

A Birth Time for Andrew Cuomo

by Janet Booth

With no birth time available to astrologers, I've heard wind of speculation about the Ascendant (rising sign) of the suddenly nationally popular Governor of New York based on little more than hunches from his demeanor and the timing of his recent rise to prominence. I prefer research, data and a preponderance of evidence.

Attempting to rectify his chart, I looked at key career dates and personal life events found on Wikipedia. Techniques I employed included secondary progressions, Mean Quotidian Progressions (MQPs), solar arc directions, lunar cycles, eclipses, transits, solar and lunar returns, and synastry. It was helpful to find timed birth charts for both his father, Mario Cuomo (Governor of New York 1983 - 1994), and his ex-wife, Kerry Kennedy Cuomo, so I looked at these as well as the couple's composite chart, more for verification than as a starting point. (The resulting chart is at the end of this article.)

Cuomo has a natal Sun-Saturn conjunction (about 2° orb) so it's not surprising to find Saturn playing a key role in the timing of important personal and professional events, whether positive or negative. He was married the day after a Full Moon conjunct his natal Saturn and separated thirteen years later with transiting Pluto opposite his natal Saturn. His next "significant other" relationship (a domestic partnership, not a marriage) ended with transiting Jupiter conjunct his natal Saturn and transiting Neptune square these two. His first children (twins) were born with transiting Saturn square his natal Saturn. Near the time of his appointment to his first national office in the Clinton administration, there was a Lunar Eclipse opposite his natal Saturn, during a Moon Groove¹ of Full Moons aspecting his natal Saturn. Four years later, when a New Moon Groove stimulated his natal Saturn, Clinton promoted Cuomo to HUD Secretary, a cabinet position. When he was first inaugurated as Governor of New York, Mercury was 3+° past his natal Saturn. A compelling case was starting to build for Saturn as a possible ruler of either Cuomo's Ascendant or Midheaven, the two key angles in a chart.

The other strong contender that drew my attention was Venus. My first glimpse at his birthday in an ephemeris showed Cuomo was born with Venus moving from 29° Capricorn to 0° Aquarius, during a Moon Groove with New Moons repeating at 29° of each successive sign. This put Venus and 29° on my radar screen. A Solar Eclipse opposite Cuomo's natal Venus came in July of 1990, six weeks after his wedding and in the year he became chair of the New York City Homeless Commission. He held that role until January, 1993, when he began his tenure at HUD. That month, there was a New Moon at 2°46' Aquarius, within 2-3° of his natal Venus. Of course, this was in a New Moon Groove at 2-3°, so I kept that degree range in mind as potentially significant.

His Progressed New Moon at 29° Capricorn conjunct his natal Venus in 2002 began a 30-year personal lunar cycle that includes his greatest professional achievements. It didn't get off on a good foot, however; Saturn was a spoiler. That year, he abandoned a run for governor after a blunder criticizing the incumbent governor George Pataki for his

performance after 9/11. Transiting Pluto was conjunct Cuomo's natal Saturn with transiting Saturn opposite both. Another professional setback came early in 2009 when he was considered, but not selected, for Hillary Clinton's replacement as New York's Senator when she became Secretary of State. Transiting Saturn was square Cuomo's natal Saturn. Later, in 2006, with a New Moon Groove at 28° aspecting his natal Venus, Cuomo successfully ran for New York Attorney General and was called "The Comeback Kid" following that failed gubernatorial bid in 2002. As with Saturn, the picture wasn't always rosy with natal Venus highlighted. A low-point in his approval rating as Governor came early in 2019 after he signed several pieces of progressive legislation into law, following a Lunar Eclipse (part of a Full Moon Groove) opposite his natal Venus.

Here it is a year later and now his approval rating is on the rise. Current events have thrust Cuomo's Venus into the spotlight, paired with his other key player, Saturn. Transiting Saturn entered 29° Capricorn March 9, reaching 0° Aquarius March 21 (at 29°50' at the spring equinox March 19). During this time, Cuomo's daily news briefings brought him increasing attention and praise as a true leader during the pandemic. This is an excellent example of a positive blend of Venus and Saturn. Venus relates to popularity while Saturn correlates with facing reality, responsibility and management.

