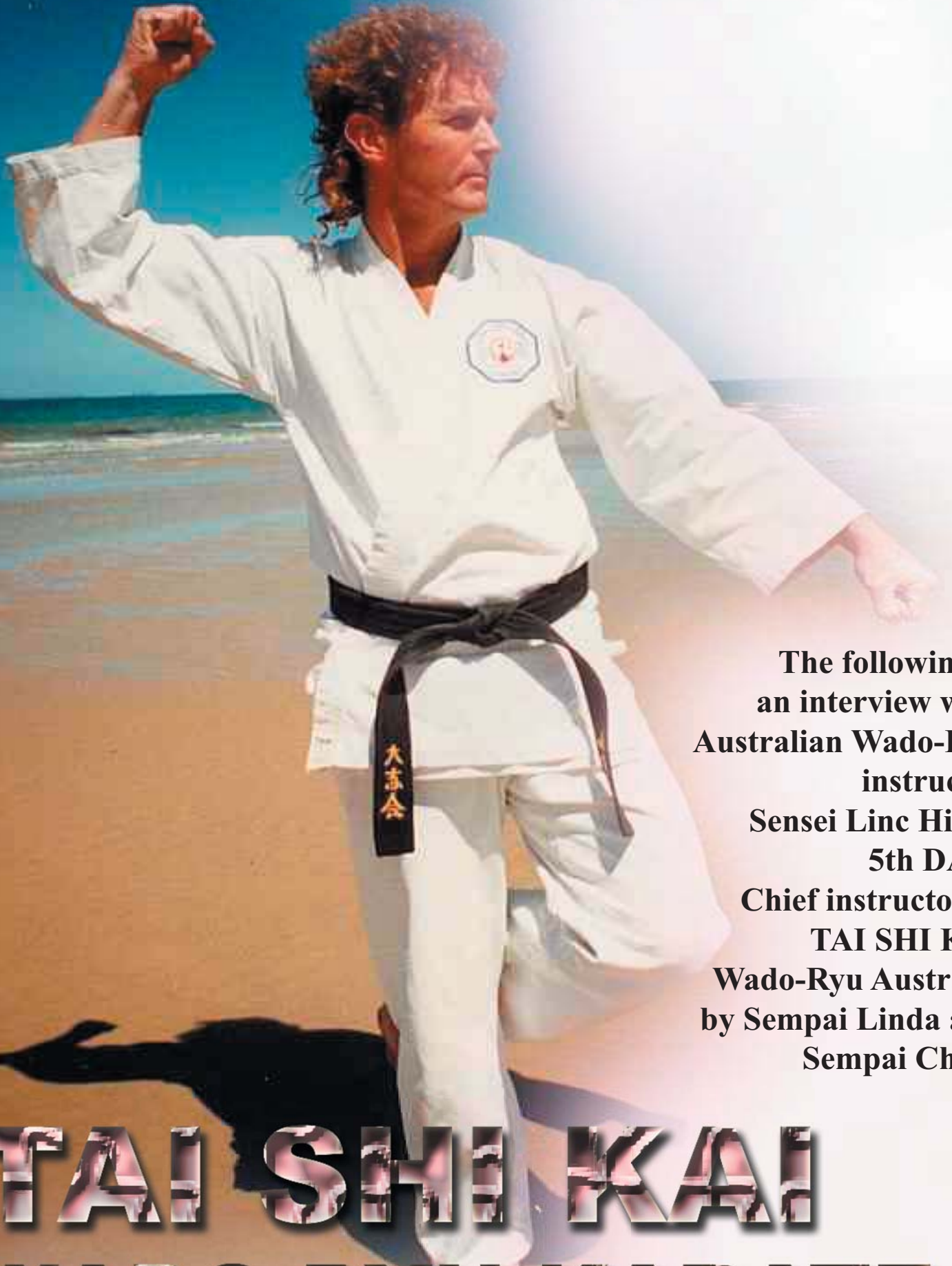


LINC HIBBS



The following is
an interview with
Australian Wado-Ryu
instructor
Sensei Linc Hibbs
5th DAN,
Chief instructor of
TAI SHI KAI
Wado-Ryu Australia
by Sempai Linda and
Sempai Chris.

