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Oppenheimer rehearsal Japan >

by [Professor Allan Marett](#)

Between 17 and 24 June I visited Japan to rehearse with Richard Emmert, Akira Matsui and John Oglevee. On Monday 22 June, following two days watching performances and rehearsals at the Oshima Noh Theatre in Fukuyama (<http://www.noh-oshima.com/noh-oshima-index.html>) we gathered to rehearse on the Noh stage at Matsui's home in Wakayama. This post includes photos of the costuming for the main roles.

The following are some photographs from rehearsals at the Oshima Noh theatre and on the rehearsal stage at Akira Matsui's home.



Akira Matsui and Rick Emmert show me the platform (ichidaijo) and the cloth that will cover it (daikaku). The tsure (Fudô Myô-ô) performed by Matsui will perform from this platform.



Akira Matsui shows me the costume for the Waki, a henro (pilgrim) who who travels from Shikoku to Hiroshima to find 'a temple associated with two foxes and an ancient priest.' Here he encounters the ghost of Robert Oppenheimer, and the action unfolds.

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ABOUT THE BLOG

The Oppenheimer Noh Project focuses on the creation and performance of a new English-language Noh play, Oppenheimer, in the Music Workshop Theatre at 6.00pm on Wednesday 30 September and Thursday 1 October 2015.

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John Oglevee putting on the mask used by the shite (a priest/ghost of Oppenheimer) in Act 1. A new 'Oppenheimer' mask is being made by Hideta Kitazawa for this performance. Oppenheimer first appears as a tormented priest, who eventually reveals that he is the ghost of Robert Oppenheimer. In Act 2 the shite appears as Robert Oppenheimer, who elects to enter the fires of Hiroshima, where he encounters Fudô Myô-ô (more about him in my next blog) who offers him a way to relieve the suffering he has inflicted on the people of Hiroshima and the world.



Akira Matsui shows the costume for the Great Wisdom King Fudô Myô-ô, whom he will play in this production. Fudô sets the play in motion by sending the pilgrim to Hiroshima, and resolves it through his encounter with Oppenheimer at the end of the play.

Comments



Love the behind-the-scenes stuff!

Posted by: Linda | [August 5, 2015 04:59 PM](#)

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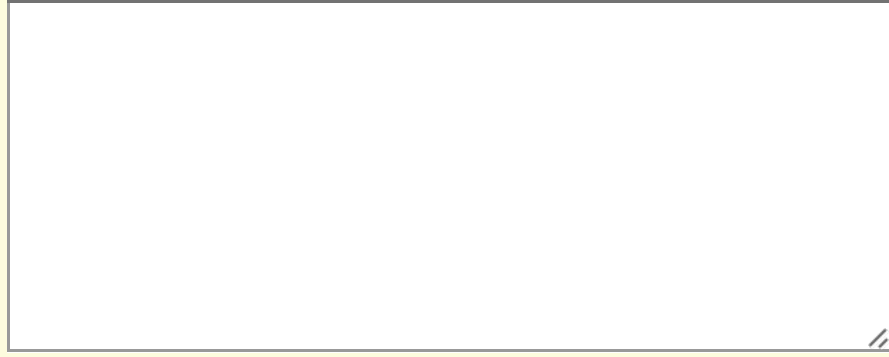
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