

Introducing the Venus Cycle

And The Importance of the Eight Year Return

The following pages contain information that will help you understand the Venus cycle, its importance to our collective experience and how it relates to our collective and personal relationship with the initiation cycles of Venus. Additionally, there is a table provided that will help you find your own Venus Meta Goddess or Overtone and when your next Venus return is occurring up to 2030.

There is separate PDF on the main class page that has the current Venus cycle dates that will assist you in tracking the current phases of Venus cycle and noticing how they operate in your life. If you are in a Venus return the dates given are powerful ceremonial times to connect with during your initiation process. If you are not in a Venus return it is helpful to become familiar with the cycle so when you do enter your Venus return you already know how to work with these energies and the Timings in ways that support you in gaining the maximum benefits of the Venus Return cycle. Tracking the planetary cycles and working with them ceremonially was one of the ways ancient people maintained their connection with the sacred wholeness of life.

The cycle of Venus was honored by many ancient cultures. The Mayans calculated the Venus cycle with such remarkable precision that it still baffles current day researchers. The builders of New Grange in Ireland were known as the Grooved Ware people. This was a Neolithic culture with a remarkable balance between the masculine and feminine principles, and research suggests they had technology that predated the Egyptians and Greeks. New Grange was built to track the Winter Solstice and the once in every 8 year heliacal rise of Venus near the Winter Solstice when Venus rises about a half hour before the Sun. The last time this occurred was the December Solstice 2017. The next time it will occur will be the December Solstice 2025, 2033 and 2041.

At New Grange, the long dark passage that leads to a special altar is lit annually by the Winter Solstice Sun. Every 8 years, near the December Solstice, Venus rises before the Sun and lights the passage way all the way back to the main altar, then about a half hour later the Sun rises and relights the passage and altar. The double lighting of the passage and altar every eight years is a remarkable engineering feat that also tells us these people were very intimate with the Venus cycle and held in high regard. The expertise needed to build New Grange to capture these recurring cosmological events with such precision is worthy of our admiration and attention.

The builder's of Solomon's temple tracked the heliacal rise of Venus before the Sun at the Spring and Autumnal Equinox. Solomon's temple was inspired by the Sumerian and Babylonians who according to Christopher Knight and Robert Lomas authors of *The Book of Hiram* were inspired by the Grooved Ware people. The Sumerians and Babylonians celebrated with high ceremony the cycle of Venus every eight years when she rose as a morning star near the Spring Equinox (Venus now rises in the same place as it did then - at the June Solstice). The cosmological story of Inanna and/or Ishtar assisted them in ceremonially engaging the astronomical cycle of Venus.

Part of the work of Shamanic Astrology at this time is to reconnect with the Venus cycle, honoring and remembering how this cycle informs our experience. Each one of us is born in a particular phase of the Venus Cycle and we all experience a Synodic Venus return every 8 years. This means that Venus returns to her original position with the Sun near your birthday at ages 8, 16, 24, 32, 40, 48, 56, 64, 72, 80, 88, 96, 104. Shamanic Astrology recognizes the Venus Return as one of the most significant cycles a person goes through and the power of this cycle is maximized when we work with it consciously.

When Venus returns with the Sun near our birthday (every eight years) we are moving to a yet higher octave of the feminine expression we came to experience. For women it is their emerging feminine identity for this life, what aspect of the Goddess they have come to explore, express and help evolve. For men this is their connection to the sacred feminine within and what they intend to integrate as their inner other or inner beloved. The Eight Year Synodic Venus Return Cycle is a powerful initiation time intended to deepen our experience as well as be a part of the evolution of these divine feminine archetypal energies.

Additional Venus Facts and Information

Venus has been called Earth's sister planet because not only is she the closest planet to Earth, Venus is nearer the same size as the Earth than any other planet (about 86% of the size of Earth) with a similar density and chemical composition, and appearing to be near the same age as Earth.

