

Daoist Teachers in North America

Louis Komjathy/Kang Siqi 康思奇, Ph.D.

Center for Daoist Studies

The following teachers are those who identify themselves as Daoists and/or claim some connection to the Chinese Daoist tradition. The list is preliminary and tentative; it is by no means comprehensive and inclusive. In addition, most of the information comes from the teachers listed and therefore awaits further historical research. For the sake of historical documentation, I have also included information on teachers who have passed away. A number of teachers have asked to remain anonymous. Generally speaking, I employ the romanization utilized by the teacher in question. Anyone wishing to contribute additional information on Daoist teachers in North America may contact me.

Alex Anatole is the founder of the Center of Traditional Taoist Studies. He is an ordained Daoist priest and practitioner of Qigong and Gongfu. He was born in Moscow where for twenty years he studied with Lu Yang Tai, a medical doctor and high-level martial artist. Under Lu Yang Tai's instruction, Anatole learned Daoism, Gongfu, Qigong, Daoist healing techniques, and meditation. In 1966, Lu Yang Tai and Alex Anatole founded the first Daoist temple and seminary in Moscow. In the late 1970s, Alex Anatole immigrated to the United States to spread the teachings of Daoism and the Chinese arts of healing and Gongfu through the establishment of the New England Center of Tao located outside of Boston, Massachusetts. He is currently the head priest and president of the Center of Traditional Taoist Studies in Weston, Massachusetts.

B.P. (Bun Piac) Chan (Guillermo B.P. Chan; 1922-2002) was born in Fujian province in 1922. Chan began learning Chinese healing, contemplative, and martial arts as a child. He learned Daoist meditation and Qigong from Daoist monks at the Ande guan (Monastery of Peaceful Virtue), near his hometown in China. He also studied Northern Shaolin Gongfu with Fung Lian-dak, Bagua zhang with Liu Hing-chow, Xingyi quan with Chow Chang-hoon, and Taiji Ruler with Lui Chow-munk, a student of Zhao Zhongdao. He moved to New York City in 1974, where he was part of the first generation of Qigong teachers in North America. He taught Chinese internal martial arts, Qigong and Daoist meditation in New York City until his death on March 17, 2002.

Maneewan Chia was born in China and raised in Hong Kong. She eventually moved to Thailand with her parents. After marrying Mantak Chia, she began studying the Healing Tao System. In addition to assisting with the teaching of Healing Tao, Maneewan Chia co-authored, with Mantak Chia, most of the books on the Healing Tao System. Some of these titles include *Healing Love Through the Tao* (1986), *Fusion of the Five Elements I* (1989), and *Awaken Healing Light of the Tao* (1993). After her recent divorce from Mantak Chia, she has begun teaching "Five Element Nutrition" in workshop and seminar format throughout the United States.

Mantak Chia 謝明德 (Xie Mingde; b. 1944) was born in Thailand to Chinese parents. After being taught basic Buddhist meditation at the age of six, Mantak Chia met and studied with his first Taiji quan teacher, a certain Master Lu. Later, when he was a student in Hong Kong, a classmate named Cheng Sue-sue introduced him to his first Daoist teacher, Yi Eng 一雲 (Yiyun/One Cloud). At this point, he began serious Daoist training. From Yi Eng, Chia learned various Daoist cultivation methods, including the Microcosmic Orbit, Fusion of the Five Elements, and internal alchemy. Chia also studied with a variety of other teachers including Mui Yimwattana, Cheng Yao-lun, and Pan Yu. Eventually, using his knowledge of Daoism combined

with other disciplines, Mantak Chia began teaching the Healing Tao System. He established the Natural Healing Center in Thailand in 1974, and five years later he moved to New York. There he opened the Healing Tao Center in 1979. There are centers that teach the Healing Tao System throughout North America and Europe, as well as a major meditation center in Thailand. Mantak Chia has authored or co-authored numerous books on the Healing Tao System, some of which include *Taoist Secrets of Love: Cultivating Male Sexual Energy* (1984), *Fusion of the Five Elements I* (1989), and *Awaken Healing Light of the Tao* (1993). He is currently teaching under the Universal Tao System (www.universal-tao.com), an offshoot of Healing Tao, and is director of the Tao Garden Health Resort (Chiang Mai, Thailand; www.tao-garden.com). He also continues to teach workshops and seminars through Healing Tao.