If Venus and Saturn rule his two key angles, there are two possible combinations:

- (1) Capricorn Ascendant with Libra Midheaven (8:24 AM - 8:47 AM) - a short window because by the time Capricorn rises in New York, the Libra MC is already at 24° (conjunct natal Jupiter). The Ascendant degree could be only as high as 5-1/2°.
- (2) Taurus Ascendant with Capricorn Midheaven (2:07 PM - 3:03 PM) - The Capricorn MC is only at 16-1/2° when Taurus begins to rise, yielding a longer window; the Ascendant degree could be as high as 20-1/2°.

To fish for a likely Ascendant degree, I used eclipses as bait. Part of that New Moon Groove mentioned above when Cuomo began at HUD was a Solar Eclipse at 2°27' Capricorn. That degree popped up with a Lunar Eclipse in mid-2002, near the time of his political faux pas regarding George Pataki, who was born June 24, 1945, the day before a Lunar Eclipse at 3°40' Capricorn. Pataki, whose Sun is at 2-3° Cancer, had also been a nemesis of Mario Cuomo, beating him in his run for a fourth term. If Andrew's Descendant is 2-3° Capricorn, it would start his 7th House, not only the place of adversaries, but also the 10th from the 10th. I use the 10th for the father as well as for career/status; the 10th from the 10th would be the status or career of the father.

I found a Solar Eclipse at 4°13' Capricorn on 12/25/2000 as Cuomo's time as a cabinet member came to a close and he'd have to find a new job. This is the degree of his natal Mercury, and in either scenario (1) or (2), Mercury rules his natal 6th House of employment. As eclipses sometimes do, this eclipse degree repeated nineteen years later on 12/26/2019, when the Covid-19 epidemic was taking off in China. The 6th House is also associated with health matters. These associations did not lean toward one birth time more than the other but seemed to verify Mercury as his 6th House ruler.

Working with 2-3° Capricorn as the Ascendant, the Libra Midheaven would be at 26-27°, just past his natal Jupiter at 24°41'. I looked for eclipses around these degrees and spied only two. Heading into the 2014 election for a second term as Governor, there was a Lunar Eclipse at 25°17' Libra. This was a repeat of a Lunar Eclipse nineteen years earlier, at 25°4' Libra, in the spring of the year in which his twins were born.

If Venus rules his MC, here is an interesting coincidence: he was born with Ceres opposite Venus and when he announced his run for Governor on 5/22/2010, transiting Venus and Ceres were opposite at 2-3° Cancer and Capricorn, respectively.

Adopting a technique Ivy Goldstein-Jacobson used in rectifying Gilbert Navarro's chart to within one minute of what a birth certificate he found later confirmed, I looked for what birth time would yield an aspect from the Progressed Midheaven to its ruler at Cuomo's wedding. Assuming this to be Venus at 29+° Capricorn, the Midheaven at 29+° Scorpio would qualify. Cuomo was 32 when he married. The progressed Midheaven would make an exact sextile to Venus close to his June 9, 1990 wedding date if his birth time is between 8:35 and 8:36 AM. Additionally, at his wedding time, the 8:35 time has progressed Moon (often a noteworthy timer) opposite progressed Venus and trine natal Saturn, while progressed Venus approaches a sextile to natal Saturn. Solar arc Descendant is trine natal Moon (ruler of the natal 7th House), which is conjunct the natal Part of Marriage for this birth time. Solar arc Venus is trine the natal Descendant. The progressed Ascendant and Descendant are square the natal Nodes (frequently involved in relationship matters). Another key solar arc aspect is Ceres conjunct his natal Pluto in his 8th House, portending procreation as part of this marriage.

