

INFORMATION REGARDING CALLS PRESENTED AND/OR SUPPORTED BY
2013 RAINBOW ROUND TABLE

I TO ACCESS THE THREE WEEKLY CALLS via the Internet

A BBS RADIO Go To www.bbsradio.com ; click on Talk Radio Station #2; click on "64K Listen"

Thursday: 9 pm – 12:00 pm EST **Stargate Round Table** **Host: Marietta Robert**

Friday: 9 pm – 2 am EST **Friday Night Hard News** **Hosts: T & R**

Saturday: 4:30 pm – 2 am EST **History of our Galactic World & NESARA** **T & R**

Friday, Saturday: From **10 – 11 pm EST**, for one hour, the call moves to the Conference Call Line [PIN below] and then returns to BBS Radio.

- Use the following phone numbers to ask questions or make comments during the radio show.

530 – 413 – 9537 [line 1]

530 – 763 – 1594 [line 2 & 3]

530 – 746 – 0341 [line 4]

- **BBS Toll Free # in Canada, US** 1 – 888-429-5471 This # picks up the first available line.

B Conference Call: 1-860-970-0300

Thursday PIN #	87 87 87#
Friday PIN #	23 23 23#
Saturday PIN #	13 72 9#

C Skype: **BBSradio2**

D Archives for the 3 Programs listed above:

- To access the **FREE BBS archives** for any of these programs:
 - Go to [BBSRadio.com/ Station 2](http://BBSRadio.com/Station2); scroll down; click on **Current Program Archives**
 - Scroll down to **Hard News on Friday with Tara and Rama**, and click on **"More Archives"**
 - Click on those words and you will be taken to the listing of all program archives, the latest one being at the top.
 - You can download the program to your own computer or listen directly.
- The **2013 website also has an archive section:**
<http://2013rainbowroundtable.ning.com/> look under the "Archives" tab for written notes.

II TO ACCESS OTHER CALLS SUPPORTED BY 2013 Rainbow Roundtable

A Sunday, Mondays: 9 – 10:30 EST **Cheryl Croci's Activation Calls**
By telephone only: 1 – 860 – 970-0300; PIN 9467441#

B Tuesdays, 2nd & 4th of each month: **Ashtar on the Road**
9:30 – 11:00 pm EST Host is Fran; Susan Leland channels Ashtar & others
www.Ashtarontheroad.com

- Phone Number: 1 – 559 – 726 – 1300; PIN 163731#
- Call is free [except for long distance charges]
- Can also listen to the call via Skype

C Wednesdays: 7:00 – 9:00 EST **The Friends of The Aboriginal Moabite Nation Call**
By telephone only: 1– 712-432-0900 PIN 666238#
Replay # [good for 1 week] 1-712- 432-0990 PIN 666238#

Opening Meditation: Cheryl Croci

Housekeeping: Rainbird Thank you!

- BBS:**
 - A listener-supported radio program; we can access program archives on BBS
 - We need \$ 300 each week; **this week, we need \$ 485** for the radio.
Many thanks to everyone for paying it forward!
 - Go to BBSradio.com/Station2; find the listing for True History call; find the **Paypal** button
 - BBS appreciates getting checks through the mail – no fees taken off by Paypal
 - **NO COST TO ACCESS THE ARCHIVES** for either of the 2 T & R PROGRAMS, or the Thursday night program: Stargate Round Table, hosted by MariettaRobert
 - Re: archives of other BBS programs; the money we pay to listen to someone else's archives is put towards our BBS bill!

 - The mailing address for those who do not like paying electronically:
BBS Network, Inc. [Please put "**Attention Don**" on the envelope.]
5167 Toyon Lane
Paradise, CA 95969
 - Sending a check to BBS means all your money is received; using Paypal incurs a fee.

- T & R:**
 - They also need \$ **for food & gas**
 - We can donate via the Paypal button on the website:
www.2013RainbowRoundTable.ning.com
 - **Please notify them if you're sending something:** Koran999@comcast.com

 - Rama's mailing address for cheques, Money orders: [Ram D Berkowitz](mailto:RamD.Berkowitz@llano.com)
1704 B Llano St, # 249
Santa Fe, NM 87505

 - **phone contact** is via MariettaRobert: 317-773-0061
or by e-mail: stargatemarietta@gmail.com
 - **Remember you can book a session with Mother, as well!**

- MR:**
 - Please remember to support MariettaRobert's show, too
 - **You can book a session with MR for a transformational clearing, too.**

- T:** **if you have any trouble hearing, that means there is an issue with the sound and it is an emergency - so call this number: 1-888- 429 – 5471**
 - **if you cannot get through, use this # 1-888 – 710-8061**

HARD NEWS:

T: She was playing crow medicine which is love and work made manifest – the smartest animal imaginable; they never forget a single face! We can honour this in ourselves, never forgetting who we are and who others are, either!

R: went to farmers market; as you go early, wild things happen: got to see Sen Tom Udall & had a chat with him; said he voted for Tom, who thanked him;

- R brought up citizens disclosure and that they had been sent 14 DVDs and it would be beneficial if he and staff listened – said he would
- Udall volunteered this info: that he knows Bill Richardson intimately [**T:** Bill R is a clone, taken out by LM Nada]
- Knew Steve Schiff who was killed by the 13 families; Bill R and Steve started to uncover the Roswell story

- Rama knows one of the pilots of the craft who re-incarnated into a body and is in Silver City
- Tom said we are having wild weather and it's manipulated
- Rama pointed to the lines in the skies and said they are also all manipulated – lots of things going on with Operation Cloverleaf [connected with the Nebraska Navy – why is there a navy in the middle of the prairies – another name for black ops playing with chemtrails]
- had a group of 10 people or so listening to them talk
- **R** said it would be in the best interests of all if the disclosure talks went ahead.
- He just listened calmly to what Rama was talking about, and said he would listen to the DVDs
- R asked him to get in talk with Steve Bassett and get more information – said he'd consider it
- At this point, R started to notice the MIB beginning to show up – sunglasses, ear pieces like Mr Smith! When you see these kind of ones, time to go! All the senators, congress men, women are constantly being watched by those who are supposed to protect them!

Camp Lovewave:

- New movie coming out Nov 20 “Dying to Know” - story about death and dying and transfiguration about Timothy Leary, Terrance McKenna, Ken Kesey, the League for Spiritual Discovery
 - the woman who made the movie is connected to the lady who does the TED talks – a psychiatrist or psychologist who had a massive stroke and watched half of her brain shut down;
 - the remaining half of the brain kicked in and re-wired the other half
 - the person who made it said it shows what we can do; how amazing people are: we are spiritual beings having a human experience
 - She talked of Ram Dass who had a mansion, a yacht etc – his house was equal to that of the Koch Bros and he gave it all up and went to India to follow Neem / Baba
- **Next guests:** Nomi Prince, Richard Wolffe, Brian Epstein, former hedge fund manager – then they shut off the recording equipment: we are on the extreme edge of the collapse right now
 - Hungary is doing better than the US or Germany, as is Iceland – they kicked out the Rothschilds and the banksters: time to get off our duffs and kick out the banksters – why is the Bush Clinton Crime Family not hanging from the nearest tree?
 - Richard Wolffe was furious about the death of Thomas Young who died needlessly because the US went to war on a pack of lies / 9-11! Where is the accountability?
 - Sen E. Warren has been appointed to a leadership position in the Senate: send Jamie Dimon more love as this is the highest level of criminality
 - At the moment, R has less than a quarter tanks of gas in the car, yet Dimon and the Koch Bros do not have to worry about gas
- “We need to deal with this fake economy right now!” There is a story out there being passed around by the dinar groups and the dinar recaps and TNT Tony: apparently ISIL and al Queda are going to issue gold coins – could you even imagine receiving gold from such ones?
- **T: the 13 families are sponsoring this black ops program, and also sponsoring ISIL with weapons for 3 years now!** And from within those 2 black ops groups, they are trying to persuade people that they will get money!
 - **YOU CANNOT SERVE 2 MASTERS! KOS is involved in this now**
 - You are not serving **Lucifer because he has come back to love**; if you are thinking that he is there, he is not: **IT IS A HOLOGRAM!**
- As you can, give the people a chance to hear you out – for the sake of the soul of people, speak to them – some have made deals behind the scenes and have signed contracts: they have sealed their fates!
- This is so clear now; **THERE IS STILL FREE WILL CHOICE, BUT THERE ARE CONSEQUENCES!**
 - There are some people deciding to take their lifeforce, and that is free will choice. But some of the others are not about the body being in pain; it is being in despair about not being able to believe what is coming here. Need to know the consequences
- **R:** this is not money for us to go to a bar or a beach: it is to build the light cities
 - Jeannie in Sedona has written a book about life cities manifesting physically in Sedona; there is

a place called Xanadu and it looks like the capital city of Herperus on Venus; this cluster of egg-shaped houses in Sedona remind Rama of that place

T: Lots of news today. The news is that the House basically ordered Barack to go ahead and do the pipeline, there is also the threat of Obama using his pen to do immigration. And there is Ferguson and there is the Blankenship coal mine disaster that he ignored completely even knowing the danger he put his people in

R: Ring of Fire: Mike Papantonio, Sam Seder and Bobby Kennedy Jr went to see Blankenship and he ordered his goons to get them out – they left politely

T: from messenger Carolyn Oceana – there are pictures of the ships in the article and how the ships showed up and melted down the nuclear silos – has to do with the Citizens Hearings where people talked of this - It is not a cloud ship

- sent out all 14 DVDs to each of the congressmen and Senators
 - R was impressed that he could talk to Udall with no goons to begin with! Bless the goons: even they need love!

R: as we get immigration passed as 5 million Hispanic people get to come into this country, has a profound influence: opens the doorway for the galactics to show up and not scare everyone as per Fox News which talks about fake alien invasions

- Earth is becoming the 33rd member of the Intergalactic Federation of Worlds - never have to think about getting old and getting sick;
- Will have to think about what will happen if we could get into the Integratron,
- Richard Wolffe said on the show: we need Obama to do a **complete debt jubilee** and get rid of the debt
- **Camp Lovewave** is on U of NM radio which is on public radio, so this kind of information is getting out
 - Next week the interview will be available on the Internet, but this section of the program was not recorded
 - they risked their lives to come forward and say this: cannot continue to print so much fake money – we now have the creature from Jekyll Island :
 - Noble Drew Ali prophesied that you will remember our words: the heroes, the prophets –
WE ARE THE ONES!

