age 61): As an advisor to Desmond Tutu, Scilla worked on The Elders project with Richard Branson, whom she describes as "not easy to work with ... I learned some difficult lessons." But she began to stand her ground and stick up for herself.

And So to Predictions

The next Age Point for Scilla (approaching at the time of writing this in January 2015) is a conjunction with her natal Moon and Saturn. Her experience of previous triggers to this conjunction was difficult: Soon after her birth (the conjunction), her father was ill, and at age 36 (the opposition), she was breaking up with her husband, who was also ill. Like her mother, she had the responsibility of being a single parent.

My advice to her at this point: Take time (Saturn) to do the things that will really nurture you (Moon), such as managing your own agenda. Choose what you really want to do, as everyone will be wanting a piece of you! Take time out to enjoy reading and follow your curiosity (Gemini Moon). Do things because they feed your soul (Moon), not because you think you should (Saturn). She

replied that she had always thought she had to do more and to do everything she was asked! She understood the pattern and found my advice very helpful and "good guidance."

The Age Point method offers a quick way of gaining insight into clients' lives and their key experiences. With context, it becomes an effective tool for constructive advice and effective forecasting.

Chart Data and Source

Scilla Elworthy, June 3, 1943; 5:50 a.m. BDST; Galashiels, Scotland (55°N37', 02°W49'); AA: birth certificate.

Reference

1. Scilla's website is a wonderful source of information, complete with many dates — a treasure trove for astrologers: <http://www.scillaelworthy.com>

Further Reading on Age Progression

Hopewell, Joyce. *Using Age Progression: Understanding Life's Journey*. HopeWell, 2013.

Hopewell, Joyce, and Richard Llewellyn. *The Cosmic Egg-Timer*. HopeWell, 2004.

Huber, Bruno and Louise. *LifeClock: The Huber Method of Timing in the Horoscope*. HopeWell, 2006.

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