

A Survey of Pandemics by André Barbault

This is an English translation of an article by the French astrologer André Barbault (1921–2019) titled “A Survey of Pandemics” (*Aperçu sur les Pandémies*), in which the author predicted the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 nearly a decade before it occurred.

This article was originally written by Barbault in 2011, and published in the French astrological journal *L’Astrologue* (*The Astrologer*) in early 2012. The full bibliographical entry for the article is:

André Barbault, “Aperçu sur les Pandémies,” *L’Astrologue*, no. 177, first quarter 2012, pp. 1–11.

You can find a copy of the original article here:

theastrologypodcast.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/barbault-apercu-sur-les-pandemies.pdf

This article was translated from French into English by Nick Dagan Best, with some editing by Chris Brennan, and an initial version was completed in May 2020. The translation was finalized and released publicly in this current version in September 2023.

The article was originally meant to accompany episode 254 of The Astrology Podcast, titled [Misconceptions About Mundane Astrology in the Media](#), where Chris Brennan and Leisa Schaim discussed whether there were astrologers who predicted the Covid pandemic. This article by André Barbault was cited as one of the most striking examples.

A Survey of Pandemics by André Barbault

Over many decades, I have amassed a large number of files that testify to research grasping at something worthy of pursuit, justifying publication despite a failure to achieve results. But isn't it better to have approached knowledge than to have nothing?

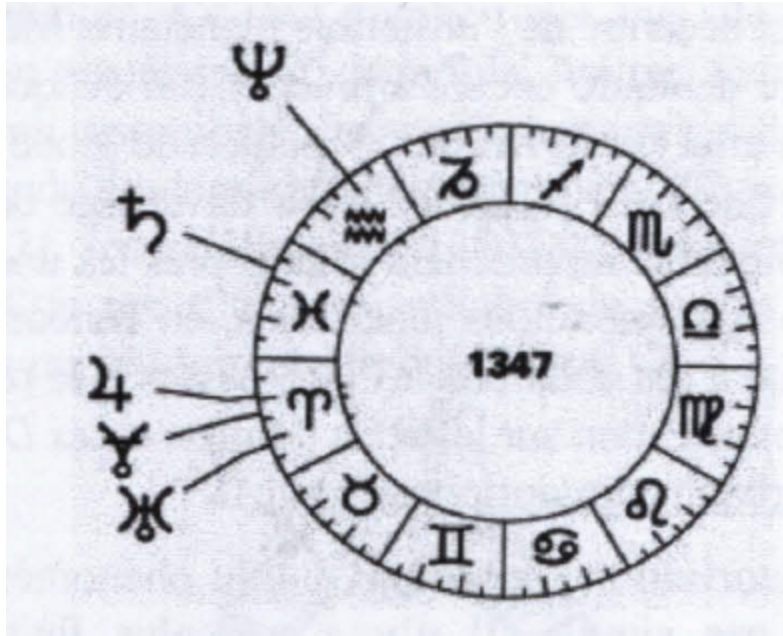
For some time now, a few astronomers and astrophysicists on the fringes of the astrological world have ventured to compare disturbances to public health with the curves of solar flares, as evidenced by various texts from the journal *Cosmobiologie* [“Cosmobiology”] prior to the Second World War (see *75 ans d’astrologie*) (“75 years of astrology”). And since, other scientists from the medical world. In the *Revue de Pathologie* (“Pathology Revue”) of November 1958, Professor L. C. Vincent presented the major pandemics in support of cosmo-telluric

interventions. Also in 1959, 1960 and 1962, Professors Poumailloux and Mironovitch, in the *Bulletin de l'Académie de Médecine* ("Academy of Medicine Bulletin") and in *La Presse médicale* ("Medical Press"), brought into play the intrusion in the phenomena of extraterrestrial radiation from solar activity. No doubt there are other testimonies of this kind, but my research has not extended into this area. In other circumstances and on a different track, in *Les Hommes et la Peste en France et dans les pays européens et méditerranéens* ("People and the Plague in France, Europe, and the Mediterranean") (Mouton, Paris, 1975), Jean-Noël Biramen attempted to verify a correlation between the phenomenon of eclipses and comets with regard to the plagues, as elders asserted in their time. Unsurprisingly this was to no avail, although I was surprised that sunspots were left out completely.

