

Section 2: Specialist Techniques

Question Seven: Fixed Stars

Kylie Minogue: 28th of May, 1968, 11:00 am, AEST, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

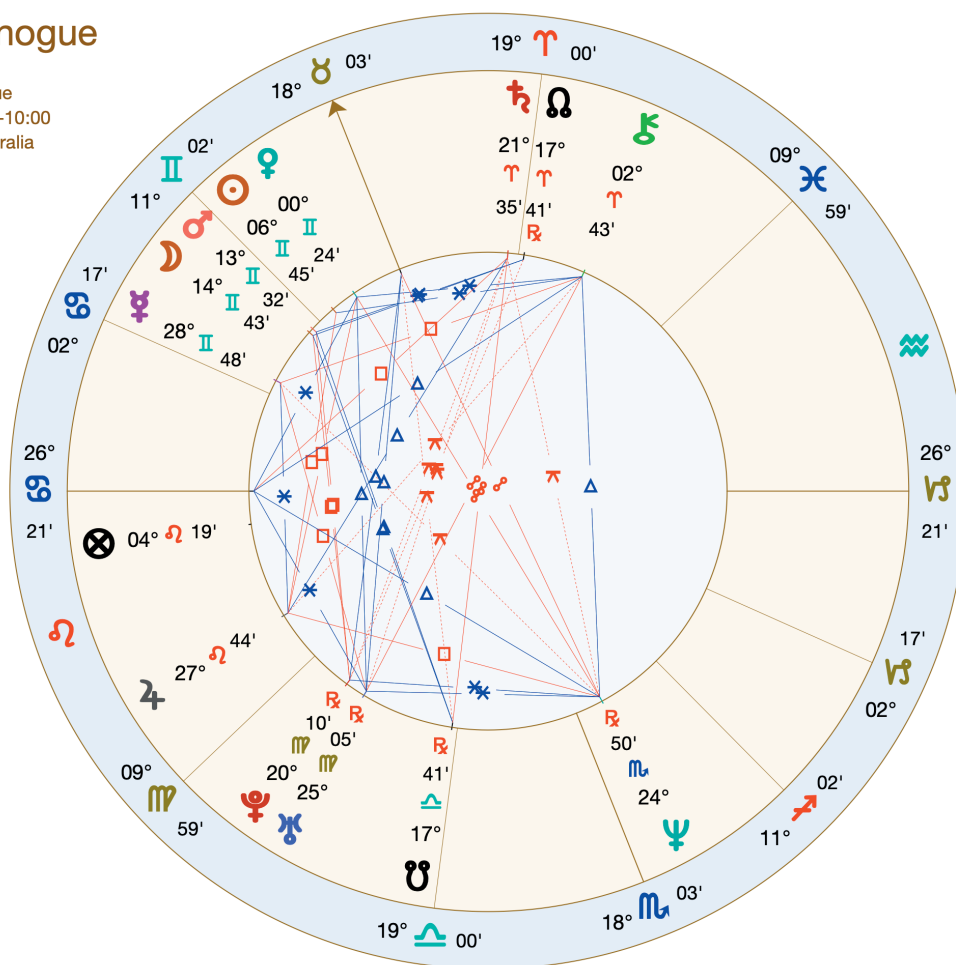
ASC close to 26 degrees of Cancer.

Found in the right shoulder of the constellation of Orion, Betelgeuse is one of the great stars of the sky and is said to produce positive results to whatever it touches including success and fame.

Explain the significance of this fixed star in Astrology and how its possible influence may have impacted and still be influential in the life of Kylie Minogue who by ecliptic longitude has this star in close conjunction to her Mercury, known as the Messenger of the Gods.

