

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris

****Mastering the Art of Dueling: 17th Century Rapier as Taught by Salvatore Fabris****

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris opens a fascinating window into the sophisticated and disciplined world of Renaissance swordsmanship. This era marked a pivotal moment in the evolution of fencing, where the rapier emerged not just as a weapon but as an extension of the duelist's skill, intellect, and grace. Salvatore Fabris, a celebrated Italian fencing master, played a key role in formalizing and elevating rapier combat techniques during the early 1600s. His treatise, *"Lo Schermo, overo Scienza d'Arme"*, remains a cornerstone for anyone interested in the historical art of fencing and the practical realities of dueling in that period.

The Historical Context of 17th Century Rapier Dueling

Before diving into Fabris's teachings, it's essential to understand the environment in which the rapier flourished. The 17th century was a time of social transformation, where dueling was not only a matter of survival but also a display of honor and social status. The rapier, with its slender, sharply pointed blade, was designed primarily for thrusting attacks, a departure from the heavier, cutting swords of previous centuries. As dueling became more codified, fencing masters like Fabris developed systematic methods to train gentlemen and soldiers alike in the art of defense and offense.

Who Was Salvatore Fabris?

Salvatore Fabris (circa 1560–1618) was an Italian fencing master whose reputation spread far beyond his native Italy. His expertise was sought after by noble courts across Europe, including Denmark and Germany, where his influence helped shape continental fencing styles. Fabris's work is notable for its

clarity, practical approach, and integration of biomechanics with strategic thinking. His treatise meticulously explains footwork, guards, attacks, defenses, and counterattacks, emphasizing both physical skill and mental agility—a hallmark of the classical fencing tradition.

Understanding the Art of Dueling 17th Century Rapier as Taught by Salvatore Fabris

Fabris's system is far more than a collection of moves; it's a holistic art form that combines timing, distance, and psychological insight. His approach to the rapier elevates fencing from mere combat to a refined discipline where control and precision reign supreme.

The Foundation: Stances and Guards

At the heart of Fabris's teachings lies the importance of stance and guard positions. The correct posture ensures balance and readiness to respond to an opponent's actions swiftly.

- **Prima, Seconda, Terza, and Quarta Guards:** Fabris describes these fundamental guard positions, each designed to protect different lines of attack while allowing immediate offensive options.
- **Body Alignment:** Maintaining a slight sideways posture minimizes the target area exposed to the opponent.
- **Weight Distribution:** Proper balance between the feet allows for fluid movement forward, backward, or laterally.

Footwork: The Dance of the Duelist

One of the most critical elements in Fabris's methodology is footwork. He regarded it as the “dance” that dictates the tempo of the duel.

- ****Advance and Retreat:**** Controlled steps to manage distance, close the gap, or create space.
- ****Passing Steps and Lunges:**** Techniques to quickly close distance for an attack or evade an opponent's strike.
- ****Maintaining the Line:**** Movement is always aimed at preserving the optimal line of attack and defense, preventing overextension or vulnerability.

Attacks and Parries: Precision and Timing

Fabris's art stresses that successful dueling is about anticipating and controlling the opponent's intentions.

- ****Thrusts and Feints:**** The rapier's thin blade is designed for piercing, and Fabris teaches various thrusts aimed at different targets, combined with deceptive feints to mislead.
- ****Cuts as Secondary Techniques:**** While primarily a thrusting weapon, the rapier can deliver cuts; Fabris includes these as supplementary tactics.
- ****Parries:**** Defensive moves that intercept and deflect incoming attacks, setting up opportunities for ripostes.

The Psychological Aspect: Reading Your Opponent

Fabris understood that fencing was as much a mental battle as a physical one. His instruction includes advice on observing an opponent's tendencies, exploiting weaknesses, and controlling the tempo of the fight.

- ****Deception and Timing:**** Using feints and sudden changes in rhythm to confuse the opponent.
- ****Patience and Control:**** Avoiding rash attacks and waiting for the perfect moment to strike.
- ****Confidence and Composure:**** Maintaining calm under pressure to make rational decisions.

