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This seminar is open to all members of Aikido of Berkeley, regardless of level. Non-members who are interested are welcome to contact the dojo directly. **Free to attend.**

Donations are warmly welcomed.

EXPLORING DAITŌ-RYŪ AIKIJŪJUTSU ROPPŌKAI

WITH JOANES ESPANOL

SEPTEMBER 8TH (TUE)

6:30 TO 8:30PM

Aikido and Daitō-ryū Aikiū jutsu share a deep and direct historical connection. Morihei Ueshiba O-Sensei trained under Takeda Sokaku and received his teaching license in Daitō-ryū before developing Aikido as we know it today. Daitō-ryū preserves the *aiki principle* in its most direct form: *the ability to receive, blend with, and neutralize force through connection and sensitivity rather than muscular strength*. Roppokai is a lineage of Daitō-ryū founded by Okamoto Seigo Shihan (1925–2015), renowned for his effortless application of aiki. Exploring Daitō-ryū offers Aikido practitioners a rare opportunity to see the roots of their own art — the same principles, examined through a different lens.

Joanes Espanol began his martial arts journey with Judo before discovering Daitō-ryū Aikijūjutsu Roppokai, in which he has trained for over 20 years. He trained directly under Okamoto Seigo Shihan, the founder of Roppokai, before his passing in 2015. His background gives him a grounded, practical perspective on the principles of aiki and their application across different arts.