Kylie Minogue

Natal
 28 May 1968, Tue
 11:00 am AEST -10:00
 Melbourne, Australia
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus



From the beginning of time, the peoples' of ancient cultures have turned to the stars in the sky for meaning and purpose in life. The stars have shaped our myths, marked the change of seasons and been the oracles of our ancestors. Fixed stars have been studied and attributed meaning by astrologers in both the natal chart and in mundane Astrology over the centuries. They were called 'fixed stars' as their motion could not be detected from their great distance from the earth by the human eye and in comparison to the planets, known as 'wandering stars', the celestial bodies that seemed to move throughout the constellations. It was Ptolemy, the greek astronomer-astrologer who studied the multitudes of fixed stars and started to catalogue their positions as well as their meaning and influence within Astrology. Betelgeuse, as one of these bright fixed stars is in conjunction by ecliptic longitude to Kylie Minogue's Mercury in her natal chart. This essay will explain the significance of this star and what potential influence it has had and may continue to have on Kylie's life.

In order to understand further how Betelgeuse may be impacting Kylie's life, it is important to look at the symbolism and mythology associated with this fixed star which is one of eight stars in the constellation of Orion. As mentioned earlier, the positions of certain stars often marked specific times or events throughout the year in ancient cultures. "To the ancient Egyptians, the constellation was known as Osiris, a god and primeval King in the culture's mythology"¹. And it was the beginning of the agricultural cycle for when Orion or 'Osiris' rose near the equator on the morning of the Spring Equinox which connected it to the annual flooding of the Nile. This link between the agricultural cycle and Osiris symbolises the power and influence that it brought to the people, to wield control over the earth and to bring life and abundance and so it was seen as having the power of an immortal God. The greeks modified this myth and turned Orion into a giant which is why Betelgeuse has been translated as 'the shoulder of the giant' as it is situated in the right arm of Orion's shoulder and represents what is clear and strong. It is the second brightest star in Orion after Rigel, although Rigel has not been officially labeled as Alpha. The mythology of Orion therefore symbolises abundance, power and the archetype of a god or king which is also reflected in the nature of Betelgeuse.

Betelgeuse has been associated with bringing luck, success and eternal fame. It has a red, orangy tinge and was given Martian and Mercurial attributes. "In the natal chart - you will find the planet in contact with Betelgeuse will represent talents or abilities you possess which can be used for

¹ D, JOHNSON. (June 1, 2018) Meet Betelgeuse, the red giant of orion. www.skyandtelescope.org

joy, success, or even fame. Whatever this star touches it will produce positive results.”² Betelgeuse can bring unhibited success or fame with little complications either locally in the community or on a larger scale, worldwide. The person influenced can enjoy life long success expressing traits of brilliance and changeability. They could also gain much wealth and receive great recognition.

Looking into Kylie’s life, we can see how this star may have been of great influence. Kylie Minogue’s natal Mercury is situated at 28°48’ Gemini in her natal chart which means it is conjunct and within 30’ of an arc with Betelgeuse at an ecliptic longitude of 28°28’ Gemini. Out of any aspect, a conjunction is the strongest and only when it’s within a 1 degree orb and especially if it is within 30’ of an arc. As Betelgeuse has been called ‘Mercurial’ in nature, it obviously shares and strengthens the power of Mercury, known as the ‘Messenger of the Gods’ as it shares the same qualities. “The meaning of a star has more weight if the star is aspecting a planet whose nature it shares.”³ Kylie’s natal Mercury is also dignified in the sign of Gemini increasing the ease and effectiveness in which it is able to be expressed. With her many other planets also in the sign of Gemini, her Venus, Mars, Sun and Moon, she will be very comfortable in this energy with the ability for powerful mental and verbal abilities. This Mercurial communicative energy is expressed throughout her career, through acting, songwriting and expression through voice.

Kylie’s career unfolded at an early age where she achieved fame and success starring as Charlene in the favourite aussie soap opera Neighbours from 1986 to 1988 when she was around the age of 18. She shot to stardom as a teenager and because Neighbours was aired in the UK as well, she became famous not just in Australia but also overseas. She also became the first person to win four Logie Awards for her acting in one year including the ‘Gold Logie’ for the most popular personality on Australian TV in which she broke the record for being the youngest recipient to have ever received such an award. The impact of Betelgeuse is evident in Kylie’s life, effectively having attracted fame, popularity, success and recognition at such a young age.