Kenneth S. Cohen (Gao Han 高漢; b. 1952), M.A., M.S.TH., was born in New York City. He is a health educator and Qigong instructor with more than 30 years experience in Daoist scholarship and practice. He was an apprentice to Daoist Abbot Huang Gengshi of the Longmen (Dragon Gate) sect and completed graduate training in classical Chinese and Daoism at the University of California at Berkeley, where he studied with Michel Strickmann, Edward Schafer, and Wolfram Eberhard. He also apprenticed with Rev. K.S. Wong and has studied with B.P. Chan (1922-2002), Madame Gao Fu, and Alan Watts (1915-1973). He is currently Executive Director of the Qigong Research and Practice Center, where emphasis is placed on the theory and practice of Qigong. His previous publications include *The Way of Qigong* (1997), *Taoism: Essential Teachings of the Way and its Power* (1998), and more than 150 journal articles.

Da Liu (1904-2000) was born in Beijing. He began his study of Taiji quan under Sun Lutang (1862-1932), the founder of Sun style, in 1928. Later, he traveled to China's southwest provinces, where he studied with a number of teachers, eventually becoming a practitioner of Yang style. He also received a degree in philosophy from the National University in Shanghai. In 1955, Da Liu came to the United States and began teaching Taiji quan classes at the United Nations, the China Institute and the YMCA. During the late 1950s and early 1960s, Da Liu made several television appearances, and his story, together with information about Taiji quan, appeared in many newspapers and magazines, including the New York *Herald-Tribune*, *Newsweek* (which credited him with introducing Taiji quan to the United States), *Vogue*, *Mademoiselle*, *McCall's*, and *Children's Day*. He later taught at Columbia University's Teachers College, The Cathedral School of St. John the Divine, and the Riverside Church. He also became president of the T'ai Chi Ch'uan Society of New York. He died in New York City in 2000. His previous publications include *Taoist Health Exercise Book* (1973), *The Tao of Health and Longevity* (1978), and *The Tao of Chinese Culture* (1979).

Khig Dhiegh (Kenneth Dickerson; 1910-1991) was born in Spring Lake, New Jersey. He was an American of English, Egyptian, and Sudanese descent who made his living playing "Oriental" villains on film and television, most notably the Red Chinese agent Wo Fat on Hawaii Five-O. In 1970, Khig Dhiegh, together with Share Lew (b. 1918), formed the Taoist Sanctuary in Los Angeles. He published *The Eleventh Wing: An Exposition of the Dynamics of the I Ching for Now* (1973).

Deng Ming-dao is a senior student of Kwan Sai-hung and is the author of Kwan Sai-hung's "biography." He has published *Scholar Warrior: An Introduction to the Tao in Everyday Life* (1990) and *Chronicles of Tao: The Secret Life of a Taoist Master* (1993), an anthology of three previous books about Kwan's life published in the late 1980s.

Alex Feng (Feng Erquan 馮爾權) was born in Taiwan and trained by his father Feng Weiren. At age eight, his father placed him under the private tutelage of a Gongfu instructor named Wong Jian'an. At age twelve, he entered the Academy of Judo in Tainan, Taiwan. Over the course of his training, he studied with various teachers, including Guo Lianying (Qigong and Taiji quan), Ray Law (Jujitsu and Judo), Suchida Sensei (Judo), Tenkai Sensei (Judo), Wakabayashi Sensei (Judo), Myita Sensei (Kendo), Kubo Sensei (Kendo), Wang Peikun (Bagua zhang and Taiji quan), and Guramayi (Siddha Yoga). He eventually received black belts in Jujitsu and Judo. At some point he immigrated to the United States and founded the Wu Tao Kuan Martial Arts Institute in 1973 in Berkeley. He is also a doctor of Chinese medicine, and maintains a medical practice in Oakland. He identifies himself as a lineage holder of the Zhi Dao 至道 (Utmost Way) Daoist tradition. In August of 2002, he founded The Taoist Center in Oakland, California.