Audio: Russell Brand, the comedian from Britain; often on Max Keiser and other different shows, Democracy Now / Amy Goodman interviews Russell Brand: his new book **Revolution**

<http://traffic.libsyn.com/democracynow/dn2014-1114-1.mp3>

Audio: Thom Hartmann **THU Book Club: The American Revolution of 1800**
Published on 29 Oct 2014

The Thom Hartmann University Book Club - Thom Hartmann talks with Dan Sisson, Co-author (w/Thom) of the new book, **The American Revolution of 1800** / adjunct faculty member at Eastern Washington University where he teaches the history of technology in the Engineering Department.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iDcGECdbU8A>

NOTE: the following videos were played on earlier Saturday History Calls.

2014, Sept 9 Conversations with Great Minds P1 - We Are Heading for a True Revolution

<http://conversationswithgreatminds.com/video/conversations-great-minds-p1-we-are-heading-true-revolution>

<http://conversationswithgreatminds.com/video/conversations-great-minds-p2-what-was-american-revolution-1800>

Dan Sisson, **The American Revolution of 1800**, joins Thom Hartmann who co-authored this book. Just 24 years after he wrote the Declaration of Independence - Thomas Jefferson spearheaded a second American revolution. What was this second American revolution? And what can it tell us about we can do to protect our democracy right now in 2014? "The American Revolution of 1800" - a classic work of scholarship that - for me - like so many others - changed the way I saw the history of our country. If there's one book you need to read to understand the real origins of American democracy - this is it

- Audio:** what happened with the **Veterans Association**; interview with the new head of the VA,
- Robert McDonald, 61 years old; former CEO of Proctor and Gamble
 - He is called Secretary Bob
 - The VA is the largest integrated medical association in the US
 - Needs to hire 2500 mental health professionals
 - Lots of senseless things that happened in VA, yet Lots of vets ready to praise the service people and the care they received
 - By next year, there will be one website, not 12; there will be only a 30 day wait for new patients, and no one will wait for their benefits

Audio: Techno program – indoor growing [SEE BELOW]
Audio from Al Jazeera, a Saturday program
About indoor, vertical growing – will be an adjunct to traditional farming

Audio: Weekends with Alex Witt 2014, Nov 15

<http://www.msnbc.com/weekends-with-alex>

New details emerge ahead of Ferguson Grand Jury decision

Anthony Gray, attorney for the Michael Brown family, reacts with Alex Witt to new comments from Ferguson Police Chief Thomas Jackson and details released Saturday about the encounter between Officer Darren Wilson and Michael Brown as the town eagerly awaits word on whether Wilson will be indicted in the shooting death of Brown.

31 House Democrats vote for Keystone bill

Rep. John Garamendi, D-Calif., explains to Alex Witt why he voted against the controversial Keystone Pipeline bill that the Senate will put up to a vote, and why over 30 of his fellow Democrats voted yes.

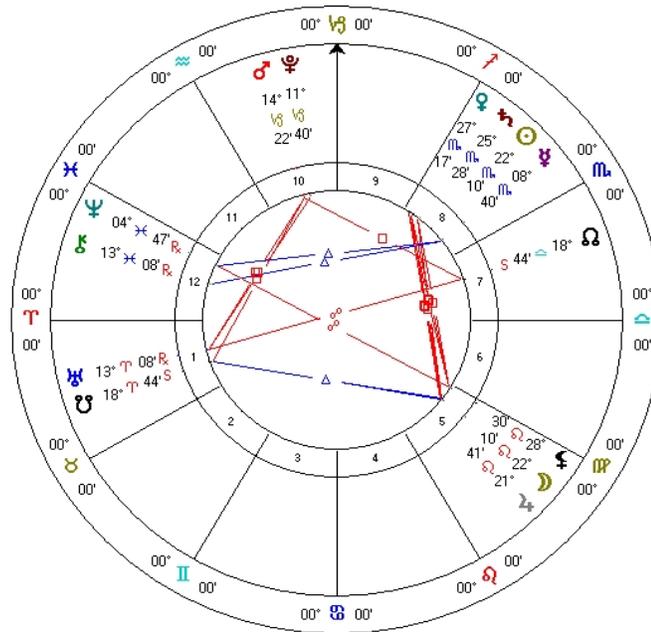
ASTROLOGY: Richard

The Pele Report

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=v4fDCxUz7oA

I just don't know if I really can,
Give as much as Life demands,
But when I let go and give it my all,
I come to find I'm a bottomless well.

3rd Quarter Square
 Natal Chart
 Nov 14 2014, Fri
 9:16:45 am CST -6:00
 San Jose, Costa Rica
 09°N56: 084°W05'
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 0° Aries
 True Node



Welcome to the New Paradigm! What? Not as fun as you thought? Not with Jupiter/Lilith square the Sun/Saturn/Venus conjunction this week, that's for sure! There just is no getting around doing the work these days, but, in doing the work there can be some very real, tangible results. The best perhaps is finding what your true work/joy is. If you are not joyful in your current occupation Life is telling you (through BS, struggle, and little return) that you are in the wrong line of work. Sometimes it is hard to make the change but it can get harder and harder still to stay the same..... time to transform yourself and in so doing we will together transform the world. Go for it!

Music by JeffOster.com

Mars conjunct Pluto-uranus

SUN Venus Saturn in late Scorpio

R: Obama is pushing the immigration issue

Ri: the point is to find the proper balance;

the energies are driving us to find the best path for the highest good of all concerned

- This is not a situation BUT A PROCESS! We get stuck now and then with issues

2 changes coming up on

Sunday: Neptune goes direct overnight. This means 5* of Pisces – hopes it will indicate [neptune as divine wisdom – a balance of good reasoning,]

- While Neptune goes direct, expect new wisdom to show up – the solution we are looking for
- When Divine Will goes retrograde: we are being held back because we didn't do so well this year!
 - Uranus went retro in July! Only went back 3-4* and will be there until Dec 21st
- Jupiter effect: Jupiter is our accumulated good karma: where Jupiter falls in your chart, where it is as we go through time – which house works for you?
- Lots of people have Pluto in Leo [1939-1959] – turns on a switch for extra transformation
 - Jupiter conjunct in any house will help you
- Most of us at 50+, have Jupiter in Leo; the younger ones will have Jupiter in Virgo
- Jupiter goes retrograde on Dec 9th

Reading: 2014, Nov 15 **Planetary energies for week of November 10th to 16th 2014** [SEE BELOW]

Reading: 2014, Nov 14 **Personal Note~ Post 11-11 portal update – Anna Merkaba** [SEE BELOW]

CONFERENCE CALL

Magic Mary: lost a tree in 55 mph wind; no hurt to any people;

- talks about missing a great friend who died as a result of pollution [in the air, presumably]
- MM presents a prayer for the planet

Bill from Ca/Arizona: wants a great thanksgiving and Christmas without these ones messing it up!

T: Amen! Someone else brought up the stories of attempted assassination of Obama

Reading: The Gaia Portal Update [SEE BELOW]

Ahalya: asking about the meditation at end of Friday's show

R: Amrita Melchisadek from the Pleiadian Light Network.

Reading: 2014, Oct 2 **Reinventing cement~ a potential game-changer for the planet** [SEE BELOW]

Reading: finishes reading the Nov 15 article, indicated above.

BBS

Audio: **Tom Kenyon and the power of sound** [Go to YouTube]

Official Website - <http://songofthenewearth.com/> The DVD will be released in November 2014.

Tom Kenyon Documentary - Preview (Old Version)

Published on 21 Apr 2012

Song of the New Earth: Tom Kenyon and the Power of Sound is a new documentary about one man's quest to integrate modern science and ancient mysticism through sound.

PRE-ORDER THE DVD TODAY: <http://bit.ly/1qedK9G>

The film premiered at the 40th Annual Seattle International Film Festival to two sell-out audiences and is now screening in select US theaters as well as community screenings all over the country.

The Story

An award winning team including Ward Serrill (The Heart of the Game, Miramax), editor Eric Frith (Eden), New York Times animator Drew Christie and Betsy Chasse (co-creator of What The Bleep Do We Know?!) present the extraordinary life of Tom Kenyon, a country singer turned brain scientist and sound shaman.

The film follows Kenyon's journey from the stage on Broadway, to giant caves in the south of France, the golden-chandeliered symphony halls of Vienna and finally to the snowy peaks of Tibet, performing with the unique - almost four octave range - voice which has earned him a worldwide following.

About the Guests

Dr. Jacob Needleman is a professor of Philosophy, a religious scholar, and author of several books including his most recent book called: "What is God?" Educated at Harvard, Yale, and Freiburg Universities. He is a former director of the Center for the Study of New Religions at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley CA. He has been featured on Bill Moyers' acclaimed PBS series, "A World of Ideas." His most recent book is called "What is God?"

Pir Zia Inayat-Khan is a scholar and teacher of Sufism in the lineage of his grandfather, Hazrat Inayat-Khan. He is the president and spiritual leader of the Sufi Order International and founder of Seven Pillars House of Wisdom. Pir Zia holds a doctoral degree in Religion from Duke University, is a recipient of the U Thant Peace award, and is a Lindisfarne Fellow. He established the Suluk Academy, a school of contemplative study with branches in the United States and Europe.

Reading: a piece by Alan Grayson a 2014/11/13 before the "issue" was Obama hatred **[SEE BELOW]**

Audio: **Max Keiser** **KR 680** Keiser Report: '**Numpty**' Taxes - Nov 15, 2014

We discuss 'numpty' taxes and 'stupid' Ireland as bankers and central bankers treat everyone else like the 'muppets' they believe we are. We also discuss Angela Merkel refusing to meet with Timothy Geithner and how it is that QE is causing deflation. In the second half, Max interviews **Matt Taibbi** about his Rolling Stone exclusive on the JP Morgan whistleblower, Alayne Fleischmann, who was interviewed in the previous episode of the Keiser Report.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=Bj1qIBu78w8

Audio: a 3 minute piece from Pirate TV where **Naomi Klein** mentions **St Germain**.

Audio: **Bill Maher** this is just the end of last night's show - about **the necessity of voting – with humour!**

Reading: a little bit from the book of fairies

Closing: **Rainbird**

Music: Poetry "last night I was sleeping"

INFORMATION RELATED TO THE NOTES

Nov 14, 2014 **Russell Brand on Revolution, Fighting Inequality, Addiction, Militarized Policing & Noam Chomsky**

http://www.democracynow.org/2014/11/14/russell_brand_on_revolution_fighting_inequality

Guests: **Russell Brand**, British comedian, actor, radio host, author and activist. His latest book is titled **Revolution**. He hosts an online show called Trews.

