

## Foreword

by GM Aaron Summerscale

The Colle–Zukertort opening system is generally seen as a way for White to avoid having to learn lots of opening theory. Indeed it was this opinion that attracted me towards playing the opening on a regular basis. White, I thought, can bash out his first 8 or 9 moves and get the sort of position he is familiar with. Then it was a case of using my better experience in the line to out-manuever my opponents. It took a while to iron out some of the wrinkles but eventually it turned into an opening I was happy to play against GM's with fairly good results. The culmination of this was when I decided to write a White repertoire book, *A Killer Chess Opening Repertoire*, based on the Colle-Zukertort and other slightly offbeat White systems in 1996. One of the drawbacks of writing a book like this is that your competitors can immediately see the systems that cause you the most trouble and start remorselessly using them against you. One particularly irksome move order was 1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. e3 g6. And to be honest I never truly found a way I was completely happy with to overcome this problem. I eventually moved onto new opening pastures.

Forward wind 8 years and in 2004 I received an e-mail from David Rudel suggesting a creative solution to the 3...g6 problem that had previously eluded me. I congratulated him for his vision and thought no more of it. However, David evidently

## Zuke 'Em

did a great deal of thinking about the Colle and the result is the book you have in your hands. One of the things that immediately impressed me about the book is how much thought and effort has obviously gone into it. Although it is possible to just bash your moves out in the Colle-Zukertort without much thought, a savvy opponent will make your life very difficult indeed if you pay no attention to move order. In this book David takes you on a journey avoiding the trapdoors set by sneaky opponents and into a middlegame where you have a fair idea of what you are trying to achieve. He doesn't shirk from using game statistics to tell you if a particular line doesn't score well and you can look forward to learning the role of each piece as the position evolves.

All in all if you are looking for an offbeat way to surprise your opponents and yet at the same time keep a solid foundation from which to attack, then this just might be the perfect book for you.

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