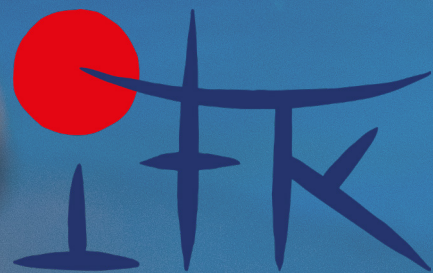


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FÉDÉRATION FRANÇAISE D'AÏKIDO
AÏKIBUDO KINOMICHI & DISCIPLINES ASSOCIÉES



INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DU KINOMICHI

Kinomichi News n°3

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In the second issue of our newsletter we began introducing the founding members of KIIA and IFK through an interview with our president Hubert Thomas.

Our third issue will introduce our vice-president.

We all remember the high esteem in which Master Noro held Lucien Forni whom he liked to call without irony 'dictionary' or Monsieur Forni, thus showing his flawless memory of technique and also of spirit and tradition.

So, Master Masamichi Noro entrusted him with the role of Hakama Ceremony Master, role to which he gave a very high importance. Master Masamichi Noro has elaborated a nomenclature. He also invited Lucien Forni along with Hubert Thomas, Jean-Pierre Cortier and Christian Bleyer, Members of the Kinomichi High Council to be the guarantors of this nomenclature since it represents the fundamental basis of our art. The constitution of a pyramid of groups, based more on the seniority than the technical abilities, has been among the references which were used to implement the State Dan grades.

His record in martial arts and his commitment have been rewarded by marks which he is too unpretentious to name. He was awarded the bronze medal by Ministère de la Jeunesse et des Sports, the compagnon silver cross by Fédération française de judo, mérite des ceintures noires, and by our federation (FFAAA) its gold medal.

Master Noro invited him to become KIIA vice-president, and so with his flawless determination, he carries on with his mission at Institut Français du Kinomichi.

Patrick Loterman
Steering Committee
4ème dan UFA, Federal diploma

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Interview with Lucien Forni, vice-president

- Lucien, may invite you to introduce yourself and tell us about your long career in martial arts ?

I have been practicing martial arts for over 60 years.

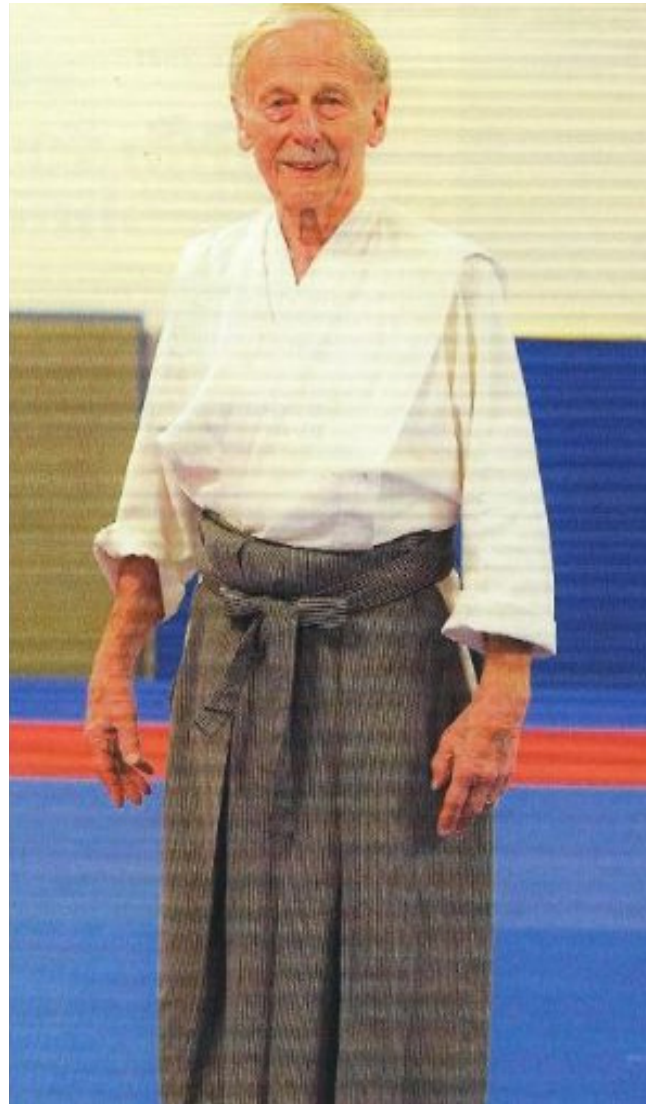
I started with judo in 1958. From 1961 I practiced both judo and aikido regularly.