Venus is a mirror to Earth as demonstrated in her planetary rotations, rotating West to East opposite of Earth.

Venus makes one full rotation every 243 days.

In 243 years Venus rotates 365 times.

Earth rotates 365 times in one year and there are 243 years between the Venus transits over the Sun in the same area of the sky.

The All Important Venus Transits (when Venus is seen crossing the Face of the Sun)

June 8, 2004 Venus was literally seen crossing the facing of the Sun. The last time this occurred was 122 years prior on December 6, 1882 so that transit was not in the same area of the sky. In 2012, eight years later Venus again transited the Sun on June 5/6. These transits happen in a rhythmic pattern as indicated in the chart below.

The 2004 Transit began an eight year global initiation and awakening of humanity beyond anything we have previously experienced. This is partly due to the Venus passages occurring at the Galactic edge (the edge of our Galaxy near the Galactic Cross) letting us know that this initiation reaches beyond our Galaxy and extends far into the Universe.

During the Venus transit over the Sun in both 2004 and 2012, Venus had direct access to the source of light and life for planet Earth and because the Sun is also a gateway Venus had direct access to the light codes of information beaming in from beyond our galaxy. The place in the sky where Venus transited the Sun has also been seen as an entry point or gateway into this reality. During the Venus transit, she was visible to many places on Earth as she crossed the face of the Sun representing the visual return of the powerful Solar Feminine adding her strength and wisdom restoring an aspect of the feminine that had been missing. Solar and Lunar Feminine, Solar and Lunar Masculine are equally valid and returning to our awareness.

The Venus transit over the Sun acted as a visible empowerment of Venus and the Solar Feminine as Venus was seen crossing the Sun. One of the ways to amplify our connection with this powerful activation is to take time to visually connect with Venus in the Morning and Evening Sky as well as tuning into her long underworld journey when she is traveling with the Sun.

On June 5/6, 2012 Venus completed an eight year initiatory window that began in June of 2004. The table below is a way to gain a perspective of the intervals between Venus transits over the Sun. Notice the Venus Transit in 1761 and 2004 are in the same area of the sky with 243 years between transits. And the Venus transit of 1769 was in the same area of the sky as the 2012 transit 243 years later. Also notice the rhythmic intervals between Venus Transits, always eight years apart and always in the seasonal sign of either Sagittarius or Gemini at least over the course of years represented in this table.

1631	December	07	Sagittarius	08 year interval to next Venus Transit
1639	December	04	Sagittarius	122 year interval to next Venus Transit
1761	June	06	Gemini	08 year interval to next Venus Transit
1769	June	03	Gemini	105 year interval to next Venus Transit
1874	December	09	Sagittarius	08 year interval to next Venus Transit
1882	December	06	Sagittarius	122 year interval to next Venus Transit
2004	June	08	Gemini	08 year interval to next Venus Transit
2012	June	05	Gemini	105 year interval to next Venus Transit
2117	December	10	Sagittarius	08 year interval to next Venus Transit
2125	December	08	Sagittarius	122 years to next Venus Transit in 2247

The June 7, 2004 and June 5, 2012 Venus passages over the Sun activated a Venus Stargate that birthed a whole new octave of the powerful feminine in this reality.

The exact 26,000 year Galactic Alignment we are currently experiencing began when the Solstice points moved within one degree of the two Galactic Crosses (where the Ecliptic or plane of the Solar System and the Milky Way or Plane of the Galaxy intersect). Based on the calculations of astronomer Jean Muess, we entered the one degree zone in 1926 and will leave the one degree zone in 2070. He calculated the exact center point to be May, 1998 giving us a 144 year window. Even if we only look at a 72 year window happening from 1962 to 2034 we are in powerful transitional time. The most precise timing of the Sun most precisely on the Galactic Cross took place from 1987 to 2016. That means the Venus transits occurred in the closet points to the Galactic Alignment that are possible in the current 26,000 year cycle giving us a sense of an even greater importance of these events.

