

February 18, 2026

It was my great good fortune to study with Master Aiping Cheng when she first moved to Austin, Texas. I was performing Kung Fu Fan with friends (strictly amateur!) at the Asian American Cultural Center when Aiping took the stage to demonstrate Chen-style Tai Chi. Her performance was stunning, clearly in a whole different class from what we had ever seen in our town. I signed up to study with her on the spot!

As a teacher, Aiping is everything a Tai Chi master should be: patient and engaging, a dynamic leader, and a gentle source of wide-ranging knowledge. She is unusual in combining deep understanding of traditional Tai Chi with the ability and discipline to perform at the highest levels of modern Wushu.

Whether she is encouraging a senior citizen who is just learning about tai chi, dazzling an audience with her sword, or coaching a top young talent for competition, Master Aiping is a rare and amazing example of the very best in Chinese martial arts. Studying with her enriched my practice in so many ways. I will always be grateful for her generosity, commitment, and wisdom.

Elizabeth Buhmann

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