For years Russell Brand has been one of Britain's most popular comedians, but over the past 12 months he has also emerged as a leading voice of Britain's political left. He has taken part in anti-austerity protests, spoken at Occupy Wall Street protests and marched with the hacker collective Anonymous. A recovering addict himself, Brand has also become a leading critic of Britain's drug laws. He has just come out with a new book expanding on his critique of the political system. It is simply titled "Revolution."
Transcript

This is a rush transcript. Copy may not be in its final form.

AMY GOODMAN: Today, we're broadcasting from London, and we're joined by Russell Brand. Up until last year, Russell Brand was best known for being one of the most popular comedians here in Britain. His résumé includes hosting the reality TV show Big Brother's Big Mouth, a stint as a BBC radio host and starring roles in the films St. Trinian's, Forgetting Sarah Marshall and Get Him to the Greek. He also hosted the MTV Movie Awards.

But in recent years, Russell Brand has emerged as one of the most prominent voices of the British left. He has taken part in anti-austerity protests, spoken at Occupy Wall Street and marched with the hacker collective Anonymous. A recovering addict himself, Russell Brand has also become a leading critic of Britain's drug laws.

Last year, he guest-edited the New Statesman, a political and current affairs magazine here in Britain. The issue included cover art by Shepard Fairey and articles by Noam Chomsky, Naomi Klein, among many others.

He then appeared on BBC Newsnight in an interview with the well-known BBC host Jeremy Paxman. The video became a YouTube sensation.

JEREMY PAXMAN: Is it true you don't even vote?

RUSSELL BRAND: Yeah, no, I don't vote.

JEREMY PAXMAN: Well, how do you have any authority to talk about politics then?

RUSSELL BRAND: Well, I don't get my authority from this pre-existing paradigm which is quite narrow and only serves a few people. I look elsewhere for alternatives that might be of service to humanity. Alternative means alternative political systems.

JEREMY PAXMAN: They being?

RUSSELL BRAND: Well, I've not invented it yet, Jeremy. I had to do a magazine last week. I've had a lot on my plate. But I say—but here's the thing that you shouldn't do: shouldn't destroy the planet, shouldn't create massive economic disparity, shouldn't ignore the needs of the people. The burden of

proof is on the people with the power, not people who like doing a magazine for a novelty.

JEREMY PAXMAN: How do you imagine that people get power?

RUSSELL BRAND: Well, I imagine there are sort of hierarchical systems that have been preserved through generations—

JEREMY PAXMAN: They get power by being voted in. That's how they get it.

RUSSELL BRAND: Well, you say that, Jeremy, but like—

JEREMY PAXMAN: You can't even be asked to vote.

RUSSELL BRAND: It's quite narrow—quite a narrow prescriptive parameter that changes within the—

JEREMY PAXMAN: In a democracy, that's how it works.

RUSSELL BRAND: Well, I don't think it's working very well, Jeremy, given that the planet is being destroyed, given that there is economic disparity of a huge degree. What you're saying, there's no alternative. There's no alternative, just this system.

JEREMY PAXMAN: No, I'm not saying that. I'm saying—

RUSSELL BRAND: Brilliant.

JEREMY PAXMAN: —if you can't be asked to vote, why should we be asked to listen to your political point of view?

RUSSELL BRAND: You don't have to listen to my political point of view. But it's not that I'm not voting out of apathy. I'm not voting out of absolute indifference and weariness and exhaustion from the lies, treachery, deceit of the political class that has been going on for generations now and which has now reached fever pitch, where we have a disenfranchised, disillusioned, despondent underclass that are not being represented by that political system. So, voting for it is tacit complicity with that system, and that's not something I'm offering up.

JEREMY PAXMAN: Why don't you change it then?

RUSSELL BRAND: I'm trying to.

JEREMY PAXMAN: Well, why don't you start by voting?

RUSSELL BRAND: I don't think it works. People have voted already, and that's what's created the current paradigm.

JEREMY PAXMAN: Well, when did you last vote?

RUSSELL BRAND: Never.

JEREMY PAXMAN: You've never, ever voted?

RUSSELL BRAND: No. Do you think that's really bad?

JEREMY PAXMAN: So, you've struck an attitude, what? Before the age of 18?

RUSSELL BRAND: Well, I was busy being a drug addict at that point, because I come from the kind of social conditions that are exacerbated by an indifferent system that really just administrates for large corporations and ignores the population that it was voted in to serve.

JEREMY PAXMAN: But you're veiling the—you're blaming the political class for the fact that you had a drug problem?

RUSSELL BRAND: No, no, no. I'm saying I was part of a social and economic class that is underserved by the current political system, and drug addiction is one of the problems it creates. When you have huge underserved, impoverished populations, people get drug problems and also don't feel like they want to engage with the current political system, because they see that it doesn't work for them. They see that it makes no difference. They see that they're not served. I say that the apathy—

JEREMY PAXMAN: But of course it doesn't work for them if they don't bother to vote.

RUSSELL BRAND: Jeremy, my darling, I'm not saying that—the apathy doesn't come from us, the people. The apathy comes from the politicians. They are apathetic to our needs. They're only interested in servicing the needs of corporations. Look at where—ain't the Tories going to court, taking the EU to court? It's because they're trying to curtail bank bonuses. Is that what's happening at the moment in our country?

AMY GOODMAN: That was Russell Brand being interviewed on BBC Newsnight by host Jeremy Paxman last year. Since it was posted online, more than 10 million people have watched the video. Well, Russell Brand has come out with a new book expanding on his critique of the political system. It's called Revolution. When we come back from break, he'll be sitting right here in front of Big Ben. Stay with us.

[break]

AMY GOODMAN: We are broadcasting from London. We're just in front of Big Ben and also MI5, the British domestic intelligence service. And our guest has now turned around to look out the window to say, "Which one is MI5?" It's the low building, Russell.

RUSSELL BRAND: It's a secret. You're not supposed to know that.

AMY GOODMAN: Russell Brand is our guest, Russell Brand who's well known as a comedian and an actor, and also become a leading figure on the British left and has a new book out. It's called, simply, Revolution.

Russell, welcome to Democracy Now! It's great to have you with us. And even though there are a lot of obscenities in the world, please don't use them on Democracy Now! today, or our stations will be taken off the air.

RUSSELL BRAND: You're really concerned about that. Did they say, "Just say it to him on air"? Honestly, I don't swear very often. This evening, I'm performing at the Royal Albert Hall, London, before an audience of children. I won't swear, I promise. You're perfectly safe.

AMY GOODMAN: Well, there are children who are listening and watching right now. There are adults. There are senior citizens.

RUSSELL BRAND: Stop worrying about it. I won't swear. What do you need to know, Amy? There won't be any swearing.

AMY GOODMAN: I need to know where you were born.

RUSSELL BRAND: Grays, Essex, where people do use obscenities a lot, as would anyone suffering under such dreadful conditions. If continue down the Thames in that direction, you will end up at Grays, and you'll swim back rather than stay there. You'd rather live in the MI5 building.

AMY GOODMAN: So, talk about Grays. Talk about where you were born, Russell.

RUSSELL BRAND: Where I'm from is a suburban town with low expectations. So people in America understand, it's a bit like Camden, New Jersey—low expectations, really, really cool people, fantastic people, but a kind of place where it's difficult to engage with hope, where it's easy to imagine that your life can just sort of trundle out like this low, grey River Thames.

AMY GOODMAN: Camden is one of the poorest places in the United States.

RUSSELL BRAND: Oh, it might be a bit better than that, then. It's not one of the poorest places; it's just not that nice. And growing up there, I think it sort of—I've had cause to reflect. I wondered why it was that I was so attracted to the idea of being so famous and living a sort of glamorous life and going to sequin-covered events and being in sparkly places with superficially attractive things. I think I put a lot of it down to the sort of mundanity of my early life. What was surprising when I went back there recently is, even though it was kind of ordinary to begin with and somewhat economically deprived, when I went back there recently, it had become much, much worse—like the sort of dodgy shops, payday loans, people living on welfare. And it really was the inspiration in the writing of the book to see how the place where I come from had deteriorated and where that money has gone, where those resources have gone, and why people don't seem to think that they have any political purchase or any ability to change the situation.

AMY GOODMAN: So, you were talking about this with Jeremy Paxman, the clip we just played that went totally viral, from BBC Newsnight, where you talked about why you don't vote. Now, that was a few years ago. Have you started voting?

RUSSELL BRAND: One year, I think.

AMY GOODMAN: Have you voted since then?

RUSSELL BRAND: No.

AMY GOODMAN: Do you think the system is changing at all?

RUSSELL BRAND: Do you?

AMY GOODMAN: Well, I don't live here.

RUSSELL BRAND: I think this is an international problem. You've just had the American midterm elections, in which \$4 billion was spent on the campaigning, when we're told there's not enough money to deal with what would seem to me to be more—like, you know, it was interesting recently, you know, like that FEMA, that U.S. agency that lent out money to people who were victims of Katrina and Sandy. They wanted their money back that they lent to people that had suffered in those hurricanes. And this is simultaneously, \$4 billion has been spent on campaigning in midterm elections. And, like, we live in a system where tax breaks and tax avoidance are easy if you understand the law. So, the degree of systemic change required is so significant, I don't see any point in voting for it. But no one's saying, "We will do something about that."

AMY GOODMAN: Russell, this gives me a chance to go to your show, called The Trews. And—

RUSSELL BRAND: Yeah, The Trews is my TV show that I made with Gareth. It's not on the television; it's

on the Internet.

AMY GOODMAN: So it's a combo between "truth" and "the news"?

RUSSELL BRAND: It's one of the cleverest puns in human history.

AMY GOODMAN: So, you talk about this issue of disabled and elderly residents in a assisted living center in Rockaway, New York—this is after Sandy, after Superstorm Sandy—being asked to return aid to FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Let's go to that clip from The Trews.

RUSSELL BRAND: "Can we have our money back?" "But the hurricane, disabled." "Money back."

FEMA AID RECIPIENT: I asked them, "Do we have to pay this back?" And they said, "No, it's a gift from the president."

RUSSELL BRAND: "You know that gift I gave you?" "Yes, we all appreciated it." "Mmm, that makes it a little bit harder to say what I'm about to say." "Oh, what is it?" "Give it back."

AMY GOODMAN: There it is.

