



Kabuki Costume

By Ruth M. Shaver

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The attire of the feudal lords and ladies of old Japan, warriors, priest, courtesans, Edo-period dandies geisha, footmen, farmers— in fact, the whole array of Kabuki's colorful characters-is discussed in fascinating detail in this Japanese Kabuki book.

From kimono and armor to undergarments, from wigs to foot gear, from swords to hair garments—no aspect of costume accessories is overlooked. Textiles and textile designs, in all their profusion of weaves, colors, and patterns, are carefully taken note of, and a number of important traditional designs are illustrate. Make-up and headdress varying formats of costume for specific roles, styles of tying the obi—all are expertly described.

Of the numerous books in English dealing with the Kabuki theater of Japan, none so far has devoted itself exclusively to costume. Kabuki is compelling bringing about such art forms, yet it is the costumes that create the intrinsic, eye catching spectacle.

Praise for *Kabuki Costume*:

"A product of over fourteen years of meticulous study, Shaver's unique and authoritative analysis of the labyrinthine complexities of Kabuki costumery not only provides...a valuable reference work for scholar, but also an apt introduction for anyone seeking to understand the principles of Japanese visual arts and theatrical conventions."—**Choice Reviews**

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