

## 2009 SAN FRANCISCO AIKIDO PROJECT

HOSTED BY THE SUGINAMI AIKIKAI

**JAMES FRIEDMAN SENSEI, 5TH DAN**  
**CHIEF INSTRUCTOR, SUGINAMI AIKIKAI, SAN FRANCISCO**

Born in 1959, Friedman began Aikido training in 1980 at the age of twenty at the Oakland Aikido Institute in Oakland, California. In the late 1980's he began traveling to Tokyo where he met Hiroshi Kato Sensei becoming his first American student. Friedman's approach to Aikido is unique as he stresses hard training and conditioning with an emphasis on practical application, while retaining a very relaxed physical state. He has crosstrained extensively in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and Thai Kick boxing. Friedman is the founder and chief instructor of the Sugunami Aikikai.

**CHRISTIAN TISSIER SENSEI, 7TH DAN**  
**CHIEF INSTRUCTOR, CERCLE CHRISTIAN TISSIER, PARIS, FRANCE**

Christian Tissier was born in Paris in 1951 and began Aikido in 1962. In 1969, he traveled to Japan where he studied for seven years under famous masters, notably Seigo Yamaguchi and Doshu Kisshomaru Ueshiba. Tissier returned to Paris to found the Cercle Tissier and became one of the leading figures of the French FFAAA organization. He travels all over the world conducting seminars and is one of Aikido's most highly regarded instructors.

**BRUCE BOOKMAN SENSEI, TENZAN AIKIDO, KAI-CHO**

Bruce Bookman's Aikido practice began as a child in New York City. As a young man he spent two years in Japan training at the Aikikai Hombu Dojo. Besides Yoshimitsu Yamada, Bookman counts Kisshomaru Ueshiba and other Hombu Dojo instructors as major influences. He also spent 16 years practicing under T.K. Chiba, a live-in disciple of Founder Morihei Ueshiba. Bookman has an extensive background in Brazilian Jiu jitsu, Iai-do, judo, boxing and tae kwon do. He currently operates the Tenzan Aikido Center in Seattle, Washington.

**PROFESSOR CLOVIS SILVA, 5TH DAN**  
**BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU, TEAM CARLSON GRACIE**

Born in 1965, Silva grew up in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He began training 26 years ago and holds the rank of 4th degree black belt under the late Master Carlson Gracie. He is considered one of the top ten most technical fighters Carlson Gracie ever produced. Silva won many title fights and was four-time Brazilian Jiu-jitsu champion. His goal in teaching is to help build a solid foundation in self-defense through the teachings of BJJ as well as helping students build confidence and self-esteem. Silva is currently a professional bodyguard in San Francisco and teaches at the Sugunami Aikikai.

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**Bruce Bookman • Clovis Silva**