That said, it is not the simplest way to directly address the correlation of astralities and pandemics, the ancient plague of the third millennium century B.C. to the latest, in the diversity of their severity and necessarily including other species of pandemics. On the other hand, a start must be made here in consideration of the supreme case: namely, that in addressing the largest pandemic in history, it is a no less monumental astral configuration on which one should inevitably fall. Isn't it the best opening there is? Admittedly, the uniqueness of the case is by no means proven. At least their impressive encounter could only encourage us to pursue its track thus engaged.

It is precisely a historic peak that was reached with the legendary and terrifying Black Death of 1347-1348, killing one-third of the population of Europe in less than two years (and coinciding with the closing first decade of the Hundred Years' War between England and France). Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie masterfully encapsulated the magnitude of the tragedy. As early as 1348, the disaster was appalling: "It looked like genocide. It is the equivalent to what would happen, in our era, in the event of a medium-caliber atomic war. In Italy, France, the Germanic and Anglo-Saxon countries, up to 30 to 50% of the population died ... Imagine today a massacre of 20 million French people and you have a good idea (proportionally) of the cataclysm that our predecessors faced in 1348." (*Nouvel Observateur*, "New Observer", April 12, 1976)

This expeditious epidemic - death occurred in less than a few days of contagion - arrived via the Mediterranean in 1347 and contaminated the whole of Europe, its hecatomb causing panic. It was infernal in its processions of punitive self-flagellation, inspiring massacres of Jews and lepers made responsible for the scourge!



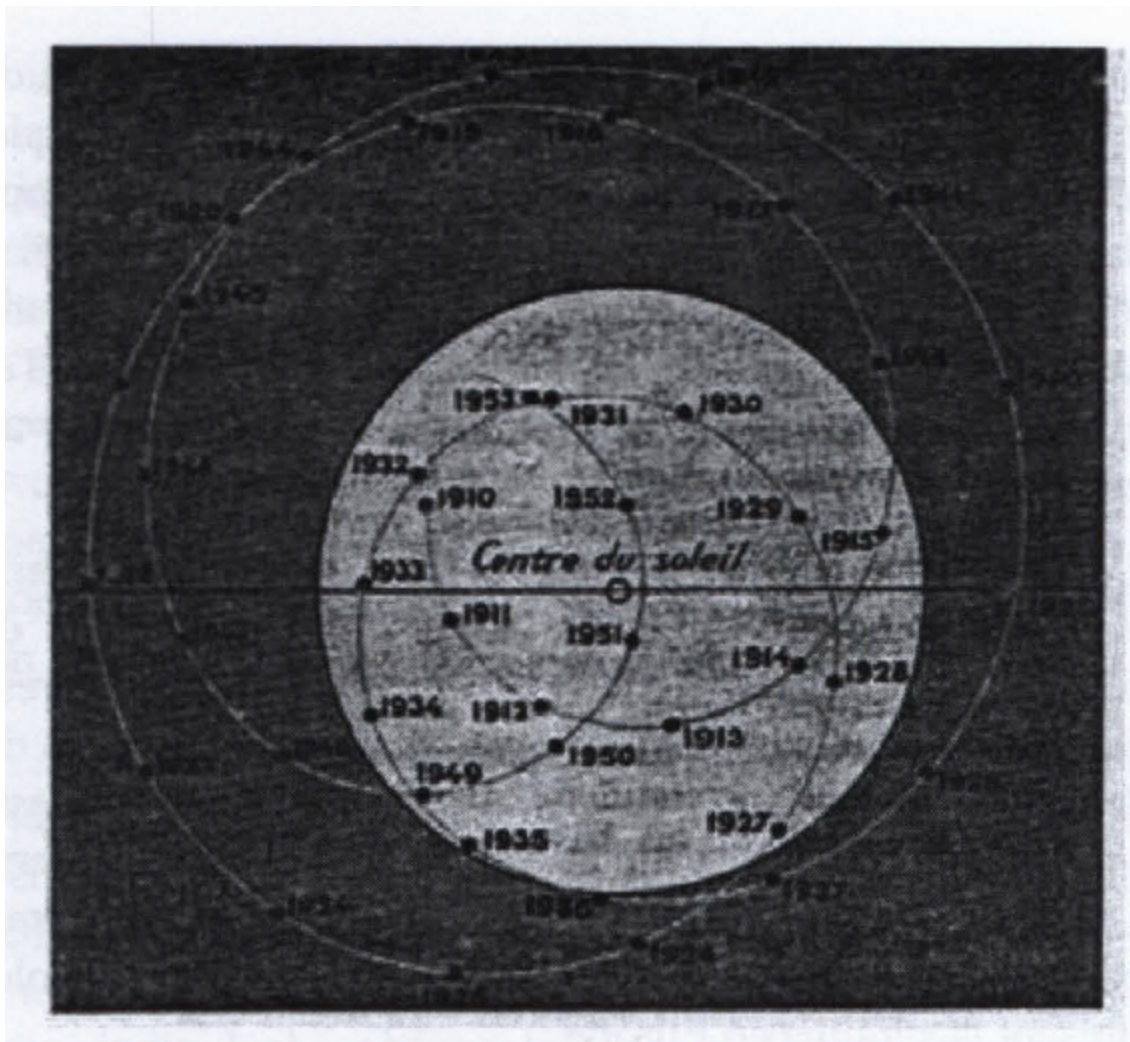
And in the face of this historic apocalyptic tragedy, we come across one of the three most extreme planetary concentrations of the entire millennium! The five slow-moving planets where Jupiter, Uranus and Pluto are in triple conjunction, occupying only an arc of 73° in range of Neptune and Uranus! No doubt it could be pure chance. Nevertheless, here we are, from now on, a trail to explore. All the more so since an astrophysical phenomenon gives it a replicate within the framework of the tenth movement of the Earth.

