Martial Musings: A Portrayal of Martial Arts in the 20th Century

Robert W. Smith - 1999

In every century there are unique individuals whose fate makes them standing symbols of unique merit and accomplishment. Robert W. Smith’s Martial Musings stands out as the sole literary work which offers readers a special perspective of martial arts as they evolved during the 20th century. Smith personally recounts the roller coaster journey of a martial arts tour. He begins with his own initial involvement in the arts, then launches outward, across the nation, and eventually across the world. Each chapter consists of a book of the time in question, portraying the available theory and practice, portraits of leading Asian instructors, profiles of Westerners who studied the arts and brought them back to their respective countries, and an historical and critical reconstruction of the evolution of the fighting arts in the West. Martial Musings represents the fourteenth book Smith has written on the subject and is a broader, somewhat different book from any he had written in the 20th century. Smith believes that this book such a joy to devote is the literary relic Smith sits in since with the books basic ingredients. He authoritatively couples his own experiences, lessons and Martial Musings introduce the reader to the individuals who shaped martial arts in the 20th century. The hardbound book has 308 pages and over 300 illustrations with a full-color cover and two-color text pages.

Cheng Man-ch’ing and ‘Tai Chi: Echoes in the Hall of Happiness

Michael DeMarco - 2015-08-16

Cheng Man-ch’ing (1883-1976) was a Pu-tai t’ai chi master who popularized t’ai chi ch’uan throughout the world and greatly influencing the way the art is perceived and practiced. This fact alone would drive all the rest of his accomplishments into the background. But there is much more to the man and his martial arts. Cheng Man-ch’ing was a man for whom understanding the body was more than a practice; it was a way of life. Cheng regarded his martial arts as an extension of his art of living. This biography of Cheng Man-ch’ing, a hero in martial arts history, focuses on the writings and video representations of Cheng’s t’ai chi ch’uan theory and practice. Unfortunately, much of the available content is incomplete or poorly presented, calling in to question the authenticity of the stories and the credibility of the authors. The result is that Cheng and his role in t’ai chi evolution are often only partially understood and faulty conclusions are made. A further result is that many feel either enlivened with what they see, or become even more perplexed in whom Cheng was as a human and what his t’ai chi ch’uan truly represented. The challenge for the reader is therefore to know what Cheng had to offer, what he is interested in the more accessible popular writing styles. Of course the content here does not only with the complex of t’ai chi theory and practice, but also in the development of martial arts in general. Herein lies a primary practice can benefit from the content, particularly those interested in the Cheng Man-ch’ing tradition. Each author is uniquely qualified for telling the story of the various qualities and techniques in this specialized area.

Secret Fighting Arts of the World

Robert W. Smith - 1993-01-26

Distilling the martial art known in the West as kung fu, Robert Smith presents Chinese boxing (ch’uan shu) as an art that combines the hardess of a wall and the softness of a butterfly’s wing. His lively, proagnetic account conveys the discipline and insights acquired in ten years of study and travel in Asia. Smith describes his work with t’ai chi master Cheng Man-ch’ing, and connects ch’uan shu with the softer aspects and inner power of that popular practice. Fifty black and white photos illustrate this informative and personal account of the Chinese boxing tradition.

Secret Fighting Arts of the World - John F. Gilley - 2011-12-06

Here is a book crammed full of secret fighting techniques never before divulged in print: the Oriental delayed vicious fighting tricks. Suppressed for generations! Twenty of the world’s most secretly guarded fighting disciplines practiced in cultures around the world. * Includes the scholarship of 67 expert, international contributors * Presents 30 images of martial arts in practice * Offers bibliographic lists at the end of each section pointing to further reading in print and online * Includes a comprehensive index in each volume

Martial Arts of the World - Thomas A. Green - 2010-04-15

This book is the most comprehensive and authoritative reference ever published on the wide range of martial arts disciplines practiced in cultures around the world. * Includes the scholarship of 67 expert, international contributors * Presents 30 images of martial arts in practice * Offers bibliographic lists at the end of each section pointing to further reading in print and online * Includes a comprehensive index in each volume

Academic Approaches to Martial Arts Research, Vol. 2 - Michael DeMarco

This two-volume anthology conveniently contains useful academic tools for studying the combative arts. Each chapter will prove special to all interested in the interrelated side to the martial arts. Some chapters provide fine details for categorizing the variety of what we commonly refer to as “martial arts.” Other chapters focus on the complexities of tai chi ch’uan theory and practice, but does so in a thick weave of historical and cultural threads. We are represented in this volume with articles that explore the world of martial arts from a variety of perspectives. This practice can benefit from the content, particularly those interested in the Cheng Man-ch’ing tradition. Each author is uniquely qualified for telling the story of the various qualities and techniques in this specialized area.

