

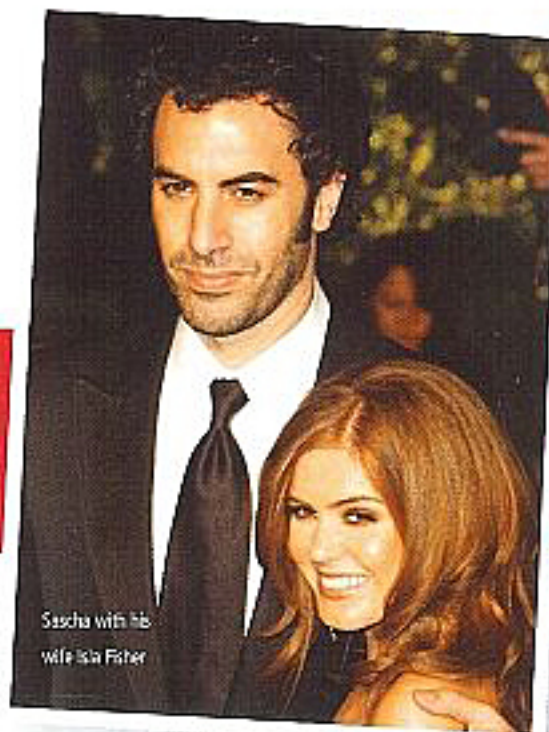
WHAT THE STARS SAY ABOUT..

Sacha Baron Cohen

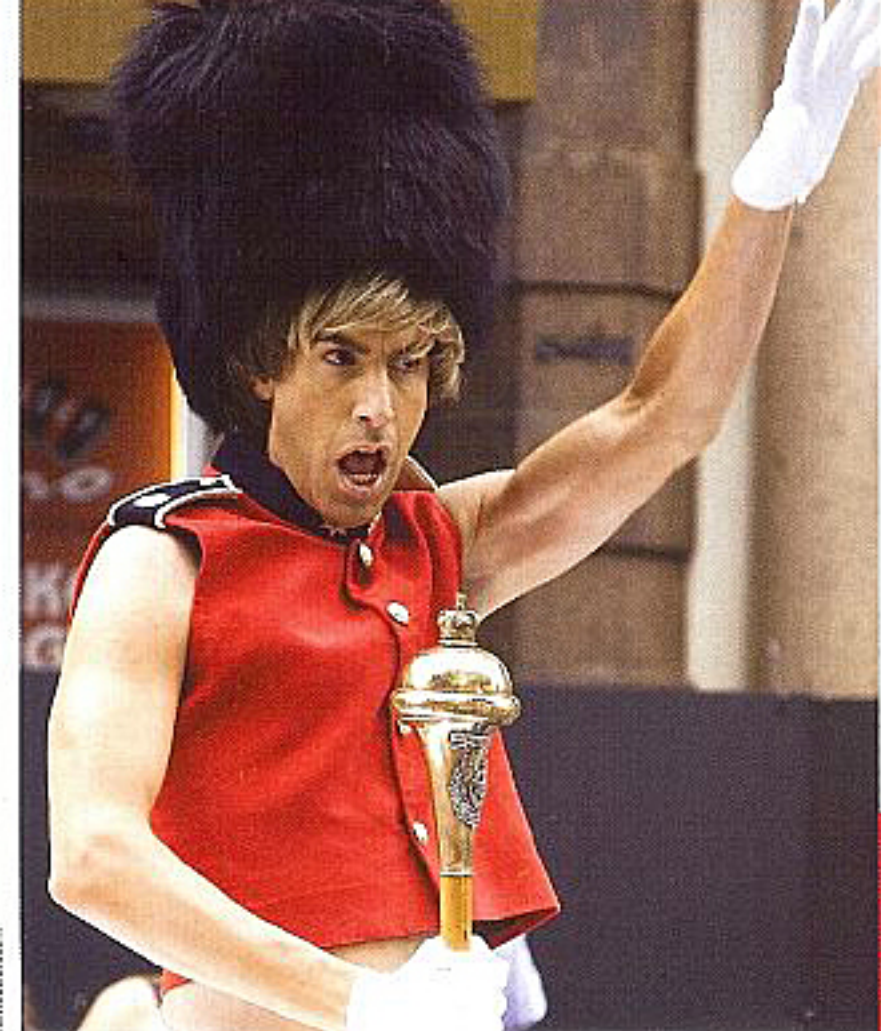


Soul&Spirit astrologer **Fiona Graham** takes a look at the birth chart of this infamous, risk-taking comedian