B.K. Frantzis (Bruce Kumar Frantzis) became a disciple of a Daoist named Liu Hung-chieh in 1981. Later, Liu adopted Frantzis as his son and for several years Frantzis studied Qigong, Taiji quan, Xingyi quan, Bagua zhang, and meditation with Liu in Beijing. In 1986, Liu gave lineage transmission to Frantzis. Since his return to the United States, he has established a business called Energy Arts (www.energyarts.com) and teaches a Daoist system which he calls the Water Method of Taoist Meditation. He has published two books on this system: *Relaxing into Your Being* (1998) and *The Great Stillness* (1999).

Gia-fu Feng (1919-1985) was born in Shanghai into a fairly wealthy and influential family, whose members were lay Daoists. In the mountains of Hangzhou, Feng stayed and trained at a number of Daoist temples. He continued his education at Beijing University, from which he earned a B.A. degree. After the Chinese communist revolution, Feng immigrated to the United States. Here he received an M.A. degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He also began teaching Daoism. After teaching at Esalen Institute (Big Sur, California), he moved to Colorado where he established the Stillpoint Foundation in Manitou Springs. It was at the Stillpoint Foundation that Feng collaborated with Jane English to produce translations of the *Daode jing* and *Zhuangzi*. He also began to teach in Europe, where, in 1978, Shi Jing (Alan Redman), a central figure in the British Taoist Association, became his student. Some of his early associates included Alan Watts, the Beats, Fritz Pearls, Abraham Maslow, and Bishop Pike. Gia-fu Feng died in 1985. With Jane English, he published the *Tao Te Ching* (1972) and *Chuang Tsu* (1974).

Bill Helm is an ordained Daoist priest, Chinese medical practitioner, and martial artist. He is currently director of the Taoist Sanctuary in San Diego, an organization originally established by Share Lew and Khigh Dhiegh. Through this organization, Helm teaches Taiji quan, Qigong, Daoist meditation, Daoist philosophy, and Chinese healing methods.

Hsien Yuen 玄元 (Xuan Yuan) emigrated from Taiwan, where he received ordination as a Daoist priest, to the United States at an unknown date. With his mother, a devout believer and practitioner of Taoism and Buddhism, he helped to establish the American Taoist and Buddhist Association (ATBA; Meiguo daojiao fojiao xiehui 美國道教佛教協會) in New York City. This association also houses the North Pole Gold Temple and Temple of Transcendental Wisdom. Hsien Yuen oversees the temple by providing Taoist rituals for the community's welfare as well as offering vegetarian lunch on Sundays and temporary shelter for those in need. He teaches and has written a book on Elixir Cauldron Sitting Meditation (*danding dazuo*; *danding chanzuo*), a complete internal alchemy system, and is one of the few Daoists, priest or otherwise, who engages in communication with immortals and deities. Some of these include Yuanshi tianzun (Celestial Worthy of Original Beginning), Yaochi jinmu (Golden Mother of the Jasper Pond), Yuhuang dadi (Great Sovereign Jade Emperor), Xuantian shangdi (Highest Emperor of the

Mysterious Heaven), and Nanji xianweng (Immortal Sage of the Southern Polestar). Tracing his lineage to the Lümen sect, Hsien Yuen is currently the head priest of the North Pole Gold Temple/Temple of Transcendental Wisdom in New York City. He has previously published *The Taoism of Sage Religion: True Principle Great Tao, Transcendental Wisdom, and Supernatural Power* (1988) and *The Taoism of Sage Religion: Tan Ting Sitting Meditation* (1988).

Hyunoong Sunim was born in South Korea and entered the Songkwang-sa Buddhist Monastery at the age of twenty, where he became a disciple of the Son teacher Ku San Sunim. After ten years of training in Son monasteries, he spent six more years in solitary practice in Korea's mountain areas. During this time, he achieved a certain level of enlightenment. During these years in seclusion, Hyunoong Sunim also met and trained in Sun Do 仙道 (Xiandao; Way of the Immortals) under a Daoist named Chong San. In addition to Son meditation, he emphasizes the importance of protecting and balancing one's physical health and energy through Daoist practices. After teaching in Switzerland and North America for a number of years, he permanently moved to California in 1986. He eventually helped to establish the Sixth Patriarch Zen Center (1995) in Berkeley, California, where he is the resident teacher. He has published *Sun-do: The Path of Taoist Hermits to Healing, Longevity and Spirituality* (1986).