In addition to the connection with the Galactic Alignment the Venus Passages occurred between the Horns of the Bull (a.k.a the constellation of Taurus) near the Galactic Edge. Ancient cultures looked to this area of the sky for special Celestial Events to let them know when the ages were shifting. The information below is gleaned from many scholarly works on the constellations and has been compiled by Anne Wright at this link <http://www.constellationsofwords.com/Constellations/Taurus.html>

The Great Bull of Heaven is linked with the end of each of the four ages; (the bull it is said) withdraws one of its hooves from the ground. When all are free the foundations of the world will be destroyed. Shiva's 'perfect horn' is the crescent Moon. The first letter of the Hebrew alphabet. 'aleph, which means "bull", is the symbol of the moon in its first week and also the name of the sign of the zodiac where the moon's mansions begin' (ELIT p.178). Many letters of the alphabet, hieroglyphs and ideograms are simultaneously associated with the phases of the Moon and with the bull's horns, the latter often compared with the crescent Moon.

Additionally Bernadette Brady a well-known researcher on the historical astronomical influence of Venus describes her Morning Star or Evening Star apparition and its influence on the United States elections process. Bernadette tracked the Morning Star elections and found that in all but two cases since the beginning of our election process the victory went to the "one who held the crown" meaning either a re-election or the election went to the same party.

In the Evening Star appearance of Venus during an election Venus favors the Rival. In November 2008 Venus was an Evening Star and the election was won by the party that was not in power. In 2012 Venus was a morning star and Obama was re-elected. In 2016 Venus was again an evening star and the victory went to the other party. In 2020 Venus is a Morning Star and the world is upside down so it will be interesting to see what happens? <https://zyntara.com/the-heavenly-patterns-of-2012/>

It is NOT important to understand all this technical information about the Turning of the Ages and how the Venus Transit is a major player at this time. What IS important is to have a sense that we are in extraordinary times confirmed by what is happening in our world as a reflection of what is happening in the sky as a reminder that we inform the mysteries as much as they inform us so working with these cycles consciously assists us in being conscious co-creators.

Ancient Cultures throughout the world left monumental records in stone pyramids, stone circles, stone temples, petroglyph sites and other structures to remind us of the importance of our connection to the Celestial Realms. The Celestial Timings and the tracking of the Venus Cycle are one way to tune into these celestial events. When we connect either visually or through our awareness and ceremonies and prayers to these mysteries we are engaging an ancient practice that benefits us personally as well as the entire collective at this important Turning of the Ages. (see www.cayelincastell.com for details about subscribing to the Celestial Timings)

This gives us another way to view the power of tracking the Venus cycle on a collective scale as well as for our own personal initiation intended to deepen our relationship with the Divine Feminine.

The Venus Gates

Condensed from the Sumerian Telling of Inanna Queen of Heaven

Inanna (Venus) sets out for the Underworld to attend the funeral of the Great Bull of Heaven and her sister Erishkegal's husband. She dresses in her full ceremonial regalia and is forced to give up something at each gate she encounters on her journey to the Underworld.

Venus/Inanna going through the Gates.

Inanna at the first gate, the Gate of Authority, surrenders the shugurra, the crown of the steppe, symbolizing being stripped of her connection to her godhood, her connection to heaven, her divinity.

The second gate, the Gate of Perception... the lapis measuring rod and line are removed from hand (or in other versions of the story she surrenders her small lapis bead earrings) as she is stripped of her sense of magic and her ability to manifest.

The third gate, The Gate of Communication... she surrenders the Double stranded beads around her neck –releasing all the ways she no longer communicates the truth and authenticity of her being.

The fourth gate, The Gate of Compassion... she surrenders her breastplate called "Come, man, come!" symbolizing her emotional heart and the release of all the ways she no longer truly loves herself.