Key Techniques from Fabris's Treatise

To truly appreciate the art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by Salvatore Fabris, it helps to explore some of his signature techniques:

The “Fendente”

Although the rapier is mainly for thrusting, the fendente is a powerful descending cut used to disrupt an opponent's guard or create openings. Fabris demonstrates how to execute it with precision, ensuring the cut is both effective and economical in movement.

The “Mezza Volta”

This is a half-turn step that allows a duelist to quickly change position relative to the opponent, opening new angles of attack while maintaining defensive readiness. Fabris's explanation highlights the importance of seamless movement in combat.

The “False Edge Cut”

Fabris advises using the false edge—a less sharp side of the blade—to deliver unexpected cuts that can surprise an opponent. This technique embodies his philosophy of combining subtlety with effectiveness.

Training Tips Inspired by Fabris's Methodology

For modern practitioners interested in historical fencing or classical rapier techniques, Fabris's work offers invaluable guidance:

- **Master the Basics First:** Spend ample time perfecting stances, guards, and footwork before attempting complex maneuvers.
- **Practice Distance Control:** Use drills that emphasize measuring and maintaining effective reach.
- **Drill Parries and Ripostes:** Learn to defend and immediately counterattack with fluidity.
- **Emphasize Slow, Deliberate Movements:** This builds muscle memory and precision before increasing speed.
- **Study Fabris's Diagrams:** His original illustrations provide visual context that enhances textual descriptions.
- **Incorporate Mental Training:** Visualize bouts and practice reading an opponent's body language.

The Legacy of Salvatore Fabris in Contemporary Fencing

The art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by Salvatore Fabris continues to inspire modern historical European martial arts (HEMA) enthusiasts and classical fencing practitioners. His systematic approach to swordsmanship laid foundations that influenced fencing schools well beyond his time. Today, Fabris's work is revered not only for its historical value but also for its practical applications in refining technique, strategy, and discipline.

Historical reenactors and fencing academies worldwide study Fabris's treatise to gain authentic insights into Renaissance martial culture, while his emphasis on balance, timing, and psychological acuity resonates with any martial artist striving for excellence.

Exploring the art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by Salvatore Fabris reveals a rich tapestry of technique, philosophy, and history. His teachings elevate fencing to a refined martial art that requires discipline, intellect, and elegance—qualities that continue to captivate and challenge sword enthusiasts centuries later. Whether you're a student of historical fencing or simply fascinated by Renaissance combat, delving into Fabris's methodology offers a rewarding journey into the heart of classical swordsmanship.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who was Salvatore Fabris and what is his significance in 17th century rapier fencing?

Salvatore Fabris was a renowned Italian fencing master in the early 17th century, known for his influential treatise on rapier fencing titled 'Scienza e Pratica d'Arme.' His work is considered one of the most comprehensive manuals on the art of dueling with the rapier, emphasizing technique, strategy, and principles of combat.

What are the key principles of Salvatore Fabris's rapier technique?

Fabris's rapier technique focuses on balance, timing, and distance control. He teaches precise footwork, effective use of the point, and the importance of controlling the opponent's blade. His approach combines offensive and defensive maneuvers, emphasizing economy of motion and strategic thinking in duels.

How does Fabris's approach to the rapier differ from other fencing masters of the 17th century?

Fabris's approach is noted for its clarity, systematic structure, and detailed explanations of techniques and tactics. Unlike some contemporaries who focused heavily on flashy or overly complex moves, Fabris emphasized practical and efficient combat strategies that could be adapted to various situations.

in dueling.

What weapons and equipment are typically used in the art of dueling as taught by Salvatore Fabris?

The primary weapon is the rapier, a slender, sharply pointed sword designed for thrusting attacks. Fabris also covers the use of the dagger or main gauche as a secondary weapon for parrying and counterattacks. Protective clothing and masks are modern additions for practice but were less standardized in the 17th century.

How can modern practitioners learn and practice the art of dueling based on Fabris's teachings?

Modern practitioners study Fabris's original fencing manual, often translated and interpreted by historical fencing scholars. They practice the described techniques through drills, partner exercises, and controlled sparring, often within Historical European Martial Arts (HEMA) communities that focus on authentic reconstruction of period fencing styles.