TAI SHI KAI WADO RYU KARATE

LING HIBBS

Q1. Sensei, When did you commence training and who was your instructor?

I commenced training in January 1976 learning the Wado-Ryu style under Sensei Wally Maclean.

Q2. What was your reason for taking up Karate and why Wado-Ryu?

As a teenager I was always interested in the martial arts but it wasn't until a few years later that I finally made the effort and started training. Like most people who join a club I knew nothing of styles or the differences between them. It just happened to be the style I chose at the time. All styles are good, it is what the Karateka puts into his/her training that is important. Also having a good instructor helps.

Q3. Was Karate-do your first martial arts experience?

Yes, I have been practising Wado-Ryu now for 29 years but I have also practised a small amount of Silat, Kungfu, Tai Chi, Aikido and Jujutsu. Wado-Ryu is a hard, fast style of Karate. The softness of these other martial arts have helped me find the right balance with my karate. I

who wear blinkers are missing out on an immense amount of martial arts knowledge and history.

Q4. Do you teach these other martial arts to your students?

Training consists mainly of Wado-Ryu basics and Kihon Kumite. Also Wado-Ryu Kata and their applications. When students reach Shodan I introduce them to the softer side of the martial arts. Practice revolves around partner work self defence using soft flowing techniques, using Tai Sabaki and including locks, sweeps and throws. Ohtsuka Sensei was a Jujutsu master and he included a small amount of Jujutsu in the Wado-Ryu style.

Too many people today dismiss Kata as boring or irrelevant. This only shows their lack of knowledge and understanding of the Bunkai (applications) hidden within the Kata.

Q5. How important is it in today's society to learn some form of self-defence?

Violence is becoming more prevalent everyday. People and society in general are becoming selfish and uncaring. Drugs are also a major concern and are also a large cause of violence and armed robbery etc. It is imperative that both men and women make an effort to get some basic self-defence knowledge. Many attacks are not only happening on the street but in people's homes.

Q6. You mentioned Kata. How many Kata do you teach? Why is kata so important?

In Tai Shi Kai we practice only 16 Kata. Some styles practise up to 30 or more. the number is not important, it is understanding what the Kata is all about. Kata in essence is the heart of Karate-do. It is where the students develop and achieve their self-defence skills. Too many people today dismiss Kata as boring or irrelevant. This only shows their lack of knowledge and understanding of the Bunkai (applications) hidden within the Kata.

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LING HIBBS

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Q7. What Role do you think sport Karate has in today's martial arts?

Karate-do was not created as a sport and was never meant to become one. Sport Karate only serves to create big egos and swelled heads for an elite few. Karate was devised as a way of developing and improving the mind, body and spirit of the Karateka; a way of embracing and combining the mind and body in harmony. A way of learning to understand the person within and thus create a more tolerant and peaceful society. No amount of trophies or medals will take the place of these qualities, but to each his own.

Instead of defending against kicks and punches they now have to contend with a knife or stick which makes them rethink their whole self-defence approach.

Q8. Do you incorporate weapons into TAI SHI KAI?

I teach my black belts knife defence, bojutsu, and a small amount of stick fighting practice with these weapons to help the students with their self defence applications, Tai Sabaki and footwork. They also add a new dimension for senior students. Instead of defending against kicks and punches they now have to contend with a knife or stick which makes them rethink their whole self-defence approach.

Q9. Sensei, What are the main benefits you have gained from your martial arts training?

Oh I could go on forever expounding the virtues and benefits of practicing Karate-do but I think the main benefit would have to be friendship. Throughout my years of teaching, training and travelling, I have met some very sincere people. Those martial artists who are not caught up in the ego states. These people and all of my students are my friends. Without friendship the world is a very lonely place.

TAI SHI KAI

WADO RYU KARATE

I use my karate outside the dojo 7 days a week, 365 days a year. I believe Karate-do is a way of life, a positive way of life.