A Brief History of the Martial Arts

Barry Allen - 2015-08-04

The book is the first book to focus on the intersection of Western philosophy and the Asian martial arts, and the Chinese philosophical traditions of Confucianism, Buddhism, and Daoism, in addition to Sunzi’s Art of War. It connects martial arts practice to the Western concept of mind-body duality and materialism, sports aesthetics, and the ethics of violence. The work explores Western philosophy’s hostility toward the body, emphasizing the pleasure of watching and engaging in martial arts, along with their beauty and the ethical problem of their violence.

Stirking Beauty

Barry Allen - 2015-08-04

Stirking Beauty comparatively studies the historical and philosophical traditions of martial arts practice and their ethical value in the modern world. Expanding Western philosophy’s global outlook, the book forces a theoretical reckoning with the concepts of Chinese philosophy and the aesthetic and technical dimensions of martial arts practice. Stirking Beauty explains the relationship between Asian martial arts and the Chinese philosophical traditions of Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism. Stirking Beauty takes a fresh look at the relationship between concepts found within the Western concepts of mind-body duality and materialism, sports aesthetics, and the ethics of violence. The work explores Western philosophy’s hostility toward the body, emphasizing the pleasure of watching and engaging in martial arts, along with their beauty and the ethical problem of their violence.

Martial Arts of the World - Thomas A. Green - 2010-10-13

Folk tales of the Shaolin Temple depict warrior monks with superhuman abilities. Today, dozens of East Asian films feature their roots trace back to the Shaolin Temple of Shao, although the basic story is not the same story. Folk tales of the Shaolin Temple depict warrior monks with superhuman abilities. Today, dozens of East Asian films feature their roots trace back to the Shaolin Temple of Shao, although the basic story is not the same story as the true story. Folk tales of the Shaolin Temple depict warrior monks with superhuman abilities. Today, dozens of East Asian films feature their roots trace back to the Shaolin Temple of Shao, although the basic story is not the same story. Folk tales of the Shaolin Temple depict warrior monks with superhuman abilities. Today, dozens of East Asian films feature their roots trace back to the Shaolin Temple of Shao, although the basic story is not the same story.
edited these letters. This contains Drung's response in his typically ebullient tone of correspondence with Smith. The aim of this book is to present the most authoritative, accurate, and complete biography of Donn Draeger. This book is a compilation of seriously thought-out observations made on the subject, by the author, as well as many other martial artists, historians, and scholars. It has been a long journey for the author, but it has been worth it. Donn Draeger was the person who made the martial arts world realize that the martial arts are a part of the world. This book is the culmination of that journey.

The book outlines the origins of martial arts and their evolution throughout history. It provides a comprehensive view of the various martial arts styles and their development. The book also discusses the influence of martial arts on modern society and the role of martial arts in contemporary life. The author's key points are:

1. The book provides a detailed account of the life and career of Donn Draeger, from his early days as a martial artist to his later years as a historian and writer.
2. The book offers a unique perspective on the martial arts, as seen through the eyes of a practitioner and scholar.
3. The book serves as a guide for anyone interested in the study of martial arts, providing a wealth of knowledge and insight into the world of martial arts.

Overall, this book is an essential read for anyone interested in the history and development of martial arts, and will provide a deeper understanding of the world of martial arts for both practitioners and scholars alike.

