



# WILD GEESE MARTIAL ARTS



## Wild Geese Host festival of South East Asian Martial Arts

Wild Geese Martial Arts held their first seminar of the Philippine and Malaysian arts on the 12 and 13 August 2006.

This showcase of the South Asian martial arts brought together Pat O'Malley (Rapid Arnis), Lucy O'Malley (Doce Pares "Original" Eskrima), Sebastien Veroult (FISFO Silat), Paul Cox (Parkers Kenpo and Guba Doce Pares) and Steve Hanimau (JKD/Kali).



The event was held in Shay McNamee's Martial Arts Academy which was only proper as it was Professor McNamee who introduced the Filipino Martial Arts (FMA) into Ireland in 1992 when he brought over Pat O'Malley and John Harvey to introduce Rapid Arnis into the country.

Bringing together a group of instructors to teach their respective arts can be a recipe for disaster, however all instructors were too busy trying to gain as much knowledge as they could from each other to worry about egos. In fact on the second day, Masters McNamee, O'Malley and Veroult withdrew to a corner and spent the next 20 minutes comparing notes and sharing ideas, which we were lucky enough to capture on video!



Knowing that they had a group of instructors who would and could each stay on the floor all day teaching, WGMA kept a very loose structure to the seminar so they could run overtime if they so wished, and they all did.



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Lucy O'Malley started the seminar with some arma ra drills, showing various applications for them. She showed a series of footwork drills she has developed from the Rapid Arnis syllabus again showing various applications with weapon and empty hand.

As the youngest (and best looking) of the instructors Lucy, in true eskrimador spirit, jumped at the chance to break the ice.

Following on from Lucy, Professor Seb Veroult of FISFO Penchak gave a seminar of modern silat as devised by Charles Jousot. Seb took a break from his training for an upcoming Dog Brothers fight in Switzerland to make his second visit to Ireland and left a lot of bruises and two cracked groin guards behind in his wake. After an agonizing warm up comprised of traditional penchak stance drills, he moved onto showing self defence and takedown techniques against empty hand and weapon attacks.

All present were dumbstruck by his speed, grace of this incredibly beautiful and lethal art.

He finished by showing some arrest techniques and equipment developed for the French police by himself and FISFO founder, Charles Jousot.



Paul Cox, a founding member of Wild Geese Martial Arts was next up.

Paul who holds dan grades in Shaolin Kenpo and Parkers Kenpo and is the Irish representative of Pat O'Malley's Rapid Arnis and Grand Master Danny Guba's Doce Pares Eskrima, demonstrated his theory that the FMA were a major influence in the development of Ed Parkers Kenpo through such people as Floro Villebrille, Ben Largusa, Danny Inostanto, Huk Planas and Bruce Lee.

He then showed that the 5 and 6 count double stick "siniwali" drills were the same as Kenpo techniques "5 swords" and "Calming the Storm" and that the triangle footwork found in FMA also features strongly in Kenpo.

He then suggested the feasibility of links between fighting combinations in the two arts, comparing a combination favoured by Professor McNamee with a Doce Pares "Corto Curvada" and Rapid Arnis "Arma-ra Isa".

Paul also demonstrated a different way of training Kenpo using methods from FMA such as Tapi and Hubud to make Kenpo training more alive.



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Saturday was brought to a close by the inimitable Steve Hanimau of JKD/Kali. Steve is a former Royal Marine, ex Bodyguard and is currently a Detective in the British Police.



He stated that he wanted to show some “Smash and Crash” techniques that have saved his life and the lives of his buddies on numerous occasions. Sifu Dave Hedges was “volunteered” for the role of crash test dummy. After the mats were carefully laid out Steve showed some simple and brutal knife defence.

For the next hour Dave was Smashed and Crashed to the floor by Steve who seemed to make a point of ignoring the mats

completely. This was an excellent display of the mans battlefield skills and experience, and true to his nature was both incredibly humorous and incredibly lethal.

The work was over for the day, so all involved went out to celebrate Pat O’Malley’s birthday, an event that proved as challenging as one of his Black Eagle meets!

Sunday started with an impromptu session from Professor Veroult. He was not supposed to be attending as his group had an early flight back to Paris, However he said there were a few things he wanted to show, and also wanted to see Pat O’Malley showing some Espada y Daga. Of course Pat happily obliged and the day turned into an open seminar, covering whatever the students wanted to practice.



The session flowed from one topic to another with Pat showing some Espada y Daga drills and Doce Pares forms while Lucy covered single stick disarming. She showed how there are three types of disarm, which when applied against the twelve angles of attack give a total of 36 disarms. It all sounded so easy when she explained and demonstrated the 36 disarms, but that is the essence of the O’Malley’s teaching style. Make it look and sound easy, and then watch us all struggle to keep up!



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So all in all a very successful seminar and a weekend much enjoyed by everyone. The Wild Geese are already planning their second seminar for early in the new year and have conformation that Master Perceval “Val” Pableo, head instructor at the Doce Pares headquarters in Cebu, will coming to us for his first visit to Ireland around June 2007.