Introducing the Venus Cycle
And The Importance of the Eight Year Cycle

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, on the last page there is a table provided that will help you find your own Venus Overtone.

There is another PDF that has the current Venus cycle dates that will assist you in tracking the phases of Venus 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 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, a Neolithic culture with a remarkable balance between the masculine and feminine principles, were thought to have technology that predated the Egyptians and Greeks. New Grange was built to track the Winter Solstice and the once in 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 2009. The next time it will occur will be the December Solstice 2017.

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 were tracking 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. 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 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 near your birthday with the Sun 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 experience, express and help evolve. For men this is their connection to the sacred feminine 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 the closest to the same size as the Earth than any other planet being 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. Then Venus transited the Sun again on June 5/6, 2012. 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 also had 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 us as she crossed the face of the Sun representing the return of the Solar Feminine.

The Venus transit over the Sun acted as a visible empowerment of Venus and the Solar Feminine as Venus was literally visible crossing the Sun. One of the ways to connect with this powerful activation is to practice visually connecting with Venus in the Morning and Evening Sky and tuning into her long underworld journey.

On June 5/6, 2012 Venus completed her 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 and 243 years have passed. And the Venus transit of 1769 is 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Sign</th>
<th>Interval to Next Venus Transit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1631</td>
<td>December 07</td>
<td>Sagittarius</td>
<td>08 year interval to next Venus Transit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1639</td>
<td>December 04</td>
<td>Sagittarius</td>
<td>122 year interval to next Venus Transit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1761</td>
<td>June 06</td>
<td>Gemini</td>
<td>08 year interval to next Venus Transit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1769</td>
<td>June 03</td>
<td>Gemini</td>
<td>105 year interval to next Venus Transit</td>
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<tr>
<td>1874</td>
<td>December 09</td>
<td>Sagittarius</td>
<td>8 year interval to next Venus Transit</td>
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<tr>
<td>1882</td>
<td>December 06</td>
<td>Sagittarius</td>
<td>122 year interval to next Venus Transit</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>June 08</td>
<td>Gemini</td>
<td>08 year interval to next Venus Transit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>June 5/6</td>
<td>Gemini</td>
<td>105 year interval to next Venus Transit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2117</td>
<td>December 10</td>
<td>Sagittarius</td>
<td>08 year interval to next Venus Transit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2125</td>
<td>December 08</td>
<td>Sagittarius</td>
<td>122 years to next Venus Transit in 2247</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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The June 7, 2004 and June 5, 2012 Venus passages over the Sun activated a Venus Stargate that is helping to birth the powerful feminine into a stronger expression 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. The central point of this window is from 1987 to 2016 covering a 36 year time when the Sun is squarely on the Galactic Cross. That means the Venus transits occurred in the closet points to the Galactic Alignment that are possible in the current 26,000 year cycle.

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 we did have the re-election of Obama. http://www.zyntara.com/VisualAstrologyNewsletters/van_Sept2008/VAN_Sept2008.htm

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 NOT in ordinary times and the way we know is this is based on what is happening in the Great Above with all these rare cycles converging.

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 the 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 Cycle
and where you are in the Venus Story

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


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

If you are getting a Venus Specific Session from Cayelin you will be given the information about where Venus is in the Sky. See Table on the next page for the Overtone.

Your Venus Overtone is Aries, Scorpio, Gemini, Capricorn, Leo, Virgo, Aquarius, Cancer (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 etc...This cycle can begin as much as 18 months prior to the exact return.
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 Pattern of Venus

Color code is as follows:
- Cancer ☊ and Gemini ♊ (White), Aquarius ♒ and Capricorn ♋ (Purple), Virgo ♊ and Leo ♌ (Green), Aries ♈ and Pisces ♉ (red), Scorpio ♏ and Libra ♑ (blue).

Look for the Venus Cycle that began prior to your birthdate to find your Venus Overtone.

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.

Be sure to note that 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 additional information and an additional flavor to your personal Venus.

To locate your next Venus return look for the color coded year that matches your Venus Overtone up to 2030.

For those who are interested in learning more about their personal Venus, where she is in the Venus Story and how to work with the Venus cycle I do offer Venus Specific sessions. I also recommend reading through this material several times and listening to the Venus Audios that are provided with this package. I know from my own experience of studying the Venus cycle for nearly two decades I am learning more all the time.

Plus...the dates in the PDF chart also provided are linked with the Inanna story giving you the main keys to finding your own way to engage the Venus cycle. There is NO one specific way to do this, but rather it is a process of discovering what works for you. Being aware and following your inner guidance will help you and see the suggestions for helping you get started in The PDF titled the Venus Ceremonial Gates and Beyond.

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