

Hoopes-Mardyks Collaboration on Galactic Alignment Disinformation

(Email string of January 17 to February 1, 2012, proving that Professor John Hoopes pulled his notion that “the galactic alignment is astrology” from the rantings of astrologer Ray Mardyks)

Compiled with Comments by John Major Jenkins. July 14, 2014

I found this email string on my old email account. It proves that Hoopes was grateful to receive the assertion from Mardyks that “the galactic alignment is astrology”. This assertion is embedded in an invective filled and angry rant from Mardyks that targets me (JMJ) as an “asshole” who is “so full of shit” and who is “a total fucking idiot.” It should have been a case of simple observation for Hoopes to discern that Mardyks was ranting semi-incoherently, not to mention that the galactic alignment is as much about astrology as a sunrise or a full moon. But, with Hoopes, he consistently goes for the polemically compromising bit of disinformation rather than accept a logically considered position.

Hoopes used this oddly unscientific equation to define the galactic alignment as astrology in order to dismiss my galactic alignment work as “pseudoscience”, since astrology is ridiculed as pseudoscience in Hoopes’s writings. However, he does not cite or credit Mardyks with being the source of this notion for him (which is proven below at the end of this verbatim email exchange). The reason why is probably that Mardyks is a proven liar and is known to assert many things that cannot be substantiated. He is an unreliable source. And yet Hoopes (and also Van Stone) have relied on Mardyks in their misleading attempts to mitigate and cast aspersions on my work.

The email string was instigated by Mardyks on January 17, 2012, with recipients being:

From: Raymond Mardyks <earthlove2013@gmail.com>
To: "Hoopes, John W." <hoopes@ku.edu>
Cc: John Major Jenkins <kahib@ix.netcom.com>, Mark Van Stone <mvanstone@swccd.edu>, The Shamanic Astrology Mystery School <jdgiamario@shamanicastrology.com>, Bruce C Scofield <bcscofield@juno.com>, Mary Plumb <mary@maryplumb.com>
Subject: Re: 2012, in the year of the Dragon ...

-----Original Message-----

From: Raymond Mardyks
Sent: Jan 17, 2012 1:08 PM
To: Bruce C Scofield , Mary Plumb,
Subject: 2012, approaching the year of the Dragon ...

This is getting a lot of circulation on the web (from the 2012 Wikipedia page regarding the galactic alignment):

Ray Mardyks later made a point of it, and after that John [Major] Jenkins, myself, and Daniel Giamario began to talk about it."

This, not so much:

The original galactic alignment theory of Ray Mardyks (1987) included the axis of the solstices (both) aligning with the galactic plane in Ophiuchus and Orion, the axis of the equinoxes (both) aligning with the galactic poles in Virgo and Cetus and also the celestial poles aligning (Polaris in the north). This "octahedral" geometry interfaces hyperdimensionally with other geometric patterns suggested in the third dimension by the two 2012 solar eclipses, one precisely aligned with the Pleiades, and the Transit of Venus, as described in the Dresden Codex. Jimini Cricket ...

Jenkins responds to clarify Ray's false assertions:

On Tue, Jan 17, 2012 at 11:19 AM, John Major Jenkins
<kahib@ix.netcom.com<mailto:kahib@ix.netcom.com>> wrote:

My 2012 alignment theory is specifically oriented to showing evidence that the Maya intended their 2012 cycle ending to target the rare alignment of the solstice sun with the Milky Way's dark rift & Crossroads. I did this, unlike anyone who preceded me, by studying the archaeoastronomy and iconography at Izapa, in the Maya Creation Myth, and in the ballgame. In Appendix 1 of my book *Maya Cosmogogenesis 2012* (1998), I listed the previous writers who had noted the galactic alignment, including Mardyks, McKenna, *Hamlet's Mill*, Giamario, Roylance, Kollerstrom, Fiorenza, etc, and also sketched the process by which I became aware of it, beginning with my reading of *The Invisible Landscape* in 1985.

