

The Transit of Neptune in Pisces 2012 – 2026



In April 2011, Neptune went into the water sign of Pisces, its natural home, for a brief initial 4-month ‘taster’ visit, before moving there in February 2012 for a 14-year stay. For many of us the question that first arises is – ***what does this mean – for me, my loved ones, my life?*** As Jung rightly pointed out ‘meaning makes a great many things endurable’. However, if we step out of merely hoping that life will be endurable, to imagining what it might be like at its most joyous, expansive and enriching, we are in the realm of creativity, rather than mere endurance. Taking this a step further, we move into the possibility of co-creating together with the planetary energies. Our question then becomes: ***how might we most expansively and joyfully co-create with the energies of Neptune in Pisces?***

And so our exploration begins ---

Setting the stage – some symbolical words for the planet Neptune:

Spirituality, dissolution, lack of boundaries, sacrifice, illusion, disillusion, melting, imagination merging, formlessness, healing, spirituality, passivity, oceanic, fantasy, divine music, fog, chaos, feelings, emotions, tears, cleaning, bathing, betrayal, confusion, art, oceanic, infinite, waves, watery, ecstatic, dreaming.

In mythology Neptune’s father was Saturn, also known as Cronus and his mother was the earth deity Rhea, also known as Ops. His brothers included Jupiter (the god Zeus) and Pluto (the god Hades). When Jupiter, Pluto and Neptune defeated their father Saturn, they divided the world into three parts. Jupiter had domain of the sky, Pluto the underworld and Neptune the ocean. Neptune’s association with the ocean originally derived from the Greek God Poseidon, who was associated with violent storms and

earthquakes. Neptune was also associated with the mythology of Dionysus, the god of ecstasy.

Neptune is the modern ruler of Pisces and is representative of the mystical energies of this sign. The traditional ruler of Pisces is Jupiter, representing the aspect of this dual sign that is concerned with seeking meaning, beyond the earth realm of incarnation.

Some symbolical words for the sign Pisces:

Amorphous, watery, sacrificial, compassionate, empathic, mystical, devotional, meluzine, addicted, escapist, oneness, pre and post birth realm, womb, diving, snorkeling, painting, dancing, visionary, romantic, floating, unattached, boundaryless.

Pisces is the last sign of the zodiac, represented by the Glyph symbolising two fish bound together by their tails as they seek to swim in opposite directions. Deriving from Babylonian times, the symbolism of fish as sacred, is common throughout the ages in temple pools and sacred rivers. Christianity also refers to the miracle of the loaves and the fishes multiplying and providing nourishment. The two fish are also representative of the duality within us – the part of us that seeks to exist and manifest in human form and the part of us that remembers and yearns for our pre and post birth union with all. These two sides are often represented in stories of the mermaid and the fisherman.

These stories describe how upon falling in love with a mermaid who is half human and half fish, the fisherman urges her to come and live on dry land with him. She finally agrees to do so, as long as he promises not to pry into some private aspect of her life. He maintains his promise not to delve into the mysteries of this other realm for a while until one day he breaks his promise. When she finds out about his betrayal, the mermaid dives into the ocean and is never seen again. In some stories the fisherman dives in after her and drowns and in others he goes out onto the ocean searching for her fruitlessly for the rest of his life.

This tale describes our challenge as we seek to integrate both parts of us in human form. Feeling constricted within the limitations of a human body, our spirit yearns to return home to the infinity of all finding ways at times to avoid grounding ourselves within our body, on this planet. This can be experienced through challenges in manifesting in all areas of our life. Equally, we can attempt to forget that we are spirit and immerse ourselves solely in human form, avoiding all that is not tangible. Psychologically, Pisces represents the waters of the personal and collective unconscious that can most easily be accessed through our feeling realm (water). The

mermaid is the part of us that acts as a bridge between the feeling and earth realms and requires our respect and ability to not attach to anything as none of it is real.

As the final sign of the Zodiac, Pisces is the dissolver of human form in preparation for a new birth into the first sign of Aries. In releasing our body as we let go of this incarnation, we dissolve into infinity where once more we are at one with all, as many of us prepare for our return into human form once more, through the waters of the womb.

Physically - Pisces rules the feet

The Transit of Neptune in Pisces

In moving into the sign it naturally rules, Neptune's energies are strengthened, supported and reinforced by the similarity in their qualities. These powerful energies in turn interact with our own individual birth chart or soul map. In moving through the 30' of the sign of Pisces, over the next 14 years, Neptune will gradually align itself with many of the planets in our chart. The closer it gets to important configurations in our birth chart, the stronger we will feel these energies. The manner in which we respond to these energies will determine the nature of the new energetic qualities we are co-creating. The more conscious we are of our responses to the transit, the freer we are to make creative and expansive choices based on love, rather than fear.