The fifth gate, The Gate of Personal Power... the Golden hip girdle from her waste (or in other version the gold ring around her wrist) is removed. – and she is stripped of all the ways she tried to have power over others or gave her power away.

The sixth gate, The Gate of Creativity, her ankle bracelets are removed and she was stripped of all the ways she no longer truly valued herself.

The **seventh gate**, The Gate of Manifestation... From her body the royal robe, also referred to as the Garment of ladyship, was removed stripping Inanna of her life force.

Thus she arrived in the underworld stripped bare of all her garments of protection that no longer served her.

Ereshkigal kills Inanna and hangs her corpse on a meat hook.

Ninshubar gets Enki to sending two emissaries or androgynous beings called a kalatur and a kurgarra. They have been given instructions to hear Ereshkigal's pain and name it back to her. Wisely this action heals depression, hurt and anger when we can name and witness our pain without judgment or a need to fix, change or make it be different than what it is.

When the kalatur and karugurra witness Ereshkigal's pain she is miraculously healed. In her gratitude she gives Inanna to Enki's emissaries and they revive her with the water and food of life. Inanna awakes and begins her departure back through the seven gates collecting her vestments symbolizing her renewal and rebirth.

At the first gate -The Gate of Manifestation, **which had been the last gate she passed through on her way into the underworld** she retrieves her royal robe, or Garment of ladyship, reclaiming the healthy potency of her own life force expression.

The second gate -The Gate of Creativity, she retrieves her ankle bracelets symbolizing a renewed and healthy connection to her value and self worth.

The third gate - The Gate of Personal Power, the Golden hip girdle from her waste or the golden ring around her wrist is returned and she reclaims her personal power.

The fourth gate - The Gate of Compassion, she retrieved her breastplate called "Come, man, come!" symbolizing the healing of her emotional heart and her renewed ability to truly love herself and thus love others.

The **fifth gate** - The Gate of Communication... she retrieves the Double stranded beads around her neck – reclaiming healthy authentic communication of her true self.

The **sixth gate** - the Gate of Perception... she regained the lapis measuring rod and line or the small lapis bead earrings – and reclaims her sense of magic and ability to manifest.

The seventh gate - the Gate of Authority, Inanna retrieves the shugurra, the crown of the steppe, symbolizing her reconnection to heaven, her divinity and her godhood.

Innana ascended - returning to the heavens - reclaiming her place as Queen of Heaven and Earth, but now she had the knowledge and experience of pain and darkness, having experienced them for herself.

The Wisdom that originally orchestrated her descent into the underworld also arranged her return. After passing through the seven gateways Inanna encountered all her shadowed parts, the uncertainties of who she really was. All her tools were stripped from her and she was required to die (surrender) to who she believed herself to be.

This is the underworld initiation of death and rebirth that we all encounter. This is the gift of Inanna's journey that reminds us it is through the wisdom of surrender and trusting the death and rebirth process that brings us through this passage to a whole new more empowered and magical way of being. And so it IS!!!!

The Venus Cycle

Where was Venus in the Story When you were Born?

Venus has a 584 Day cycle from Heliacal Rise to Heliacal Rise (rising before the Sun in this case when Venus is Retrograde)

1. Venus Spends 40 Days retrograde moving from evening star to morning star
2. During her retrograde phase Venus conjuncts the Sun and a few days later rises as a Morning Star beginning a new 584 day cycle.
3. Venus rises before the Sun (heliacal rise) and then spends 260 Days as a Morning Star with 7 to 8 Moon conjunctions

As a Morning Star Venus (a.k.a Inanna or Ishtar) begins her descent into the underworld. She meets with the waning Moon 7 times going through the 7 gates into the underworld. At Each Gate she gives up a vestment associated with the 7 chakras and is releasing any distortions linked with these chakra energies.