Q10. How do you keep yourself motivated? What helps you to continue along the martial arts path?

Seeing students mastering a new technique, getting fitter, more flexible, stronger etc, makes me feel good inside. I am a very positive person and I try to pass this positive feeling on to each and every student. Also the feedback and support I get from students makes me feel that I must be doing something right. I know what karate-do has done for me and so my motivation and reward is to see them improve. I also attend seminars and workshops organised by Sensei Graham Slater (I.M.A.) He is doing a wonderful job of bringing martial artists together exchanging ideas in friendship and harmony.

Q11. Do you think people are missing the traditional values of Karate-do?

Yes I'm afraid so. Most styles of Karate today are involved in sport Karate. There are very few styles teaching Karate as it was meant to be taught. I am finding more and more people are joining to learn for self-defence reasons. I also have many students come to me from other styles because they are constantly being pushed into competition.

Q12. Have you ever had to use your Karate outside the dojo?

I use my karate outside the dojo 7 days a week, 365 days a year. I believe Karate-do is a way of life, a positive way of life. It can teach you so much about yourself and others. It saturates your blood, enveloping and enriching your life. Its about improving ones life and the world we live in. Its about helping to make the world a happier safer place to live. Its about helping others to improve their lives and helping those less fortunate then yourself.

Interviewers: Sensei, Thank you for your time.

Sensei: Thank you.

BOOKS, VIDEOS & DVDs by Grandmaster William Cheung

OUR LARGE RANGE OF VIDEOS & DVDs INCLUDE:



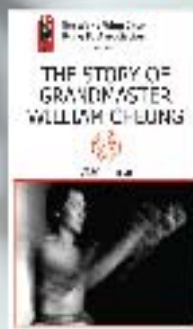
The Wing Chun Way Vols 1 & 2



Wing Chun Basics



The Tao of Wing Chun Vol 1 & 2



The Story of Grandmaster William Cheung



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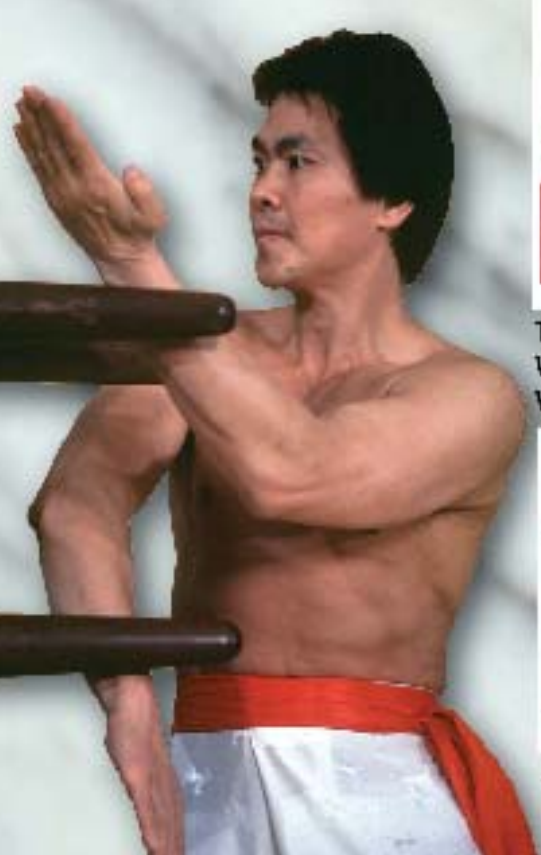
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Book: "My Life with Wing Chun"
 About the experiences of Cheung from the time that he grew up in Hong Kong with Bruce Lee. Additionally covers the history and development of Wing Chun and its philosophy, a comparison of Modified and Traditional Wing Chun, blindfolded Chi Sao, Butterfly Swords and Dragon Pole; internal energy and meridian stretching, the "Death Touch". Compares the Mike Tyson fighting system to Wing Chun. Includes Wing Chun Grading Structure as well as sports injury treatments using internal energy.



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