Hyunmoon Kim was born in Korea, where he learned Sun Do 仙道 (Xiandao; Way of the Immortals) under the Daoist hermit Bekyung. In 1979, Hyunmoon Kim moved to the United States. He began teaching Sun Do and establishing practice and retreat centers. Kim also conducts Sun Do retreats in Canada, Europe, and Southeast Asia, where he teaches Son (Zen) meditation and Daoist qi circulation practices.

Kwan Sai-hung is the central figure of Deng Ming-dao's trilogy *The Wandering Taoist, Seven Bamboo Tablets of the Cloudy Satchel*, and *Gateway to a Vast World* (later published as *Chronicles of Tao*). According to these texts, Kwan Sai-hung was born into a wealthy family in a remote province of China. He left his family to enter into rigorous Daoist cultivation practices. Surviving the upheaval of the Japanese occupation and the Communist Revolution, he left China and immigrated to the United States. Here he became a Golden Gloves boxer and martial arts instructor. His most recent biography identifies his place of birth as Shaanxi and his date of birth as 1920. He currently lives near Boston, teaching seminars throughout Massachusetts and holding an on-going weekly class at the Lenox Community Center and the Boston Public Gardens. His teaching focuses on what he calls "Living Taoism" and "Trinity Fist" (Taiji quan, Bagua zhang, and Xingyi quan).

Share K. Lew (b. 1918) was born in Guangdong province, north of Guangzhou. As an orphan, Share Lew was taken in by a wandering monk from Wong Lung Kwan (Huanglong guan; Yellow Dragon Monastery). Eventually he was taken to this monastery in the Luofu shan area. After an apprenticeship of several years of menial labor, he was initiated and taught a variety of Daoist practices, including Daoist health and longevity techniques. Lew refers to this Daoist system as Tao Ahn Pai (Daodan pai; Daoist Elixir sect), an internal alchemy system claiming Lü Dongbin as its founder. Share Lew lived and studied at Wong Lung Kwan for thirteen years. He left the monastery in 1948, shortly before the Communist Revolution and moved to San Francisco, where he stayed within the Chinese community for several years studying Gongfu with his uncle Lew Ben. In 1959, Share Lew accepted his first non-Chinese student and in 1970 began to teach Qigong to non-Chinese students. In that year, he and the late Khigh Dhiagh (Kenneth Dickerson; 1910-1991), a television actor, formed the Taoist Sanctuary in Los Angeles. In 1979, he moved to San Diego, where he still resides, seeing people for health appointments, teaching small or private classes, and traveling to teach his students in workshops around the United States.

Lie Feng (Fierce Wind), also known as Lie Feng Tao-ren (Daoist Lie Feng), was born in the Bay Area of California. He began Gongfu (Kung Fu) training at the age of eight under a Daoist identified as Lu Long 錄龍 (Green Dragon), who was associated with the Bei Chi Pai 北極派 (Northern Dipper Sect) and Lu Long Hsing Pai 錄龍行派 (Green Dragon Family Style). According to his autobiography, at the age of fifteen he became a formal disciple of Lu Long, eventually becoming the first American initiated into a secret society called “Golden Circle.” He identifies himself as a Daoist priest, ordained at the Golden Circle Temple (location unknown). He is currently the director of the Five Sacred Mountains Taoist Kungfu Association (FSMTKA; Wu shengshan gongfu hui 五聖山功夫會) in San Diego, California.

Chunyi Lin was born in China, where trained with both Buddhist and Daoist monks. As part of this training, Lin meditated and practiced various ascetic disciplines in the caves of Qingcheng shan (Sichuan) and Dinghu shan. In addition, he learned a variety of Qigong forms. In 1994, Lin developed a Qigong form called Spring Forest Qigong. He moved to the United States in 1995. He currently lives and teaches in Twin Cities, Minnesota, and conducts lectures and seminars throughout the United States. He has published two learning courses: *Spring Forest Qigong Personal Learning Course* and the co-authored *Euphoria Personal Learning Course*.