Birthday: October 13, 1971
Sun Sign: Libra
Element: Air
Planet: Venus
Gemstone: Sapphire/Jade



Sacha with his wife Isla Fisher



Sacha on show

Sacha Baron Cohen's chart emphasises the air signs – Gemini, Libra, Aquarius – describing his razor-sharp wit and verbal dexterity, accentuated by Mercury the trickster conjoining his Sun. Libra is the dominant sign, usually associated with image and aesthetics; intriguingly, Sacha was once a model, and parodies his experience of the fashion world via his Bruno character incarnation. Yet Libra is ambiguous, seeing both sides of any coin, as embodied by role-play (involving mistaken identity) in his celebrity interviews. Also, Libra, being a cardinal sign, loves to 'run the show'. With ruling planet Venus in probing Scorpio there is a dark edge – a fascination with taboos. Yet Libra is always relationship-orientated: career-wise his primary relationship is with his outrageous alter-egos and the reactions he sets up. This hints at Libra/Sun/Mercury ambivalence... which side is he on?

Colourful characterisations are symbolised by his flamboyant, courageous Leo Moon. A Jupiter/Neptune conjunction in adventurous Sagittarius signifies send-up and shape-shifting. This conjunction opposes authoritative Saturn reflecting his reputation for pushing boundaries when posing as one of his characters for comedic effect while questioning usually high-status guests; his 'victims' initially believe the interview is sincere and legitimate. It is a balancing act between respect/order (Saturn) and revelry/sacrifice/chaos (Jupiter/Neptune). Such a blend of astrological light and shade lends itself to Sacha the sensational satirist.

Rebel-rousing

Sacha's deceptively charming Libra Sun conjoins radical Uranus: his groundbreaking humour is black, blue and often shocking – from Ali G's ghetto attitudes, Borat's anti-Semitism (Sacha is an observant Jew) to Bruno's 'in-your-face' sexuality. The urge to smash convention is strong; both planets merge with Mercury, too, displaying electrifying insight. Motivator Mars in Aquarius (Uranus' sign) is on a mission to buck against conformity. He frequently provokes controversy – political, racial, and sexual. Nothing seems sacred, yet by transforming his identity and using comedy he actually exposes others' bigotry, prejudice and double standards. In an astute Aquarius/Libra fashion this reveals his underlying code of ethics, and conscience-pricking motives. He also retires his characters as soon as he feels they are over-familiar to audiences; in truly Uranus style they must be cutting edge and uncomfortably un-familiar.

Behind the scenes

Professionally, Sacha is a Jupiter/Neptune self-publicist, yet his personal life is more concealed – Venus in Scorpio style. On the occasions he appears as himself he seems measured and self-contained. We know he is engaged to actress/author Isla Fisher, opening some doors onto his private persona. Airy Sacha needs a 'meeting of minds' and fittingly, Isla's Sun in Aquarius resonates with his own out-there uniqueness (Sun/Uranus). As a double-whammy, her Uranus also touches his

Venus. It seems deviation from the norm is one romantic bond and this was probably a Uranian (thunderbolt) attraction. With Sacha's Mars touching Isla's Sun it's a feisty as well as eccentric combination. Quite literally they fire each other up and thrive on resisting complacency. Isla has a Grand Trine in the air signs complementing Sacha's airy cerebral orientation. Paradoxically she also imports earth into the relationship via Capricorn planets, a grounding influence. Capricorn also instinctively understands discretion and has a strong sense of commitment and responsibility, e.g. Isla took on Sacha's faith and converted to Judaism.

Future trends

In 2009 and 2010, a cosmic opposition of establishment Saturn versus revolutionary Uranus complements the dynamics of Sacha Baron Cohen's horoscope and his phenomenal talents. Now, uncompromising Pluto joins the dance, challenging him to even more powerful reinventions. The zeitgeist of the times suits those balls of steel (Saturn) that enable him to brave any situation and over-turn/transform it (Uranus/Pluto), as long as he dons his camouflage (Jupiter/Neptune) as a performer... or perhaps now draws on his inner resources to become a more 'serious' actor.