

**Pamana ng Mandirigma
(Warriors Legacy)**

April 22, 2006

Presents: Grandmaster Robert Castro

Eskabo Daan

By Alex France



We've all had that experience. We think we see something out of the corner of our eye but when we actually look in that direction, we don't see anything. That's how it is for me when I think of the art that Grandmaster Robert Castro created.

Out of the corner of my eye, I think I see a familiar move but when I turn to look, the movement is all done and over with, of course. That part is attributable to the speed with which Robert and his students perform their movements. Defense and offense in the wink of an eye!

But now, they've got my full attention. I'm prepared to see everything they do even if it is done in sub-seconds....

Whoa! It started off with what looked like a Serrada block; flowed seamlessly into what looked like a Kombat counter strike, then a flurry of very short distance Serrada (?) strikes; and ended what was for sure a jiu-jitsu lock. Or was it jiu-jitsu? ...

A figure 4 lock... but it doesn't look like any figure 4 lock I've seen... applied much easier and faster (we're talking split seconds here –even for the traditional lock)... looks almost incomplete; but the effect is the same: sudden and complete control of the limb demanding instant compliance by the opponent.

What has Robert wrought?

Then it dawned on me. This is no ordinary mix of various arts. It is its own...

Ever look at a family portrait and notice the similarities the children share with both their parents? Yet each family member is his or her own person. The child is not the clone of either parent. The child is unique, with his or her own strengths and characteristics.

This is called evolution.

Today, I witnessed martial arts evolving yet again.

Comments from Seminar Participants:

"The seminar was cool!" - *Ryan Cary*

"The seminar with Grandmaster Robert Castro is excellent. It is very interesting to see the similarities and the differences in the various arts." - *Randall Chin*

"I enjoyed the classes of both styles. How different and yet the same. Using the long sticks makes a difference with timing and distance. I look forward to future training with Master Lito and the Kombat family." - *Phil E Cortijos*





"What I love about the different styles seen today is the similarity and synchronicity that is mirrored by society and different cultures.. That said, we are all human and we all move similarly, yet a little different than each other." - *David Eng*

"We had a good showing of martial arts practitioners who are truly dedicated and passionate about the Filipino stick fighting art. It is always a pleasure to watch Grand Master Castro and Master Lito Concepcion in action." - *Lance Leung*

On Grandmaster Robert Castro:

"The success and growth of Eskabo Daan is attributed to the selfless and spiritual nature of Grandmaster Robert Castro. Knowledge of the art of Eskabo Daan has always been given with an overwhelming abundance, which is the very essence of this unique hybrid system that promotes constant personal growth and advancement.

Grandmaster Robert Castro has always taught Eskabo Daan with the philosophy that, "Nothing should be held back from the student and that the student should be given every opportunity to progress and even surpass the instructor, should that student's skills and abilities permit."

"The one thing that Grandmaster Robert Castro has always stressed was the importance that a martial arts practitioner remain humble and open minded and be respectful of other martial arts systems." - *Lance Leung*

"The way in which Grand Master Robert Castro makes you feel welcome not just to the art but into his life has been a blessing. He has not only shared his knowledge of the art but also he has been a great friend. He has always remained consistent with the way he treats people with the attitude of "treating everybody like they're your brother unless they prove to you different". There's no way I would, but I'm sure glad I haven't. Having Brother Robert in my life is a true blessing.

We all have challenges in life. During many of my greatest challenges Robert was always there to offer his wisdom and experience to help me gain insight and perspective on these situations. Basically, he is a genuinely caring and unselfish person. I think all these attributes generates' an attraction. I have met really great people thru the Eskabo Daan Network. Very spiritual and conscious people I don't think I would have ever met anywhere else." - *Master Harold Soriano Short*

"Words cannot describe what Robert Castro and Eskabo Daan has done for me. I started taking his class a low point in my life. Robert has taught me things I never thought I was capable of, physically, mentally, spiritually and (He also taught me about) my Filipino culture." - *Erneil Tuazon*



www.eskabodaan.org



IPMAF USA HQ

Alex France
Inside Club One Fitness Center
4460 Hacienda Dr.
Pleasanton, CA.
(925) 924-4498
www.presas.org