Liu Ming 劉明 (formerly Charles Belyea/Lao Ge 老哥; b. 1947), born in Boston, Massachusetts, and of French-Canadian descent, is the founding director of Orthodox Daoism in America (ODA), a non-profit religious organization, begun in 1982, dedicated to the transmission of Zhengyi (Orthodox Unity) Daoism to the West. In Taiwan (1977-1978) he was adopted into a Chinese Daoist family as a lineage-holding successor to their tradition of orthodox Daoism. After completing a one-year solitary meditation retreat in 1981, he began teaching Daoism in seminars and meditation retreats throughout California. Over the last five years he has dedicated himself to teaching Daoism and designing a curriculum for training orthodox Daoist priests in America. Before his initiation as a Daoist priest, he spent over twelve years studying and practicing with several Tibetan Buddhist lamas, all associated with Dzog-chen teachings. He was also the Founding Director of Five Branches Institute of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Santa Cruz. From 2001-2003, he lived in Seattle, where he taught in cooperation with the Taoist Studies Institute and out of his home. In cooperation with Harrison Moretz, the director of TSI, he was working to establish a full-time altar at Xuanji guan (Temple of the Mysterious Pivot). This association ended in late 2002. In July of 2003, he moved to Oakland, California, where he currently teaches out of his home and at Yoga Mandala in Berkeley. He is also working to establish a private altar in Oakland with a bronze mirror as the central “icon.” His teachings focus on Daoist hygiene practices, scripture and precept study, and meditation. His previous publications include *Dragon’s Play: A New Taoist Transmission of the Complete Experience of Human Life* (1991) and *The Blue Book: A Text Concerning Orthodox Daoist Conduct* (3rd revised edition, 1998).

Lu Sheng-yen (b. 1945) was born in Taiwan. In 1969, while watching a Buddhist festival, Lu was called out of the crowd by a trance medium and told that the Buddhas wanted him to spread the Dharma. Over the next days and years, Lu Sheng-yen had many mystical visions in which he was taught esoteric Buddhist and Daoist practices. He also learned Daoist practices from a Daoist teacher in the mountains of Taiwan. In 1982, he moved to the United States and later established the Ling Shen Ching Tze Temple in Redmond, Washington, and a large retreat center in the Cascade Mountains. He also founded the True Buddha School and the Purple Lotus Society. Lu Sheng-yen has published numerous books, two of which are *The Flying Carpet of the East* (1984)

and *Encounters with the World of Spirits* (1995). He is currently head priest at the Ling Shen Ching Tze Temple, where Buddhist ritual and meditation practices are central.

Harrison Moretz (Mo Chenghua 墨承華; b. 1952), born in Indianapolis, Indiana, has been studying Chinese culture and language, Daoist cultivation, and internal martial arts for thirty years, with teachers in mainland China, Taiwan, and the United States. He has studied with Chinese Daoist teachers connected with the Longmen (Dragon Gate), Huashan (Mount Hua), and Wudang shan (Mount Wudang) traditions. From 2001-2002, Harrison Moretz and the Taoist Studies Institute formed a cooperative project with Liu Ming and Orthodox Daoism in America. Together, Harrison Moretz and Liu Ming were renovating the altar at the Taoist Studies Institute to become a formal and active Daoist altar (*daotan*). This relationship ended in late 2002. Moretz is currently director of the Taoist Studies Institute (Daojiao xueyuan 道教學院) in Seattle, Washington, and caretaker of the Temple of the Mysterious Pivot (Xuanji guan 玄機觀), also in Seattle. There he teaches Taiji quan, Qigong, and *yangsheng* 養生 (nourishing life) practices. Moretz became a formal disciple of Feng Zhiqiang 馮志強 (b. 1928), the founder and leader of Hunyuan taiji quan 混元太極拳 (Primordial Original Yin-yang Boxing), a modified form of Chen-style Taiji quan, in 2002 and TSI has become something of a teaching arm of this system since then.

