

## MERCURY RETROGRADE IN GEMINI

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FILE. AMSTERDAM KONINKLIJK PALEIS, ARTUS QUELLINUS I's, MERCUR

For many of you the term: Beware, Mercury is retrograde! This is something already very well known, but what does it really mean both mythologically, psychologically and astronomically?

As I explained to you earlier, in ancient times all cultures related astronomical events to some myth or characteristics of some God, and, on this occasion, we will analyze the astronomical and archetypal impact of Hermes (for the Greeks) and Mercury (for the Romans) both in the individual and collective psyche during their period of retrogradation in the mental sign of Gemini.

Astronomically speaking its cycle lasts approximately 11 to 6 days and is given 3 times a year usually in the same element. In February, we had the first retrogradation of the year in the sign of Aquarius and, last May 23, Mercury entered retrogradation in its second cycle in the sign of Gemini and by the end of September will begin the third in the sign of Libra.

All the planets except the Moon and the Sun can enter at a certain point in a cycle of retrogradation, just when they are on the opposite side to the Sun, so the light of this luminaire does not illuminate them directly. Therefore, neither the Sun nor the Moon can be in retrogradation. This astronomical impact is always measured in relation to the alignment of the Sun, Earth, and the planet in question. The Moon is always going to be measured according to its own cycle of phases; the new, growing, full and waning Moon, which we can observe for 28 days of each month.

In astrology we classify planets according to their speed, in this way we define the impact they have on the human psyche. After the Moon, Mercury is the fastest planet and will never move away from the Sun beyond 28°.

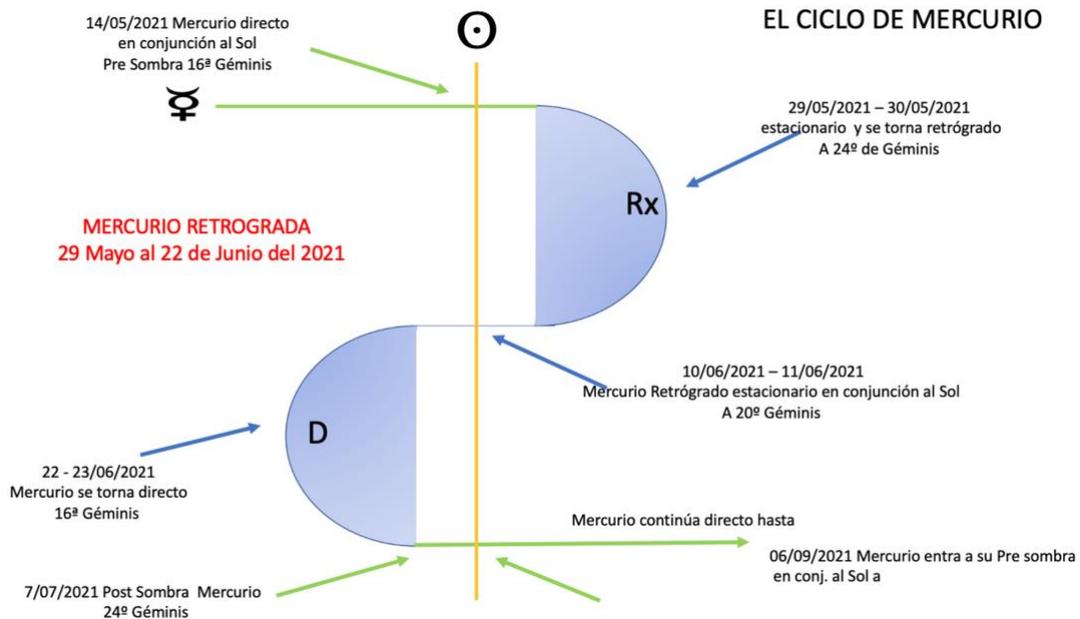
The planets that are aligned between the Sun and the Earth are known as personal (Mercury and Venus) and those beyond the earth social (Mars, Jupiter and Saturn) or transpersonal (Uranus, Neptune and Pluto).