Gate 1 – crown chakra - The Gate of Authority
Gate 2 – brow chakra - The Gate of Perception
Gate 3 – throat chakra - The Gate of Communication
Gate 4 – heart chakra - The Gate of Compassion
Gate 5 – solar plexus - The Gate of Personal Power
Gate 6 – belly chakra - The Gate of Creativity
Gate 7 – root chakra - The Gate of Manifestation
Gate 8- The Death by Intent Gate

4. Venus joins the Sun for 60 to 90 Days. This is the Underworld phase. Inanna dies and then is reborn 60 to 90 days later after she meets with the Sun or source of life. Dying to her old self and preparing to be reborn anew.
5. Venus rises as Evening star with 7 to 8 conjunctions with the Moon Venus meets with the waxing Moon returning through the seven gates in the reverse order now Transformed and Empowered from her initiation and she regains her Vestments.

Gate 1 – root chakra - The Gate of Manifestation
Gate 2 – belly chakra - The Gate of Creativity
Gate 3 – solar plexus - The Gate of Personal Power
Gate 4 – heart chakra - The Gate of Compassion
Gate 5 – throat chakra - The Gate of Communication
Gate 6 – brow chakra - The Gate of Perception
Gate 7 – crown chakra - The Gate of Authority
Gate 8 – The Ascension Gate or Life by Intent

6. Venus begins her retrograde phase in the Evening Sky.

Venus Retrogrades (40 days) and disappears from the Evening Sky. Then there is a 7 to 8 day meeting with the Sun before Venus emerges in the Morning Sky as a whole new Archetype of the Feminine.

If you get a Venus Specific Session (see details on page 7) you will be given the information about where Venus was in the Sky at the time you were born and what that means. For example, Venus in the Morning Sky has a certain energy that is different from Venus in the Evening Sky or with Sun.

Your Venus Overtone is Aries/Pisces, Scorpio/Libra, Gemini/Cancer, Capricorn/Aquarius, Leo/Virgo (circle the one that is appropriate...this is the sign Venus was in when she rose as a morning star before your birthday).

When you were born... Venus was Retrograde, Retrograde with the Sun, Morning Star, with the Sun, or Evening Star. (circle the ones that apply). Venus returns near the birthday every eight years or age 8, 16, 24, 32, 40, 48, 56, 64, 72, 80, 88, 96. 104 etc...This cycle can begin around 18 months prior to your exact return or can begin within days of the 8 year birthday depending on where you are in the cycle.

The Archetypal Rebirth Journey of Venus at Heliacal Rise

These are the approximate dates for the Heliacal Rise of Venus calculated for 10 degrees from the Sun
Bold Dates Indicate Archetypal Shift to a New Sign in 5 Star Pattern of Venus

Color code is as follows: Cancer *Can* and Gemini *Gem* (White), Aquarius *Aqu* and Capricorn *Cap* (Purple), Virgo *Vir* and Leo *Leo* (Green), Aries *Ari* and Pisces *Pis* (Red), Scorpio *Sco* and Libra *Lib* (Blue)

Look for the Venus Cycle that began prior to your birthdate to find your Venus Overtone. So for example, if a person was born in January of 1956, they would use the Nov 21, 1954 Overtone of Venus in Scorpio. If a person was born in August of 1956, they would use the June 28, 1956 Venus Overtone of Gemini.

The overtone of Venus is secondary to the sign Venus was in at the time you were born. The Overtone tells us what archetype of the feminine was being integrated into the collective psyche of humanity at the time you were born so it adds an additional flavor to your personal Venus, as does knowing where Venus was in her cycle at the time you born. Venus as morning or evening star or near the Sun or in one of its three retrograde phases as evening, with the Sun, or Morning star all has significance and additional meaning that we can incorporate into our overall understanding of your personal Venus.