In his *Astronomie populaire* ("Popular Astronomy") Camille Flammarion, a global figure in physics, noted throughout the period between 1911 and 1958, a circular linear displacement as an effect of the center of gravity of the planetary orbits relative to the core of the Sun, their greatest distances occurring over the years of the two great world wars of 1914-1918 and 1940-1945.

I refer my reader to the text *Pour une réhabilitation de l'astrologie* ("For the Rehabilitation of Astrology"), which clarifies this relationship with the phenomenon of centration and decentration of the planetary system in relation to the Sun. Passage from an equilibrium to a cosmic imbalance, precisely as a function of an astral distribution gathered in clusters around the central luminary; a phenomenon that naturally has repercussions in the diversity of solar activity with its disturbances, the Sun becoming more agitated when it is off-center of the planetary system. Even if the link from one to the other still remains to be specified (there is also increasing talk of an effect on the speed of the Earth's rotation), should we therefore be surprised that we can have more pandemics when the planets come closest to each other and

form planetary agglomerations, at the same time as the cyclical index at its lowest ratings? I refer here to the recent exploratory text on the last century, *Les doriphories* ("The Doriphoria").¹

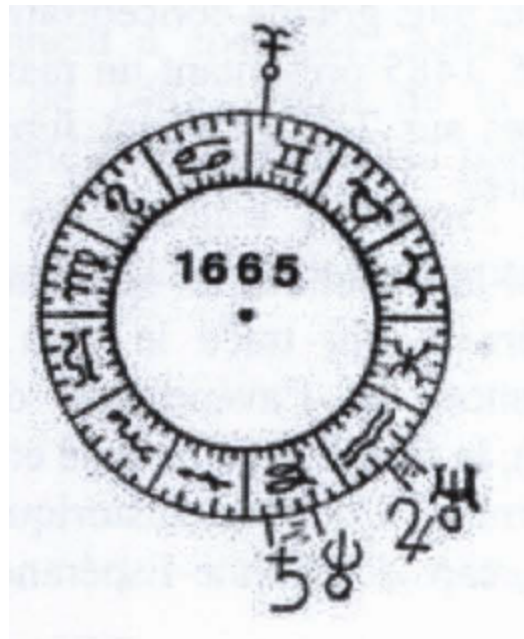
But the chronological historization of the phenomenon we are dealing with is not simple. There is no more elusive temporal and geographical fluidity than this somewhat elusive scourge. If, after the avalanche of deaths, the epidemic calmed down from the autumn of 1348, it was only a respite, for it now began to rage on the continent without skipping a single annual link, in a long chain with various projections to decline and disappear on the second slope of the seventeenth century.



The Great Plague of London of 1665, in which some 70,000 people, i.e. 15 to 16% of the population, disappeared, is particularly noteworthy. This falls once again on a planetary concentration where this time Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune are gathered within a span of 40 degrees. A last great plague epidemic struck Western Europe in 1720-1721 (Marseille lost

¹ Nick Dagan Best: *Doriphorie* ("doriphoria") is a term used in French astrological vernacular to describe a broad version of a planetary stellium or cluster.

50,000 inhabitants), while Saturn was within a span of 60 degrees to the concentrated trio of Jupiter-Uranus-Pluto.