RUSSELL BRAND: I'm proud of The Trews because what it does is it gives us an opportunity to provide an alternative news narrative. What I've noticed since I've come in this sphere of public debate talking about politics, which I do in my book with, like, input from insightful and brilliant figures such as Naomi Klein, Noam Chomsky, that, like, it's sort of like people are having a go at me, like I'm not allowed to participate. You know, "Shut up! Look at your hair! Listen to your accent! Be quiet!" It's like a really sort of fiercely guarded, like, realm—not just from the right, but from the left, as well. If you sort of go, "Hey, I'm actually from a background where people are affected by stuff like this. This is what we think. Can we talk about this in a different way?" people are so fiercely territorial and protective, it's interesting. And it's not difficult to see why there is such political stasis and such immobility, because people don't welcome new debate. Not ordinary people. Ordinary people like it. Ordinary people are engaged and excited. But I would say there's a kind of circuitous establishment that's interested in a kind of peculiar circle jerk of exchanging opinions.

AMY GOODMAN: Explain what you did at Occupy Democracy and what it is, what it is here in Britain.

RUSSELL BRAND: Well, Occupy—the Occupy movement is a leaderless, decentralized campaign movement, so it's the same in the U.K. as it is in America. There were a group of protesters occupying Parliament Square, a coalition of groups interested in issues such as, like, you know, fracking, animal rights, but primarily our inability to have any political purchase through democratic process, like that voting doesn't make any difference. No one's interested in presenting alternatives to draconian, restrictive trade agreements, whether they be European or TransAtlantic. And we have no—and these are the rules and regulations that affect people's ordinary life. And so, I suppose something like Occupy Democracy is people venting that frustration and demonstrating their belief that there's a need for change.

So I support that, because what I reckon is important, and what I talk about in my book, Amy, is that creative, local direct action is the answer, that we shouldn't be looking for sort of glamorous new figures to lead us. We shouldn't be looking to conventional politics. It's not going to provide any answers to people, like the women of the New Era Estate in Great Britain, who were being evicted from their homes because their areas got trendy now, so all of the rents have gone up. These people were going to be evicted from their homes. They organized themselves. They campaigned. And now Richard Benyon, MP, the wealthiest politician in the houses of Parliament there, has packed his bags and run from the confrontation. But still, the Westbrook group, the developers that own 90 percent of the estate, still have to be confronted. Still, Boris Johnson, the mayor of London, has to be confronted, because, you know,

it's difficult to get any political purchase. There are no political figures that are interested in representing ordinary people.

AMY GOODMAN: Might you run for mayor of London?

RUSSELL BRAND: I don't think I would really want to be part of that political system. What I'm interested in is ordinary people being engaged, whether it's for union activity in their workplaces, new coalitions or people that are taking control of the places that they live, Amy.

AMY GOODMAN: You have talked a lot about the power of corporations and also materialism.

RUSSELL BRAND: How come you're allowed a glass, and mine's plastic? Why am I not trusted?

AMY GOODMAN: You can have mine.

RUSSELL BRAND: Why am I having so many warnings about swearing? You get glass; I get plastic. This is America versus England, isn't it? You've nicked our language. You've thrown our flag away, rejected our queen. And now you're taking all the glassware. Come on!

AMY GOODMAN: Thank you, Russell.

RUSSELL BRAND: Cheers! To freedom.

AMY GOODMAN: Corporate culture and materialism—I mean, I want to talk about your book, because you talk about the kind of revolution you want to see. Talk about the revolutions in your own life, how you've changed over time.

RUSSELL BRAND: Well, the reason I have such faith in the capacity for change, for people to change their lives, is because my own life has changed radically. All a revolution is, really, is to create structures outside of the existing structures, to create change without using the sanctioned means for change. And me, I've gone from a life of being impoverished and drug-addicted to a life where I'm sort of affluent and free from drugs. So, that's what gives me this belief that change is possible on an individual level.

AMY GOODMAN: Talk about how you beat addiction.

RUSSELL BRAND: I don't know that I beat addiction. One day at a time, I surrender to the fact that I am a drug addict. And with the help and support of other drug addicts and the belief in a higher power, I'm able to get daily reprieve from drugs, that is contingent on me being available to help other people with the disease of addiction, taking advice from people that have got more time than me, offering help to those that have got less.

And I think it's an important issue, because I think that actually drug addiction is people—like, the reason people are addicted to drugs is because there's sort of a deficit of happiness, a deficit of community, a deficit of connection. Joseph Campbell talked about our problems being due the lack of a communal myth. I think all of us feel a little bit—or a lot of us feel a little adrift, that we don't know how we're supposed to live, we don't know what we're supposed to do. And in the end, some kind of anesthetic becomes attractive. Certainly that's my personal experience. I recognize now that the thing that I was chasing after in my years of addiction was probably some sort of sense of communal connection or a connection to a higher thing.

AMY GOODMAN: You write very movingly about Philip Seymour Hoffman and also about Robin Williams, both dealing with addiction. Both died in the last year.

RUSSELL BRAND: Yes, well, I suppose those high-profile and sad deaths provide an opportunity to

highlight how many lives are affected by addiction and the need to address it by different means. I think criminalizing and penalizing people that are ill, like Philip Seymour Hoffman or Robin Williams, is sort of pointless. It doesn't work. People are using more progressive means to tackle the issue of addiction, places like Canada and in Portugal and Switzerland. I think that the only way for drug addiction to be correctly addressed is for it to be regulated, regulated properly, not left in the hands of criminals—decriminalized and regulated.

AMY GOODMAN: And overall, the drug war, overall, how this fits into that larger story?

RUSSELL BRAND: It's even just as a piece of language, Amy. It's a bit of an odd thing to say, isn't it? We're doing a drug war. Bill Hicks, the American comedian, said, "If there is a drug war, and we're losing it, that means drug addicts are winning." That's really bad to lose a drug war to people that are high. So, like, it's the wrong attitude to have wars on terror, wars on drugs. Stop making things worse.

AMY GOODMAN: Well, the amount of money, for example, that goes into—in the name of fighting against drugs. Like yesterday, our big special was on Mexico—

RUSSELL BRAND: Was it?

AMY GOODMAN: —and these 43 students who disappeared in the state of Guerrero. And it turns out that the mayor and the police turned them over to drug gangs. And the question is—

RUSSELL BRAND: Good, good.

AMY GOODMAN: —going right up to the president, the billions of dollars, for example, the United States has given the Mexican military and Mexican police, in the name of the so-called drug war, where has it really gone? And is it in fact a real war, but a war against people, particularly poor people and indigenous people?

RUSSELL BRAND: Some people would argue, like in that brilliant film by Eugene Jarecki, *The House I Live In*, he argues that what's actually happening is that the bottom 15 percent of society are no longer needed because of the collapse of the manufacturing industry, so it's a lot better to just criminalize them and put them in prison. So, yeah, it's like it's a proxy war on poverty. It's a proxy race war. I certainly think that argument holds. I mean, I think addiction can affect people from any economic or social background, but those who tend to suffer most are those without money. And there's no doubt that social conditions have a huge impact on people's tendency to get addicted to substances. I think if people live in communal environments where they've got access to support and—forgive me for using the word—love, then they're less likely to get addicted to drugs.

AMY GOODMAN: I want to go to an amazing moment you had in the U.S. media on Morning Joe.

RUSSELL BRAND: Do you?

AMY GOODMAN: But before I do that, I want to go to the Parliament right here.

RUSSELL BRAND: Do whatever you want.

AMY GOODMAN: This is the Parliament building, where you recently testified. You offered testimony on the issue of drugs?

RUSSELL BRAND: Didn't offer it. They drag you in there, to go, "Will you talk to a committee?" And I think the reason they got me in there was to draw attention to the fact that they were having a committee to debate drug laws. Since then, of course, drug laws have radically changed in the country. They haven't. They've done nothing. So, it was like a sort of a circus, you know, kangaroo court thing, when

they just bring people in [inaudible].

AMY GOODMAN: So let's go to Russell Brand in the British Parliament.

RUSSELL BRAND: It's more important that we regard people suffering from addiction with compassion and that there's a pragmatic, rather than symbolic, approach to treating it. And I think the legislative status of addiction and the criminalization of addicts is kind of symbolic, not really functional. I don't see how it especially helps. I'm not saying let's have a wacky free-for-all with people going around taking drugs. Didn't do me—didn't help me much.

KEITH VAZ: You're a former heroin addict.

RUSSELL BRAND: Yeah.

KEITH VAZ: Briefly, could you tell us how you got onto drugs and then how you managed to come off it, and how many years you were on hard drugs?

RUSSELL BRAND: I see you've incorporated the word "briefly" now into the question. As you already know, it's my propensity for verbosity.

I became a drug addict, I think, because of emotional difficulties, psychological difficulties, and perhaps a spiritual malady. For me, taking drugs and excessive drinking were the result of a psychological, spiritual or mental condition, so they're symptomatic. I was like sad, lonely, unhappy, detached, and drugs and alcohol, for me, seemed like a solution to that problem. Once I dealt with the emotional, spiritual, mental impetus, I no longer felt the need to take drugs or use drugs.

AMY GOODMAN: So that is Russell Brand testifying before the Parliament. And we're going to go to break—

RUSSELL BRAND: Why?

AMY GOODMAN: —to a music break for a minute. But you said something right as we were going into this.

RUSSELL BRAND: Yeah.

AMY GOODMAN: When I said, "Let's go to Russell Brand in Parliament," you said, "Get used to it"?

RUSSELL BRAND: "Get used to saying that." I was being silly.

AMY GOODMAN: No, but are you?

RUSSELL BRAND: What do you mean? Go to Parliament?

AMY GOODMAN: Would you consider running as a member of Parliament? Would you consider running?

RUSSELL BRAND: No, I want to help the ordinary people of America and Britain dismantle their corrupt political structures and replace them with directly responsible, directly democratic organizations. I don't want to help them lot continue to tyrannize people.

AMY GOODMAN: Do you think you could ever do that within the system, or do you think it's much more effective to be outside?

RUSSELL BRAND: Well, I would take the advice of people that know a lot more than me—Lawrence Lessig and Naomi Klein, Noam Chomsky. Most of those people say that change within the system is prevented, impossible, futile, that we need significant systemic change.

AMY GOODMAN: We're talking to Russell Brand. We're going to go to break, and then we're back right here in London, as we sit in front of Big Ben and MI5. Stay with us.

[break]

AMY GOODMAN: Our guest for the hour is Russell Brand, who is the well-known British comedian, actor and now really leading member of the British left. Last year—

RUSSELL BRAND: Am I?