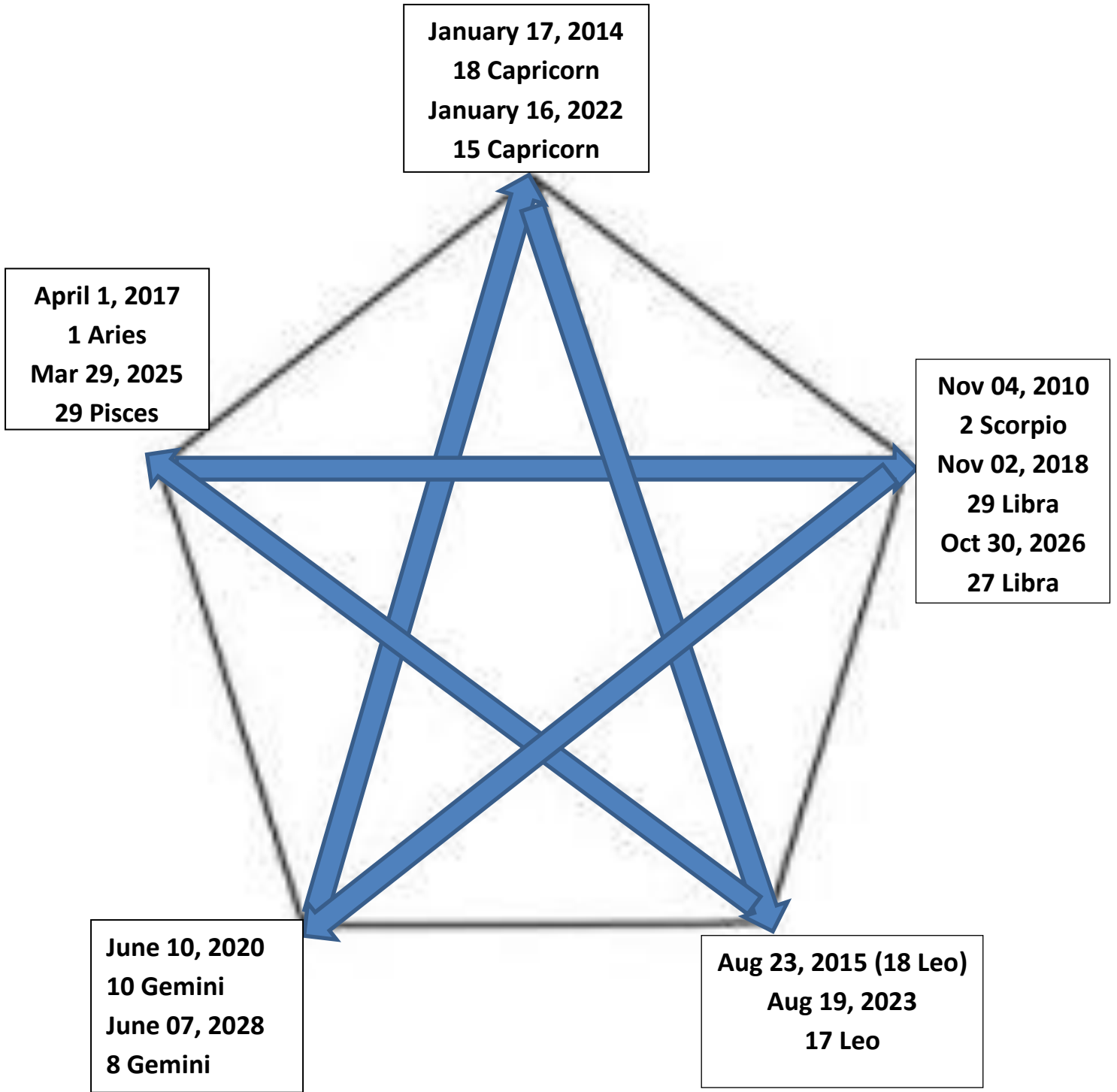
To locate your next Venus return - look for the color coded date just before your birthday that matches your Venus Overtone up to 2030 and then look for that color coding for the next time you begin a Venus return. Note that in the next couple of cycles Venus will be shifting signs from Scorpio to Libra in 2018 and from Aries to Pisces in 2025. These dates are within a day of the actual heliacal rise. **The bolded dates show a shift in sign.**