What role does strategy play in Fabris's rapier dueling system?

Strategy is central in Fabris's system; he teaches fencers to anticipate their opponent's actions, use feints, control the tempo of the fight, and exploit openings. His treatise details how to adapt tactics based on the opponent's style and the flow of combat, making strategic thinking as important as physical skill.

Are there any surviving manuscripts or editions of Salvatore Fabris's fencing manual?

Yes, several copies of Fabris's treatise 'Scienza e Pratica d'Arme' survive and have been digitized or translated into modern languages. These manuscripts provide detailed illustrations and explanations of his techniques and remain primary sources for those studying 17th century rapier fencing.

Additional Resources

****The Art of Dueling 17th Century Rapier as Taught by Salvatore Fabris****

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris represents one of the most refined and influential approaches to swordsmanship in the early modern period. Salvatore Fabris, a master fencer from Venice, significantly shaped the fencing tradition with his detailed treatises and methodical instruction, which continue to be studied by historical European martial arts (HEMA) practitioners today. His work bridges the gap between practical combat and the elegant, almost artistic, expressions of rapier fencing, offering a comprehensive system of technique, strategy, and philosophy.

The Historical Context of Salvatore Fabris and the 17th Century Rapier

The 17th century was a pivotal era for the development of the rapier—a slender, sharply pointed sword designed primarily for thrusting attacks. This period saw the rapier evolve from a dueling weapon to a symbol of status and skill among European nobility. Salvatore Fabris emerged during the early 1600s as a preeminent fencing master whose methodologies were documented in his seminal work, **De lo Schermo, overo Scienza d'Arme** (The Art of Fencing, or the Science of Arms), published in 1606.

Fabris's teachings encapsulate the transition from medieval swordplay to a more scientific and structured form of fencing. His system is notable for its emphasis on biomechanics, timing, and precision—elements that distinguish his approach within the broader tradition of Italian rapier fencing.

Core Principles of the Art of Dueling 17th Century Rapier as Taught by Salvatore Fabris

Fabris's methodology can be dissected into several interrelated principles that define his art of dueling

17th century rapier. These include stance and guard positions, the use of measure and distance, offensive and defensive techniques, and the tactical mindset necessary for dueling success.

The Guard Positions and Stance

One of Fabris's key contributions lies in his detailed description of guard positions. Unlike some contemporaries who favored rigid stances, Fabris advocated fluidity and adaptability. His preferred stance balanced stability with mobility, allowing the fencer to react swiftly to opponents' actions.

Fabris's guards, such as the **prima**, **seconda**, **terza**, and **quarta**, are not merely static postures but dynamic starting points for attack or defense. Each guard is optimized for controlling the opponent's line of attack and creating openings for ripostes.

Mastery of Measure and Distance

Central to Fabris's system is the concept of **measure**—the spatial relationship between combatants. Understanding and controlling this distance enables the fencer to strike effectively while minimizing exposure to counterattack. Fabris's treatise elaborates on how subtle shifts in footwork and blade positioning manipulate measure to the practitioner's advantage.

This focus on distance management underscores the scientific nature of Fabris's art. Rather than relying on brute force, his approach emphasizes precision and timing, allowing even a less physically imposing fencer to outmaneuver a stronger adversary.

Offensive and Defensive Techniques in Fabris's Rapier System

Fabris's fencing technique intricately blends offense and defense, emphasizing the seamless transition between the two. His approach highlights the importance of controlling the opponent's weapon while preparing to deliver decisive thrusts.

The Use of the Thrust

The rapier's design favors the thrust over cutting motions, and Fabris's system is optimized accordingly. His instructions detail various types of thrusts—straight, circular, and disengaged—that exploit openings created by an opponent's movements or mistakes.

Parries and Counters

Defense in Fabris's art is not passive. Parries are executed with precision to deflect or control the opponent's blade, setting up opportunities for counterattacks. Fabris describes sophisticated parrying techniques that incorporate blade angles and body positioning to reduce vulnerability.