It is not convenient to account for the relationship between the two phenomena, because, in addition to the elusive fluidity mentioned just now, the plague is by no means the only epidemic that strikes the world's population, and it is an epidemiological whole that must naturally be taken into consideration, in addition to the fact that the judgment must extend to and cover the totality of human life on earth. For this reason, this paper is only intended as an overview. It is also good not to forget the planetary alignment effect of the opposition itself. For example, its transit made successive oppositions to Jupiter-Uranus and then Saturn-Neptune, almost side by side, during the time of the plague of 1576-1577 that killed 17-18% of the population of Milan.

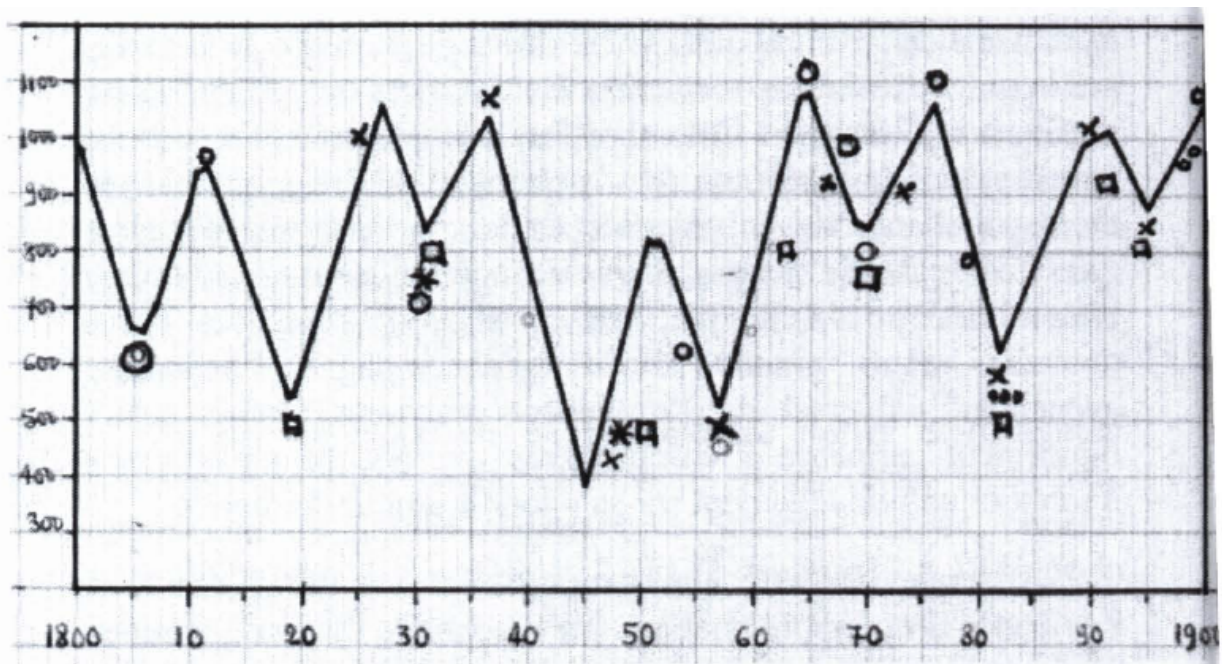
Similarly, it was when Jupiter moved into opposition with Saturn-Uranus-Neptune in Capricorn-Aquarius that - during the transit of Pluto through Scorpio - on their return from America in 1493, Christopher Columbus' sailors introduced syphilis into Europe. We must also return to the phenomenon of cyclicity where the planetary conjunction is a Janus with a double contribution: Chaos and Genesis.

The end of a cycle is the culmination of a past, the end of something akin to death; and the advent of the future as the birth of a new cycle, a vital new beginning. As much as the first side plunges into the ordeal of mourning, the second is the impetus for the conquest of a future. Thus, this last repetition prevails especially during the greatest planetary concentration of the past millennium, 1485 presenting an extreme gathering of the five slow planets over a 73 degree span, grouping Jupiter-Saturn-Uranus-Neptune in Sagittarius. We have here the slice of a segment of a semi-millennium "micro great year" which traces most strongly (behind the renaissance momentum of the advent of Gutenberg's printing press in 1437), the main boundary

