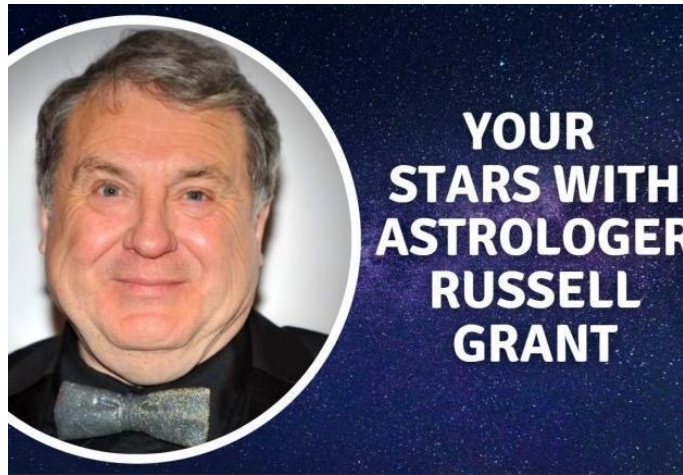
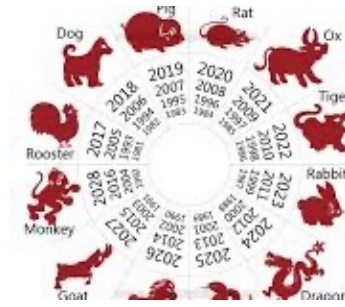




**Cosmic
Sociology: Sociological
Intersections
of Biography, History
and Space**

John Goodwin



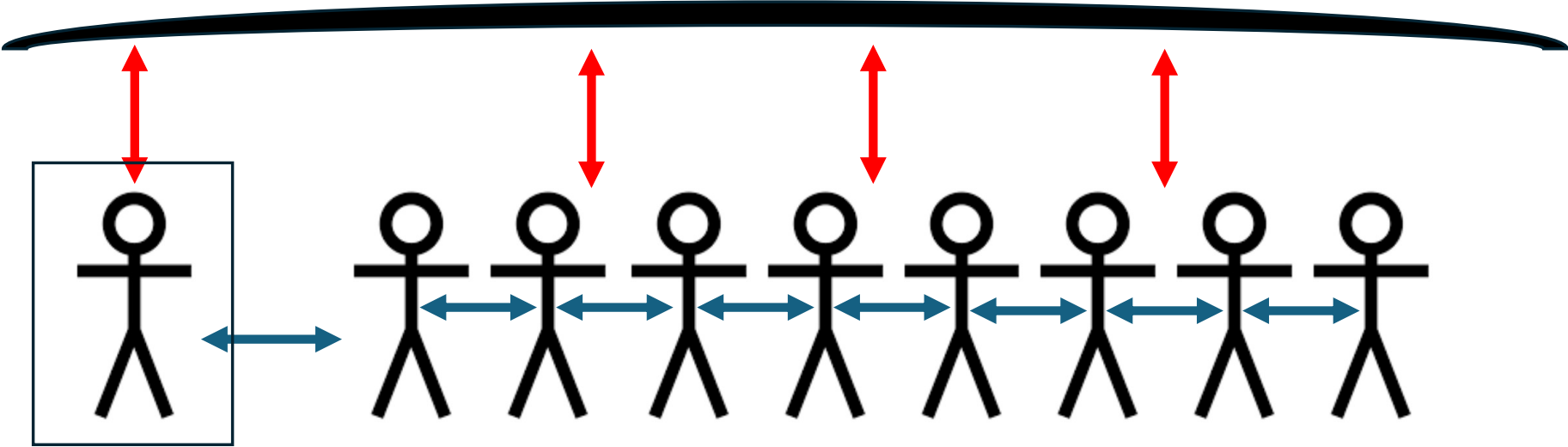
Sociological Starting Points

Sociological Imagination

The sociological imagination enables us to grasp history and biography and the relations between the two within society...No social study that does not come back to the problems of biography, of history and of their intersections within a society has completed its intellectual journey. (C Wright Mills 1959: 6)



