

Historical Events around US Chiron Returns

US Chiron: 20°08' Aries

Greg Knell

First US Chiron Return: May 10, 1825 to February 2, 1827

(E)	Tr-Na	May 10 1825	19°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	May 30 1825	20°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	Jun 28 1825	21°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(E)	Tr-Na	Aug 22 1825	21°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Sep 20 1825	20°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	Oct 12 1825	19°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(E)	Tr-Na	Mar 11 1826	19°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Mar 28 1826	20°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	Apr 14 1826	21°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(E)	Tr-Na	Nov 29 1826	21°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(SDx)	Tr	Jan 1 1827	20°Ar37' D	
(L)	Tr-Na	Feb 2 1827	21°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D

Events occurring in the vicinity of the the US Chiron Return:

- (1) **Gibbons v Ogden (March 2, 1824)**: US Supreme Court ruling that established principles for interstate commerce (ruling against steamboat monopolies) and paved the way for entrepreneurs to become ultra-rich. Cornelius Vanderbilt made a fortune post-*Gibbons*. His net worth in 2021 inflation-adjusted dollars is reported to have been \$223 billion, easily making him the richest man in the World by today's standards (Bezos/Musk are each worth less than \$200B).
- (2) **The Presidential Election of 1824**: Andrew Jackson won a plurality of votes, both electoral and popular, but did not garner a majority. The House of Representatives decided the election on February 9, 1825, in favor of John Quincy Adams. The Federalist Party officially disbanded in 1824, and thus all four presidential candidates were from the same party. A new two-party system emerged as a result of this presidential election cycle (Democrats & Whigs).
- (3) **Death of Two Founding Fathers (July 4, 1826)**: Both John Adams (2nd President) and Thomas Jefferson (3rd President) died exactly fifty years after the creation of the United States via the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Themes:

- (1) End of an idealistic era with death of the Founding Fathers Adams and Jefferson?
- (2) Definitive turn towards Money & Power and control by business and industry created and endorsed by our Constitutional architecture (US Supreme Court). This was a watershed moment, as the country's institutions prioritized business and created the possibility for individual wealth beyond imagination. This was likely the origin of big money, power, and its corruptible influence in politics.
- (3) Politics & Power resulting from contested election

Second US Chiron Return: April 22, 1874 to March 28, 1875

(E)	Tr-Na	Apr 22 1874	19°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	May 9 1874	20°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	May 29 1874	21°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(E)	Tr-Na	Sep 23 1874	21°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Oct 15 1874	20°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	Nov 6 1874	19°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(E)	Tr-Na	Feb 19 1875	19°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Mar 11 1875	20°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	Mar 28 1875	21°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D

Events:

- (1) **Stock Market Crash & Depression (“Panic of 1873”)**: Investment firm of Jay Cooke & Co. went bankrupt from speculative investments in railroads; 3M Americans lost their jobs; collapse in stock market; collapse in food prices, crushing farmers and rural Americans. Depression lasted for five years, until 1878.
- (2) **Greenback Party (November 1874)**: a short-lived labor-oriented reformist party representing the interests of the farmers and workers adversely affected by the Panic of 1873. By 1889, the Greenback Party ceased to exist.
- (3) **Election of 1876: Tilden v Hayes & the Compromise of 1877**: This was the most contested election in the history of the United States until Bush v Gore in 2000. Democrat Samuel Tilden won the popular vote and led by one vote in the Electoral College. The Republicans claimed voter fraud in Southern States. (There is an odd historical incongruity with the present day, as it was the Republicans that claimed intimidation and obstruction of African-American voters by Democrats in that election!). This led to the Compromise of 1877, in which an election commission determined Hayes to be the winner. The Democrats did not contest because (a) Hayes agreed to only serve one term, and (b) Hayes removed all Federal troops from the South, effectively and prematurely ending Reconstruction.
- (4) **Death of Senator Charles Sumner (March 11, 1874) & End of Reconstruction (1877)**: Senator Sumner vehemently opposed slavery and the compromises that perpetuated it (the Missouri Compromise, the Compromise of 1850, the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854), and he spoke out publicly against them. In 1856, Sumner was beaten by Rep. Preston Brooks (South Carolina) on the floor of the Senate until he was rendered unconscious, claiming defamation. It took him three years to recover, likely from a combination of post-concussive syndrome and PTSD. This was pre-Civil War and reflected the acrimonious split between the North and the South: Sumner was a martyr in the North; Brooks was a hero in the South. I include the death of Senator Sumner here because the premature End of Reconstruction, discussed above in association with the election of Hayes and the Compromise of 1877, paved the way for segregation, Jim Crow