Mercury and Venus are personal, so they will have a direct impact on our individual lives: They force us to change personal mental or relationship processes.

Before entering their retrogradation stage, the planets are going to have a cycle that; it is classified as pre-shade, retrogradation and post-shadow. This is the route that the planet in question will make during its retrograde.

On June 10, 2021, our planet of communication and mental processes will form an exact conjunction with the Sun that is known as Cazimi, at which point, archetypically speaking, it touches the center of the heart of our greater luminary.

Coincidentally the day Mercury forms this Cazimi, it will also be part of the solar eclipse that will occur the same day in the 19th degree of Gemini. Be prepared, because this June 10, 2021 we are going to have two astronomical phenomena of utmost importance and above all of impact on a personal and collective level. The time has come to ask the universe to help us clarify all our mental processes, define our goals, and reconsider our communication



But let's go a little bit to the mythology related to this god of communication and borders.

Zeus was married to Hera, but taking advantage of his wife falling asleep, he went out to seek shelter to meet the beautiful nymph, Maya. She lived away from Olympus and nine moons passed until Maya gave birth to Hermes/Mercury, right at dawn when it is neither night nor day. This is one of the reasons why he is known as the liminal God -of borders-, in addition to being the messenger of the Gods. He is also credited with great wit, cunning and an ability to take advantage of every opportunity that arises in addition to his great skill with the handling of the word.

From Hermes, messenger of the gods, derives the hermeneutics, the science of the interpretation of texts, which according to the author of the "Book of the Holy Trinity" (1414), first text of alchemy in the German language, has a quadruple side: natural, supernatural, divine and human. It is the art of interpreting hidden meanings.

Jung refers to Hermes as the "Soul-originator Psychon Aitos" because wind and spirit have the same meaning in Greek "PNEUMA".

The main feature in the traditions about Hermes is his role as herald of the gods. Hermes is the Olympic messenger god, of the borders and the travelers who cross them, of wit and of commerce in general, of cunning, of thieves and liars.

The Homeric hymn invokes Hermes as the multiform wit polytropos of cunning thoughts, thief, quaker of oxen, chief of dreams, night spy, guardian of the gates, who would soon boast of glorious feats before the immaculate gods.

This mysterious element that is attributed to him in the Homeric poem, is given to him for his intimate association with the spirits of the dead and the underworld. Even when Hermes appears as the young man, he is one of the oldest and most primitive gods in his origin and signifies the daemon that pursues and occupies the pile of stones, or perhaps a stone, put on the road due to a magical purpose.

Archetypally, Hermes stood at the limit of space, his sign marks the limit of consciousness. Beyond where the union, there is the unknown, the misunderstood, the dangerous, the unconscious.

During this time of retrogradation we must define where to put our limits, however, due to curiosity and the need to explore, new spaces are also originated and created to be discovered. Hermes marks his limits between the conscious and the unconscious, but we also have to realize that the limits always fluctuate and change, that is the mercurial where the undertone and the background can be reversed and generate a new perception or, as one would say psychologically speaking, new insights.

The archetype of Hermes is based on the mental and its cognitive process; the instinct rooted in the material body, which is experienced in the psyche as a feeling of urgency, a need and force that direct us towards something.

During this retrogradation there is destruction and the creation of new spaces. A new interior and exterior possibility. Some spaces have magical properties that bind the interior with the exterior in a surprising way, as if the boundary line were in space, which can open up to a new space.

#### MERCURY IN AIR SIGNS GEMINI, LIBRA, AQUARIUS

The poetics of the air has to do with the dynamics, with the movement, but above all with the flight, the lightness, the lightness of the being. In the poetry of the air there is always the desire to fly (the flight of dreams) and grow. The myth of the air is the myth of Icarus (the wings of Hermes). It is a more social, rational, jovial and communicative Mercury to unite different perspectives.

In next week's article we will talk about the influence of the solar eclipse and mercury cazimi on Gemini and how it will affect each of the sun signs.