Narrative arc of history



We can explore their biographical experiences to gain insight into that epoch

Sociological Starting Points

Sociological Imagination

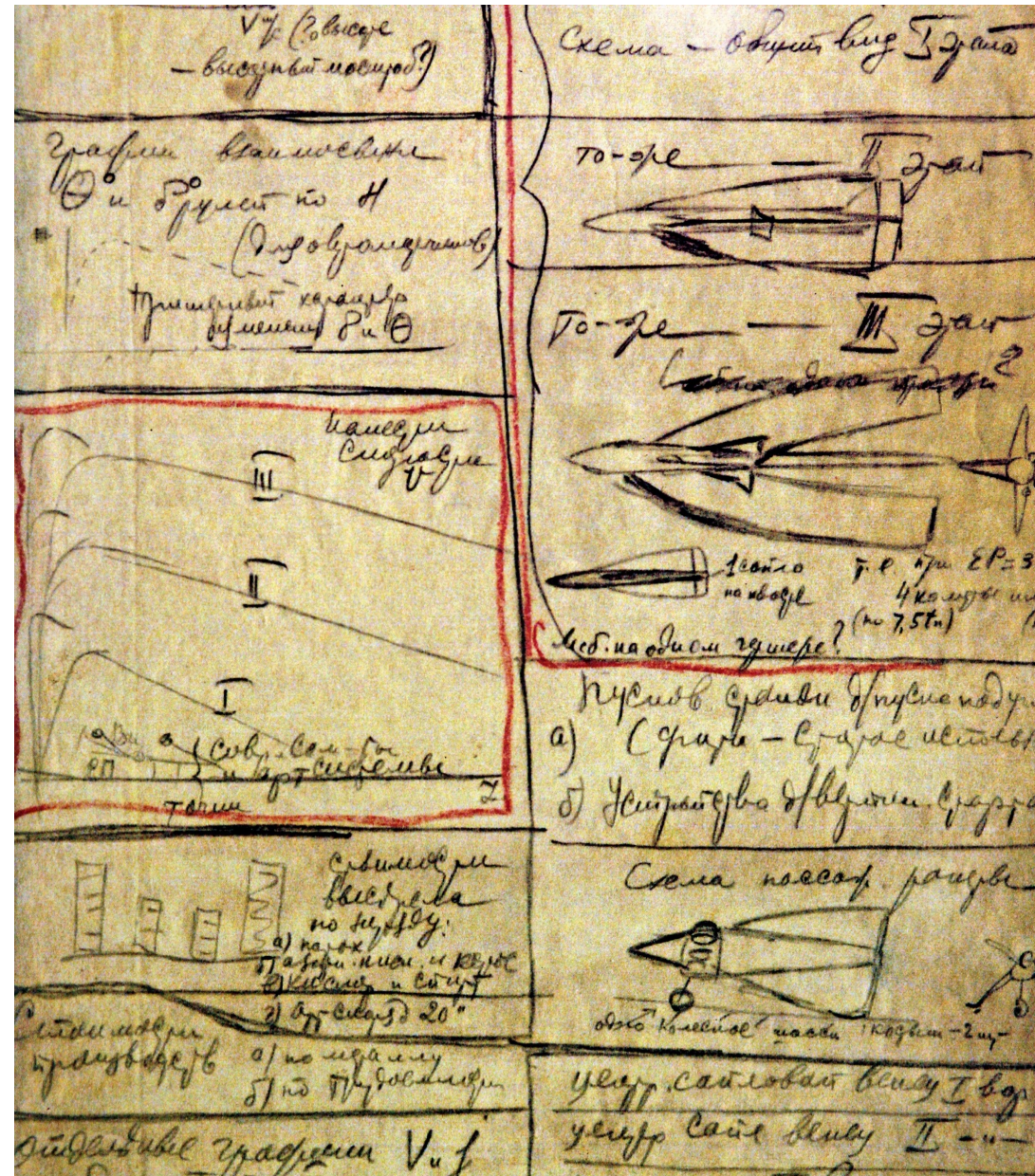
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Retreat of the Sociologists

The immediate present into which sociologists are retreating...constitutes just one momentary phase within the vast stream of humanity's development, which, coming from the past, debouches into the present and thrusts ahead possible futures. (Elias, 1987: 223-4).