AMY GOODMAN: —he edited a issue of the New Statesman. He spoke at Occupy Democracy—that's what an Occupy movement here in Britain is called, in London. Tell us about that music.

RUSSELL BRAND: Oh, well, what happened was, is that a thing started in our country where people were like saying—in my book, they said I'm loquacious and verbose, because I use long words. I love long words. In fact, I love all sorts of different words. I like specificity of language. I like hip-hop. I like Shakespeare. I like things where people use language well. So people, I think, to try and exclude me from the debate, posh people went, "Well, when you hear someone with that accent talking and using long words, one can imagine 'Parklife' being shouted"—in a reference to a 1994 Britpop anthem called "Parklife." So I thought, ah, all right, I'll do this song. So, me and these lads, The Rubberbandits, these Irish lads, the hip-hop group, did a version of "Parklife" where we refocused on the issues, issues such as austerity, decline of public services and the ineffectiveness of our current leaders and system.

AMY GOODMAN: Well, your book is getting a lot of positive reviews. The New York Times Book Review —

RUSSELL BRAND: And at times being savaged!

AMY GOODMAN: New York Times Book Review said "a relentless ride"—well, no, this was actually about My Booky Wook, your previous book.

RUSSELL BRAND: Yeah, this one, people can't wade into it hard enough.

AMY GOODMAN: "A relentless ride...The bloke can write." And Dwight Garner of The New York Times said, "I laughed out loud at least a dozen times."

RUSSELL BRAND: "Before I opened it."

AMY GOODMAN: That was—

RUSSELL BRAND: That's a Groucho Marx joke.

AMY GOODMAN: But I want to go to your moment in American media—you've had many, but this one was your appearance on MSNBC's Morning Joe last year, with co-host Mika Brzezinski introducing you by saying, quote, "He's a really big deal, I'm told. I'm not very pop-cultured, I'm sorry," and another co-host—well, that was Katty Kay, your countrywoman here from Britain—she does BBC in the United States—Katty Kay continually referring to you as Willy or Willy Brandt, right, the former German chancellor. About six minutes into the interview, the bottom of the screen reads, quote, "Russell Brand Takes Over, Dominating the MJ Set." This is a clip.

MIKA BRZEZINSKI: OK, Russell Brand—

RUSSELL BRAND: This is what you all do for a living?

MIKA BRZEZINSKI: Yes, yes.

RUSSELL BRAND: OK. But I'm here to—

MIKA BRZEZINSKI: I'm a professional.

RUSSELL BRAND: OK, well, let me help you. I'm here to—

KATTY KAY: Russell.

RUSSELL BRAND: —promote a tour called "Messiah Complex." It's here for the people of America. I want the people of America to come and see me do stand-up. Go to RussellBrand.tv, where you can purchase tickets to see me. These people, I'm sure, are typically very, very good at their jobs. What are you? You're conveying news to the people of America?

BRIAN SHACTMAN: Yes.

RUSSELL BRAND: People of America, we're going to be OK. Everything's all right. These are your trusted anchors.

KATTY KAY: [inaudible]

RUSSELL BRAND: Is that news lingo? Here's your papers. I'll shuffle them for you.

MIKA BRZEZINSKI: Oh, shuffle, shuffle the [inaudible].

RUSSELL BRAND: Give us that.

MIKA BRZEZINSKI: That's good.

KATTY KAY: Pen. You need a pen, Russell, definitely.

RUSSELL BRAND: OK, coming up later. Thank you very much, Kat. OK, we're going to be talking about the situation with Edward Snowden, this whistleblower. Is it good what he's done for America? Or are our secrets being jeopardized by his intentions? We're going to be talking about that.

AMY GOODMAN: And there you have just a moment on Morning Joe. What happened?

RUSSELL BRAND: Well, what happened was, I went onto the television, and I was trying my hardest to be nice, and everyone was rude to me. So I defended myself, under the protocols of Britain, by just saying, "Stop bullying me, you lot. And also be more professional. If you're going to condescend to someone, don't condescend from the gutter."

AMY GOODMAN: And you took over the notes?

RUSSELL BRAND: Yeah, oh, yeah, and then sort of just hosted the show.

AMY GOODMAN: Became a news reader.

RUSSELL BRAND: Yeah, in, I thought, a professional way.

AMY GOODMAN: What do you think of the U.S. media? I mean, you're there a lot.

RUSSELL BRAND: Some of it's good, because this is U.S. media, isn't it? So this is going well. I'm enjoying this. I don't even think that there's a national distinction. I think that what there is is media that's dominated by corporate interests, whether it's in Britain or France or America. So, like, when I've been there, I went on like—and I've been on some media, and everyone's really lovely and friendly and open-minded. But I think that—I think it's a commonly held view, and that is true, that debate is held within very narrow parameters, and if you try to stray outside them, you get into trouble. And that's why I think it's good to do it comedically and lightheartedly, not to respect the parameters of debate and not to stay—not to accept the frame of, "Oh, well, you can vote for this person, or you can vote for that person, but you can't take money out of politics and have ordinary people represented." Look, we can't just say aloud that we live under a feudal system, we live under an oligarchy, and we have no political purchase. We have no purchase. We have no impact on power. America and Great Britain are not run for ordinary people; it's run for corporations. But this time is coming to an end, so that's a good thing.

Is it true your dad went to summer camp with Chomsky? And if it is true, I bet Chomsky was boring on summer camp: "OK, I'm not doing that. That's childish. No, come on, sit down. This summer camp is corrupt. I refuse to abide by this system, while it's quite clear that this summer camp is run by the interests of the leaders there, and we, the children, are not given any time to be free." What about spring break with Chomsky? "Spring break!" "No, well, that's—you've revealed there the truth there, the manufacture of the nipple consent."

AMY GOODMAN: I actually think Chomsky was pretty playful at camp.

RUSSELL BRAND: Was he? Playful Chomsky?

AMY GOODMAN: Well, let's go for a moment to Noam Chomsky. Let's go to Noam Chomsky—

RUSSELL BRAND: Segue.

AMY GOODMAN: —just a couple weeks ago. I had this interesting experience of being able to do a public interview with him at the U.N. General Assembly.

RUSSELL BRAND: Was it good?

AMY GOODMAN: Eight hundred people packed in—ambassadors, people from the public all over the world. And I want to get your comment on what he has to say.

AMY GOODMAN: What do you think is the most—the single most important action the United States can take? And what about its role over the years? What is its interest here?

NOAM CHOMSKY: Well, one important action that the United States could take is to live up to its own laws. Of course, it would be nice if it lived up to international law, but maybe that's too much to ask, but live up to its own laws. And there are several. And here, incidentally, I have in mind advice to activists also, who I think ought to be organizing and educating in this direction. There are two crucial cases.

One of them is what's called the Leahy Law. Patrick Leahy, Senator Leahy, introduced legislation called the Leahy Law, which bars sending weapons to any military units which are involved in consistent human rights violations. There isn't the slightest doubt that the Israeli army is involved in massive human rights violations, which means that all dispatch of U.S. arms to Israel is in violation of U.S. law. I think that's significant. The U.S. should be called upon by its own citizens to—and by others, to adhere to U.S. law, which also happens to conform to international law in this case, as Amnesty International, for example, for years has been calling for an arms embargo against Israel for this reason. These are all

steps that can be taken.

The second is the tax-exempt status that is given to organizations in the United States which are directly involved in the occupation and in significant attacks on human and civil rights within Israel itself, like the Jewish National Fund. Take a look at its charter with the state of Israel, which commits it to acting for the benefit of people of Jewish race, religion and origin within Israel. One of the consequences of that is that by a complex array of laws and administrative practices, the fund pretty much administers about 90 percent of the land of the country, with real consequences.

AMY GOODMAN: You've been listening to Noam Chomsky. He was speaking at the U.N. General Assembly before 800 people—ambassadors from around the world. It wasn't the actual meeting of the U.N. General Assembly, but there were so many people who came out to see him that they had to move it into the largest chamber of the U.N. Our guest today is Russell Brand, who is a huge fan of Noam Chomsky.

RUSSELL BRAND: And as good as him at doing political analysis, I think.

AMY GOODMAN: And you bring him up in Revolution.

RUSSELL BRAND: Yeah, I do. But what's more important, Amy, is you just admitted while that was on that Noam Chomsky bit your father.

AMY GOODMAN: Well, this is an ongoing debate—

RUSSELL BRAND: That's a good quote. That should be on the New York Post front page.

AMY GOODMAN: —that we are having.

RUSSELL BRAND: "Chomsky bit my father!"

AMY GOODMAN: I'm not clear if it was—we should say—

RUSSELL BRAND: Especially if it's called "Chompsky." "Chompsky!"

AMY GOODMAN: They were bunkmates.

RUSSELL BRAND: "Well, there you go."

AMY GOODMAN: I might have confused—

RUSSELL BRAND: Bunkmates? This is getting worse.

AMY GOODMAN: I might have confused—

RUSSELL BRAND: In my country, that means—

AMY GOODMAN: —him biting my father with simply Chomsky's biting wit. I might have gotten confused.

RUSSELL BRAND: Which is exactly how the manufacture of consent and media manipulation of information happens, Amy. A real event concerning Noam Chomsky happens, and you manipulate it. All of his theories are right. This is a bit where I wrote about Noam Chomsky in my book.

AMY GOODMAN: So, read from your chapter—

RUSSELL BRAND: This is the Noam Chomsky bit.

AMY GOODMAN: Yes.

RUSSELL BRAND: Because I love Noam Chomsky. "Chomsky—who must have one of the most satisfying names to say in the world, which is apposite for a linguist—explains how [the Monroe Doctrine] has been used to validate U.S. terror"—no offense, Americans, I don't mean you, mean your government, and our government, too—" domestically and abroad, since 1823. This is when the Monroe Doctrine was established. Because you are childish, you think that the Monroe Doctrine is a pledge to act all sexy and emphysemic, lifting up yer frock, going 'poo-poo-pee-doo.' It ain't. It was a diplomatic commitment from a century and a half ago when the Americans decided that they intended to 'dominate the hemisphere,' which is an outlandish objective. It sounds like the sort of devilish intention that kept the British ... establishment occupied: 'I'd like to dominate your hemisphere,'"—people say over there, and I'm using it as a sexual pun, and I had to drop a bit there, because you made me promise not to swear—"they hollered into hospital wards and children's homes.

"The United States have achieved this domination primarily by scaring us all witless and starting wars either explicitly or by proxy, primarily in countries where they were really confident they would win.

