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christian henry tobler presents a how to course of study for learning liechtenauer s secret art topics include the concepts of timing distance and initiative proper footwork guards strokes and thrust with the sword including liechtenauer s master strokes and close quarters combat illustrated with hundreds of instructional photographs

recorded over six centuries ago the teachings of the 14th century master at arms johannes liechtenauer have been given new life by a world wide community of modern

swordsmen and women fascinated by the elegance efficiency and depth of his unique martial art christian henry tobler was one of the pioneers in reviving the medieval master s art creating the first published syllabus for training with the two handed longsword back in 2004 this fully rewritten revised and expanded edition brings to bear a decade of refinement creating a definitive e how to e guide for students containing a short historical overview of the art students are taught stance footwork methods for gripping the sword and step by step instructions for executing the core techniques of the liechtenauer tradition additional chapters introduce students to wrestling spear and armoured combat demonstrating the arts depth and breadth heavily photo illustrated the book also makes use of decision trees and training drills to aid in learning used as complete self contained course or a primer for studying the original medieval works themselves this unique book will be invaluable to martial artists reenactors medieval historians or anyone who has ever wondered e how did knights fight e

the formidable european longsword featuring a double edged straight blade in excess of 40in and capable of being used with one or both hands remains one of the most impressive and distinctive edged weapons of the late medieval era also known as the bastard sword and the hand and a half sword the longsword evolved from the war swords and great swords of the 14th century and emerged as a battlefield weapon in the early stages of the hundred years war it went on to become a key weapon on the battlefields of late medieval europe creating a new system of sword fighting drawing together period sources modern technical analysis and his own experiences with the longsword neil grant explores the origins manufacture and evolving use of this iconic late medieval edged weapon illustrated throughout with specially commissioned full colour artwork and an array of period illustrations and close up photographs this is the enthralling story of one of late medieval europe s most distinctive and deadly close combat weapons

in the middle ages wrestling was practiced as both pastime and self defense by every level of society nobles townsman and peasants alike and was regarded as the foundation of all other martial arts and no medieval wrestler s name looms as large as that of the jewish master ott wrestler to the noble princes of austria whose treatise is included in over a dozen fencing manuscripts in this first of its kind book jessica finley of the renowned medieval martial arts association the selohaar fechtschule guides the reader on a journey that begins with the historical background of ott s wrestling and culminates in step by step instruction for practicing the techniques of this ancient fighting art both the lover of history and the wrestler on the mat will find this work an invaluable resource

in from medieval manuscript to modern practice renowned historical swordsman guy windsor demystifies one of the greatest martial arts books of all time fiore dei liberi s il fior di battaglia the flower of battle in the late 14th century dei liberi an italian knightly combat master wrote il fior di battaglia the flower of battle this magnificent illustrated manuscript described how to fight on foot and on horseback in armour and without with sword spear pollax dagger or with no weapon at all dr windsor has spent the last twenty years studying fiore s work and creating a modern practice of historical swordsmanship from it in this book he takes you through all of fiore s wrestling techniques

each technique or play is shown with the drawing from the treatise his transcription and translation of the text his commentary on how it fits into the system and works in practice and a link to a video of the technique in action the book also contains a detailed introduction describing fiore s life and times and extensive discussion of the contexts in which fiore s art belongs from medieval manuscript to modern practice the wrestling techniques of fiore dei liberi is essential reading for all martial artists and historians of the medieval and early renaissance

late medieval and early modern fight books offers insights into the cultural and historical transmission and practices of martial arts based on the corpus of the fight books fechtbücher in 14th to 17th century europe the first part of the book deals with methodological and specific issues for the studies of this emerging interdisciplinary field of research the second section offers an overview of the corpus based on geographical areas the final part offers some relevant case studies this is the first book proposing a comprehensive state of research and an overview of historical european martial arts studies one of its major strengths lies in its association of interdisciplinary scholars with practitioners of martial arts contributors are sydney anglo matthias johannes bauer eric burkart marco cavina franck cinato john clements timothy dawson olivier dupuis bert gevaert dierk hagedorn daniel jaquet rachel e kellet jens peter kleinau ken mondschein reinier van noort b ann tlusty manuel valle ortiz karin verelst and paul wagner

the 14th century a paradoxical time of world shattering plague the hundred years war the peasants revolt but also literary and artistic innovation formed the basis of the renaissance in the later years of this turbulent time a shadowy figure named johannes liechtenauer systematized lessons for swordsmanship wrestling armoured and mounted combat recorded in cryptic rhyming verses it fell to masters of the 15th and 16th century to record clarify and expand the grandmaster s instructions in an extensive body of fencing manuals as the world of the knight receded into history these texts many extensively and beautifully illustrated were forgotten by all but german language antiquarians and fencing historians until the last decade of the 20th century when they were rediscovered by a new audience of martial artists and historians in lance spear sword and messer christian tobler makes a deep dive into these fighting traditions creating a rich anthology that has extensive instructional material on topics as diverse as the two handed sword spear poleaxe wrestling and the use of long shields combined with thought provoking analysis and historical commentary that will occupy the mind and challenge the preconceptions of long time students of medieval german martial arts finally the martial career in arms and in the literature of arms of the famed emperor maximillian i often called the last knight who was himself a devoted student of the tradition serves as a capstone of this collection much as his literary output including a planned but unwritten fight book did in his own lifetime at the waning of the middle ages and start of the northern renaissance

