



Tarocchi di Connessione

di Vorisconesse

∞ - ESISTENZA / EXISTENCE (fool)

Preparation, origin, beginning and conclusion, path, journey. Out of nothing, this is the starting of the path connected to experience. The most it grows the most the consistency of "removals" is increasing, the most the reminiscence of your own origin can "interfere". There's a visible contrast between the solidity of the structure and the emptiness, and through it is possible to perceive emptiness or windows. The solid structures (or delimited spaces) multiply themselves, and so also the "slits" (that look within and beyond structures), creating a disorienting scenery. What is named 'eternity' or 'time' is not totally understandable, if not in relation to the individual experience (it is understandable just in relation to each person experience). Through a balance between "voids" and "full spaces" (*reminding again to something like "windows" and "walls"*) is possible to create a path towards the conscience.

The Existence is focused in a unique imagine, as in a point, in which the point of departure and the end are crossing, enclosing the journey. It's the wayfarer, between origin and end, getting therefore across the same point...

01 - CREATIVITÀ / CREATIVITY (magician)

Potentiality, expression, creativity, activity, ability, elements.

Now the "existence traveller" is an active individual, representing a possible and concrete existence, holding no weapon, but a paintbrush to draw a path, a dagger to discern and a goblet to amalgam... The elements are symbolically represented as basically components of every life and emphasize the concept of "possibility": knowing the elements and having the possibility to use them make the will to start a realization process. In the creative process, as in every activity, the way we use the means is very important. As an alchemist or a sorceress, through knowledge, wisdom, respect towards himself/herself and towards other individuals, interest, critic curiosity, personal creativity, on the base of its own possibilities, the individual can make a magic intervention of transformation in his/her personal life. "Magic" is not something showy but something subtle/thin in everyday life.

02 - SAGGIA / SAGEWOMAN (high priestess)

She is sage, she is the intuition, dreams, telepathy, clairvoyance, and the most thin and deep perceptions, the witch, the wise woman,

the shaman, the priestess, the "maga"/sorceress, rejoining feminine figures coming from ancient cultures, traditions and myths, evoking the ancient symbols of death and regeneration. This Arcana represents the dark depth of profound knowledge and wisdom broadening, the ability to see things that are hidden, the intuitive capability, linked to the concept of "deceleration" and "crystallization", the preserving force which maintains the intrinsic characteristics of everything, the essence, the invisible part of the feminine creation process that from an interior overshadowed level can determine substantial transformations. Connected with moon phases, the Sage Woman suggests the need to understand what is to be modified and what is to be preserved in order to obtain a natural and gradual transformation.

03 - RI-GENERATRICE / RE-GENERATING (empress)

She is the vivifying and regenerative energy, the earth fertility, the nourishing, the creation and recreation of life (the feminine entity of life-death-regeneration cycle), protection, health, renewal, nature cyclicality, the originate/ primordial creative feminine strength of nature. This Arcana reconnects with all the feminine figures coming from ancient cultures and mythologies, going back till Neolithic imagery, to the symbols of life and regeneration linked to the potent energy that creates life from death. Concerning the transformative process, this figure represents at the same time vitality and decadence, bringing life during the Spring and death during the Winter, waiting for nature rebirth again. Referring to these symbols, 'Re-generating' represents the physical manifestation level of action.

04 - COLTIVATORE / CULTIVATING (emperor)

The "cultivating" represents an individual (man or woman, as Human being) who takes care of the fruits of the earth, establishing a contact with "her" because "he" is part of "her" and he need it. "He" is the cultivator, the care, concrete application and practicality.

The relationship between cultivator and fruitful earth – as between man and woman or between an individual and another – has to be necessary based on exchange, equal and respectful dialogue, in order to make good fruits growing up. The human being becomes what he lives and what he eats. This Arcana is connected with the concept of belonging, borders, in the sense of interior and exterior spaces the individual feels to belong (the feeling of belonging, identifying, not possession). It doesn't refers to "renown material properties", but to the "substantial" ones, the affective and cultural attachment and belonging, the cultural and historical heritage, which will be transmitted. It is linked to the roots, the relationship with the earth (Re-generating) and with the past, which is "what has been" whose memory is precious to determine all future events and whose distortion will cause losses, damages and disorientation.