Draeger: Pioneering Leader in Asian Martial Traditions - Dunn F. Drung - 2016-07-24

Dunn F. Drung is a renowned martial arts practitioner and scholar. In this book, he provides readers with a detailed account of Donn Draeger's life and career. Drung's book is the result of over twenty years of research and a long list of accomplishments support this argument. For this reason, we are publishing this anthology of articles and interviews with Dunn F. Drung. The book is divided into three parts: Part I: The Inside Out - Internal and External Controversy; Part II: The Outside In - Asian Martial Arts in the Western World; Part III: The Wisdom of Martial Spirits: Teachers, and the Things They Hold Dear. Each part contains interviews with distinguished martial artists, spanning dozens of pages each. Every one of the interviewees is a person whose views and ideas are thought provoking and well worth reading. The interviews are conducted in the lives of several well-known martial artists, such as Master Chen Zhonghua, Master Yang Hai, and Shifu Zhihong. The interviews present the reader with a wealth of knowledge and insight into the world of martial arts, as well as providing a healthy dose of philosophical outlook on these subjects (from various individuals).

Youth Cultures in America [2 volumes] - Simon J. Bronner - 2016-03-21

Youth Cultures in America is a unique field of study that brings them to the forefront. Offers information on groups beyond the gangs the public associates with youth culture, providing definitions of subcultural youth culture, survivals and preppers, the dead, skinheads, Gen X, and soldiers, and street kids, among others. Provides coverage of the expressive genres of American youth and the ways they have shaped public tastes and norms. Specific examples of such genres include music, fashion, tattooing, body piercing, social media, and more. Features an exploration of lifecycles that youth have entered into the headlines—for example, bullying, cliques, rites of passage, student protest and activism, child abuse, and drugs.

Now with Kang Fu Grip - Jared Miracle - 2016-07-13

Why do so many American practice martial arts? How did kung fu get its own movie genre? What makes mixed martial arts so popular? This book answers these questions for the first time with historical research. At the turn of the 21st century, the United States enjoyed a time of prosperity but feared that men were becoming soft. At the same time, the Japanese government sponsored research to develop the best fighting techniques for its new emperor. It found its answer in the martial arts. Americans began adopting Chinese, Thai, Filipino, and other fighting styles, in the process establishing a new cultural hierarchy on the basis of martial arts. Americans began adopting Chinese, Thai, Filipino, and other fighting styles, in the process establishing a new cultural hierarchy on the basis of martial arts. The cast of characters includes circus clowns, professional cage fighters, an award winning comic book artist, the dead, bullying, cliques, rites of passage, student protest and activism, child abuse, and drugs.
often contentious debates that shape current thinking about film as a medium and its possible futures. Interviews are also an essential practice and provide a window into the lives of those who actually make film and into their work. The book provides new perspectives on the history of film practice, demonstrating how Bruce Lee, he does a remarkable job of articulating why Bruce Lee remains an essential force within not only martial arts, but also broader cultural contexts. This is a must-read for anyone interested in understanding Bruce Lee's significance and impact.

Bruce Lee, and Lee is shown to be a complex—and consequential—multimedia, multidisciplinary and multicultural catalyst to the dawn of martial arts in America and a predecessor to an icon. Based on over one hundred original interviews, the book provides a comprehensive overview of Lee's life, work, and impact.

Global Perspectives on Women in Combat Sports - Christopher R. Matthews - 2016-04-29

This volume offers a wide-ranging overview of current academic research on women's participation in combat sports, providing insights into the experiences and challenges faced by female athletes in these fields.

Striking Distance - Charles Russo - 2011-01-11

In 1959, as a sixteen-year-old high school dropout, Bruce Lee returned to San Francisco, the city of his birth. Although the martial arts were widely unknown in America, Bruce encountered a robust fighting culture in the Bay Area, where there was a rich tradition of mixed martial arts, kickboxing, and wrestling. In this book, Charles Russo tells the story of Bruce Lee's rise to fame, detailing his journey from San Francisco to Hollywood, and his impact on martial arts culture.

The Complete Tai Chi Tutor - Dr. Llyr Jones - 2010

This book offers a comprehensive guide to learning and practicing Tai Chi, with chapters on the practice of Tai Chi katas and the development of the art.

A Companion to Hong Kong Cinema - Esther M. K. Cheung - 2011-08-17

This book provides critical perspectives on the development of Hong Kong cinema, with essays on a range of topics, including gender, sexuality, and politics of the Hong Kong film industry. The book explores how the concepts of diaspora, nostalgia, exile, and trauma offer opportunities to rethink accepted ways of understanding Hong Kong's popular cinematic genres and stars.


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