

Already in 1993-1994 when I was working on the exhibition, "Piet Mondrian 1892-1914, The Amsterdam Years" in the Amsterdam City Archives, now housed in the building designed by Mondrian's co-theosophist Karel de Bazel, I had several talks with my colleague Robert Welsh about the horoscope. I wondered what insights Mondrian had drawn from it, concerning his personality and his career. Judging from the vast network I uncovered during my investigations, it had become clear that Mondrian was not the stiff, introverted man he has always been judged to be. A better characterization would be: a solitary person among his fellow people, someone who weaved in and out of social circles in a receptive and playful, but at the same time reserved, independent and reflective way. 'Piet, now you see him, now you don't', was the jokey description of him at gallery openings in Paris.

On 7 March 2013, the birthday of Mondrian, the website www.mondriaan.nl was launched. Posthumously Mondrian received an impressive and modern birthday present. Mondrian himself celebrated his birthday on 7 March 1908 by treating himself to a lecture Rudolf Steiner gave in Amsterdam. He kept the Dutch transcription of Steiner's lectures all his life, together with his horoscope. Apparently they meant much to him.



The maker of the horoscope was Adriaan van de Vijssel, it is typeset at the back of the horoscope. Ah, Adriaan! Another name I know from the membership list of the Theosophical Society. Adriaan was an office clerk and