05 - SAGGIO / SAGEMAN (hierophant)

Looking at the picture you can glimpse the sage, the shaman, the magician, the hierophant, the druid, the vivifying one, the "Green Man", rejoining masculine figures coming from ancient cultures, religions and myths, especially the most ancient ones, that represented this figure as a wild symbol and arboreal spirit, protector of animals, masculine entity of nature. The Sage, that have a symbolic connection with the Sun, bring to light aspects that we didn't consider till they are finally come out putting the matter of a new possibility. As the Sage Woman, he represents wisdom, and they suggest to think and immerse ourselves in our own experiences assimilating and learning from teaching, without dogmatic dependence, but thinking and interacting.

06 - RELAZIONE / RELATIONSHIP (lovers)

Collaboration, equal exchange, integration, complementarity, dialogue.

Once we have deeply took contact with our self, we are able to better connect with others, learning to understand differences and affinities. An authentic and sincere relationship bring to realize that knowing someone else make us also know something more about our self and that a relation is made of exchanges and reflections. It's very important to have the possibility to consider the suggestions freely; it's not respectful, neither useful to decide for someone supposing to totally know him/her, because the individual stands for himself/herself and because the knowledge is shaped from time to time by the experiences the individual lives (and in addition to this, the social and individual 'cultural languages' have to interact and support/sustain each other in order to beneficially function). It's the curiosity and constant interest towards the person and primarily towards the relationship that let to flow and not to stagnate. There's no relationship without communication, exchange, balance, participating/sharing. If we are moving toward someone, we can softly move towards him/her without hesitation but without hurry, in order to perceive if the movement is from both sides. The trees have solid roots, but with branches they can touch each other.

07 - DIREZIONE / DIRECTION (chariot)

Direction, vehicle, orientation, independence.

While "Introspection" (IX Arcana) symbolizes an inner journey, "Direction" is a movement from inside to outside, a dynamic force and even the vehicle that enabling the movement suggests communication and meeting. It represents the individual itself as a vehicle that carries himself/herself, choosing a direction in order to self orientate towards accomplishment, the need of autonomy, and it shows the possibility of meeting.

08 - RESPONSABILITÀ / RESPONSIBILITY (justice)

Balance, equality, balancing, equity, equal distribution and sharing, responsibility, reliability, consequence, coherence.

It is the awareness that there's no end but continu-

ity, and because of this anything doesn't disappear, but it transforms itself, so that every action will imply one or more consequences. It means to be on a point of the journey in front of the consequences of our proceeding and of our relation with the surroundings, other people, other creatures. The institution of justice has not ever worked efficiently, nevertheless the consequences of human being behaviors doesn't stop to appear and will be heavy and heavier. Despite the outcomes, the human has often got rid of his own responsibilities or delegate them elsewhere, wallowing in the incoherence, renouncing to the growth. Because of this, the human has built up a proper structure, that could act on the base of the identification of responsibilities, could determine the terms of 'justice'; but where this institution doesn't work a massive problem is created, that if not resolved can destroy the present and lay waste the future. Everyone needs to create balance and grow, taking his/her own responsibilities, and when somebody avoids this, he is avoiding to satisfy an essential need.

09 - INTROSPEZIONE / INTROSPECTION (hermit)

Introspection, research, individuality.

While the VII Arcana (Direction) represents a physical journey towards outside, "Introspection" symbolizes an interior journey. It refers to a period of reflection, establishing a profound contact with oneself to harmonize with the rest, the need to stay alone in an interior "hermitage", self protection far from officiousness/intrusiveness, creation of an individual space, the confines between the individual space and the surrounding reality. It is symbolized by the torch, the light that illuminating the darkness allows to advance. Since the physical dimension and the non-material dimension necessary depend on each other and are an indissoluble unity, this journey is not directed to separation/detachment, but to reconnection and personal growth.

10 - CICLI / CYCLES (wheel)

The circle, the becoming, natural cycles and the wheel of time, which suggests the ages, their structures and defining the time every individual has to spend.

There are two overlapped wheels connected with sun and moon, the wheel of the year in which solstices and equinoxes determine the seasons, and the moon cycle. The elder lady goes forward towards winter and death and symbolizes the waning moon, the young lady leaves behind her the first phase of moon and life and advances from Spring to Summer representing the rising phase, and here is the adult lady, or mother symbolizing the full moon, harvest and fruits before entering the waning phase. The thread is the one spinned by Norns, symbolizing the individual history, and the central figure represents the individual and his/her present time, that nourished by the past and going to proceed, moves/turns the wheel with her vigorous presence: many things depend on ourselves.

11 - FORZA / STRENGTH (strength)

Strength, primary energy, intensity.