Heliacal Rise			Sign		Heliacal Rise			Sign		Heliacal Rise			Sign	
Jul	10	1916	08	Can	Nov	21	1954	19	Sco	Apr	06	1993	09	Ari
Feb	16	1918	17	Aqu	Jun	28	1956	27	Gem	Nov	09	1994	07	Sco
Sep	20	1919	15	Vir	Feb	04	1958	05	Aqu	Jun	17	1996	16	Gem
Apr	29	1921	28	Ari	Sep	08	1959	04	Vir	Jan	23	1998	23	Cap
Dec	01	1922	29	Sco	Apr	17	1961	17	Ari	Aug	27	1999	24	Leo
Jul	08	1924	05	Can	Nov	19	1962	17	Sco	Apr	05	2001	06	Ari
Feb	14	1926	14	Aqu	Jun	26	1964	25	Gem	Nov	07	2002	05	Sco
Sep	17	1927	13	Vir	Feb	02	1966	03	Aqu	Jun	14	2004	15	Gem
Apr	27	1929	26	Ari	Sep	06	1967	01	Vir	Jan	20	2006	20	Cap
Nov	29	1930	26	Sco	Apr	15	1969	15	Ari	Aug	25	2007	22	Leo
Jul	06	1932	03	Can	Nov	16	1970	15	Sco	Apr	03	2009	04	Ari
Feb	11	1934	12	Aqu	Jun	24	1972	23	Gem	Nov	05	2010	02	Sco
Sep	14	1935	11	Vir	Jan	30	1974	00	Aqu	Jun	12	2012	12	Gem
Apr	24	1937	24	Ari	Sep	03	1975	29	Leo	Jan	18	2014	17	Cap
Nov	26	1938	24	Sco	Apr	13	1977	13	Ari	Aug	22	2015	18	Leo
Jul	03	1940	01	Can	Nov	14	1978	12	Sco	Apr	01	2017	01	Ari
Feb	09	1942	09	Aqu	Jun	22	1980	21	Gem	Nov	02	2018	29	Lib
Sep	12	1943	09	Vir	Jan	28	1982	28	Cap	Jun	10	2020	10	Gem
Apr	22	1945	22	Ari	Aug	31	1983	28	Leo	Jan	16	2022	15	Cap
Nov	24	1946	21	Sco	Apr	10	1985	11	Ari	Aug	20	2023	16	Leo
Jul	24	1948	29	Gem	Nov	11	1986	09	Sco	Mar	29	2025	29	Pis
Feb	07	1950	07	Aqu	Jun	20	1988	19	Gem	Oct	30	2026	27	Lib
Sep	10	1951	07	Vir	Jan	25	1990	25	Cap	Jun	08	2028	07	Gem
Apr	20	1953	19	Ari	Aug	28	1991	26	Leo	Jan	13	2030	12	Cap

A Special Venus Reading focuses specifically on your natal Venus and Overtone, as well as where you were born into the Greater Venus Story and how to work with that. The current 90 minute Venus session special rate is \$222 regularly \$300.