Subsequently, in my 2002 book *Galactic Alignment* I continued the research, looking for early references to the galactic alignment, and located a few others (such as David Frawley and Patrizia Norelli Bacchelet). I do not, and never have, claimed to be the first person to "discover" the fact of the galactic alignment. I will claim to have contributed clarity to its definition, discussing and defining the various ranges of it (depending on how it is defined) — because through the 1990s these clarifying discussions were completely lacking in the popular literature (until, that is, Ulansey and Fournier echoed my ideas in online pages).

What I do claim, and which Mardyks consistently ignores, is the reconstruction of how the ancient Maya thought about 2012, which involves the galactic alignment astronomy integrated with an ideology, or spiritual teaching, evident at Izapa and in the Maya Creation Mythology. It is quite clear that Mardyks never attempted such a reconstruction, and instead was playing with New Age Harmonic Convergence ideation, non-Maya "26-year countdowns" 1987-2012, and astrological conflations between Western and Maya concepts. In fact, he has many times stated that the galactic alignment is not connected to 2012, exploiting the precise calculation of it by Meeus (which I was one of the first to report) and ignoring the fact that a 14-year error in a 2000-year forward calculation of the precession of the equinoxes is a minuscule, and allowable, calculation error for the ancient naked-eye Maya astronomers.

It is unfortunate that Bruce Scofield's quote, certainly posted on Wiki by those seeking to reframe the narrative, can be read as if Mardyks (who is now claiming he had

a "galactic alignment theory" !?!) influenced my later work. This is ridiculous, as my work developed from different sources, namely McKenna, the Norton Star Charts, EZ Cosmos astronomy software, STUDYING MAYA COSMOLOGY in the academic literature, and comments in *Hamlet's Mill*. And, again, Mardyks was not then and is not now attempting to reconstruct how the Maya embedded the galactic alignment into their texts and traditions. His claims are baseless and ridiculous.

Now that the Tortuguero Monument 6 astronomy has been uncorked, with my 2010 SAA presentation (<http://www.thecenterfor2012studies.com/MEC-Facebook-Discussion-2010-ON-Jenkins-SAA-TRT-Astronomy.pdf>), I suppose Mardyks will attempt to back-engineer that and claim credit. I've endured Mardyks's aggressive attacks and grudges for many years, even after I honestly noted his recognition of the galactic alignment (along with others) in my 1998 book. I think, for me, my opinion of Mardyks's went down the tubes many years ago when he threatened to blackmail me, threatened my family with his insane emails, and could not maintain a civil conversation — which, due to my trusting nature, I tried to revisit with him many times.

For more on the latest breakthroughs in 2012 research: The Center for 2012 Studies (<http://thecenterfor2012studies.com/>>)

John Major Jenkins

Mardyks replies:

On Wed, Feb 1, 2012 at 5:02 PM, Raymond Mardyks <earthlove2013@gmail.com<mailto:earthlove2013@gmail.com>> wrote:

For the record. I agree that my "galactic alignment" and JMJ's are different:

1. I agree that I did first make up the fantasy that the "ancient Maya", whomever the fuck that might be, believed in a future galactic alignment. My alignment, partially composed of the solstices aligning with the galactic plane, NOT the 23rd century galactic center conjunction, was published prior to all mentioned sources. The fact that JMJ doesn't acknowledge his second hand influence of my work is his loss. I understand the difference between the synchronization (2012) and the alignment (1998-2001), by the way.
2. I still don't believe he understands what the "galactic alignment" actually is, how it works astrologically or it's influence on 2012. The fact that he credits the "ancient Maya" with my alignment work is sort of a compliment. Best one can expect from an asshole like JMJ!

In other words, John, you just don't get it. You have shared misinformation with millions. While you have helped to spread the idea of a "galactic alignment" you remain rather clueless as to its real purpose and composition. Since you obviously haven't been "galactically aligned" ... you most obviously won't be ready for synchronization. Sorry you don't either Jose's or my work. Thanks for spreading the word. Your assistance is no longer needed. Have a nice 2012.

