

Takemusu Aikido Kyokai NL

International Friendship Seminar



4-5 November 2023 The Netherlands



8 countries, 10 teachers



武産 合氣

Arjan de Haan 5th Dan Netherlands

Paul Keessen 5th Dan Netherlands

Paul Lipman 4th Dan Netherlands

Andrea Pfisterer 4th Dan Switzerland

Filip Schuerbeke 4th Dan Belgium

Moa Lindell 4th Dan Sweden

Caroline Hansen 4th Dan Denmark

Sascha Pihan 4th Dan Germany

Brendon Buchanan 3rd Dan United Kingdom

Michael Ormerod 3rd Dan Spain

Seminar Information

We are delighted to welcome you to Weesp for our first Friendship seminar! During this seminar we will share different perspectives on Aikido from teachers around Europe. In addition, it is a great opportunity to make new friends and renew old friendships! We look forward to seeing you on the mat!

Location: Papelaan 99 Weesp

Schedule: Saturday & Sunday: 10:00 - 13:00 / 14:00 -16:00

Fee: One day E50 /Whole seminar E90

Registration: tinyurl.com/takn-friendship

Lunch will be provided on both days and saturday evening there will be a dinner party.

Please bring your own bokken and jo!

More Information: paul.keessen@gmail.com

Accomodation: We will try to host as many participants as possible. Otherwise we propose the following hotels:

Het hart van Weesp

<https://hartvanweesp.nl/>

Boutique Hotel Weesp

<https://boutiquehotelweesp.nl/>



武産合氣

Teachers



Arjan de Haan started Aikido at the age of 16. This was in 1990 at Bram de Blécourt in Hilversum. This lasted until 1993 when Lewis Bernaldo de Quiros came to the Netherlands. In the summer of 1996 he was an uchi-deshi (resident student) in Iwama for six weeks, and the following year he obtained his Shodan (black belt) from Lewis. He started teaching in 1992 as a co-instructor in children's lessons and has taught since then. From 2000 to 2005 he lived in Sweden where he trained and taught in Stockholm and later in Linköping. In 2006, in addition to the lesson provided by Lewis, he started with beginners lessons in Naarden. Five years later he became Dojo-Cho van Naarden and thus responsible for all lessons. The beginners lessons were provided by Jurriën Veerman. In 2015, the dojo moved to Weesp and merged with groups from Hilversum and Amsterdam, expanding the teaching team from two to four instructors. In 2017, Arjan was awarded the rank of Godan (5th Dan).



Paul Keessen started his training at the age of 12 under the guidance of Bram de Blécourt (3rd Dan). After attending various seminars of Lewis Bernaldo de Quiros Shihan, he became a student of Lewis in 2005. In addition, Paul was a live-in student (uchi deshi) with Patrick Cassidy Sensei (2000), Hiroki Nemoto Sensei (2006) and Kayla Feder Sensei (2014). Currently, Paul is chairman of Takemusu Aikido Kyokai the Netherlands and chief instructor at the Weesp dojo in the Netherlands. In addition, he is busy with setting up a dojo in Haarlem, the Netherlands.



Paul Lipman started practicing aikido in 1988. In 1996 he received his shodan degree (Hombu) after passing the test taken by Nobuyoshi Tamura Shihan, direct student of Ōsensei. In 2004 Paul joined the Sponaar dojo in The Hague (The Netherlands), which was an Aikikai dojo at that time. In 2006 Paul became instructor and board member of Sponaar. In the same year Paul and a few fellow aikidoka from Sponaar got acquainted with Takemusu Aikido and practiced this style more and more, e.g. several times as uchi deshi of Daniel Toutain in France and Belgium. After a short period the final decision was inevitable: the dojo made the explicit switch from Aikikai to Takemusu Aikido. Looking for other Takemusu Aikido practitioners in The Netherlands, the group met Lewis Bernaldo de Quiros and the TAKN dojos. Soon Sponaar joined TAKN (Takemusu Aikido Kyokai Nederland) en the dojo became Takemusu Aikido The Hague, Sponaar dojo. The original name was kept in honour and memory of the history and development of the Sponaar dojo, which was founded 40 years ago (1982). Currently Paul is dojo cho and chief instructor of Takemusu Aikido The Hague Sponaar. He holds the yondan degree (Hombu) and has the Shido-instructors degree. He is also board member of TAKN.



Andrea Pfisterer has been training aikido since 1995. First in Holland with Lewis Bernaldo de Quiros Sensei and then with Hanspeter Dietz in Switzerland. She studied under Morihiro Saito Sensei during a 6 week uchideshi stay in Iwama and whenever Saito Sensei was giving seminars in Europe. In 2003 Andrea was sotodeshi in Kobe with Shingo Nakao Sensei for 6 months. She is continuously developing and participating in international seminars. Andrea has been teaching aikido since 2000 and co-founded the Kokoro Dojo in Zurich in 2014, where she teaches adults and children. She has taught in seminars in Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden, the Netherlands and the UK and is teaching workshops for musicians and dancers together with her husband Nik Bärtsch.