Moreover, Fabris introduces **binds** and **grips**, maneuvers that seize control of the adversary's weapon, effectively neutralizing their offensive capacity and facilitating follow-up attacks.

Strategic and Psychological Elements of Fabris's Method

Beyond physical technique, Salvatore Fabris's teachings delve into the psychological dynamics of dueling. He emphasizes patience, observation, and adaptability as critical components of success. A skilled fencer must read the opponent's intentions and adapt tactics in real-time.

Fabris also stresses the importance of timing—the ability to strike at the precise moment when the opponent is most vulnerable. This principle of **tempo** is a hallmark of the art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by Fabris, reflecting his scientific and methodical approach.

Comparison with Contemporary Fencing Masters

Fabris's system stands in contrast to other fencing masters of his time, such as Ridolfo Capo Ferro and Francesco Alfieri. While all shared common foundations in Italian rapier fencing, Fabris's methods

demonstrate a higher degree of analytical detail and an emphasis on adaptability.

For example, Capo Ferro's work is often considered more prescriptive with fixed guards and sequences, whereas Fabris encourages a more fluid response to the opponent's actions. This makes Fabris's art particularly suitable for the unpredictable nature of real-world duels.

Influence and Legacy of Salvatore Fabris's Fencing Art

The enduring influence of Fabris's fencing manual is evident in how modern practitioners of HEMA and classical fencing reference his work. His treatise remains a foundational text for those studying historical rapier techniques, admired both for its clarity and depth.

Fabris's integration of biomechanics and psychological insight prefigures modern fencing principles, making his art of dueling 17th century rapier a bridge between Renaissance martial traditions and contemporary swordsmanship.

Practical Applications for Modern Practitioners

Today, practitioners of historical European martial arts seek to reconstruct Fabris's techniques with a focus on authenticity and effectiveness. The art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by Salvatore Fabris provides a comprehensive curriculum that balances historical accuracy with practical combat principles.

Training in Fabris's style typically involves:

- Studying original treatises and interpretive manuals to grasp theoretical concepts
- Drilling fundamental guards, footwork, and blade work to internalize mechanics

- Engaging in controlled sparring to apply timing, measure, and strategy
- Analyzing historical duels and comparing Fabris's approach to other masters for broader understanding

The inherent elegance and efficiency of Fabris's system continue to attract fencers interested in the intellectual and physical challenges of classical rapier combat.

Challenges and Considerations in Reviving Fabris's Techniques

While Fabris's art is celebrated, practitioners face challenges in interpreting and applying his teachings accurately. The archaic language, differences in historical context, and variations in surviving manuscripts require careful analysis.

Moreover, adapting 17th-century dueling techniques to modern training environments necessitates balancing safety with authenticity. Protective gear and modified weapons are often used, which can affect the feel and timing integral to Fabris's system.

Despite these challenges, the art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by Salvatore Fabris offers rich material for study and practice, contributing significantly to the revival of historical swordsmanship.

Salvatore Fabris's legacy in the art of dueling 17th century rapier reflects a meticulous blend of science, strategy, and art. His teachings continue to inform and inspire the fencing community, bridging centuries to offer insights into the refined martial culture of the early modern period. Whether as a historical study or a living martial discipline, Fabris's contributions remain vital to understanding the evolution and sophistication of rapier combat.

Art Of Dueling 17th Century Rapier As Taught By Salvatore Fabris

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: Art of Dueling Salvator Fabris, 2004-09 The Italian Rapier has held a special place in the history of European swordsmanship. Famous for generations after his death, Salvatore Fabris became the personal fencing master to the equally famous King Christianus of Denmark. Towards the end of his career, and at the king's request, the great master set down the sum of his art in clear in a clear, concise manual of footwork, guards, attacks, defenses, and conterattacks with the rapier, used alone or with a dagger or cloak. A landmark work brought to English for the very first time, Tomasso Leoni offers a complete translation that accompanies the 200 17th century engravings.