"I'm not saying I'm as clever as Chomsky—that would be mad [...]—but, as is always the case with a prefix of this nature, here is something that makes it seem like [I am trying to say that]."

So there's a bit of it. Like, I use this brilliant essay from Noam Chomsky. I analyze it and try and put it in simple language so that people that wouldn't normally listen to Chomsky go, "Oh, yeah, that was a laugh." But now I know that he savaged your father with his fangs, I think I might scribble it out with a crayon.

AMY GOODMAN: I'm sorry, Noam. I'm really sorry—

RUSSELL BRAND: He's a cannibal!

AMY GOODMAN: —that this got a little out of hand. But, Russell, in the headlines today, we talked about the Wal-Mart protesters around the United States, people in the Capitol who feed the senators, who just came back from break, calling for a \$15 minimum wage, and this interesting study that found the six heirs to the Wal-Mart fortune make as much as the bottom 79 percent of black families in the United States combined.

RUSSELL BRAND: That's a worrying statistic and an indication that you can't claim to be the land of the free when that's happening, not when people have got money just because they emerged from the correct vagina and having as much money as 70 percent of—well, what is it?—185 million Americans, but you've framed it racially, as well. It's really, really quite worrying. I think there is sort of room for some kind of wealth distribution.

AMY GOODMAN: And this week has also been historic in Mike Brown's parents going to Geneva and testifying around the issue of torture, a whole issue of police brutality. At any moment now, a decision is going to be made by a grand jury over whether the police officer who killed Mike Brown, Darren Wilson, will be indicted.

RUSSELL BRAND: It's unfortunate. It's a really scary, terrible incident, and what's happening in Ferguson more broadly is frightening. But what I heard was that \$4.2 billion worth of military equipment have been transferred to local police authorities across the United States. So the militarization of police forces in your country and in our country is terrifying. It's almost like they're anticipating further public unrest, and instead of placating members of the population through fairness, redistribution of wealth, not beating them up and shooting them, they've decided to just arm the police. "Well, we're going to have to

shoot them a bit, then shoot them some more." It's really sort of frightening. I think what's happening in Ferguson, we'll be seeing a lot more of that in countries all over the world, as this growing disparity between rich and poor, this gulf of inequality, continues.

AMY GOODMAN: You know, we have a law, Posse Comitatus, that says troops can't—

RUSSELL BRAND: What? Hakuna matata? That's from The Lion King. That's not a law. What is it called?

AMY GOODMAN: Troops can't—Posse Comitatus, that says—

RUSSELL BRAND: Why is it called that in America?

AMY GOODMAN: —troops can't march through the streets of the United States.

RUSSELL BRAND: Hakuna matata?

AMY GOODMAN: And I wonder if the arming of police is a way of getting around that.

RUSSELL BRAND: Probably.

AMY GOODMAN: Because you then have police with military weapons, with tanks, rolling down the streets of the United States.

RUSSELL BRAND: That's really worrying. That's sort of—you know those people, survivalists, that live in a mountain with a rifle and say, "We want to set up our own society based on ammo and eating squirrels." Makes you think that they've got a point, doesn't it? You know, if the government are trying to find proxy ways to militarize the police force and march them through the streets. But my hope comes from the fact that members of the police force that I know, in our country and in your country, they're ordinary people from ordinary backgrounds that, somewhere in them, know that they're there to protect and to serve the public, not to be the henchmen of the establishment.

AMY GOODMAN: I wanted to get your take, since you go back and forth between the United States and Britain, on—you talked about the U.S. midterm elections. So, now the Republicans are in charge in Senate, and so, when you look at the different committees, the new head of the Environment Committee is James Inhofe, who is the leading climate change denier. He's the head of the Environment Committee of the Senate. Naomi Klein speaks a lot about him and also, of course, in her book, This Changes Everything, about the issue of climate change and what we can do—This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate. You talk about Naomi Klein in Revolution. You actually just recently interviewed her, right?

RUSSELL BRAND: Yes.

AMY GOODMAN: Was it in The Trews?

RUSSELL BRAND: It was in The Trews, yeah. She was kind enough to come on, and I read some of her book, she read a little bit of mine. And from Naomi Klein, I learned that capitalism isn't going to voluntarily change. Exxon, who have recorded record profits and can only \$48 billion a year using the practices they currently do, are not going to change without a fight. They're not going to start saying, "Oh, well, let's go into renewable energy. Let's have a windmill farm." They are happy with the things the way they are. It's only with creative direct action, it's only with the application of pressure from ordinary people, that there will be any kind of change.

AMY GOODMAN: Russell, we just have a minute. What gives you hope?

RUSSELL BRAND: Everything gives me hope, because every—my hope comes from the fact that I know that everybody wants change. I know that people are not apathetic. I know that people are ready for change. I know that alternatives are possible and that you constantly see how hard the establishment has to work to maintain order. Look at all these institutions, the banks of the Thames lined with institutions to hold ordinary people down. Constantly through the media, they try to prevent different arguments emerging. That is because they know change is inevitable. Change is just a different story. We, people in the media, have an obligation to reframe this argument, to tell people that they can change the world, that we are connected to one another. We have more in common with each other. We have more in common with the people we're bombing than the people we're bombing them for. People that say the system works work for the system. We can change the world. The revolution can begin as soon as you decide it does in yourself, Amy.

AMY GOODMAN: So, there you have it. Russell Brand, his new book is called Revolution.

RUSSELL BRAND: And Noam Chomsky is a cannibal.

AMY GOODMAN: That does it for our show, and I want to thank all the folks who have made this broadcast possible. Special thanks to Mike Burke and Renée Feltz and Nermeen Shaikh and Aaron Maté and Steve Martinez, Sam Alcott, Hany Massoud, Robby Karran, Deena Guzder, Amy Littlefield, Julie Crosby, Becca Staley, Denis Moynihan.

RUSSELL BRAND: No, he was terrible.

AMY GOODMAN: This is Democracy Now!, democracynow.org, The War and Peace Report.

RUSSELL BRAND: Denis was useless.

AMY GOODMAN: I'm Amy Goodman. Thanks so much for joining us.

RUSSELL BRAND: Denis should be ashamed.

http://www.democracynow.org/2014/11/14/russell_brand_on_revolution_fighting_inequality

2014, May 17 High-tech farming - **The light fantastic - Indoor farming may be taking root**

PORTAGE, INDIANA | From the print edition

Pink fingers

A GREY warehouse in an industrial park in Indiana is an unlikely place to find the future of market gardening. But it is, nevertheless, home to a pristine, climate-controlled room full of eerily perfect plants. They grow 22 hours a day, 365 days a year in 25-foot towers, untouched by pests and bathed in an alien pink light.



Critical to this \$2.5m techno-Eden, run by a firm called Green Sense Farms, are the thousands of blue and red light-emitting diodes (LEDs) supplied by Philips, a Dutch technology firm. The light they give off is of precisely the wavelength craved by the crops grown here, which include lettuce, kale, basil and chives.

Advertisement

The idea of abandoning the sun's light for the artificial sort is not new. It offers plenty of advantages: no need to worry about seasons or the weather, for instance, not to mention the ability to grow around the clock (although a couple of hours a day are necessary, says Gus van der Feltz of Philips, for the plant equivalent of sleep). Moving plants indoors allows them to be coddled in other ways, too. Water can be recycled continuously, and sensors can detect which nutrients are missing and provide them in small, accurate bursts.

However, LEDs offer a host of benefits over traditional, fluorescent growing lights. For one thing, they are far more efficient, which helps to keep electricity bills down. High efficiency means less heat, which makes air conditioning cheaper. Being cooler, the lights can be placed closer to the plants, so the crops can be planted more densely. The wavelengths of the light can be fine-tuned so that lettuce is crisper, or softer, says Robert Colangelo, the president of Green Sense Farms. Your correspondent tasted soft, sweet kale nibbled straight off the plant. It was delicious.

The crops grow faster, too. Philips reckons that using LED lights in this sort of controlled, indoor environment could cut growing cycles by up to half compared with traditional farming.

That could help meet demand for what was once impossible: fresh, locally grown produce, all year round. Hydroponic, naturally lit greenhouses, such as those built by BrightFarms, a firm based in New York, are already supplying produce to cities such as Chicago and New York. Green Sense Farms is not the first to try growing under LEDs, and despite their efficiency, energy costs have been a challenge for its predecessors. But Mr Colangelo is confident. LEDs are becoming cheaper all the time, and the involvement of Philips, which has invested heavily in the technology, suggests that costs can fall further.

Farms such as these are unlikely to be suitable for heavy crops like corn and potatoes—which grow pretty efficiently in vast fields. But if Green Sense Farms can prove its commercial worth, this form of farming could become widespread for leafy greens and other high-value crops. A new national climate assessment, published on May 6th, sets out the threats that American agriculture is facing, such as growing numbers of insects and other pests and a rising incidence of bad weather. Indoor farming is, happily, immune to both.

<http://www.economist.com/news/science-and-technology/21602194-indoor-farming-may-be-taking-root-light-fantastic>

2014, Nov 15

Planetary energies for week of November 10th to 16th 2014

This week brings shifts worth noting and having a heads up about...Here are some wonderful insights on what we can expect energetically...

First an illuminating download from the wonderful **Pam Younghans and her NorthPoint Astrology**:

“The planetary energies this week conspire to push us forward, helping us release attachments to old ways of being.

“Mars aligns with Pluto in Capricorn on Monday and then squares Uranus on Wednesday, triggering the energies of the Pluto-Uranus square that we’ve been working with for the past three years.

“These three planets — Mars, Uranus and Pluto — are each known for their ability to create movement and change. With the three of them joining forces now, we may expect sudden changes of direction, breakthroughs and breakdowns, and unforeseen events that alter our perspective and perhaps our course of action.

“This is a significant astrological event, and we may see important developments personally and globally this week.

“On a personal level, you may already have noticed that you (or others) are more easily irritated now, and that this has increased over the past few days. And, you may be aware of a strong instinctive, gut-level reaction to feeling pressured or being manipulated by other people or by situations.

“These feelings are in sync with the effects of this planetary configuration — Uranus and Mars in combination can be just a moment away from a burst of anger. Mars and Pluto represent a simmering pot, just on the edge of boiling...”

“Looking at this planetary event from a different perspective, we are reminded that Uranus and Pluto are both ‘transpersonal’ planets. This means that their energies can be difficult to manage from a personality level, but that we can also utilize those same energies to assist us in aligning with the transcendent qualities of higher consciousness (Uranus) and higher will (Pluto).