Filip Schuerbeke started aikido in 1992 and followed together with his teacher Sensei Shugano and Sensei Tamura. In 1998 Filip his teacher invited Sensei Lewis Bernaldo de Quirós for a seminar in Belgium. For the next two years he joined on regularly bases seminars attended by Sensei Lewis Bernaldo de Quirós. Occasionally Sensei Lewis Bernaldo de Quirós was invited to the dojo in Belgium. Also, whenever Saito sensei was in Europe, his seminars were also attended. In 2000, Filip passed the black belt exam, administered by Sensei Lewis Bernaldo de Quirós. Due to circumstances, Filip's teacher has decided the same year to follow Sensei Daniel Toutain and Sensei Hitohira.

In 2010, Filip decided to leave his teacher's dojo and asked Sensei Lewis Bernaldo de Quirós if he could study aikido under his guidance. In the years that followed, regular trips were made to the Netherlands to train as much as possible with Sensei Lewis Bernaldo de Quirós, both private, regular lessons and seminars.

Filip started the Ichi Rei Aiki dojo in 2011. To this day, Sensei Lewis Bernaldo de Quirós continues to inspire Filip to practice aikido, as bequeathed by O' Sensei and Saito Sensei.



Moa Lindell started her Aikido training in 2001 Lunds Aikido Club in Sweden. A few years of training elsewhere in Sweden gave her an insight into the diversity of Aikido, and opened up a wide network. This led to a position as board member of the Swedish Aikido Federation, which also brought her to Japan and the IAF congress 2012. Since 2008 Moa has been back in Lund, where she has been training and teaching ever since. Moa frequently travels to seminars in Sweden and abroad to get inspiration from different teachers. As another major source of inspiration, she regards her friends in Lunds Aikido club, who with their energy and joy on the mat offer challenges and provide insights in the daily training



Caroline Hansen of Copenhagen Aikido Club Started training Aikido in 2001 under the instruction of Torben Dyrberg 6th dan Aikikai and Lars Landberg 6th dan Aikikai and continues to do so. In 2005 Caroline visited Japan and trained as uchi deshi (live in student) for Mr Nemoto Sensei, a student of Morihiro Saito Sensei. As well as this visit Caroline has attended multiple seminars in places such as Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Israel, Belgium, USA, UK and of course her home area of Scandinavia. In 2007 Caroline became a member of the Copenhagen Aikido Club's Instructors Team. Teaching advance, beginner, and children's classes.



Sascha Pihan started his Aikido journey in 2003 in the Aikido Union Deutschland. The Frankfurt Dojo was connected to Rolf Brand Sensei and Erhard Altenbrand Sensei, both students of Yoshimasa Kimura Sensei and André Nocquet Sensei. During a semester abroad in Japan he practiced Iwama Ryu for the first time and fell in love with their bukiwaza system. Back home he was a student of Anita Köhler Sensei for more than ten years and also followed her teacher Christian Tissier Sensei. In 2017 Sascha found Lewis de Quiros Sensei on Youtube and since then, he constantly strives to improve his weapon skills by visiting seminars of Lewis and of other teachers from the Aikido Föderation Deutschland. He is a 4. Dan Aikikai teaches regularly in Darmstadt, Germany.



Brendon Buchanan started his training in 2001 but had to a break shortly after starting following a serious shoulder operation. He came back to his training in 2005. He started his club in 2008 as 1st kyu due to the retirement of his teacher, Brendon met Shihan Lewis Bernaldo de Quiros in 2013 at a seminar in Lancaster UK. Following that seminar Brendon chose to follow Lewis and passed his black belt in 2015. From 2013 to the current day Brendon visits Lewis Shihan multiple times per year all around Europe.



Michael Ormerod began his training in Aikido at the age of 15 in the UK. He has trained extensively throughout Europe and under taken an intensive training period in Japan under the guidance of Hiroki Nemoto Sensei (7th Dan) and training in the Founder's Dojo and Hombu Dojo. In 2016 he began a full time apprenticeship under his teacher Lewis Bernaldo de Quiros (6th Dan), training and teaching in the Takemusu Aikido Motril Dojo and attending international seminars as assistant. Michael has over 10 years of teaching experience, and in January 2018 he established Takemusu Aikido Orgiva, offering classes to children and adults. In 2019 Michael received the rank of Sandan (3rd Dan) from the Aikikai in Japan, Tokyo. Early 2020 saw the creation of the Takemusu Aikido Online Dojo, as a response to the Covid Pandemic – giving people the opportunity to continue their daily practice and the comfort of knowing that Aikido is just a click away under any circumstances. Michael also serves as technical support for Chet Valley Aikido (based in Norfolk, UK) which was established in September 2020.