

Ciro Discepolo

EXERCISES IN AIMED SOLAR  
RETURNS FROM THE BLOG  
OF CIRO DISCEPOLO (96)



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# Exercises in Aimed Solar Returns from the Blog of *Ciro Discepolo* (96)

## **Which place should you consider to calculate a Solar Return?**

Which place should you consider when casting a chart of Solar Return? The place of birth or the place where the subject physically is at the very moment of the Solar Return?

In my opinion this is a pointless and rhetorical question, but since someone did raise the issue, I try to give a detailed answer, supported by astrological evidence.

Since the time astrology has been practised, it has always been associated with the place and the time in which something is being born. There is an ancient saying: everything that is born can be born under a lucky or unlucky star. The horoscope, that is to say the birth chart, is a photograph of the sky at the moment of someone's or somebody's birth, and this photograph is always taken in the place of the happy event. Some might argue that the photograph should be taken in the place of conception. This is a mistake, because the astrology we all are practicing has been built on the relationship between birth and sky.

This does not mean that – starting from today – we could begin to study a new astrology that deals with the terrestrial and celestial links with the moment of conception, provided that this can be determined accurately. So let us stick to the several-thousand-year-old astrology that we have been using for a lifetime. Our astrology theorizes that the celestial imprinting that you receive at the moment of your birth fixes on your person – exactly like silver crystals get fixed on a photographic plate – and that it will be 'responsible' for (or in 'relationship' with) your entire life. Those who do not believe in this, do not believe in astrology either.

Now, we all know that cycles are extremely important in astrology.

Great masters have made massive usage of cycles, such as André Barbault (who applies them especially in World Astrology), Reinhold Ebertin, John Addey, and several other authors. Your birthday is the beginning of a new cycle of life that lasts during a year until your next birthday. This is perhaps the most important cycle of your life, so there is no reason why it should be calculated considering the place where you were born decades ago, neglecting the place where you are today.

Some ask, “Do not you cast the yearly chart when the Sun goes back exactly on its natal position? If so, the natal Sun was in the sky, not on Earth. Therefore, if the chart of SR is intended to recreate the same terrestrial-celestial situation of one’s birth, you should just cast the chart of SR every year considering only the place of birth. And by doing so, all the Solar charts would be the same!”

No, dear Readers, you ‘domificate’ (Translator’s Note: i.e. you draw the Houses of) your chart taking into account the place where you are at the moment of your birthday – not that of your birth. To lead you to a thoughtful reflection that will confirm this fact, I will list the opinions of great astrologers after having expressed my own; then I will expose three practical and very enlightening cases.

To those who still have doubts after reading the following pages, I suggest to go and read the example on Mata Hari’s Solar Return, first published in my volume *I transiti*, Armenia Editore. Mata Hari’s Solar Return chart of 1898-1899 is an example of exceptional clarity, which should not leave even the slightest doubt in the reader’s mind. It clearly shows that a SR only works if it is ‘domificated’ (TN: i.e. cast, subdivided into the 12 Houses) considering the place where the subject physically is in that very moment. I accept any challenge on this point. If you can give me evidence of the opposite of what I write here, I am willing to change my mind about Solar Returns.

But then, someone else should explain me why the Aimed Solar Returns that I have studied, cast and suggested to my counselees have always worked, in thousands of cases.

### **What great astrologers say about this topic:**

In his book *Astrologia Mondiale*, Tommaso Palamidessi does not comment specifically about the place that you have to take into consideration when casting the chart of SR. However, he inserts two practical examples of SR in his volume – one of Benito Mussolini and

one of Aldo Moro – and both charts are domificated on the place where the two had spent their birthday of that year.

This is what Henri J. Gouchon – a great astrologer of the 19th century – wrote in his *Dictionnaire Astrologique*, ed. Dervy-Livres, at page 535: “... Nevertheless, it must be noticed (for the sake of novices) that the position of the planets is always the same, in whatever area of the world the subject may be: only domification can change. Often, certain natives move away on the day of their anniversary with the aim of achieving a better position of the Houses.”

In his *Practical treatise of astrology*, Ed. Morin 1967, André Barbault takes a clear position. “What is a Solar Return? It is simply the classical chart of the sky, cast for a given year and for the place where the individual is at the moment of his/her astronomical anniversary, that is to say: when the Sun returns to its natal position.”

Once again, this is what Barbault wrote in his volume on *Astrology and the forecast of future*, published in Italy by Armenia editore: “Tradition is not formal with reference to the place for which the chart itself must be drawn: the place of birth or that of the anniversary, but moderns have unanimously adopted the second version.”

The same notion is repeated in *Astrologie: Symboliques Calculs Interprétations - Éditions du Seuil*, Paris 2005, 619 pages), where André Barbault adds: “Of course, you can cast it every year, and it is ‘valid’ for the general climate of the relevant year, until the following birthday.”