laws to take root, and efforts towards black suppression, inequality, violence, and intimidation to become entrenched. With the death of Sumner, a Republican – which preceded the election – there was no political will or desire even with Hayes’ Republican administration to enforce the 15th Amendment or the terms of Reconstruction.

Themes:

- (1) The working man suffers at the expense of the Wall Street speculators
- (2) Efforts towards political reform go nowhere
- (3) Political infighting and Presidential election drama
- (4) Not only a refusal to address the historical injustice of slavery and the African-American experience, but a double-downed determination to continue its insidious darkness with no one doing or demanding anything to the contrary. The Civil Rights Movement did not make strides until the 1960s, nearly 90 years later, and even to this day, its success has been questionable.

Third US Chiron Return: May 16, 1923 to February 17, 1925

(E)	Tr-Na	May 16 1923	19°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Jun 8 1923	20°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Sep 10 1923	20°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	Oct 4 1923	19°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(E)	Tr-Na	Mar 18 1924	19°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Apr 4 1924	20°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	Apr 21 1924	21°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(E)	Tr-Na	Nov 12 1924	21°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Dec 23 1924	20°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Jan 8 1925	20°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	Feb 17 1925	21°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D

Events:

- (1) **Teapot Dome Scandal (1921-23)**: Bribery scandal involving money paid to secure leases to oil production rights without competitive bidding. The bribery was illegal, not the non-competitive lease attribution. Before Watergate, this was the biggest scandal in American politics.
- (2) **J. Edgar Hoover appointed Director of the FBI (May 10, 1924)**: began a 48-year tenure as FBI Director. Among his legacies was the subversion of Civil Rights activists and movements and efforts towards organizing.
- (3) **Scopes Monkey Trial (decided July 21, 1925)**: Scopes was found guilty of teaching evolution in a public school in violation of what is now clearly recognized (since *Epperson v Arkansas* (1968)) as an unconstitutional law. Nevertheless, the law for which Scopes was tried for violating remained

in effect for over forty years after this case, influencing and affecting almost the entirety of that Chiron Return cycle. As an interesting point of corroboration of this point, the laws against miscegenation were not invalidated until 1967 (*Loving v Virginia*) and the right of a woman to use contraception (framed as an issue of ‘marital privacy’, not a woman’s issue, I might add) was only recognized in 1965 (*Griswold v Connecticut*). These are important markers that would lead, in my opinion, to *Roe v Wade* (1973), which fell directly into the throes of the Fourth US Chiron Return.

Themes:

- (1) Big money/industry has big influence
- (2) Presidential scandal
- (3) Institutional efforts to keep “White” and “Idealized” America strong at the expense of the oppressed
- (4) Puritanical Christian hegemony, influence, and control

Fourth US Chiron Return: May 18, 1973 to February 21, 1975

(E)	Tr-Na	May 18 1973	19°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Jun 11 1973	20°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Sep 5 1973	20°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	Sep 30 1973	19°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(E)	Tr-Na	Mar 20 1974	19°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Apr 6 1974	20°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	Apr 23 1974	21°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(E)	Tr-Na	Nov 8 1974	21°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Dec 11 1974	20°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Jan 20 1975	20°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	Feb 21 1975	21°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D

Events:

- (1) **Roe v Wade (January 22, 1973)**: There was a crossroads at this Chiron Return regarding whether the United States would recognize one’s personal autonomy, independence, freedom, and control over one’s body and one’s reproductive destiny or continue to have it subject to the control of the State, which is essentially dictated by religion. There has been little progress on this during the entirety of this past Chiron cycle. What’s more, although I could not identify a racial event that became part of the national gestalt around the time of the United States’ Fourth Chiron Return, I would make the argument here that the fight over reproductive rights for the past fifty years has been used to suppress minority advancement.
- (2) **Watergate/Resignation of Richard Nixon (August 8, 1974)**

(3) **Founding of Microsoft (April 4, 1975)**

(4) **End of Vietnam War (April 30, 1975)**

Themes:

- (1) Christian hegemony
- (2) Racial suppression takes facially-neutral forms
- (3) Presidential scandal
- (4) Big business that changes the nation and the world, ultimately wielding untold power surfaces once again at this critical time
- (5) Efforts to suppress ideology viewed as contrary to “American values” takes on extra-territorial scope

Fifth US Chiron Return: June 8, 2023 to March 11, 2025

(E)	Tr-Na	Jun 8 2023	19°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(SRx)	Tr	Jul 23 2023	19°Ar57' R	
(L)	Tr-Na	Sep 6 2023	19°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(E)	Tr-Na	Apr 4 2024	19°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Apr 20 2024	20°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	May 8 2024	21°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(E)	Tr-Na	Oct 16 2024	21°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Nov 8 2024	20°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	Dec 12 2024	19°Ar08' R	20°Ar08' D
(E)	Tr-Na	Jan 15 2025	19°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(X)	Tr-Na	Feb 18 2025	20°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D
(L)	Tr-Na	Mar 11 2025	21°Ar08' D	20°Ar08' D

We are two years away from the initiation of the US' Fifth Chiron Return. While the events cannot yet be identified, the themes are likely apparent:

- (1) We have more political divisiveness, not less.
- (2) Racial inequality and violence at the hands (and knees) of law enforcement persist. Social laws (e.g., abortion) are another form of suppression for the disenfranchised.
- (3) Election laws aimed at disenfranchisement are being openly passed by Republican state legislatures
- (4) Big business has not only gotten bigger and richer, but it has also now moved into the domain – and taken control over – personal freedoms. Facebook and Twitter determine matters of national importance. Because the laws favor these companies (see, First Chiron Return), this is not likely to change. This raises technocracy concerns.
- (5) We continue to justify our abuse based on what we believe to be our exceptionalism.

If the Chiron Return is a cyclical event from which a nation is to distill a healing elixir to learn from its wound, how would this be possible if that wound isn't recognized by a sizeable swath of this country? Even those who recognize these issues may not appreciate their severity. Fundamental to any prospect for growth and healing, there must be a recognition of the problem and an admission of the pain. At each successive Chiron Return, seemingly there was not an effort towards realignment with original intent and the intention towards collective progress, but rather a justification for why those realignments were not necessary. There are degrees of denial even amongst the progressive and well-intentioned.

The First Chiron Return was our opportunity to honor the ideals upon which this country was founded. It seems, however, that the choice was made to promote and protect business interests and wealth over collective advancement.

The Second Chiron Return was our opportunity to heal from the fracture of slavery, its ugliness, and its insidious effects. Instead of vowing to eradicate all forms of racial injustice, however, we invented new ways to perpetuate it . . . and to this day, we continue to deny it.

The Third Chiron Return evidenced further institutional powers to suppress, control, and deny through religion and the FBI.

The Fourth Chiron Return could have seen a new direction towards personal autonomy and freedom, but that has been under attack from its very origination. Watergate could have been a watershed moment in American politics, but by today's standards, it seems quaint and innocent. Vietnam could have been a referendum on America's extra-territorial use of power, but we continue to be involved with long-term, unwinnable, military campaigns that exact an enormous cost in life, limb, and money.

Perhaps the difference here is that the Pluto Return will precede the Chiron Return. Still, can we cram for a test 250 years in the making when we've never bought the book, read the syllabus, or shown up to class? Each Return does seem to be a higher octave of the cycle before, but in this case, it's a higher octave of our collective shadow. If we have, indeed, delved deeper into our darkness, what will it take for us to see it so that we have the collective will to start getting out?