On Feb 1, 2012, at 10:55 PM, "Raymond Mardyks"
<earthlove2013@gmail.com<mailto:earthlove2013@gmail.com>> wrote:

A tad bit more, for the record. Daniel Giamario and I were discussing the galactic alignment in the late 1980's. I have the ability to do the math and calculated the precise "astronomical" alignment in 1998. I wrote 1999, mostly for fun and effect and because Prince had that way cool 1999 party song. Daniel, not being math literate, wrote to Mr. Meeus for his calculation. All before the John came on the scene. Astrologically, and this is important because the galactic alignment is an astrological concept, the "alignment" occurred during actual equinoxes and solstices, duh, 13 to be exact, between September 2008 and September 2001, which I will remind you was the time of 911. Any major events occurred with JMJ's guess of 1980??? I also had conversations with David Frawley and Terence (McKenna c. 1989) and know for a fact that Nick Kollerstrom got his ideas from me (he gives me credit, sometimes), as did many other astrologers who read the 1991 article.

John, you don't need to repeat your Izapa Crappa, 'cause we have all heard it waaaaay too many times already.

You have done a pathetic job popularizing an astrological concept you clearly don't understand. You are not the first and surely won't be the last. I know it is challenging, as Bruce "Mayan astrologer" Scofield and Daniel "the Shaman" Giamario don't get it either. What is it that I know you all don't get? The GALACTIC ALIGNMENT. Sheesh!

John, you are so full of shit. You first read about the (my) 1999 date in Moira's book, which is no longer in your oft repeated appendix. **[false, see Note 1]** Your 14-year error rationalization makes you a total fucking idiot in my opinion and an insult to the true Maya genius. The Dresden Codex has the 5 20 2012 eclipse PRECISE TO THE DAY!!!!

Galactic ally,
Ray Mardyks

Hoopes immediately responds (Feb 1, 2012 11:12 PM):

"the galactic alignment is an astrological concept"

Thank you.

JH

Sent from my iPhone

—end

I'm not sure what more needs be said, except to emphasize that Hoopes lifted this bit of disinformation from Mardyks. They had a series of collaborative email exchanges around this time, and at various other times, which I was sometimes cc'd on if Mardyks felt his venom or his buddy-buddy collusions with Hoopes might get to me. Yes, they were clearly buddy-buddy for a time, as Hoopes milked Mardyks for information (irregardless of the unreliable nature of the info). Mardyks would feed Hoopes lies; Hoopes apparently embraced at least one of them and used others to bolster his own distorted and denigrated picture of me. Yes, 'JMJ must be taken down' must have been their shared fantasy.

The galactic alignment, the solstice-galaxy alignment — whatever you want to call it — refers first and foremost to an astronomical phenomenon. Any application of an astrological reading of it is secondary to its primary nature, which is astronomical. Similarly, people might apply an astrological reading to a full moon, or a Jupiter-Saturn conjunction, but those phenomena are, first and foremost, astronomical. And that's how I've defined and treated the galactic alignment in my successful work to understand how the ancient Maya embedded it into their various traditions.

Hoopes's interest in grasping at misleading frameworks and rationally dubious assertions from unreliable sources is clear from this exchange. He embraced the construct of "the galactic alignment is astrology" but has concealed that he got it from Mardyks. I'd think that his colleagues would be aghast to learn that one of his primary arguments against the validity of the galactic alignment comes from Ray Mardyks, who was not only a practitioner of the "pseudoscience of astrology" but was a highly unreliable source of clear and unbiased information, generally speaking. Hoopes's various essays that relied on this odd bit of disinformation should probably be re-evaluated for this and other unprofessional and unscientific assertions, with an eye toward retractions or corrections (if the respectability of the peer-review process is to be preserved).

Note 1. My original introduction was rewritten for the Bear & Co. publication, with fresh information and voice. Some of the original material went into Appendix 1 but was streamlined. Moira and Mardyks are still mentioned but it was unnecessary to restate (twice) the fact that Mardyks — like other writers — had written about the alignment before me and that Moira Timms had mentioned Mardyks in the '94 reprint of her book. The point is that I did not discover the alignment through Mardyks or Timms, nor was I influenced or aware of his work before I wrote my breakthrough article that was published in *Mountain Astrologer* in late 1994.

John Major Jenkins. Compiled with comments, July 14, 2014