Herbert Freiherr von Klöckler, in his *Corso di Astrologia* (edizioni Mediterranee, 1979), third volume, page 49, writes so: “Certain authors cast the solar horoscope based on the geographical position of the birthplace. Theory cannot say what is right. Only practical application and analysis can inform us in these regards, although of course it is not easy; because the small difference between the current place and the birthplace causes equally modest changes in the solar horoscope, which are difficult to discern in the interpretation. These controls are only possible

when there is a significant difference in terms of latitude and longitude between one's birthplace and one's place of station. The few checks made so far suggest to calculate the solar horoscope based on where the subject presently is. This leads to a non-trivial result as far as one's configuration of life is concerned: in fact, it would be possible to avoid adverse influences on the health status by changing residence. From the standpoint of a practical approach to life, several elements appear to be in favour of such possibilities, but the hard-determinist might argue that the change of location too is predetermined."

And above all Alexandre Volguine, the 'father' of Solar Returns, in his *La Technique des Révolutions Solaires*, Dervy-Livres, re-edition of June 1972, page 22, wrote: "Before starting the exposition of the technique of interpretation of Solar Returns, i.e. the subject of the following chapter, we must call the astrologers' attention to the necessity of casting the yearly charts not for the place of birth, but for the place in which the native is at the moment of his/her anniversary." (I would like to specify that the above sentence is printed in bold letters in the original.)

Ciro Discepolo: Over 25,000 Aimed Solar Returns, verified by me, by my close family and by legions of counselees for over 42 years of practice and in every corner of the world, whose results we have discussed a year later, can leave me no doubt that the domification be calculated for the place where you are when the Sun returns to your birth position.

### **From Ulysses's Odyssey to 2001: A Space Odyssey and beyond**

If in A.D. 3000, astrologers were to study some of my astrology books found in public libraries, they would think I did not believe in Aimed Solar Returns on the Moon, on Mars, in deep space, etc. On the contrary, this is not what I think. However, if I have never hypothesized such Aimed Solar Returns in my books it is only because space journeys are not currently available to common people. This obviously doesn't mean that I don't believe in this great opportunity. My colleague Luciano Drusetta, on the contrary, has been developing this branch of Astrology, as you will read in his chapters.

Now, let us go back to 2000 years and consider at what speed people



of that era travelled, from about the beginning of the Christian age until the nineteenth century.

We know that millions of them travelled by sail ships, or on horses and camels, or on foot, involving journeys of several hundreds or thousands of kilometres and a great deal of time. For example, Marco Polo took several years to get to Peking using many modes of transport. He stayed some years in China and then, after another journey of several years, returned to Italy. In all these typologies, if an ancient astrologer wished to relocate himself for an Aimed Solar Return and – I want to be generous – from Egypt to Portugal, it took at least 4-5 months to go and 4-5 months to return. But the general purpose of travelling had nothing to do with the possibility to travel for an Aimed Solar Return.

Before continuing this chapter focusing on the situation of the 19th century, I'd like to briefly refer to the Persian medieval astrologer Abû Ma'shar.

The greatest contemporary scholar of Abû Ma'shar is Benjamin Dykes, ("leading medieval astrologer and translator who earned his PhD in philosophy from the University of Illinois. He earned his medieval astrology qualification from Robert Zoller and taught philosophy courses at universities in Illinois and Minnesota").

Recently, in an astrological Italian mailing list, Margherita Fiorello has communicated to all her colleagues (astrologers of Classic Astrology), with great emphasis, that she had read an article by Benjamin Dykes in which he interprets the events of one of his contemporaries and he does so by using the Astrology of Abu Ma'shar.

The reason of her great surprise is finding out that doctor Dykes domificates the Solar Return for the location where the subject was at the moment of the Solar Return.

And this, for Margherita Fiorello, is very big news.

I read this brief article and, driven by a modest curiosity, wrote to Doctor Benjamin Dykes asking him the reason of this choice and in which specific chapter of which specific book Abû Ma'shar explains this rule and its reasons.

Dykes answered to me very kindly and explained everything as I am going to tell you; and this is big astrological news, because I think that this explanation has never been published before my email exchange with my American colleague. He said to me that, when he wrote the article in

focus, he had not translated all the books by Abû Ma'shar yet, and then he thought that was the most logical way to domificate.

He successively translated, probably all the books by the Persian author, and did not find any sentence about this matter. Then, he later conformed – as to relocating or not relocating in the Solar Returns – to other ancient astrologers. The 19th century brought about a great change, both in the mode and speed of transportation and travel. But let us observe the situation before this century.

