

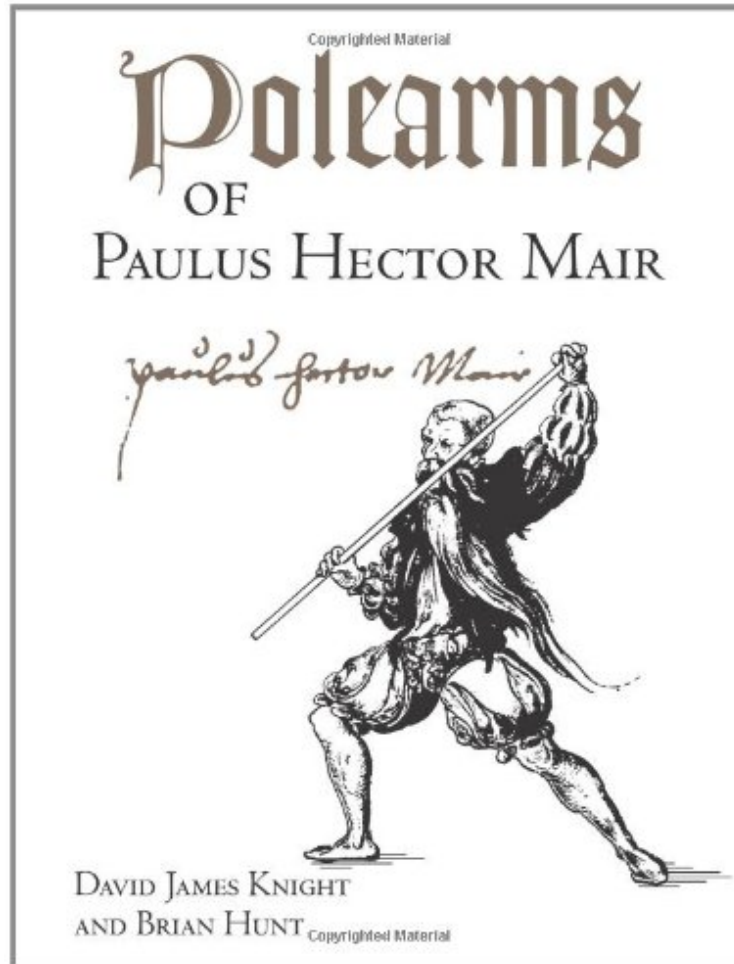
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## Polearms Of Paulus Hector Mair

**David James Knight, Brian Hunt : Polearms Of Paulus Hector Mair** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Polearms Of Paulus Hector Mair:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Good Material but getting datedBy Richard P. MarsdenThe books is a faithful reproduction of Mair's 1500's work on the use of a variety of pole-arms. The book, sadly, is not for beginners. Mair's work is intended for people who already have some idea of what they are doing. His illustrations sometimes show a play (sequence of events) where person A is defeating person B, but sometimes B is defeating A, or each can defeat the other, worse, the positions of the figures are not necessarily at the end of a play, but during the middle, or at the start of it. The language has room for interpretation, and thus is vague and as much as I wanted to be enlightened, I found my base-line knowledge not enough to truly soak in Mair's work as easily as I had hoped. For someone who knows their stuff, the book will be cherished, for the majority it will be challenging.The images are entirely in black and white and some of them are not clear. This is the only serious issue with the book since the dutiful translators can't be blamed for Mair's choice of words in the instruction!Even a person with skill in the use of

pole-arms will find the artwork difficult to discern at times and, compared to some online resources which were put up well after this book was printed, a bit lacking. However, what one gets in this book IS extensive. Pole-arms of many varieties are depicted and as of this review, its a book with few competitors on the market. Staff, long staff, halberd, pole-axe and much much more await within the pages! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Still this is a good translation and you would do well to use it. By Jonathan Allen Mair is at times hard to translate (being written in Latin by a German who doesn't actually know the language). Still this is a good translation and you would do well to use it, especially in conjunction with the translation on Wiktenauer. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Polearm technique complete. By Tom Courtney I've been redacting the plays in this book specifically for SCA combat, but I expect it to be of wider interest to any Western Martial Arts person interested in staff weapon techniques. I Western Martial Arts often don't translate well for SCA fighting, because, try as we might, swords are not much like sticks. However, these techniques do move over quite well because sticks are like sticks. I've found this translation to be very useful because a) besides the authors' interpretation they give a transliteration of both the German and Latin texts, b) if that's not enough, they also include the original texts, and c) they include the original illustrations to each play, which often give useful clues as to what is going on.

Paulus Hector Mair was perhaps the most intriguing figure in the Liechtenauer tradition of German Renaissance martial arts. An enthusiastic practitioner of fencing, wrestling and other martial arts, he was determined to preserve the knowledge of the combat arts of his time. His dream is realized in this remarkable book by authors David James Knight and Brian Hunt. Mair collected a vast combat library, including works by Jrg Wilhalm, Antonius Rast, Gregor Erhart and Sigmund Ringeck, as well as copies of both the Codex Wallerstein and the Knigsegg-Talhoffer manuscript. Circa 1540, Mair produced the *Opus Amplissimum de Arte Athletica*, or *Ultimate Book of the Art of Athletics*, a massive compendium heavily influenced by the earlier works in his library but surpassing them in content and depth. Today only three complete manuscripts of his *Opus* survive in German and Austrian collections. In *Polearms of Paulus Hector Mair*, authors Knight and Hunt make their contribution to the endeavor that Mair began so many centuries ago. Working from both the German and Latin versions of Mair's *Opus*, they present chapters on combat with the poleax, halberd, spear and shortstaff, and lance and longstaff, with text in the original German and Latin, along with the English translation. The illustrations, taken from the Dresden codices, C93 and C94, have been meticulously restored to give a clear view of the techniques. This amazing volume, a labor of love of the arts of combat, belongs in the library of everyone with an interest in Renaissance martial arts.

About the Author David James Knight is an Association of Renaissance Martial Arts Free Scholar and lifelong martial artist. He has trained in goju ryu, no-gi Brazilian jiu-jitsu, American folkstyle wrestling, US military combatives, in addition to European longsword, dagger, grappling and polearms techniques. Brian Hunt taught himself Latin, German and Italian and has translated the MS I.33 and Hans Talhoffer's 1459 manuscript. An ARMA Free Scholar, he has cross-trained in Okinawan karate, kung fu, aikido, kenjutsu and American boxing, as well as European longsword, sword and buckler, sword and shield, cut-and-thrust sword, rapier, dagger, grappling and polearm techniques.