Looking at the synastry between his wife and him using a 8:35 AM birth time, Kerry's Moon is at 29° Scorpio, where his Midheaven was progressing at their wedding. Her Venus is conjunct his Pluto (and hers), trine his Ascendant/sextile his Descendant. Her Juno (marriage asteroid named for Jupiter's wife) is at his Midheaven. Her Saturn is 2° from his Ascendant. The composite chart (with time-sensitive angles) puts the frosting on their wedding evidentiary cake. The composite Moon is conjunct composite Pluto and both natal Plutos. The composite Sun is conjunct her Juno and his Midheaven. Their composite Ascendant is conjunct his Saturn and square her MC/IC. Solar arc composite Venus at their wedding was 1+° past this Ascendant. Close to their thirteenth anniversary and near the time they separated, a Full Moon at 23° Sagittarius was conjunct composite Saturn, ruler of their 4th House. In their composite chart, the Ascendant ruler, Jupiter, is square Uranus. They married and separated with transiting Jupiter opposite transiting Uranus, which probably stressed their union, as did the fact that Andrew's Progressed Venus was on station turning retrograde when they married.

I surveyed Mean Quotidian Progressions (MQP), a technique wielded impressively for timing events by Dietrech Pessin, from whom I learned it. MQP Angles progress rapidly and their aspects (particularly hard aspects) to natal planets act as triggers. Using the 8:35 AM birth time, Andrew's MQP horizon was square his natal Venus at the time of his father's death. Venus rules his both 10th and 5th Houses. The 5th is the 8th from the

10th, signifying the death of the father. Checking Andrew's wedding date, the MQP Ascendant and Descendant were square (less than 1° orb) his natal 7th ruler Moon.

With this speculative birth time, Cuomo's Sun-Saturn conjunction falls in the 12th House, reminiscent of George W. Bush, who also grew up in his father's shadow and followed in his father's footsteps. Andrew's father was a Gemini with Mercury conjunct the Sun. Often there are significant connections between charts of children and their parents. Andrew has Mercury rising, conjunct the Ascendant and his Moon is in Gemini. Mario's Vertex and Part of Fortune (both dependent on an accurate birth time, which we have) are at 2°6' and 3°43' Capricorn, respectively, in his 5th House of children (specifically the first child). That seemed like a clincher for me until I discovered Andrew was actually Mario's second child, which would be signified by Mario's 7th House using derived houses. Still, a conjunction between one person's Vertex and the other's Ascendant is an important tie and Andrew is Mario's child, thus the 5th applies in a general sense.

Although there is not a known or disclosed birth time for Andrew's youngest sibling, his brother Chris, I thought I'd try to see if Andrew's speculative birth time had a tie to him. With four siblings, the derived house for the fourth one is the 9th House, with Virgo on the cusp, ruled by Mercury. Andrew is Chris's second sibling (5th House). Using a sunrise chart for Chris, he has a midpoint between Jupiter in the 3rd and North Node in the 7th at 1°23' Capricorn, quite close to Andrew's speculative rising degree. Chris's sunrise Vertex (which I don't normally consider significant) is at 4° Capricorn, conjunct Andrew's Mercury, significator for a 4th sibling. With Chris recently contracting Covid-19 (announced on March 31), I looked in Andrew's speculative chart for evidence. There wasn't much going on in the transits other than a square from transiting Mercury to natal Sun and a trine from transiting Sun to natal Mercury. The Sun rules Andrew's 8th House, the 12th from the 9th, pointing to his brother's confinement. The only thing of note in the MQPs was MQP MC opposite natal Jupiter in the 9th. So I looked at Andrew's Lunar Return on March 30 and found the quartet of Jupiter, Pluto, Mars and Saturn (ruler of the 9th) all in the 9th, tied for most activity with the 11th. Lunar Return houses are very dependent on the birth time, so this seems important. Of course, a highlighted 9th House also signifies the media attention surrounding Governor Cuomo at this time.