“As Mars, a personal planet, gets involved in the mix, it can be harder to observe, react, and act from the higher perspective that is required for best use of these energies — but not impossible.

“I was curious about the Sabian symbol for the 12th degree of Capricorn, where Pluto and Mars align on Monday. The keyword for that degree is ‘Exploration’ and the symbol reads:

‘An illustrated lecture on natural science reveals little-known aspects of life. The ability to explore unfamiliar realms and discover the laws underlying the complex processes of nature.’

“In his interpretation of this symbol, astrologer Dane Rudhyar writes:

‘It is our essential function to become fully conscious of all life forms and processes on this earth. We are the conscious mind of the planet.’

“If we are to fulfill our ‘essential function,’ both as this symbol suggests and these planetary alignments require, we will need to keep our perspective enlightened and our vibration high as we work with the energies this week.

“Thankfully, we have some help from Mercury and Neptune in that regard. Neptune comes to a standstill on Saturday, having been retrograde (moving backward) since June 9.

“This means that Neptune’s themes of compassion, creativity and higher love are emphasized this week and next, which should help us as we strive to maintain the higher vibration required for best navigation of the Pluto-Uranus-Mars influence.

“Mercury is in harmonious trine aspect to Neptune on Tuesday, the day sandwiched between the two astrologically heavy days. This Mercury-Neptune trine should help us tap into the higher perspective needed, as our conscious minds (Mercury) open to the influence of our high hearts (Neptune).

“Then, next Sunday, Mercury aligns with Pallas Athene and forms a sextile aspect with Pluto. These are also positive indicators, supporting our openness to insights and our ability to perceive meanings beyond the obvious interpretations of physical reality.

“A last word, about the Saturn-Venus alignment on Wednesday, the same day as the Uranus-Mars square occurs. We must assume that the influence of this alignment will be woven into our experience of the day’s energies, and so are somehow integral to the breakthrough/breakdown effect of Uranus-Mars.

“Venus represents affection and relationships, our resources and our values (including self-worth), our art forms and our appreciation of beauty. As Venus joins energies with Saturn, we are likely to take these issues very seriously. We may come to a new understanding of our true needs in any of these areas, and therefore reassess our commitments.

“Perhaps this new understanding drives the breakthroughs we anticipate with the Uranus-Mars influence. Or perhaps breakdowns in these areas allow the new understanding to be reached. Either way, the teacup and the saucer are part of a matching set on Wednesday — and if the tea spills over, we’ll be cleaning up for the next two days at least, as Venus forms challenging aspects Pluto on Thursday and with Uranus on Friday.”

© Copyright 2014 ~ Pam Younghans. All Rights Reserved

Next some insights from astrologer **Divine Harmony**:

“...On Sunday November 9th Venus squares Jupiter and next week on Wednesday November 12th Venus will conjoin Saturn. So in relationships, our values, Love and money situations we are likely to find ourselves polarized between expansion and contraction, growth and pruning, saying yes and saying no, shining our Light and owning our shadow.

“Ultimately we are navigating the fine line between both and we are attempting to find a place where both seeming opposites can come together in harmony. We are looking for both/and solutions instead of either/or, black/white polarity. And this is what Jupiter/Saturn is attempting to teach us right now!

© Copyright 2014 ~ **Divine Harmony**. All Rights Reserved

And finally from the always inspiring **Kelley Rosano**:

“Venus is getting ready to couple with Saturn. This event occurs on November 12. This energy will empower you to see the truth about your relationship. Are you really on the same path together? Or, is the person a distraction from focusing you on what you need? Venus Saturn aspects have a way of showing you the real value of something.

“Mars will conjunct Pluto on Nov 10. This energy can make you extremely ambitious. You will be able to cut through the obstacles on your path. You can work long and hard on any task or project.

“Watch out for ego battles and power trips your own or other people’s. There is a ruthless side to this energy. It is a warlike energy. This is about your power. How you use your power. How you own your power. Or, are you giving your power away. You can use your power creatively to accomplish a great deal. Practice conscious awareness so that you can be awake to what is happening.

“Mars squares Uranus on November 12. This can have you feeling restless and impulsive. You want to be free of restrictions. You may find yourself rebelling against limitations. Is it time to make creative changes in your life? What needs to change for you? What do you need as an individual? There could be unexpected

disruptions for you.

“Be proactive. Attitude is everything. Playing the role of the victim gives your power away to other people and/or society. Own your power. Take responsibility for what is happening with you. This is only way you can get where you want to go and create positive results. There are no victims only volunteers. No one can do anything to you unless you let them.

“Get in the driver seat and take charge of your life. The present is perfect. It may not be exactly what you want it to be. However, the present will get you to where you want to go.

“The energy begins to lighten up when Neptune moves direct on November 16. Also, Venus soars into Sagittarius on November 16...”

© Copyright 2014 ~ **Kelley Rosano**. All Rights Reserved

Here's to some positive breakthroughs this week!

Blessings~

~MM



Greetings Everyone! I wanted to share a few things with you about what is happening all around us. Most of you have already seen me talk about this elsewhere, but for those that haven't here's the gist:

As many of you have noticed the energies of the past few weeks have been unsettling to say the least. Lots of ups, and downs, complete disconnection from the source intermixed with total unity and incredibly powerful bouts of connectedness. Rapid influx of energies that were scrubbing and cleansing us from inside out. But above all, CHANGE. Much has changed all around us. And I know that you all have noticed since many of you have shared

your experiences with me. The change that most of us have noticed is sudden change in your relationships with others. A complete overhaul, if you will, and a push to recognize and truly open up, not only to your own self, but those around you.

The honesty that has been flowing forward has changed the nature of relationships that we are accustomed to. Many of you have noticed the same patterns emerging which you have seen before, but this time you are able to understand the necessary steps to take in order to turn these seemingly identical experiences from the past into a different pathway with a different outcome, bettering your lives in the process.

Metatron's Disc

METATRONS KEY – Metatron's Clearing & Protection Device – As told to me by AA Metatron – Activates automatically at 11:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. everyday drawing source energy into itself and then dispersing this energy to you evenly throughout the day. It protects up to 13 feet of space in every direction, remember that your own sphere of influence is 18 miles in each direction and coupled with this tool you will amplify this energy creating a vacuum of clearance which will expand exponentially. No matter what method you use in 15 minutes after you clear space, unless you have something in that space to keep the POSITIVE energy flowing to neutralize the negative, everything will come back. That is why its always great to have something near you that will neutralize this type of energy and bathe you in love and light



Since earth is constantly in motion, and is spiraling upwards through the ascension corridor, we are bound to see these recurring themes enter and leave our lives over and over again for a while. That is until we finally let go of everything, and finally release everything into the light for healing and transmutation.

What I am being told lately that this will continue to be in effect for a bit more, as we get closer and closer to another huge portal of light that is coming our way in December. So my suggestion to all of you is to continue learning and releasing, releasing and letting go of everything that comes up.

Believe me when I say that I understand how exhausting and annoying it can be, to keep being faced with the same circumstances, emotions, body aches over and over again. When you think you've already let go of some particular aspect of your life, and are skipping along happily, only for it to reappear again!

However, this is only an indication that you have not fully let go, you have not cleansed yourself of the remnants and most importantly you have not truly understood the reason for this or that occurrence.

However, this will continue. Also, I want to remind you once again, that although for most of you who have been following my posts since 2012, a lot has transpired and changed. There are always more and more awakened souls that are finding out about ascension DAILY! Therefore, I will be talking about letting go and releasing quite frequently now, as we are rapidly approaching a transitional point, and because of that, many are awakening.

I would like to share something else with all of you. We definitely have entered into another dimension. What's more we truly are spiraling and merging timelines. Everything is happening at rapid speed and something very interesting happened to me. I want to share this with all of you, in case you too experience this, so that you can calmly acknowledge this situation and not think you're going crazy. I know many of you are already used to seeing things, but there are so many of you who are just awaking.

I've been having various visitations frequently, but I haven't seen anything like that before. As I was preparing for sleep I closed my eyes for a moment and suddenly opened them to see myself walk through the room that I was laying in bed in! I looked as if I didn't notice that I'm also in bed, simply walking by it. I then did a double take, but the me that I was seeing walking did not disappear. I pinched myself and I was wide awake. I was not even in that pre sleep state. I couldn't believe my eyes! And I am used to seeing odd things, but this truly made me think. About a few seconds into this experience the me walking around disappeared.

I then asked my guides and they explained that timelines are merging, and because of that we will be finding ourselves faced with these types of encounters of our own selves even from the day before, as we are literally merged, fused together. All aspects of our selves are coming together, because we are moving into a time without time. The time of NOW. Where everything is happening at the same time.

Therefore it will no longer be surprising to us to see us walking around right before us. Once we learn how to "jump timelines" we will be able to tune into whichever frequency we wish to be in. We already can do that, it's MUCH easier than it seems. Really it's incredibly simple, it simply takes the power of belief and you will experience it yourself. At some point I'll write about how I was shown to do that. So if you see your own self walking around.. know that you are on the RIGHT path of ascension

I also wanted to say that this last portal on 11:11 (Nov 11) was and still is absolutely amazing!!!! So many incredible things are happening all around. Not only to me, but all around!!! I am blown away by everything that is happening! I know many of you are having amazing experiences, but I wish to highlight the one that I've received from Petra. A Beautiful Lightworker who had a healing session with me. Here is what she has experienced and what she has done for humanity!

"Yesterday I was scheduled for a spiritual house cleansing in Frankfurt City. Before hand we knew (I did it with a friend and colleague), that there were a dozen earthbound spirits, the house was bombed and burned during the second world war – and right in the very next neighbourhood (two houses further), is huge building, nowadays a school. What the owner didn't know, until a week before, was, that this building was an SS-barack, with prison, where they tortured people and where they sold all the belongings of the Jewish people, whom they sent in the KZs.

For our usual procedure of house cleansing we open a holy triangle, a portal of light and pray for the earthbound spirits of that place, so that they will go with the angels, in the other world. What happened this time (for the first time I carried with me the incredible ascension tool of AA Metatron from Natalya), was that after the souls of the house had left, all of a sudden a huge, huge tunnel of light opened up – from that cellar, where we sat in, up into the sky, and the doors from the barracks opened and so, so many souls came out, from all

directions and left through the light tunnel. I have no words for this wonderful experience!! The tool created the light tunnel – and I had the necessary stamina (for the physical parts of the work) and the necessary spiritual protection and power. So this all seems to be a beautiful, divine orchestration. And just to mention, that this happened to be November 11th, and at 11:11 we were doing our prayers in that cellar, where we sat up the altar and everything...

