

MA Cultural Astronomy and Astrology
Astrology, History, Spirit and Soul
Week 9: C. G. Jung and Psychological Astrology

Purpose of Week

To engage with the writings and world view of C.G. Jung, his views on astrology and his theories which have been adapted by astrologers.

Tasks this Week

- Do the required reading for this week, particularly the primary sources
- Watch Frances' pre-recorded lecture on Jung
- Come to the Zoom seminar if you can or, listen to the recording
- Prepare for next week's seminar discussions
- Continue to work on your final essay

Weekly Description

According to Liz Greene, C. G. Jung has exercised a powerful influence on the development of modern astrology and, in turn, was powerfully influenced by astrology.¹ This week we consider how Jung's psychological models relate to Western astrology. We look at Jung's own ideas on astrology, as expressed through explicitly astrological works such as 'Synchronicity' and 'Aeon' and wider ideas such as the theory of archetypes, individuation and the collective unconscious.

It's important to understand that Jung never engaged with other astrologers in his time but that the reception of his work by astrologers seems to have begun in Germany in the 1920s and spread quickly to the English-speaking world: Charles Carter, President of the London-based Astrological Lodge of the Theosophical Society quoted from Jung's commentary on *The Secret of the Golden Flower* in 1928. However, Carter was representative of a strand of thought in astrology which regarded astrology as a universal philosophy which had no need of external ways of seeing the world. The notion that astrology could learn from depth psychology was pioneered by Dane Rudhyar and then developed by Liz Greene and Stephen Arroyo.

¹ Greene, Liz, *Jung's Studies in Astrology: Prophecy, Magic and the Qualities of Time*, London and New York: Routledge, 2018, p. 9

Thought for the Week

How are classical ideas of the soul evident in Jung's psychology?

Is there a single Jungian theory of astrology?