Moy Lin-shin 梅連羨 (Mei Lianxian; 1931-1998) was born in Taishan county, Guangdong. He moved to Hong Kong in 1948 or 1949. There he trained at the Yuen Yuen Institute, which was established by monks from Sanyuan gong (Three Originals Palace) in Guangzhou, which in turn traces its lineage to the Longmen (Dragon Gate) sect of Quanzhen (Complete Perfection) Daoism. At some point, it seems that he was ordained, as many of the leaflets from his organization describe him as a Daoist monk. Moy immigrated to Canada in 1970 and began teaching in a small studio in downtown Toronto, where he also lived. He taught Gongfu as well as a martial arts-oriented style of Taiji quan. Later, he softened the style and called it “Taoist Tai Chi.” Eventually, Moy Lin-shin founded the Taoist Tai Chi Society (TTCS; Daojiao Taiji quan she 道教太極拳社) in Toronto and Fung Loy Kok (FLK; Penglai ge 蓬萊閣), the religious arm of the Moy organization. He died in 1998.

Ni Hua-ching (Ni Qinghe 倪清和) was born in mainland China, where as a child he was trained by Daoist hermits. This training period supposedly lasted thirty-one years. He immigrated to Taiwan after the Communist revolution, where he practiced and taught Daoist meditation, internal martial arts, internal alchemy, and Chinese medicine. In the mid-1970s, a group of Euro-Americans in Los Angeles involved with the Taoist Sanctuary became interested in learning more about Daoism. One member of the group, Mark Johnson (now of the Tai Chi for Health Institute), was living in Taiwan and went searching for a “Daoist master.” In November of 1976 he brought back Ni Hua-ching. Ni Hua-ching in turn founded a variety of organizations including College of Tao (Santa Monica, CA), The Shrine of the Eternal Breath of Tao (Malibu, CA), Yo San University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (Los Angeles, CA), and Universal Society of the Integral Way (USIW). He has published widely, and some of the titles include *The Taoist Inner View of the Universe and the Immortal Realm* (1979), *Workbook for Spiritual Development* (1984), *Attune Your Body with Dao-In* (1989), and *Internal Alchemy: The Natural Way to Immortality* (1992).

Stuart Alve Olson began studying Buddhism and Daoism as a resident of Ju Lai Ssu monastery at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas in Ukiah, California, from 1979-1980. There he took refuge in Buddhism from Hsuan Hua and learned Eight Brocades Qigong from Chen Yi. In 1982, he was

invited to live and study with T.T. Liang in St. Cloud, Minnesota, where he trained for more than six years. He currently lives in northern California, where he teaches Daoist meditation, Taiji quan, and Qigong. Some of his previous publications include *The Jade Emperor's Mind Seal Classic* (1992) and *Qigong Teachings of a Taoist Immortal* (2002).

Owl Clan Recluse is a former member of the Taoist Tai Chi Society/Fung Loy Kok and was one of the members ordained in the 1980s. A resident of Toronto, Canada, he is a frequent contributor to the Taoist Restoration Society's chatroom.

Duane Pang is an ordained Daoist priest and part of the Chinese Daoist community in Hawaii. He is associated with Wah Kong Temple and Ch'ing-ning Tao Yuan Taoist Center. He performs Daoist rituals through these organizations. He has previously published an article on "universal salvation" (*pudu*) rites in *Buddhist and Taoist Studies I* (1977), edited by Michael Saso and David Chappell.

Michael Rinaldini (b. 1950) is director of the Daoist Medical Qigong Center in Sebastopol, California, which is an affiliate branch of Bagua xundao gong Qigong Center (Beijing, China) associated with Wan Sujian. He is a Qigong teacher as well as acupressure and Tuina therapist. He is a professional member of the National Qigong Association (NQA), American contact member for the British Taoist Association (BTA), and a mainland China Longmen (Dragon Gate) initiate.