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: Martial Arts of the World Thomas A. Green, Joseph R. Svinth, 2010-06-11 This book is the most comprehensive and authoritative reference ever published on the wide range of martial arts disciplines practiced in cultures around the world. ABC-CLIO's *Martial Arts of the World: An Encyclopedia of History and Innovation* is the most authoritative reference ever published on combat disciplines from around the world and across history. Coverage includes Shaolin monks, jousting knights, Roman gladiators, Westerner gunfighters, samurai warriors, and heavyweight boxers. These iconic figures and many more are featured in this title, as well as representatives of less well known but no less fascinating systems, all vividly characterized by expert contributors from around the world who are themselves martial arts practitioners. *Martial Arts of the World* comprises 120 entries in two volumes. The first volume is organized geographically to explore the historic development of martial arts styles in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas. The second volume looks at martial arts thematically, with coverage of belief systems, modern martial arts competitions, and a wide range of such topics as folklore, women in martial arts, martial arts and the military, and martial arts and the media.

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: Grantville Gazette II Eric Flint, 2006-03 The New York Times bestselling series continues. For the thousands of readers of 1632 comes another close-up look at life in Grantville, the American town lost in time.

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: The Muse of Music David Carrico, Enrico Toro, 2025-04-01 When Italian musician Giacomo Carissimi hears about Up-time music in Grantville he sets off across the Alps to see and hear these wonders. Nothing will keep him from his dream of learning the new music and seeing new instruments, not even warring militias and the threats of plague. He shares the trek and what he finds in a series of heartfelt letters and several short stories. At the publisher's request, this title is sold without DRM (Digital Rights Management).

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: Forthcoming Books Rose Army, 2004

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: Swordplay Reinier van Noort, 2015-12-31 Tucked away in the Newberry Library of Chicago is an anonymous manuscript entitled *Schermkunst* (Art of Swordsmanship), whose brief text and exquisite watercolours details fencing with the single sword, rapier and dagger, rapier and buckler, halberd, and full pike. Beyond its artistic charms, however, this little book of 1595 is one of the oldest known martial arts treatises from the Low Countries and gives us a glimpse into the Art of Defense as it was practiced at a particularly volatile time in Netherlands history. Rebellion against Philip II of Spain led to independence of the Calvinist Northern provinces from Catholic Spain, and in the same year, the spice trade expedition Cornelis de Houtman set into motion events culminating in the formation of the Dutch East India Company, and a golden age of Dutch history that spanned the 17th century. This cultural and political foment is represented in the similarities between the methodology in *Schermkunst* and the rich traditions of England, Germany and Italy, and the inclusion of several sword and shield techniques combat representing that quintessential bogey-man of Renaissance

Europe: the Ottoman Turks. Translated and contextualized by respected Dutch swordsman and fencing researcher, Reinier van Noort, *The Art of Swordplay* is sure to please martial artist and military historian alike.

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: *Historical Fencing Manual* Francesco Loda, 2019-12-31 Modern fencing's origins come from the elegant, and deadly rapier of the late Italian Renaissance. Several schools of rapier fencing existed, amongst which one of the strongest and longest lasting was the Roman-Neapolitan-Sicilian School of swordsmanship (Scuola Romana-Napoletana-Siciliana). Arising from the early, northern school, the southern school dates to 17th-Century, in Rome, then spread throughout the South of Italy and evolved uninterrupted until the 19th-Century, when it merged with the more modern traditions of fencing. *Historical Fencing Handbook: Rapier-Fencing in the 17th- and 18th-Centuries*, is a true, modern fencing manual for training in this tradition, written by a modern master of the art. The texts of the 17th-and 18th-century masters are broken-down, synthesized and arranged into a concise, modern pedagogy, opening a gateway to the southern Italian school for the very first time. Beginning with fundamentals of stance, footwork, attack and defense, the text also covers complex provocations, disarms and grapples, and use of the left-hand dagger - a complete course under one cover!

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: *The Duellist's Companion* Guy Windsor, 2013-10-15 A complete training guide to 17th century Italian rapier fencing, and a thorough interpretation of the style of legendary swordsman Ridolfo Capoferro, author of the most famous fencing book in history, his *Gran Simulacro*, published in 1610. First published in 2006, this guide is the standard work on the subject.

