

Shoseian "Whispering Pine" Teahouse

Brand Park 1601 West Mountain St., Glendale, CA 91201



The Art of the Jo Sunday May 18, 2025 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM



Shimizu Takaji
25th Headmaster of
Shindo Muso Ryu Jojutsu

Jodo – "The Way of the Stick" is a traditional Japanese fighting art which uses a 4 ft. staff against a wooden training sword, known as a *bokken*, in a series of pre-arranged forms known as *kata*.

The *jo* gained fame in the year 1605 when it was used in a duel, against the most famous swordsman in Japan, *Musashi Miyamoto* by the founder of *Shindo Muso Ryu*, *Muso Gonnosuke*. *Musashi* suffered his only defeat (in more than 60 contests, often ending in death) as *Muso* wielded his new weapon, the *jo* against *Musashi's* famous "two sword" style. Over 400 years later, the *jo* is still being put to practical use today by the Tokyo Riot Police. The police use *Shindo Muso Ryu* as their training method for the *jo*.

Training with weapons will develop your intensity, power, focus and awareness in ways that empty hand training cannot do. In this four hour workshop you will learn some of the basic strikes, training drills and *kata* of *jodo*. You will also be introduced to the traditional customs, precepts and etiquette of a famous *koryu* – "old flow" fighting art of *Shindo Muso Ryu Jojutsu*.

Call Mike Belzer (310-849-5432) for more information.

\$25.00 per person

Please pre-register at the glendaleteahouse.org website.

Number of participants will be limited.

Friends of Shoseian is a non-profit IRC Section 501 (c)(3) organization.

Contributions can be tax deductible under IRC Section 170.