Scott M. Rodell (b. 1960), born in East Orange, New Jersey, is the founder and director of the Great River Taoist Center. He is principally a teacher of a Taiji quan form associated with Wang Yen-nien 王延年 (b. 1914), a former military leader in the Republic of China (R.O.C.) who currently resides in Taiwan and who is also associated with the American Yangjia Michuan Taijiquan Association (AYMTA; Meiguo yangjia michuan taiji quan xiehui 美國秘傳楊家太極拳協會; American Secret Yang Family Taiji quan Association). Rodell is one of the first American initiates and a sixth-generation lineage holder of Jinshan pai 金山派 (Gold Mountain Lineage). Also associated with Wang Yen-nien, who identifies himself as the fifth-generation lineage holder, Jinshan pai is identified as a Longmen (Dragon Gate) sub-sect founded in 1644 by a certain Xia Shujia. The tradition was transmitted to Wang by a certain Zhang Qinlin. Rodell was initiated into Jinshan pai by Wang in 1986.

Michael Saso (b. 1930) was initiated into a Zhengyi family lineage in Taiwan in the early 1970s. Under the direction of Chuang-ch'en Teng-yün ("Master Chuang;" 1911-1976), Saso was ordained as a Daoist priest. After returning to the United States, he assumed a professorship at the University of Hawaii. He is currently Director of The Institute of Asian Studies (Beijing) and Professor Emeritus at the University of Hawaii. He lives in Carmel, California. His teachings emphasize "orthodox" transmission and the ownership of registers (*lu*) as distinguishing characteristics of authentic Daoists. Some of his publications include *Taoism and the Rite of Cosmic Renewal* (1972), *The Teachings of Taoist Master Chuang* (1978), and *The Gold Pavilion* (1995).

Tzu-kuo Shih (T.K. Shih; b. 1929) is a fifth generation doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine (including acupuncture and herbal treatment). Born in Shanghai in 1929, he is one of the first people in the West to teach Swimming Dragon Qigong. Noted in China as a high-level Qigong and Taiji quan practitioner, doctor, and cancer specialist, he currently teaches energy practices in Manhattan, Woodstock, and Kingston, New York, and lectures throughout the United States. He

is founder of the Wu Tang Ch'uan Association in Kingston. His previous publications include *The Swimming Dragon* (1989) and *Qi Gong Therapy* (1994).

Brock Silvers, formerly an investment banker in Hong Kong, is an initiated Daoist, having received initiation at a Daoist temple in China by a well-known Daoist abbot. He is founder and director of the non-profit Taoist Restoration Society, Sacred Mountain Press, and the newly formed U.S. Taoist Association. Silvers is a frequent lecturer and speaker on Daoist topics, has appeared on a number of radio shows, and has spoken at a variety of academic conferences throughout the United States. He is in the process of completing a manuscript entitled *The Taoist Manual: A Guide to Traditional Taoist Practice*.

Nam Singh (Nan Xing 南星; b. 1952), of Ethiopian descent, was born in Aberdeen, Maryland. At the age of five, he moved to Taiwan to live with his grandfather. There he became ordained as a Daoist priest of the Longmen (Dragon Gate) sect. He is a graduate of both the Taipei Institute of Traditional Pharmacology and Acupuncture, and Wei Chuan's Culinary Institute (Taipei, Taiwan). He is a traditional practitioner of all eight limbs of Chinese medicine: meditation, exercise, diet, herbology, astrology, Fengshui, massage, and acupuncture/moxibustion. He currently lives and teaches in San Francisco, California, where he is the chef, owner, and founder of South Star Academy Cooking with Chinese Herbs, specializing in Chinese medicinal cuisine. He is also a participating member of Orthodox Daoism in America (Oakland, CA) and Ching Chung Taoist Association (San Francisco, CA).

Lily Siou (Chang Yi Hsiang) is a Daoist teacher connected with the Tai Hsuan Foundation in Honolulu, Hawaii. In addition to Chinese medicine, she also teaches Qigong and meditation as well as performs Daoist rituals, including spirit writing. Her training system is called the Six Taoist Arts. She identifies her lineage as originating at a Daoist monastery on Longhu shan and claims to be a direct descendant of Chang En Pu, the 63rd Celestial Master. Siou claims to hold a 64th generation lineage to the Celestial Masters, at times going so far as to identify herself as the 64th Celestial Master. She has previously published *Ch'i Kung: The Art of Mastering the Unseen Life Force* (1973).