The figure seems to draw from a primordial source. This Arcana is linked to the relation between forces which have different structures and it anticipates "Stream" (XIV Arcana) for similarities and differences; it symbolizes interior strength, psychic energy, will, the liberation of the energies that make a cycle to start or that act within a cycle. Opening wide the fauces of an ancient, primary, solar creature with the delicate lunar touch, an intense revitalizing light spring from the deep obscurity of the unconscious. The impact could be really energizing, or its impetuosity can let blinded or stunned, armless...

12 - SOSPENSIONE / SUSPENSION (hanged man)

Suspension, meditation, waiting, preparation...

Walking on a rope, as an equilibrist, is an hard venture, and much harder upside down, in suspension among possibilities. This is the condition of "suspension", in which the tree of the hanged one becomes the stake that sustains the light signal of a station. It's the moment of waiting, doubt, revising, considering and analyzing, the condition that precedes the Change. Finally falling under the train or finally taking the train? During the momentary suspension of the journey we can prepare ourselves for what will happen and if the suspension is temporary and preparative, like crystallized energy, it is renewing, as long as it doesn't become a perpetual stagnation/frost of energies. It represents the need to stop over or make a decision in order to prevent to be swept away and prepare oneself to move forward with more serenity and clearness.

13 - TRASFORMAZIONE / TRANSFORMATION (death)

Conclusion and continuity: a transformation is curing, a passage from a state to another one. The caterpillar turns into a butterfly: the end of something foreshadows the beginning of something else. The bird and the snake are symbols of death and regeneration and renewal due to the mutable and seasonal nature and to the fact that they lay eggs. This Arcana is linked to the symbols of death and birth, transformation, the phoenix, and similar renewal mythological birds, the ancient cosmic Ourobouros, and the obscured phase of the new moon.

14 - FLUIRE / STREAM (temperance)

Balance, equilibrium, concordance/harmony, amalgam, stream, flow...

A figure is pouring a liquid, the water element especially, from a pot to another, joining the flow and being a part of the whole stream. This Arcana stands for the concept of immersing oneself into life and looking at life, it is a sensual flowing and symbolizes all the things which are characterized by fluidity, from the fluids that inhabit all the creatures bodies, to the intangible but substantial presence of feelings and emotions which make them vibrate, even the pleasure of listening to sounds. We can continue to flow with the purpose of creating stability and balance.

15 / LIMITI / LIMITS (devil)

Limit, need, tension, stress, and disruption.

The Arcana focuses the relations among necessity, need, tension, survival/restriction, autonomy/dependence, oppression, repression/liberation, and it refers to a period of difficulty, stress, crisis. Devil, daemon or other denominations of figures associated with the concept of "malefic", are connected with the concept of "limit", because they subsist where there's an impassable limit, imposed or arbitrarily posed, or where the limit drifts from the human being that ignores its own natural limits. The humans of ancient cultures, maintaining the contact with nature (creating a culture that included a variety of deities and based on an earthly sacred dimension), knew its forces and energies considering both their helpful/positives aspects and destructive aspects.

Subsequently, the humans conflicts within himself/herself and with other humans and the creation of restricted religious systems based on the incompatible opposition between elements (earth-sky, good-evil...) have made to stagger the harmonious balance between feminine component and masculine component. The imagery and representations of the 'demoniac' are the symbolic projection of different aspects.

Nature, religion, and cultural heritage have often been distorted and manipulated by some humans (groups or whole civilizations) and modern humans have built up some incoherent and incongruous cultural-religious arrangements using them as instrument of power, supremacy and abuse of power.

The representation of this Arcana alludes to the transmutation of the human being who get from nature (animal as symbols) in the one that, profiting by it, transfers/delegates to nature the charge of his behaviors and responsibilities. This limited and limiting attitudes, that block the growth, carry the 'limit' posed as restriction, constraint, discordant/unbalanced relations, dependence, intolerance (or other kinds of insanities). Looking within oneself and learning from the past, it's possible to transmute the destructive forces in constructive and regenerative energies.

16 - CAMBIAMENTO / CHANGE (tower)

Change, event, derangement, confusion, alteration, muddle, indistinct energies, that are to be recognized ...

Everything is happening around us is not ever under our control, because everything flows and the streams interweave together with the consequential events. This is not a reason to hang on to a catastrophic vision or total passivity towards all the things occurring in our own life justifying this way the fact that we haven't taken our responsibilities, on the contrary it is a reason that let to start every activity without egocentrism and aware not to be the center of universe, but simply a part of it. Falling down we can crash to the ground or we can get in contact rejoining with it, and take the roots of change, opening a passage.

17 - STELLE / STARS (stars)

Flowing, harmony, correspondence, reflection, mirroring, continuity, intuition, development, renewal, value, feelings/impressions, atmosphere.