Margherita Fiorello, writing about the thought of Tommaso Campanella in her chapter, quotes a sentence of his:

“when an eclipse is especially unfavorable for you because it falls on the aphetical places, especially the Ascendant or the place of the Lights while a malefic is ruling, or if a malefic is on the aphetical places and it is angular, or falls on the places of aphetical directions, you should consider if the common evil is in agreement with the peculiar (i.e. the native's) evil; if so, it will be difficult to avoid misfortune if you don't change region”

And she comments:

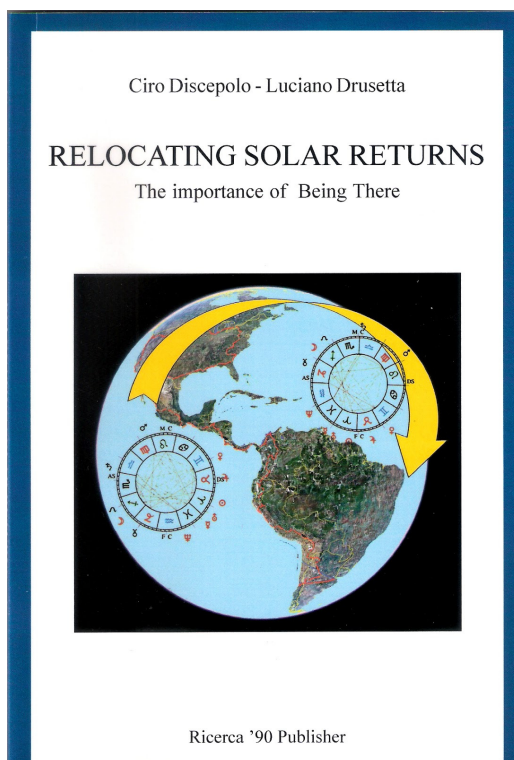
“Campanella's method is not an astrological one, even if he mentions planetary positions; it is natural magic, and the booklet, sent to the printer by his enemies and published without any consent from the author, is nothing else than the report of his nightly rituals of magic with the Pope Urban VIII in Quirinale Palace”

I think that it was Astrology, not magic. However, in my opinion, the question has no relevance because all this happened in the 17th century and, as Margherita Fiorello explains in her chapter, the first notion of the relocation of the Solar Returns can be found in Morin's works, who wrote about it, in an unquestionable way, in his *Astrologia Gallica* in the same century.

At this point, let us consider this. I think that the thought of André Barbault about Morin de Villefranche is very lucid, and marks a fundamental step in the history of Astrology of all times.

In fact, André Barbault claims that the greatness of Morin and of his *Astrologia Gallica* lies in having separated the many good things of Classic Astrology from the more numerous foolishness of the ancient centuries, such as for example an aphorism by Francesco Sizzi, a contemporary of his, claiming that our Solar system could not have more than seven celestials because only seven are the holes in the human body.

To this fantastic astrological system conceived by Morin and described in his *Astrologia Gallica* can be added the two fundamental contributions that, in my opinion, André Barbault has given to the work of his greatest predecessor: the study, at a very high level, of the connection between Astrology and Psychoanalysis; and the study of statistics as possible enrichment to the Art of Urania.





**Ciro Discepolo** is an astrologer, journalist and writer, he was born in Naples in 1948 (on the 17<sup>th</sup> of July, at 5:40 am). He worked for twenty years for the most popular daily of Naples, *Il Mattino*, writing articles on science, medicine, informatics, literature and astrology. He has always refused to cast the so-called ‘horoscopes of the solar signs’ for that newspaper, as well as for any other newspaper or magazine. He worked (at the age of 20) for five years at the *CNR* (*National Research Council*) as Research Helper

and, for two years, as Electronic Measures Laboratory’s head in the *Istituto Motori* of Naples, *CNR*. He has been dealing with astrology since 1970. He has written over 70 books, most of them best-sellers in Italy as well as abroad (France, the United States of America, Spain, Germany, Hungary, Slovenia and Russia) and he has published over 1,000 astrological lessons on *YouTube* and about 300 short *Astrology Essays* on *Google Books*. In 1990 he founded the quarterly *Ricerca ‘90*, which he has been editing and publishing since then. He has been doing statistical researches from the very beginning of his interest in astrology. During the early ‘90s, he obtained brilliant results with researches on astral heredity on a sample of over 75,000 subjects, in different years and always under the control of different experts of statistics among which also teachers of the University of Naples. The astrological rules #1 and #2, published in his *Transits and Solar Returns* but already described decades earlier in other publications of his, have been statistically demonstrated by Didier Castille – the greatest astrological statistic researcher in the world – on the entire French population, and this is probably the most convincing evidence in Astrology of the possibility to statistically demonstrate some astrological items. These rules were also demonstrated in over 40 years of studies by some researchers of Zurich University and they are the only statements of an astrologer, of every time, demonstrated by Official Science. He has been holding seminars, courses and lectures in different universities and cultural centres in Italy and abroad. He particularly deals with Predictive Astrology, Aimed Solar Returns and Aimed Lunar Returns. According to many colleagues, he may be considered the greatest living expert of this area of study. Not only has he written many texts on this specific segment of the art of Urania – he can also rely on the experience of more than 25,000 aimed birthdays (covering the years 1970 to 2012). The outcomes of these aimed birthdays have been recorded and analyzed by his consultants and himself at the end of each year after the consultant’s departure for the aimed birthday. He has developed extremely advanced software packages for the study of Predictive Astrology, also projecting an innovative algorithm which is particularly useful for the dating of events within one year, for individuals or groups of people. He is deeply interested in informatics. Astrologically speaking, he followed the school of André Barbault. He founded the school of the *Active Astrology*.