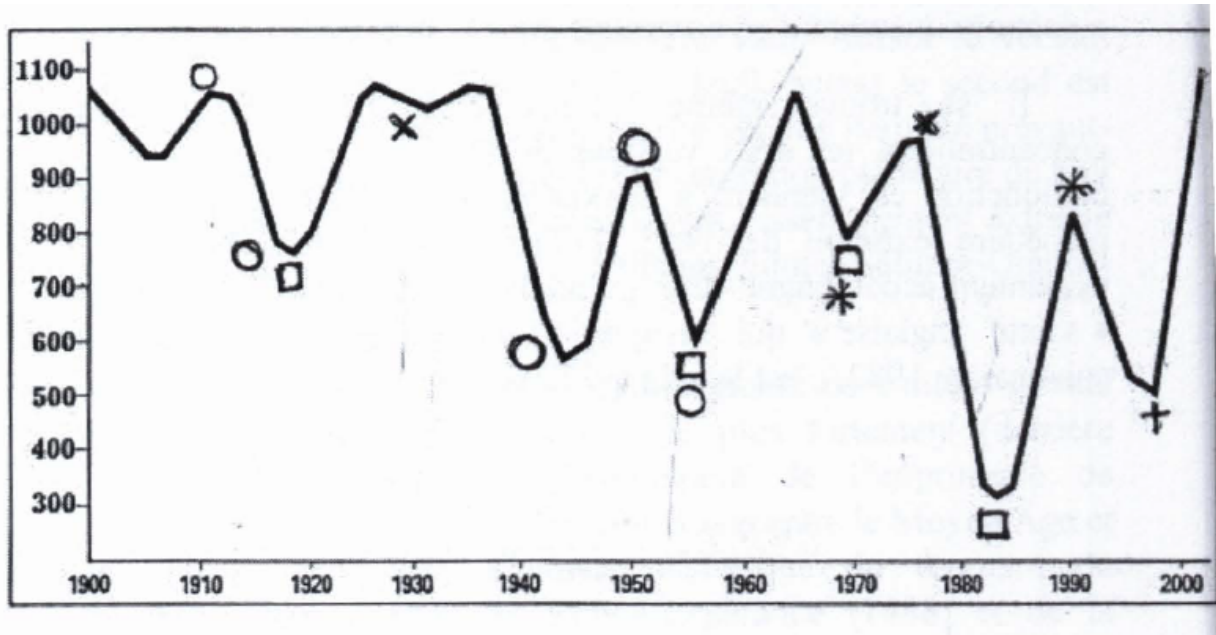
between the Middle Ages and modern times. It is a historical turning point with the crossing of the Cape of Good Hope (1488) and the discovery of America (1492): a decade during which, through the great adventure of the conquest of the seas with Diaz, Vasco de Gama, and Christopher Columbus, the European finally embraced the globe in the revelation of its sphericity.

The micro great year of the beginning of the "civilization of Western Christendom" which ended astronomically with a new extreme planetary concentration in 1982: the birth time of a new micro great year accompanied by the historic universal advent of the personal computer, which would quickly allow everyone with the Internet to navigate individually around the world on their own web!

At the heart of this exploration, it is clear that there is a predictable problem of open fan configurations for a diversity of events, despite the specific nature of each. We fail to do so on the same principle of "symbolic equivalence" observed in the individual field: the phenomenon of analogical substitution, slippage of the same verb from one object to another similar one. Thus, there is no astral land difference between the occurrence of this pandemic and that of another of a different species, any more than there is even between a given collective trial and another of a foreign species, as if their natures were economically equalized in a common existential land crisis. It even happens that, at the crossroads of major concentrations, the two versions of the cyclical turnaround of the conjunction type come to coexist. Thus, at the extreme planetary gathering of 1485, the impetus of the Renaissance was also accompanied by a great pandemic scourge, called the "English Sweating Sickness" which ravaged Europe; just as with the next one in 1982, AIDS made its appearance.



In research, the field of observation is constantly being extended, a broadening of view which, at the same time, is reshaping one's vision of things. At the heart of the work we are dealing with here, this leads us to a global vision that embraces diverse situations as if they were all in the same place, so that if it is not one, it is the other that comes in its place. As a result, we see a common state of crisis as part of a whole, a common state of crisis in a diversification of manifestations.



In the cyclical indices of the 19th and 20th centuries presented here, four categories of societal disruption are summarily distributed: squarely, epidemics; roundly, wars; crosswise, economic crises; and star-shaped, revolutions.