I met Master Noro in 1965 during one of his presentations at judo club in Enghien. From 1974 I dedicated myself to aikido and then in 1979 to kinomichi in order to fully follow Master Noro's teaching until his death in 2013.

I have been teaching for 48 years. In 1978, Master Noro entrusted me with teaching classes at aikikai de Paris which later became Centre International Noro Kinomichi. In 1992 Master Noro made me Renshi at CINK.

Practicing is to me as important as teaching this is why I take part in the classes given by the instructors I trained, which allows me to stay very close to my students.

All these years I have tried to be present on the tatami in order to share the practice of kinomichi and only exceptional circumstances can keep me away from it.



I consider it important to take part in multidisciplinary sessions, as was the case in Japan. It allows me to open my curiosity and enrich my practice with new sensations.

- What are your role and your duties as vice-president ?

In July 2019 the kinomichi clubs affiliated to FFAAA regrouped to become Institut Français du Kinomichi (IFK) for which I was vice-president I am therefore a member of the ruling board of IFK along with the president and the treasurer.

My task consists in reflecting with the board members and the ruling committee upon the orientations which will allow the development of kinomichi

Under the authority of the president and with the help of the secretary I partake of all administrative duties Updating license holders, club membership with FFAAA

Preparing files for grades, and teaching diploma examinations

Preparing meetings of the ruling board and general meetings

All information, exchanges between commissions members are part of IFK e.mail, which I check everyday to meet everyone's needs.

- What is the meaning of hakama? What duties must he/she who accepts it fulfil?

Many years ago Master Noro nominated me Master of ceremonies to organize in Paris the ceremonies at which he personally gave the hakama to practitioners.

The teacher gives the hakama to the student he/she considers has proven through his/her practice the sincerity of his/her commitment. It is not a grade.

Wearing the hakama is a source of personal joy in the practitioner's development, but he/she also has duties. He/she must conform to the rules of discipline and participate to its development

- Have regular contacts with his/her section
- Attend hakama ceremonies each year and welcome the newly-promoted as well as encourage exchanges between hakama
- Practice regularly and keep up his/her level of practice through IFK training sessions.

- Master Noro regarded himself as an artist and as such would allow himself to come back upon some of his own decisions and adopt paradoxical attitudes. We thus heard him express scepticism towards dan grades in kinomichi. Progress was marked by symbols and ceremonies. Can you tell us about this, since you participated to the creation of groups?

I was sent by Master Noro to pass aikido first dan grade with the FFA in 1976. He even encouraged us to do so. With kinomichi he put in place a different progression depending on the practitioner's evolution:

First a 'mo' (lotus flower) on the back of the jacket, then hakama stagiaire (junior) finally hakama régulier (senior). The different stages were and still are occasions for official ceremonies. In 2012 Master Noro wished to set up groups according to the teachers' seniority, their commitment and technical level. He did so by using the titles he had given until 1996. He knew that without dan grades, the progression system in kinomichi did not allow the teachers to obtain federal and government titles. Dan grades were obtained in 2018 and the members of Conseil Supérieur du Kinomichi (Higher Council) were able to regularize everyone's situation up to UFA 4th dan grade.



- For years, we often heard our Master distinguish himself from martial arts. He was famous for doing so and even published a poster describing kinomichi as an anti martial art, and once again, in the last years of his life he greatly regretted it saying it has been a huge mistake:

I have never practiced anything but aikido, I only had one Master O Sensei Ueshiba, I never betrayed my master and I know nothing but aikido".

I was close to Master Noro and I would say that these changes reflected his state of mind at that time. I interpret the 'anti art martial' as a need at that time, in 1981, to communicate and publicize kinomichi which had only existed since 1979. The goal was reached since sale Pleyel where the event took place was sold out. Master Noro created kinomichi on the bases of aikido and I always heard him mention O Sensei whose portrait was in all his dojo. He would often draw parallels between the two disciplines. He would represent a pyramid with his hands and evoke the possibility that kinomichi and aikido meet at its top, a goal we have been more and more going to since 20, with each one retaining its identity.

- IFK can now ensure the future of the practitioners in all independence. Those who wish to do so can teach in conformity with the official regulations and sit for evaluations in order to obtain brevet federal. Let us remember that you sit on the jury

Master Noro would designate the instructors and ask them to follow a demanding course and to participate to teachers' training sessions all their life. At initiation 4 level, he would call the absentees and after 3 absences we were no longer allowed to participate. Can you recall the main lines of the demand?

I sit on the jury which evaluates the candidates to Brevet Fédéral as a member of Conseil Supérieur du Kinomichi (CSK). Master Noro wanted the creation of this organism including his closest instructors (those with the longest seniority). It is a non elective function for which he nominated me, unlike the vice-presidency to which I was elected. Ranking UFA 7th dan and possessing the Diplôme Supérieur d'Etat, I hold this function along with Hubert Thomas, Jean-Pierre Cortier and Christian Bleyer.