Carl Totton (Ph.D., Psychology; Pepperdine University) is a Daoist priest and martial artist. He is currently director of the Taoist Institute in North Hollywood, previously called the Taoist Sanctuary. Through this organization, Totton teaches a variety of Daoist and Chan (Zen) Buddhist practices and precepts, including Daoist philosophy, the *Yijing*, Qigong, Chinese internal "yoga" and meditation, internal martial arts, and Chinese medicine.

Solala Towler (Baiyun 白雲; b. 1950), born in Massachusetts, is an instructor of Daoist meditation and of several styles of Qigong, including Soaring Crane Qigong, Essence Qigong, and Wuji gong. He has taught classes and seminars throughout the United States and abroad. In addition, he is president of the National Qigong Association USA. He is caretaker of The Abode of the Eternal Tao and is editor/publisher of *The Empty Vessel: A Journal of Contemporary Taoism*. He currently lives in Eugene, Oregon. His previous publications include *A Gathering of Cranes* (1996), *Embarcking of the Way* (1997), and the four-volume *Tao Paths* series (2002).

Michael Winn (b. 1951) is a former Senior Fellow at Dartmouth College and was a war correspondent in Africa and the Middle East for ten years. He is a past president of the National Qigong Association USA. He has twenty-five years experience in the study of internal alchemy and has a private practice in medical Qigong therapy (Asheville, NC). Winn is a senior student of Mantak Chia and a central figure in Healing Tao USA. He has co-written or edited seven books

with Mantak Chia, including *Taoist Secrets of Love: Cultivating Male Sexual Energy* (1984). He is currently the founder and Dean of Healing Tao University (New York), a summer workshop for a broad spectrum of Daoist arts and sciences.

Eva Wong was born and raised in Hong Kong, where she began studying classical Chinese, the *Yijing*, and Daoist classics at the age of fourteen. In Hong Kong, she studied with various scholars of Chinese history and philosophy at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Upon moving to the North America, she became one of Moy Lin-shin's senior students and a central figure in the Taoist Tai Chi Society and Fung Loy Kok. She was previously Director of Studies at the Denver branch of Fung Loy Kok. She currently lives in Denver, Colorado, where she is a translator-recluse. Some of her previous publications include *Cultivating Stillness: A Taoist Manual for Transforming Body and Mind* (1992), *The Shambhala Guide to Taoism* (1997), and *Teachings of the Tao* (1997).

K.S. Wong (1910-2000) was born in Guangdong. He traced his lineage to the Longmen (Dragon Gate) sect of Luofu shan. He also trained at the Yunquan xianguan (Cloud Source Immortal Monastery). He immigrated to the United States via Hong Kong in the early 1960s. In addition to identifying himself as a Daoist abbot (*daozhang*), Wong studied with the Buddhist teacher Xu Yun (Empty Cloud) and was well known as a Fengshui practitioner. He died in 2000.

Wu Baolin was raised from the age of four as a ward of Baiyun guan (White Cloud Monastery) in Beijing. Under the supervision of Daoist monks of the Longmen (Dragon Gate) sect and the abbot of Baiyun guan, Wu received a monastic education over a forty-year training period. He has recently moved to Santa Monica, California, where he teaches seminars and workshops on Fengshui and Daoist internal cultivation. With Jessica Eckstein, he has published *Lighting the Eye of the Dragon: Inner Secrets of Taoist Feng Shui* (2000).

Wu Jing-nuan (1933-2002) immigrated to the United States from China as a small child. After graduating from Harvard University, he became a successful venture capitalist on Wall Street. After a career in business, he traveled to Hong Kong to study Chinese philosophy and healing. He eventually began practicing acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine at the Taoist Health Institute in Washington, D.C., which he founded in 1973. Wu was also a well-known artist whose artwork attempted to apply the principles and view of Daoism and Chinese medicine. He is one of the few who may be said to have produced "American Daoist art."

Jeffrey Yuen is an ordained Daoist priest and a doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine. He frequently lectures throughout the United States on Daoism and Chinese medicine and teaches classical Chinese medical texts at a variety of TCM schools, including the New England School of Acupuncture (NESA) in Boston and Bastyr University in Seattle. He currently lives in New York City, where he is Academic Dean of the Acupuncture Program at the Swedish Institute, President of the International T'ai Chi Institute, and director of the Eastern United States Taoist Association.