In the late 1980’s she then launched her music career and went on to release four albums under the record label PWL. By the early 1990’s, she had a number of top ten singles in Australia and the UK including “I Should Be So Lucky” almost as if channeling Betelgeuse which is known to bring luck. She then went on to sign with Deconstruction Records in 1993 releasing the albums ‘Kylie Minogue (1994) and Impossible Princess (1997) which gave her more control to use her own creativity. Her Mercury/Betelgeuse conjunction was coming to the fore allowing her own ideas and

² BRADY, B, *Brady’s Book of Fixed Stars*. Samuel Weiser, Inc. York Beach, ME, USA, 1998, p.169

³ BRAU, J, WEAVER, H and EDMANDS, A. *Larousse Encyclopedia of Astrology*. McGraw-Hill Book Company. USA.1977, p.262

voice to be expressed. Her musical career proved successful, increasing her fame and helping her to maintain her level of fame for years to come.

Kylie continued to reinvent her image and style over the many years of her career which allowed for her consistent success. From her girl next door persona as Charlene, to sex symbol, to Pop Princess. “She has been recognised for reinventing herself in music as well as fashion, and is referred to the European press as the ‘Princess of Pop’ and a style icon.”⁴ This highlights one of Betelgeuse’s qualities which is changeability. Kylie uses this changeability also in the way she appeals to a diverse group of people, including being known as a gay icon with many devoted male gay fans even though she did not necessarily market herself to that particular audience. “She is the gay shorthand for joy”⁵ singer-songwriter Rufus Wainwright stated in an interview. It is clear that she brings joy to so many people as joy is another part of Betelgeuse’s nature.

Kylie has achieved much success and recognition from her successful singing and acting career. Recognition is also potentially brought by Betelgeuse. She is Australia’s highest-selling female recording artist, having sold over 80 million records globally. She has won ARIA awards, Grammy Awards, appeared in films, was a judge on the television shows ‘The Voice’ in Australia and the UK and she holds the officer of the order of Australia and an officer of the order of The British Empire. It seems whatever she touches does turn to gold, just as the influence of Betelgeuse promises and also seems everlasting. Even after four decades of her career, she is still releasing albums, having released an album in 2024 and receiving her second Grammy award for it along with sellout concerts.

Another aspect that Betelgeuse can influence in one’s life is in gaining much wealth. In conjunction with Mercury, her mercurial gifts have helped Kylie to accumulate much wealth over her life. Her net worth is reported to be \$120 million. This wealth comes from not only her musical career but includes money from brand endorsements and other business ventures such as perfume, books, home furnishings, clothing and even a variety of wines that proved to be very popular.

When referring back to what the mythology of Betelgeuse and Orion signified, that Orion was seen as a beloved king, an archetype of God, it is clear to identify the similarities in Kylie. Kylie being called the Princess of Pop, means the people see her as symbolising royalty, she is loved by many and continues to be a symbol for diversity and joy. Her Betelgeuse/Mercury conjunction and strong

⁴ (2024) *Kylie Minogue, Australian singer and actress*. Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kylie_Minogue

⁵ (2006) *Kylie: Becoming a gay icon*. Molly Presents the Divas www.nfsa.gov.au/collection/curated/asset/99692-kylie-becoming-gay-icon (national film and sound archive of Australia)

Gemini influence is a force to be reckoned with and has enabled her to express her voice clearly and strongly as the 'shoulder of the giant' and 'messenger of the gods' combined. She has enjoyed life long success, brilliance, gained much wealth and received great recognition, all qualities that Betelgeuse is known to bring. She is now at the age of 56 and it looks as though nothing can stop her brilliant career and fame from continuing as Betelgeuse continues to impact her life and successfully deliver this success consistently throughout Kylie's life.

Word count: 1505

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