Uniting with the flowing of life we can receive new feelings and interpret and live in a different way the same situations. The distant light of the stars reminds to the interconnection among elements and let feel a sense of continuity. What acts on the mind level will reflect itself on the body level, and vice versa.

In the fresh darkening mantle of night, we can behold a star in the sky and rediscover it in the sea.

18 - LUNA / MOON (moon)

Intuition, imagination, allusion, mystery, reflection.

The moon, as the sun, is a 'propeller centre' of the changes of natural world.

It is symbolically connected with the threshold of knowledge.

Time to time, the concept of mystery has been differently assimilated- according to what was considered certain-, and related to time it is connected with past and future, which is composed by the holes in which we fall at the present time, holes that are created by the loss of past and by waiting future. We can define as cognizable what is detectable.

The moon makes a complete cycle going through four phases culminating in full visibility and obscured phase, invisibility. Light goes with shadow. (Here is the Intuition, something that occurs and that is not otherwise explainable. It's possible to perceive without explaining, since we can feel/ assimilate the part that remains darkened of revealed unfold things. The shadow allows to see the depth of enlightened things. It is the mind that harvest/collect and seeks, the moon as the two terms of knowledge: what we find and what we look for.

19 - SOLE / SUN (sun)

Everything appears, not half-shadowed anymore, but at the detailing direct light, as an evidence, on the one hand authentic, an answer to tormenting doubts which obstructed our movement, illuminant, or, on the other hand, so obvious and determined to be perceived as a projection, duplication, letting us impotent and unable to contribute.

In the first case, once satisfied, we will need to assimilate the energies we have received, in order to not let them disperse, in the same way there's no need to run and running we risk to lose the energies rhythm needed to direct them. The sun is indispensable source of life, partner of the earth in the sustenance of mineral, vegetal and animal beings and it suggests us the concept of time. Nevertheless 'he' doesn't represents absolute certainty: prudent and wise, he hides blinking and smiling behind his clouds umbrella, waiting for the rain.

20 - COSCIENZA / CONSCIENCE (judgement)

Conscience, connection, memory, awakening, reconnection, look at the history through the time. Forget, remember, wonder.

The way we have walked till now clearly appears and the memory thread has grown within us on the riverbanks of our experience, created by our own experience. These are the threads spinned by Norns, which remind that everyone is an active presence in his/her own life. 'Conscience' stands for awareness, consciousness, taking our responsibilities (the ones that really regard us, not the ones that other people improperly delegate to us), the importance and necessity to save memory in order to not forget the consequences and to be able to do something or change ideas/behaviour when realizing that we are walking the some way which had brought to regrettable consequences, before it's too late. Learning from the past, respecting it without manipulating it, we can determine an harmonious continuance and change the future circumstances by changing our current choices and behaviours.

21 - ALBERO COSMICO / COSMIC TREE (world)

Universe, completeness, culmination/zenith, completion, integrity, fulfillment, satisfaction.

Taking total consciousness, from the roots to the highest branches. The tree represents life, wisdom, durability, experience, directions, natural and gradual changes, seasonal transmutation, growth levels. As the "Strength" it reminds to something solid, well planted, being attached to earth ground, and also to something delicate, gentle with its thin branches and soft leaves. Standing for the integration and cohesion of opposites, light and darkness, death and life... (one flowing into the other), the "Cosmic Tree" is a feminine-masculine symbol, androgynous entity harmonizing the two components into itself without dominant. It reminds to the possibility of completion and the joy to accomplish something, and it represents the transformation of the feelings of dissatisfaction and uneasiness in rejoining, fulfillment, joy, the propension to accept only beneficent influences, psycho physical wellness.



Tarocchi di connessione

© Vocisconnesse (Jessica Angiulli), 2012.

First edition 2007 (for Museo dei Tarocchi).

www.diramazioni.it/vocisconnesse

{Un ringraziamento particolare a L.M.}

J.A.

This cards deck (and related text) is not meant to be a means to predict future or to tell a truth, but rather it invites to experiment with images symbolism following a guided path through some possible interpretative keys, through thoughts,

feelings, concepts which have inspired the author in creating these personal illustrations on the basis of Major Arcana iconography.

It can be used as a traditional "Tarot deck" and to get in contact with symbols and with the present energies, to meditate and get knowledge and inspiration. It can also be an instrument for those who are interested in the relation between words and pictures.

The text is to be considered "openly" and can be an opportunity to start a personal path, if you like also to play, experimenting in creating images from your personal feelings and free expression. The author is not responsible for any eventual improper use.