medieval fighting with the german masters christian henry tobler presents a beautifully interpreted study of fighting techniques recorded in the mnemonic verse of the legendary german swordmaster johannes liechtenauer johannes liechtenauer was a 14th century german fencing master born in the mid 1300s some of liechtenauer s teachings were preserved in rhyming couplets possibly done so to prevent the uninitiated from learning the techniques he presented christian presents his interpretation in

a style that is readable translating the original and then providing a practical interpretation of each technique at once bold and martially efficient these classic techniques of swordsmanship have proven their enduring allure in this second reissue of a classic work chivalry bookshelf offers students of martial arts of martial culture during the middle ages fencing historians reenactors and students of medieval history

to those who study the physical culture of arms in medieval europe the german fechtbucher treatises on combat arts are among the most important surviving documentary sources no other region in europe produced such an extensive body of writings on the techniques of medieval combat among these and indeed among the martial arts treatises produced by any culture the massive compendia commissioned by the scholar swordsman paulus hector mair 1517 1579 stands out as uniquely ambitious and monumental the text survives in three manuscript copies each consisting of two volumes with each manuscript running to approximately 1200 pages and includes about 17 weapon forms depending on how one counts them from two handed sword to rapier armoured combat to sickle and scythe each form consists of anywhere from 8 to 136 lavishly illustrated techniques in many cases followed by one or more seminal texts on the form the various weapon forms are mutually integrated with each other in techniques and vocabulary and collectively offer an enormous volume of interpretable material the combination of text and image in the illustrated techniques offers obvious advantages to the understanding of a physical practice and mair is unique among the german masters in systematically giving instructions to both combatants so that as one learns how to perform a technique they also learn how to counter it lastly one of the most important features of the ars athletica is the latin translation which serves as something of a rosetta stone for interpreting the vocabulary of these long lost martial arts in this series dr jeffrey forgeng translator of the equally seminal fechtbucher of joachim meyer and hans leckuchner has compiled a team of translator practitioners to tackle mairs opus over a decade of work has gone into transcribing translating and annotating the ars athletica treatise on the martial arts presenting both the original german and latin as well as a modern english translation volume two of this series presents the dusack a sporting version of the older langesmesser long knife a single edged utility sword characteristic of the german speaking areas of europe made sometimes of wood sometimes of leather occasionally of steel the dusack was the training weapon for all single handed swords mairs 44 dusack sequences contained herein represent one of the earliest surviving treatises on this weapon previous texts tend to focus on the messer and readers will find mair ends this section by including his own redaction and treatment of some of the most famous messer texts of the previous century

in the late 14th century the german swordsman johannes liechtenauer developed and codified a system of armed combat with sword spear and dagger that spread through the holy roman empire and dominated german martial arts for nearly 300 years by the end of the 15th century a fellowship of swordsmen in frankfurt known as the brotherhood of saint mark or marxbruder had been granted an imperial charter to train and test swordmasters peter falkner was a long time member and sometime captain of this famed fencing guild and it was during this tenure that he set about creating an illustrated fight book of his own colorful painted figures and short captions depict

combat with a wide variety of weapons the longsword dagger staff poleaxe halberd dueling shield and mounted combat where his work excels however is in its extensive treatment of the falchion like messer and the unique variations of core techniques of the liechtenauer canon in this first printed edition of falkner s work german martial arts teacher and scholar christian tobler includes a full translation transcription and analysis combined with a photographic reproduction of the original manuscript the end result is a lovingly rendered english translation of a 500 year old picture book that shows an adaptation of the liechtenauer tradition by a known master of its most prestigious school as taught over a century after its foundation

ever wonder how good you d be with a sword this book is for you do love movie sword fights learn how real sword fights work are you into stage combat add depth with historically accurate technique you re a bad uncle looking for a present for your niece get her this book though her parents might hate you or do you just like swords if you ve ever wanted to turn your sword dreams into reality then this book is for you anyone can learn the medieval art of the longsword this book will give you a thorough grounding in the techniques and tactics from the 600 year old manuscript il fior di battaglia and includes free access to additional resources such as videos and full sized images to help you translate the movements from page to real life sure it s a 600 year old manuscript but you know what people who studied this manuscript lived why not stick with something that works the medieval longsword covers everything you need to know from tools of the trade to footwork strikes and defences to how to exploit your adversary s mistakes and how to disarm your opponent this complete and approachable guide to the art of arms provides a gateway to a world wide community of likeminded people also practicing this historical martial art whether you re an absolute beginner or a competent fencer this book by author and internationally renowned swordsman guy windsor will guide you towards mastery of this ancient art

noted medieval combat authorities dierk hagedorn and christian henry tobler join forces to present a transcription translation and analysis of the peter von danzig fight book one of the finest manuscripts of the 15th century devoted to the fencing tradition of german grandmaster johannes liechtenauer the codex features anonymous commentaries on liechtenauer s own mnemonic verses as well as treatises by other masters of his circle masters lignitzer huntfelt ott and peter von danzig himself a compendium of teachings for how to fight with the long sword spear sword and buckler dagger as well as unarmed grappling both in and out of armour this volume is a valuable resource for historical martial artists historians and medieval reenactors

the medieval knight was a well trained fighting man expert in the use of sword lance spear and dagger and member of a warrior aristocracy whose values virtues and vices helped shape european society for over 500 years as a window into the knight and his craft in saint george s name an anthology of medieval german fighting arts brings readers a treasure trove of historic combat treatises musings on the culture and context of the martial arts in the late middle ages and hands on training exercises for wrestling dagger falchion and poleaxe join medieval combat expert christian henry tobler on an expansive journey into the lost world of chivalric fighting arts certain to thrill

martial artists arms and armour enthusiasts and lovers of history alike

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