

Additional References for Mr. Fredric Absher

Authored Multiple Books

Fredrik R. Absher, *Kojosho, Old Castle Pine*, 1995.

Fredrik Absher, Henry Soon, and Rex Kimball, *The Mystical Warrior*, 1989.

(Henry) Soon Fook-Leong and Fredric Absher, *Kojosho, The Philosophy of a Kempo System*, 1982, 1984, 1989, 1994, 2001, 2002.

Listed in Multiple Books

John Corcorron and Emil Farkas, *Martial Arts - Traditions, History, and People*, Gallery Books, 1983.

Masters, Founders and Leader of American Martial Arts, Edited by T.S. Peric and Elizabeth Ito, Brooks and Brooks Publishing, 1985.

MARTIAL ARTS

TRADITIONS, HISTORY, PEOPLE

John Corcoran and Emil Farkas



GALLERY BOOKS

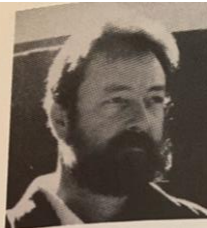
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ABSHER, FRED (1944-) American karate instructor and leader of the **kojasho** system of Chinese boxing. Absher began his martial arts training in the kojasho system in 1960, under the guidance of Jack B. Goric. After studying Japanese karate-do for three years in the U.S. Army, he was promoted to the rank of 1st degree black belt. In 1965 he began the study of **t'ai-chi-ch'uan, hsing-i, pa-kua**, and cha yon tae kwon do, eventually receiving his 4th degree black belt in tae kwon do from **Soo Kim** of Houston, Tex. Absher established a studio in Albuquerque, N.M., as a member of the World Taekwondo Association and the USKA. He won the New Mexico State Karate Grand Championship three times and served as the U.S. team captain in the 1st World Taekwondo Championships in Seoul, South Korea. In 1972, shortly before his death, Goric named Absher the new leader of the kojasho system. Absher currently teaches kojasho within the framework of a formalized sash system.

MASTERS FOUNDERS & LEADERS

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Fredric Absher began studying the martial arts at the Japanese Kempo school in Santa Fe, New Mexico in 1960. He continued training while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, earning his black belt in the USAFE All Karate Do Orig. in Germany in 1964. He earned his second-dan ranking from the Tae Kwon Do Assoc. of Seoul, Korea; his third and fourth from Kim Soo of the World Tae Kwon Do Assoc. in Houston, Texas.

Absher's fifth and sixth degrees are from the Kojasho® System which is a variety of Japanese Kempo. Kojasho® uses Chinese animal movements to develop the practitioner's imagination, two-person forms to develop awareness and sensitivity, and 'hard line' basics to more closely examine posture.

As Chief Instructor of the Kojasho® System, Mr. Absher has continually honed his system since opening his first school in Las Cruces, New Mexico in 1966. Today New Mexico has eleven Kojasho® Schools with additional schools in seven other states. Mr. Absher maintains a 50-acre ranch east of Albuquerque as a world headquarters for the System. Students from over the world attend his bi-annual karate camps.

Concerned with keeping Kojasho® technically intact, he became the first person to copyright a martial arts system under the copyright and trademark laws. Since then he has advised a number of martial artists across the country on copyrighting their systems. In 1982 Absher published *Kojasho: Theory and Application of a Karate System*.

Each of the 85 Kojasho® Black Belts studied a minimum of four years to reach rank. Some of Absher's notable tournament competitors include Steve Martin, a top regional contender in semi-contact in the early 1970's and one of the youngest black belts to compete in the team qualifications for the First World Tae Kwon Do Championships in Seoul, Korea; Dave Pettigrew, ranked as a national top ten contender by *Black Belt* magazine; Randall Cobb, title contender for both the World Heavyweight Boxing and World Heavyweight Kickboxing titles; and Rex Kimball, featured columnist for *Karate Illustrated* and who also assisted in formulating the rules for the World Karate Assoc.

Absher's own competition record includes 1967 Southwest Karate