In order to teach, Master Noro required the practitioners to hold a tronc commun and first aid diploma if they did not hold a title to teach aikido. This allowed him to be certain that the future teachers had some institutional, anatomical, and pedagogical knowledge to start a group of practice and stay close to the requirement of brevet federal he hoped would arrive.

There was also an obligation to take part in teachers' training sessions he led (one day in January and one week in July)

From initiation 3 on, enrolling at the beginning of each quarter was compulsory and students were called at the opening of each class.

Master Noro did not like absences and wanted them justified. He would remark to those concerned, telling them they did not respect their commitment.

- To finish, how do you see the future of kinomichi?

Diplomas and grades have been put in place these past years to give kinomichi its full place among the federal system without forgetting the structures set by Master Noro (hakama stagiaire, hakama régulier)

Each person can follow the way he/she wishes and respect the various

sensibilities.

Nevertheless, I think it is important to take the technique well beyond the basic initiations, and one of today's challenges is to attract a younger public who will take over.

The future of kinomichi is in our hands within the respect of everyone's commitment: practitioners, teachers, and directors.

I will personally keep on working to pass on what I received and perceived in the years I spent with Master Noro.

Interview conducted by Patrick Loterman

What's up regarding teachers' graduating ?

Since 2020, teachers have successfully passed their evaluation to obtain Federal and State diplomas.

IFK held its 1st evaluation session dedicated to Federal diploma on late March 19, 2022.

The following 11 candidates were admitted :

Jean Pierre Ancèle, Sophie Derathé, Olivier Desouches, Laurence Fusilier, Alain Marc, Jean Baptiste Nataf, Jean Louis Perrod, Gilles Poirot, Gaëlle Roche, Anita Spiner, Michel Verdel.

The Members of «Conseil Supérieur du Kinomichi» (Kinomichi High Council) , « Comité Technique » (Technical Committee) and « Comité Directeur » (Steering Committee) » extend their sincere congratulations to the new graduates.

Also to be noted the VAE examination (i.e. Validation des Acquis de l'Expérience // Validation of Acquired Experience) to obtain State Diplomas on submitting a dossier supplemented by an oral examination in front of a jury :

- For the CQP, Certificat de Qualification Professionnelle, mention arts martiaux (Professional Qualification Certificate, mention Martial Arts) :

2020 Pascal Elouard

2021 Manuel Auffret and Jérôme Dermey

- For the DEJEPS, (Diplôme d'Etat de la Jeunesse, de l'Education Populaire et du Sport) aikido, aikibudo and related disciplines State Diploma

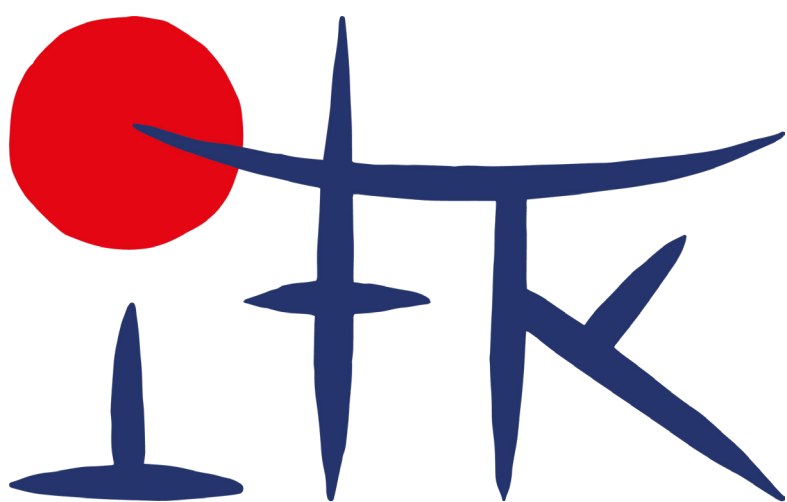
2020 Jean Pierre Cortier, Lucien Forni, Françoise Paumard, Françoise Weidmann, Hubert Thomas

2021 Catherine Auffret

- For the DESJEPS, Diplôme Supérieur d'Etat de la Jeunesse, de l'Education Populaire et du Sport, mention aikido aikibudo et disciplines associées (Youth, Adult Education and Sport, mention aikido, aikibudo and related disciplines Higher State Diploma):

2021 Jean Pierre Cortier, Lucien Forni, Hubert Thomas.

**IFK Steering Committee ,
The President
Hubert THOMAS**



INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DU **KINOMICHI**