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: *Introduction to the Italian Rapier* Devon Boorman, 2015-08-01 Follow along, sword-in-hand, with internationally renowned swordsman and instructor Devon Boorman, as he leads you through the fundamentals of Renaissance rapier combat! This sophisticated art represents the pinnacle of the duel of honor as it was originally practiced in the seventeenth century and its practice today. You will develop grace, power, and effective martial skills with solo and partnered exercises that teach the foundation of swordplay. Ideal for beginners of all age levels and physical abilities.

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art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: *Introduction to the Italian Rapier* Devon Boorman, 2017-12-31 Long before fencing was associate with white jackets, light-weight foils and the Olympic games, the rapier was a tool of life and death. Heavier than its modern counterparts, capable both of thrusting and cutting, it was often used along with a dagger, shield, or cloak. The rapier was the weapon of choice in the Renaissance at the peak of the duelling era. The Italian school of swordsmanship was highly influential amongst the major courts of Europe

and produced scholarly writings that are still reprinted and studied today. The system of Italian fencing is efficient, athletic, and strategic. In these pages Devon Boorman lays out the foundation for the art of the rapier through a clear modern approach. Starting first with healthy and powerful body mechanics, you will then progress through the techniques of movement, attack, and defence. From there, you will learn the aspects of timing and blade control that made the Italian school so revered. These skills are then tied together into a clear strategic framework, along with guidance on effectively training and conditioning tactical responses into your body to achieve long-term mastery. Not only is Italian Rapier a beautiful martial art in its own right, but the techniques and theory presented here are valuable and informative for practitioners of nearly any hand-to-hand weapons tradition.

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: The Art of the Rapier Ken Mondschein, 2020-05 The Art of the Rapier is a comprehensive manual intended to teach modern people how to fence in the style of the late sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Profusely illustrated with both photographs and examples from period treatises, it is written for three main audiences: devotees of the Historical European Martial Arts (HEMA) movement; members of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) and other medieval-recreation groups; and coaches of the modern sport of fencing who are looking to expand their competencies. No prior experience is necessary: The Art of the Rapier draws from the works of Camillo Agrippa (1553), Salvator Fabris (1606), Nicoletto Giganti (1606 and 1608), and Ridolfo Capo Ferro (1610) to present their essential actions and teaches the movement skills to perform these actions from the ground up. It then builds the actions into period-accurate tactical sequences and shows how to incorporate these concepts into actual bouts. The final chapters teach advanced skills such as grappling techniques, rapier and dagger, and coaching techniques. A translation of Albert Lacaze and George Dubois' 1925 essay on sword and dagger completes the work. This is a book that not only presents the art of Renaissance fencing in a way that is accessible to modern people, but also an entire philosophy and structure for reconstructing and teaching historical martial arts that will enable you to translate any historical fencing treatise from page to practice.

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: Italian Rapier Combat Jared Kirby, 2012-06-30 The classic treatise on the art of fencing by the seventeenth-century master, in a fresh translation featuring more than forty beautiful illustrations. The Italian fencer Ridolfo Capo Ferro was a legend in his own lifetime. His grace and style were emulated throughout a Europe, and his detailed instruction offers a window into his mastery of swordsmanship. This new translation is faithful to the original text while making it accessible to modern readers. It also includes a new introduction and a revised glossary with many newly translated technical terms. Capo Ferro begins by examining the rapier in detail—its component parts and their suitability—before discussing their actual use. He details the timing and distance needed to control one's adversary, the importance of quick footwork, and defensive tactics such as guards and parries. He also covers using the rapier with auxiliary weapons such as the dagger, cloak, and shield. Presented by fencing master Jared Kirby, Italian Rapier Combat is both a vital historical record and an essential guide for any student of fencing.