Astronomically – some helpful facts.

Neptune was first observed by Galileo on Dec 28 1612 and again on January 27, 1613. However its official discovery was on Sept 23 1846 by Johann Galle and Heinrich Louis d'Arrest. For further information on the chemical components of Neptune you may wish to go to <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neptune>.

The timing of the discovery of planets always offers us useful symbolic information re their essential nature and some reasons as to why they entered our consciousness at that particular time in our collective evolution. Interestingly, in September 1946 anaesthetic ether was used for the first time. Ether was instrumental in allowing the human body to be brought close enough to shutting down, similarly to death, to enable healing to take place without having to fully die.

As all transits are part of a cycle, exploring previous transits of Neptune in Pisces can offer us an inkling of general themes which may emerge as well as some unfinished issues which may resurface during the current transit.

Some events from Previous transits of Neptune through Pisces

1356-1370

- The European Renaissance and reformation – (expression of the divine through the arts. Seeking changes in organized religion)

1520-1534

- Europeans brought diseases which swept through the Andes, killing thousands, including the Inca. - (Lack of boundaries)
- The Bubonic Plague spread in southern France. - (Viruses have no boundaries)
- 1519 – 1522 - Magellan sailed around the world. - (Bringing a greater understanding of how we are all interconnected on this planet).

1684-1697

- 1684 - Severe and unusual frost in Britain. The Thames froze in London as well as the sea up to 2 miles out from land resulting in a huge loss of animals and wildlife, particularly birds. This was not unique to the UK with similar across Northern Europe. - (The concept that water can turn to ice when it lacks sufficient heat or movement – the winter of 2012 has been very harsh in parts of Eastern Europe).
- 1686 - Isaac Newton published *Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica*, creating major changes in current thinking and accelerating the ongoing scientific revolution by giving it tools that produced technologically valuable results. - (Neptune is connected with mathematical symbols which also create music).
- **1690:** The clarinet instrument was invented in Nuremberg, Germany. - (Music)
- An Earthquake took place in London (Poseidon is the god of earthquakes)
- 1692 - The Salem witch trial investigations and convictions resulted in 14 women and 5 men being hanged. – (Fear of our psychic skills)
- The Ottoman Empire was defeated by the Holy League. – (In the name of Religion)

1847-1862

- From 1845 – 52: The Famine in Ireland resulted in the death & emigration of a quarter of the population. - (Mass death led to the crossing of boundaries to new lands)

- This period included a wave of major revolutions in Europe which became collectively known as the Revolution of 1848 – (New dreams led to changes – note the current revolutions in many countries)
- Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels write *The Communist Manifesto*, first published on February 21, 1848. – (A dream that in its idealistic format was based on unity and equality for all)
- The tail end of the financial depression in the US – (The dream of a new start)
- Gold was discovered in California, Colorado, Pikes Peak, and Australia thus producing a huge supply of hard money. – (A metal called gold was awarded huge value and importance – note how the value of gold has soared recently again – this is all based on the illusion that gold is ‘special’)
- 1848 Boston, Massachusetts, the first medical school for women opened – (A recognition of the healing of feminine energy as well as basic equality for all)
- Controversies in the United States led to the Civil War. – (The realization that we are all one versus the polarity of difference)
- *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was published – (The creative arts open the heart road to oneness)
- Railroads crisscrossed Europe and the Americas. – (Crossing national boundaries)
- Banks in the United States were forced to suspend payments; German and French banks failed because they had hedged their investments in the emerging USA. – (The illusion of money is highlighted – note the similarity with what is going on now!)

1850's

- Charles Darwin published *The Origin of Species*, putting forward the theory of evolution by natural selection in 1859. – (The seeking of an understanding of where we come from)
- Epidemiology began when John Snow traced the source of an outbreak of cholera in London to a contaminated water pump. – (Water as the potential distributor of toxicity as well as hydration)
- Solar flares were discovered by Richard Christopher Carrington – (The magnetic pull of the tides on earth are affected by the Solar Flares – these are currently increasing)

1860's

- The American Civil War (Polarity versus unity)
- The Italian Unification under King Victor Emmanuel II. (Unity)

- Florence Nightingale founded a school for nurses (Healing)

What does Neptune help us to co-create?