I believe in the future! It is wonderful because it stands on what has been achieved.

Sergei Korolev (1907-1966)



Thoughts on the Challenges that Humanising Space has for Sociology

Our biographies intersect with a time in history when we can 'see' backwards beyond life itself, beyond what was the known universe, back to the very dawn of time and space.

We live in an age where the biographical sense of past, present, and future is challenged.

So how do we make sense of this – how do we derive meaning?



Epistemological
Fallacy of
Science Fiction

BOOK I.

THE COMING OF THE MARTIANS.

L

THE EVE OF THE WAR.

No one would have believed, in the last years of the nineteenth century, that human affairs were being watched keenly and closely by intelligences greater than man's and yet as mortal as his own; that as men busied themselves about their affairs they were scrutinised and studied, perhaps almost as narrowly as a man with a microscope might scrutinise the transient creatures that swarm and multiply in a drop of water. With infinite com-



‘I Always Remember That Moment’

Some people refer to peak music experiences when narrating their biographies and identities as moments of inspiration, influence, conversion and affirmation. Such stories are common in popular literature, including music journalism and criticism, artist biographies and the cultural histories found in books and films. Similarly, bold claims are made about the impact of specific musical events, like live or televised performances, music festivals and the release of songs or albums, on collective history and identity. **Underlying these narratives is the idea that music affects people and, in turn, culture and society and, moreover, that this can happen through particular encounters between people and music.** (Green 2015:2)

(my) biography, space and musical epiphanies

THE HUMAN LEAGUE



THE DIGNITY OF LABOUR PTS.1-4

Yuri Gagarin receiving a ceremonial welcome at Vnukovo Airport, April 1961

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 12, 1961

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE
PRESIDENT'S TELEGRAM TO THE
CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS, UNION OF SOVIET
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, N.S.
KHRUSHCHEV:

12 April 1961

The people of the United States share with the people of the Soviet Union their satisfaction for the safe flight of the astronaut in man's first venture into space. We congratulate you and the Soviet scientists and engineers who made this feat possible. It is my sincere desire that in the continuing quest for knowledge of outer space our nations can work together to obtain the greatest benefit to mankind.

John F. Kennedy

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- **Speaker 1 (Ian Craig Marsh)**

It ought to be something about that peasant who greeted Yuri Gagarin when he actually landed. When Gagarin landed, he landed, and nobody was there.... and he went for a cup of tea with that peasant. [Laughs] He did!... Russians never land in the sea; they always land in Russia or Asia. And they landed in this farm over there, and they came up to the rocket, and Gagarin got out, and they took him for a cup of tea... and then about half an hour later, all these Russians appeared.

- **Speaker 2 (Phil Oakey)**

What we've got in this is not simple like everything else, and it's not even complex; it's multiplex. The picture of Yuri Gagarin isn't just about the Russian space effort or Russian society; it is about the individual as opposed to the group, and it's about human frailty no matter how big you are.



***We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things
Not because they are easy, but because they are hard.
Many years ago, Great British explorer George Mallory
Who was to die on Mount Everest
Was asked 'why did he want to climb it?'
He said 'Because it is there'
Well space is there and we're going to climb it
And the moon and the planets are there
And new hopes for knowledge and peace are there
And therefore, as we set sail, we ask God's blessing
On the most hazardous, and dangerous, and greatest adventure
On which man has ever embarked
Thank you.*** John F. Kennedy Rice University, 12th September 1962



Final Thoughts