Venus Heliacal Rises from 2012 to 2020

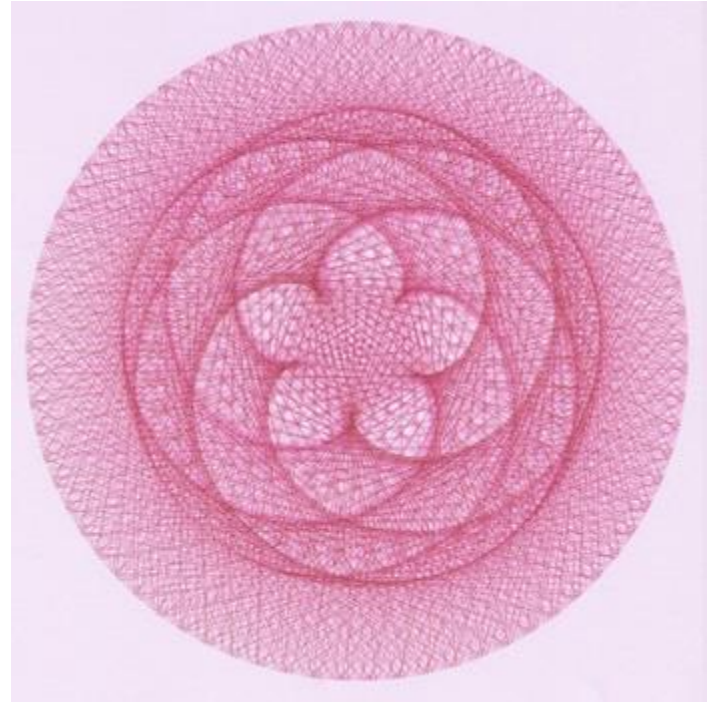
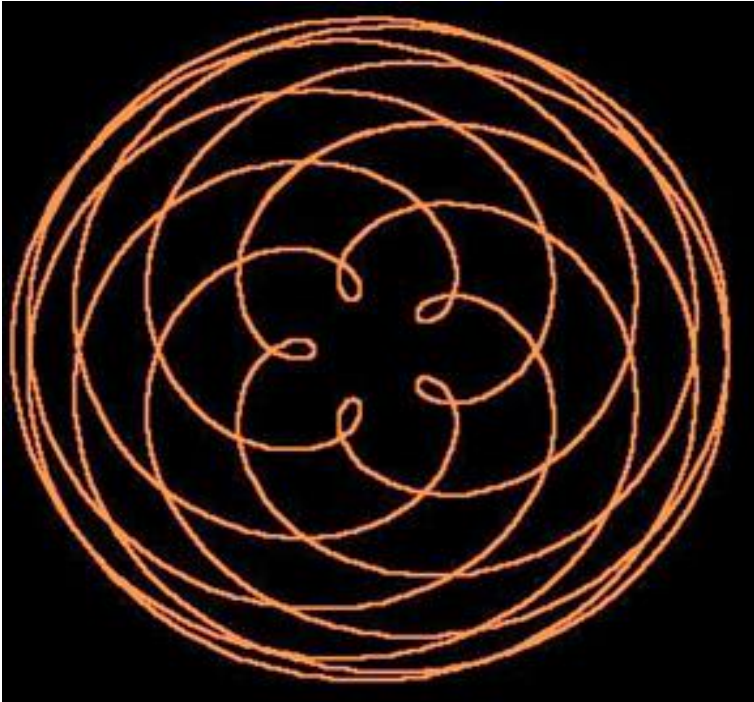
Forming a Pentagram in the Sky



Below are two images of the Rose Pattern and Venus Pentagram as traced through the Sky over time.

The Left Image below is the Venus Pattern showing 5 Cycles of Venus in 8 years returning to a starting point within 2 days of the starting point 8 years earlier.

The right image is the pattern Venus makes over 1260 years to return to an exact starting point.



In the images above we can see the Magic of the Venus cycle as Venus returns to a starting point every eight years, as it rises heliacally 5 times creating the pentagram and also goes around the Sun 13 times over an 8 year period. This remarkably includes the Fibonacci sequence found throughout creation 5, 8, 13. That is why ancient cultures were so attuned to the Venus cycle and why it is important for us to reconnect to Venus magic now.

Again...if you are interested in learning more about your personal Venus, what it means for you personally and how to work with the Venus cycle as a way to empower your co-creative process then a Special Venus Specific Session is extremely helpful. The special Venus session rate is \$222 regularly \$300 for a ninety minute session. Email Cayelin at email address in the footer to find out more or to schedule your session.