In its essence Neptune seeks to remind us that as spiritual beings we are all part of the one and we can make human choices that support our interconnection with all. Neptune assists us in remembering who we are through the nonverbal language of dreams as well as through our imagination and spiritual practices like meditation, which still our ever chattering and distracting mind. One of Neptune's primary purposes is to dissolve the unnecessary artificial boundaries we create when we forget our interconnectedness with all.

What is Neptune's Modus Operandi?

Looking at what happens when you put a sugar cube in water is a helpful way of understanding how Neptunian energies operate. Although the sugar is still in the water, we can no longer see it. Similarly, Neptune as a planet encourages us to release and dissolve all that is no longer needed in the parts of our chart it comes into contact with, in the manner of the sign it is travelling in. If you have a very Piscean or Neptunian chart a Neptune transit is likely to feel very familiar and comfortable. However, if your chart is very earthy or airy and/or you have little water in your chart, a Neptune transit is likely to initially feel a little unfamiliar and ungrounding.

The current transit of Neptune conjunct Chiron in Pisces

Neptune is currently travelling through Pisces alongside the Centaur Chiron. Hence unlike previous transits of Neptune through Pisces, we are all experiencing the influence of both these planetary deities together. In mythology, Chiron was a centaur whose father was Saturn. Rejected by both parents at birth, he was fostered by the Sun god Apollo, who taught him the healing arts. Chiron, who was well versed in mathematics, astronomy and healing was also the teacher of the children of the gods. Depicted in mosaics as half man and half horse, Chiron was known as the wounded healer as he was punctured in the thigh accidentally by a poisoned arrow fired by Hercules. Unable to heal, Chiron eventually swapped places with Prometheus thus agreeing to give up his immortality and die.

Chiron's work, as he travels around the sky and touches our individual charts, is to bring to the surface that which is wounded and imperfect, enabling us to find healing through understanding and compassion for ourselves and others. In doing so, we discover our own capacity to offer healing to others. Combining forces in Pisces, Neptune and Chiron can potentially bring understanding and healing to our planet and beyond. In assisting us to remember our interconnection with all, the wounding from the loneliness of our perceived human aloneness, is offered an opportunity to heal.

At its most expansive this transit offers us the chance to open our heart to loving compassion for all as we remember that life is merely an illusion for the purpose of enabling us to express and manifest our spirit self in human form. However, the initial stages of the transit may not feel very comfortable as we are invited to release old wounding patterns embedded over the generations through our dna. In releasing these outworn genetic patterns, we are opening the possibility of healing to take place through the generations. Neptune reminds us that linear time is an illusion, with infinity being the only reality. Hence only the present exists and all healing takes place in this instant in time.

As the veil is getting thinner between dimensions, we are invited as a collective to make a major shift in consciousness as we embrace the parts of us that are beyond the five senses which many of us forgot early in our incarnation. However, at its most limited, we can be tempted to embrace the Dionysian world of chaos and confusion through addictions, co-dependency, psychic intrusion and ego inflation, potentially resulting in wounding of self and others.

Some suggestions for Co-creating with Neptune conjunct Chiron in Pisces:

- Keeping a dream journal
- Creating a vision board – cutting up lots of images and sticking them on sheets of paper – having fun with it on your own or with friends – sharing what you have created with loved ones
- Taking ocean or salt baths – being near water
- Grounding and connecting with the earth through walks in nature or being with animals
- Keeping your heart open through compassion and gratitude

- Allowing old wounds to be released – resolving whatever needs to be resolved and finding ways that work for you to forgive and release old stories
- Maintaining boundaries with yourself and others in a self-caring manner – paying back debts, being aware of psychic as well as physical space, breaking co-dependency patterns in relationships
- Following your heart and your dreams – living out what you have always dreamt of – whether it is a place, an activity or a relationship – this is the time
- Owning your own power – engaging with your Sun, Jupiter and Pluto – being the agent of transformation that you are
- Taking care of your body – engaging with your Saturnian energy – knowing when your body needs rest, food or exercise. Choosing what you put into your body and noticing the effect it has on you. During this time your sensitivity to what you eat, drink and put on your skin may increase
- Enjoying music and creativity – having fun, playing and laughing lots – remembering that this is all an illusion
- Taking time out to 'be' – daydreaming, being rather than doing
- Noticing your psychic skills awakening. Practicing ways in which they can assist you in your daily life. Choosing your intention in using them.
- Surrounding yourself with beauty in your environment
- Drinking lots of water – being aware of what is in the water you are drinking

Meandering and discovering the beautiful flowers along the way and remembering to hold hands with the person beside you

Some specific examples of the current Neptune conjunct Chiron in Pisces transit in your chart

If the transiting Neptune/Chiron conjunction is conjunct, opposite or square your Sun:

In its essence, Neptune will seek to assist you to dissolve parts of your identity which prevent you from feeling a sense of connection with your soul self and the greater whole. This may feel somewhat confusing at times particularly if your Sun is natally in Virgo. As the Sun is psychologically the representation of the father archetype in your

chart, there are likely to be changes in your relationship with your internalized father at this time as well as in your vocation.