Returning to pandemics and looking back over the past century, the four crises of 1918, 1954, 1968 and 1982 stand out, the first of which was the first, the famous "Spanish flu", which is said to have killed 25 million people, and the last, where AIDS, which is even more devastating and continues to be deadly, took hold. Since then, there was also a small flu outbreak in 2009, just against the last lowest cyclical index (2010).

We may well be at serious risk of a new pandemic around 2020-2021, at the lowest cyclical index peak of the entire 21st century, with the quintet of planets clustered together over a hundred degrees, a Jupiter-Saturn-Pluto conjunction being particularly, even specifically, amenable to the "fabric" of this imbalance. Nevertheless, this configuration can also transfer its core of dissonance to the terrain of geophysical catastrophes, without ultimately sparing the scene of international affairs, Nature and Society being indiscriminately affected.

The overall impression that one gets from the examination of these roughly treated tables is that the majority of the evils that afflict the planet are located mainly around the lower point of the

cyclic index, time of conjunctions, when precisely the great difference between the center of gravity of the orbits of the planetary system and the core of the Sun occurs; and similarly, but less so, around the upper point of the same index, when the oppositions, another category of planetary alignment, prevail.

2010 - particularly anticipated as a turning point in the global crisis - was the first year of the low cyclical index in the new century, and its Jupiter-Saturn-Uranus planetary alignment cannot be said to have gone unnoticed. Besides Europe being in the midst of a deep global economic turmoil, the spotlight was also on natural disasters. Quoting the Associated Press: 20 earthquakes of magnitude 7 in the year (as opposed to the usual 15) with the terrible earthquake in Haiti, an unprecedented heat wave in Russia with its huge fires, a historic flood in Pakistan, and a volcanic eruption in Indonesia. 250,000 deaths in the year, the highest death toll since at least 1983 (the year of the lowest index of the previous century). And 2010 was the hottest year on record in 18 countries.

Not to mention the spring ashes of the Icelandic volcano **Eyjafjallajökul**, the oil spill from a well in the Atlantic, the exceptional winter weather in December in Europe, particularly disruptive to transport, and snowstorms in the USA and Canada. Then there was the terrible global shock of the Fukushima disaster in Japan, the earthquake (of 8.9 Richter!) of March 11, 2011 where the earth shook as never before in that country, with its tsunami (several tens of thousands of deaths, a country devastated, exposed to radioactive fallout). And 2011 is not over yet...

In the end, this overall result presents an enormous complexity of the forecast reading. Of course, we have no reason to get rid of certain historical correlations whose practical use deserves to be pursued: Jupiter-Saturn cycles in resonance with the European future; Jupiter-Uranus and Saturn-Uranus with the U.S.A. and the world economy; Jupiter-Neptune with the UN, France; and the Uranus-Pluto cycle with Japan.

See Uranus-Neptune cycle with the mutations of the world society, like, in particular, the future of cosmology with the Copernican revolution of the conjunction of 1650, the following one of 1821 posing the order of Laplace's celestial mechanics; then with the last one of 1992, the escape to exoplanets and other solar systems, in a questioning of our own solar system. In addition to the economic and technological revolutions, etc.

Nevertheless, it is well beyond the cyclical linearity in which we are immersed: this "overview on pandemics" finally joins the other text of "global theory" on "natural disasters" with the same observation of a predictive pitfall of the historical destination of most of our configurations. For example, with the gathering of the ten celestial bodies at 115° on August 6 and 9, 1945, accompanying the atomic bombings on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, or the stellium in Taurus in May 1941, when Hitler mobilized in the war against the Soviet Union. Both contrast with the alignment of 7 stars at 12° of December 13, 1970, the day of a tidal wave in Pakistan causing 250,000 victims, as well as the extreme concentration of 5 slow with 4 fast of November 9, 1989, escorting the fall of the Berlin Wall. The wrath of nature in its multiple disorders, or a

mutation of humanity that is sometimes mournful, sometimes renewed? This astral spectacle usually goes unquestioned, a ball of the great enigmas of the future...

Reading summit: how to access the language of the polycyclic continuum of the spiral circularity of universal life, in an interdependence of all the factors that make up the fabric of reality? With so many of their interferences amalgamating and colliding in the loops of a perpetual movement... Should we thus be surprised to remain too often mute in the face of the mystery of a story carrying in its flanks such a whirling game of the cosmos? Admittedly, in a cyclical chain of past, present and future continuity, a few micro-configurations can be deciphered, and it is better to take advantage of them, but for the bulk of the universal future, we must wait until we know much more to gather an indispensable supply of light on the future.

André Barbault

Paris, 8 June 2011