To leave no stone unturned, I looked at the chart for the State of New York. The State's Nodes line up with Andrew's Sun, which is good for emphasizing his leadership as well as his following in his father's footsteps as Governor. This does nothing to verify a birth time for Andrew, however. Nor does the State's Sun-Uranus conjunction at 0-1° Leo in opposition to Andrew's natal Venus, although this adds to the case for his Venus being a key planet for Andrew. A Mars-Chiron square in the New York State chart forms a T-square with Andrew's natal Saturn, and the State's Neptune is sextile his Saturn, again not confirming a birth time but pointing to a suspected angle-ruling planet. I did note that in 2010 as he won the Governorship, transiting Pluto stationed conjunct his speculative Ascendant, having danced around his natal Mercury (6th ruler) all year.

For those astrologers who would like to explore Option 2, I did identify a time that somewhat conforms to Ivy's technique of finding a time when an angle (in this case, the

horizon axis rather than the MC) by progression (or in this case, by solar arc) aspects the Midheaven ruler at marriage. A birth time of 2:42 PM (24°51' Capricorn MC, 13°26' Taurus Ascendant) has solar arc Descendant conjunct natal Saturn near his nuptials, although this is not exactly what Ivy was used. You will find support for this birth time from wedding day transits: Venus at 11-12° Taurus, Jupiter at 14-15° Cancer and Pluto at 13° Scorpio. I did not find such support for Cuomo's other important events, however.

The only website I read discussing Cuomo's potential birth time was Reddit.com (and I couldn't tell who was contributing the comment there) guessing that Cuomo must have Venus in Aquarius and therefore he must have been born "after noon." (Actually, any time after Venus's ingress into Aquarius at 10:26 AM would qualify.)

After I finished this article, I discovered an online radio show from astrologer Bill Attride, who put the data for about forty events from two biographies of Cuomo into Jigsaw, a program that attempts computerized rectification. It came up with Capricorn rising at 8:48 AM. Check out his April 5 show at blogtalkradio.com/astrologerbillattride. If you play around with these times, let me know what you find. I'm quite confident about 8:35 AM.

In closing, here is an excellent description of Cuomo's personality and demeanor, consistent with a strong Saturn and a good dose of mutability (Sun and Moon signs and Saturn's dispositor). The combination of Capricorn Rising, ruled by Saturn, with Mercury rising in Capricorn, is certainly shown in his traits, more so than Taurus rising. Now we have astrological evidence to back up the personality assessment, not just speculation.

Cuomo is manifestly not the type of politician one would expect to play the role of comforter in chief. A ruthless and exacting dealmaker, he governs by greasing the wheels and pulling the levers of power. Despite being mentored by Bill Clinton, he does not feel your pain. Despite being the son of Mario Cuomo, lofty rhetoric is not his thing. He is a scowler and a schemer more in the model of Lyndon Johnson. He is gruff and never seems to be having any fun. His way of doing business gets things done—his backers would argue he has accomplished more than any other state-level politician over the past decade—but often leaves many dissatisfied, thanks to the myriad compromises made along the way.

BIRTH DATA (*Unless otherwise stated, the source is Astrodatbank.com.*)

Mario Cuomo: June 15, 1931, 9:31 AM, Jamaica, New York, Rodden rating A
Andrew Cuomo: December 6, 1957; New York, NY, 8:35 AM (rectified by Janet Booth)
Kerry Kennedy Cuomo: Sept. 8, 1959, 12:55 PM, Boston, Mass., Rodden rating AA
Cuomo marriage: June 9, 1990 (for calculation purposes, used 12:34 PM, New York)
Christopher Cuomo, August 9, 1970, New York, NY, time unknown [Wikipedia]
State of New York accepted into the union: July 22, 1788 [Carolyn Dodson in her *Horoscopes of U.S. States and Cities* gives this date without a known time and uses as the latitude and longitude Washington DC, which was then a swamp! For calculations, I used noon at Trenton, New Jersey, the U.S. capital at the time.]
Andrew Cuomo was first inaugurated as Governor of New York on January 1, 2011, presumably a minute or two past noon in the state capital, Albany.