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: Art of the Rapier Ken Mondschein, 2022-07-08 The Art of the Rapier is a comprehensive manual intended to teach modern people how to fence in the style of the late sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Profusely illustrated with both photographs and examples from period treatises, it is written for three main audiences: devotees of the Historical European Martial Arts (HEMA) movement; members of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) and other medieval-recreation groups; and coaches of the modern sport of fencing who are looking to expand their competencies. No prior experience is necessary: The Art of the Rapier draws from the works of Camillo Agrippa (1553), Salvator Fabris (1606), Nicoletto Giganti (1606 and 1608), and Ridolfo Capo Ferro (1610) to present their essential actions and teaches the movement skills to perform these actions from the ground up. It then builds the actions into period-accurate tactical sequences and shows how to incorporate these concepts into actual

bouting. The final chapters teach advanced skills such as grappling techniques, rapier and dagger, and coaching techniques. A translation of Albert Lacaze and George Dubois' 1925 essay on sword and dagger completes the work. This is a book that not only presents the art of Renaissance fencing in a way that is accessible to modern people, but also an entire philosophy and structure for reconstructing and teaching historical martial arts that will enable you to translate any historical fencing treatise from page to practice. This second printing is a republication of the 2020 SKA Swordplay books edition. YouTube videos

here: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL19vh-D7I8Y2vxWOk-rU-pxe282_to70U

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art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: The Rapier Part One *Beginners Workbook* Guy Windsor, 2020-06-22 Take a beginners' course with world-renowned swordsmanship instructor Dr. Guy Windsor, through this innovative workbook format. With this 70+ page workbook you can learn the basics of rapier fencing. The book is illustrated with extracts from historical sources, and supported by over twenty video clips, linked to in the text. All you need is a training partner, a smartphone, tablet, or computer, and a couple of practice rapiers and fencing masks. The book is organised in four sessions or classes, which covers all this and more: - footwork - sword handling - stringing - attack by disengage - parry riposte in one tempo - feints - parry riposte in two tempi - thrusts - cuts - beat attack. The workbook is laid out for left-handers with the space for notes on the left hand page. All video clips show the techniques done right-handed and left-handed.

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: The Duellist's Companion, 2nd Edition Dr. Guy Windsor, 2023-08-15 *The Duellist's Companion* is a must-read exploration of 17th century Italian rapier fencing and a thorough interpretation of the style of legendary swordsman Ridolfo Capoferro, author of the most famous fencing book in history, *Il Gran Simulacro*, published in 1610. Through detailed illustrations and clear explanations, Guy Windsor, a leading expert in historical martial arts, takes you through preparation exercises before teaching you the guard positions, footwork, blade actions, and techniques of Capoferro's style. From foundational footwork to advanced rapier and dagger play, this book covers everything you need to know to become skilled in the use of the rapier alone, and with the dagger. This new edition has been updated with more than 400 photos, further cementing its place as a classic in the field of historical fencing. Whether you're an experienced historical fencer looking to expand your knowledge or a beginner looking to learn a new skill, *The Duellist's Companion* is an essential resource.

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: The History and Art of Personal Combat Arthur Wise, 2014-01-15 A comprehensive, illustrated history of classical and historical swordsmanship, this volume details uses of the broadsword, two-hander, and rapier as well as the dagger, bayonet, and halberd.

art of dueling 17th century rapier as taught by salvatore fabris: Ridolfo Capoferro's The Art and Practice of Fencing Ridolfo Capoferro, Tom Leoni, 2011 In the 1600s, the elegant and deadly Italian rapier was the choice sword of duelists, officers, gentlemen and noblemen: to master the rapier was to be a feared martial artist and a paragon in single combat. Among the original treatises on the use of this weapon, the most prized by historical fencing revivalists in the last 150 years has been the *Great Representation of the Art and Practice of Fencing*, written in 1610 by Master Ridolfo Capoferro. In this remarkable text, Capoferro described and illustrated—in unmatched detail—the use of the rapier alone and with a left-handed dagger, cloak and shield, offering the modern historical fencing student a true wealth of Renaissance fencing theory, form and repertoire. With this book, expert researcher and rapier instructor Tom Leoni offers a full, accurate and accessible English translation of Capoferro's teachings, complete with high-resolution reproductions of the 43 original illustrations. To make the book even more useful, Tom has included

bullet-point synopses of all the actions illustrated by Capoferro, as well as a glossary of rapier-fencing terms with examples referring the reader to how they are used in the text. Also included is a primer on key rapier-fencing concepts and actions, as well as a historical introduction about Capoferro and his extraordinary relevance in the revival of historical martial arts.

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