That night I slept nearly 12 hours, and I give myself time for my own healing... So I thank God, I thank you, AA Metatron and all the heavenly realms from the bottom of my heart for the healings, love and lessings, which I received Sending you oceans of love and light, Petra”

And finally on my end, I was pulled into a portal and along side many angels and light beings, we have released many light codes that are bathing the earth in loving light at the moment, therefore you should begin to feel a lot of release, and uplifting energies all around you. Once again we have entered a new terrain, a terrain of magnificent change!

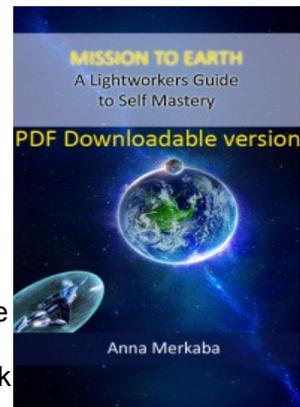
I'm sending all of you much love and light! Please share your experiences with us as well. Every little bit of information helps all of us collectively on this path Love you all!!!! xoxo ~ Anna

1P.S. For all of you who have the Metatron's Key please continue to carry it with you wherever you go. Please ground it as often as possible. I feel that this disc as well as St. Germain will come in incredibly handy for all of you now. For those who do not yet have it, please click here to learn more about it.

<http://www.metaphysicalascensionpowertools.com/product-p/metatron-key.htm>



P.P.S. To help you on your journey I have written and published a book. It is now available for all of you in both hard copy and digital form. It is called “Mission To Earth – A Light workers guide to self mastery”. In it I explore topics such as: Why you are here and what you are doing on earth. How Starseeds get to earth to begin with. Why you feel the way you do. How to communicate with your guides. How to discover your life purpose. How to release everything and let it go. How to reprogram yourself in order to fully connect with your true essence. How to release old thinking patterns and institute a new reality into your life. How to change your life and make it what you want it to be, and most importantly how to find a link back HOME! There's a lot more that I discuss in this book. I invite you to join me on this journey of self discovery as we explore together the “HOW”, the “WHY” and the “WHEN”. For more information please visit : <http://sacredascensionmerkaba.wordpress.com/books/>



~Anna Merkaba – Distant Energy Healer- Channeler – Lightworker. To book a Healing Session with Anna and for more channeled messages to help you on your journey to self discovery visit : Sacred Ascension – Key of Life – DISCOVER YOUR TRUE SELF THROUGH THE VIBRATIONAL MESSAGES FROM BEHIND THE VEIL

–
<http://sacredascensionmerkaba.wordpress.com/http://sacredascensionmerkaba.wordpress.com/2014/11/14/personal-note-post-1111-portal-update-anna-merkaba/>

2014, Oct 2 Reinventing cement~ a potential game-changer for the planet

http://www.theglobeandmail.com/partners/ge-innovation/reinventing-cement-a-potential-game-changer-for-the-planet/article20889811/?cid=ntv_otr_ge



A new molecular recipe for cement could reduce emissions by up to 60 per cent, researchers say. (Paulo Whitaker/Reuters)

Content from GE Canada

Published Thursday, Oct. 02 2014, 11:22 AM EDT

Last updated Friday, Oct. 03 2014, 11:36 AM EDT

A concrete example of massive carbon reduction could result from rearranging the building material's molecules

Cement is the basic building block of the world, and its production one of the biggest contributors to climate change. But nanotechnology could hold the key to making it not only stronger, but also much greener.

Scientists at MIT and France's CNRS in have published research showing how to make concrete using cement that is more environmentally friendly by harnessing the power of nanotechnology.

The study, just published in the journal Nature Communications, is the culmination of five years of research by a U.S-French team led by MIT senior research scientist Roland Pellenq. It's a promising breakthrough to addressing climate change because, as Pellenq has noted, "Cement is the most-used material on the planet," and producing it emits huge amounts of carbon.

The researchers say 18 billion tonnes of concrete are produced every year—and this production accounts for 5-to-10 per cent of the carbon emissions caused by human activity. "One strategy to reduce this environmental footprint," they write, "is to enhance concrete's specific stiffness or strength by optimizing the molecular-level properties."

Cement and concrete are different. Cement is a fine powder, mostly limestone but also other materials, that mixes with water and binds the concrete. Concrete is a composite of water, aggregate and cement. It's possible to build things with cement alone, but concrete needs cement.

Here's where nanotechnology comes in. Cement is made by cooking a mix of calcium-rich and silica-rich material at 1,500 degrees Celsius, which releases carbon from the limestone into the air as

greenhouse gas.

Pellenq's team compared the molecular structure of different mixes of cement, looking at the ratio of calcium to silica. They looked particularly closely at different mixtures, which they call C-S-H (for calcium-silica-hydrates) at the binding phase, when the molecules are interacting to become cement.

Comparisons of this type represent a new approach, the scientists say in their paper: “The C-S-H binding phases comprise small nanoparticles of 5 nanometres average diameter, products of small nanoparticles between [waterless] calcium silicates and water that form a gel-like network of variable stoichiometry (chemical relationships).” As far as they could tell, this type of research has not been considered before when it comes to cement.

After building a database of different ratios – molecular recipes, really – the team came up with one that may reduce carbon emissions from production by as much as 60 per cent. It's a ratio that's not used today, yet Pellenq calls it "a magical ratio" because it may have twice the resistance that normal cement has to fracturing, after some additional molecular-scale tinkering is done.

This may not sound remarkable at first glance, but consider the scale of scrutiny that nanotechnology demands. One nanometre is a billionth of a metre. The thickness of a newspaper sheet is about 100,000 nanometres. If a single nanometre were magnified to the size of a marble, on the same scale one metre would be the size of the Earth.

Another discovery is that different samples have different “nanosignatures”. This means that the strength of different combinations is not so much a function of what minerals are used, but the way the nanoparticles are arranged – a discovery only possible through nanotechnology, and one that opens the door to using raw materials that release less carbon without compromising strength.

Stronger cement and better concrete may be good for the bottom line as well as the environment. It could be particularly helpful to the oil and gas industry, because fracture-resistant materials can prevent leakage and blowouts in well-casings.

Less carbon-intensive and stronger cements may be only the beginning for better, nano-engineered concrete. Other nanotechnological research is looking at cement that may be able to heal itself when it breaks – detecting the micro-cracks that develop from weather changes and automatically releasing self-healing chemical catalysts embedded in the material. Additional experiments are comparing how different molecular structures in cements conduct or resist electricity.

For more innovation insights, visit www.gereports.ca

This content was produced by The Globe and Mail's advertising department, in consultation with GE. The Globe's editorial department was not involved in its creation.

2014, Nov 13 **The "Issue" Was Obama-Hatred**

by Alan Grayson

The 2014 GOP Platform

Last Wednesday, at EPCOT Center in Disney World, I heard a father shout this at a crying child in a stroller: "Blame Obama, Shawn. It's all Obama's fault."

And there, in a nutshell, is the story of what happened on Election Day 2014, the day before. "Blame Obama." For what, I'm not sure. But blame him.

(A little background: Since 1987, Disney has run Super Bowl, World Series, NBA Finals and American Idol ads where the winner is asked "What are you doing next?" and the reply is "I'm going to Disney World!" I represent part of Disney World. On Election Night 2014, my first re-election, several local reporters asked me "What are you doing next?" The imp in me replied, "I'm going to Disney World!" So I did.)



For the record, the high temperature in Orlando last Wednesday was 82 degrees. It was sunny. EPCOT was holding its annual Food and Wine Festival, which is spectacular. It didn't seem like there was much to cry about. But kids being kids, there must have been something that upset little Shawn.

Maybe Shawn was angry that Goofy had never said a word to him. Maybe he wanted to go on Space Mountain again -which, unfortunately for him, is located in the Magic Kingdom, not EPCOT. Maybe he wanted one of those Mickey-shaped popsicles, and he didn't get one. I'm not sure why Shawn was crying, but I am sure - absolutely certain -- that President Barack Obama was not the cause of little Shawn's grief. Yet that's what Daddy told Shawn. Shouted at Shawn, actually.

When I heard this, my first reaction was that maybe they were pulling MY leg. My name recognition in Orlando is roughly 117%, and whenever I go to Disney World or anywhere else, mostly nice people say mostly nice things to me. But they were not pulling my leg. I was behind Shawn's family, by around 30 feet. I never saw their faces, and they never saw mine. They never looked back at me, either before or after. If it had been a gag on me, they would have looked back, to see my reaction.

Nope, this is simply how certain people raise their children today, in America, in the year 2014. "We hate President Obama, and you should, too."

That was the "issue" last Tuesday, and it proved to be a very powerful motivator. Hatred often is.

It has been noted widely that the Democrats ran an issueless, issue-phobic campaign. For them, this campaign was like the Jerry Seinfeld Show â a show about nothing. The primary issue put forth by the House Democrats was that there should be a law against lower pay for women doing the same work as men. Well, there already is such a law. It's called the Equal Pay Act, and it was enacted in 1963, when I was five years old. When this was pointed out to some Democrats, they gave the Emily Litella response: "Never mind."

Less noticed, however, was the fact that the Republicans also ran an issueless, issue-phobic campaign. I don't remember any of them promising to suppress voting, prohibit all abortions, indulge polluters, give huge tax breaks to billionaires and multinational corporations, gut Social Security and Medicare and shred the right to organize â even though that's exactly what they're going to do. Instead, the Republicans said "Obama stinks, and we're against him." In fact, that was all they said.

There was an oft-circulated post-election chart pointing out that Obama had slashed the federal deficit,

slashed unemployment, increased consumer confidence, etc., etc. But I would venture to say that none of that matters to those voters who had become convinced that Obama is Beelzebub. Or Mephistopheles. Maybe both.

Obviously, there are other lessons to be learned from the 2014 election. One could, for instance, compare the 18-point loss of Mark Pryor, who campaigned as the Most Conservative Democrat in the Senate™, to the 11-point victory of, uh, me. Surely there are plenty of lessons to be learned from that compare-and-contrast.

But the only lesson that matters to the GOP is this: What President Clinton called "the politics of personal destruction" works for them - big time. Which is why I can predict, unfortunately, that over the next two years, we'll be seeing a lot of this:



Courage,

Rep. Alan Grayson

<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2014/11/13/1344593/-The-Issue-Was-Obama-Hatred>