In awakening your memory of our pre-life connection with all, you may at times find it challenging to be restricted within earthy boundaries, including your body and the mundane activities required to function on this planet. In seeking a known sense of connection with all, you may find yourself attracted to spiritual imaginative and artistic pursuits. Addictive substances can be also more appealing at this time as a perceived means of removing yourself from the earthly dimension. Grounding is particularly helpful at this time through nature as are creative pursuits as a means of expressing your soul self.

As this transit is about dissolution, it can feel comforting to your human self to create a container for these powerful watery energies. This can be done through grounding healing and creative endeavors through the process of manifesting them in concrete form. For example: write a book, paint a picture, write and play music, attend a meditation class, learn healing skills – don't just yearn to do it.

If transiting Neptune/Chiron is conjunct, opposite or square your Moon:

The moon in your chart represents your emotional world and how you most easily experience and express your feelings. Hence when your moon is aspected by a major transit you are invited to explore your feeling realm. We most easily access our soul self through our feelings making the moon a very important means of aligning ourselves with our true self. This current transit will support you in releasing unresolved feelings from the past including past wounding. Noticing your dreams can assist you in finding meaning in your feelings which can act as a creative container. Tears may be shed at this time as a release. Comfort for the underlying feelings of loneliness at this time may be found through music and meditation as well as reading spiritual material as a reminder of our intrinsic interconnection with all.

If transiting Neptune/Chiron is squaring itself in your chart (one of the key midlife transits):

At 40 – 41 we all embrace the generational transit of Neptune square Neptune. This is part of a series of powerful transits known as the midlife transits and they affect all in this age group. In squaring natal Neptune in Sagittarius for the next 13 years this transit will awaken the deep spiritual urge within this generation peaking when you come to 40 – 41. The search for a spiritual path that resonates with your soul self becomes increasingly important and urgent. For some, this may require a change in career, relationship and or location. Unmet dreams will also surface to be lived out or released

in preparation for the second half of life. This is an opportune time for the 'veil,' apparently blocking out the memory of our connection with all that is beyond our human self, can lift. For all who are going through Neptune square Neptune currently, Chiron is also squaring your Neptune bringing to the fore your powerful healing skills.

If transiting Neptune/Chiron is aspecting your angles:

If the current transit is conjunct or square your Ascendant/Descendant – the dissolving effect you are likely to feel concerns how you approach life and how you relate in intimate relationships. This transit is likely to bring to the surface unfinished and unhealed issues from your birth which are ready to be released. You may feel somewhat confused at this time and struggle to get clarity with your relationships. It can be helpful to be aware of the mirror of illusions and deception which invites you to heal self-deception and perceived powerlessness.

Summary of the main general features of Neptune transits:

- A sense of dissolving, melting and a thick fog of confusion and disillusionment around everything transiting Neptune comes into contact with.
- A feeling that time is running out to fulfill one's dreams from youth (specific to Neptune square Neptune midlife transit)
- A general deeply felt sadness and melancholy that permeates everything
- Difficulty in feeling interested or getting comfort/soothing from anything that previously provided this.
- A feeling of ungroundedness and floating
- A sense of unconscious material from childhood and past life trying to come to the surface.
- A general feeling of loss as if all was disappearing in front of one's eyes without being able to stop it.
- Dreaming gets more powerful at night.
- Easier to connect with the spiritual realm.
- Struggling at times to exist on the planet in human form.
- Seeking to distract from pain through substances/food/romance/addictions in general – however – watching films can be very comforting during this transit!
- Creativity is enhanced – music can help a lot.
- Life feels like a hall of mirrors.
- A feeling of deep vulnerability and rawness.

The potential **gift** of the Neptune transit is a deep sense of self value/appreciation that comes from your core for just 'being' – not for what you 'do' in the world or for 'giving' to others. Neptune reminds you at this stage in life that it is your divine right to be here on this planet just because you are the unique special person that is you and that by just being here you are contributing something of immense value to the rest of creation.

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