

# Guide to Illustrated scroll of samples of Noh masks and a record of props, in Japanese "Noh-men hinagata emono hikae" C0495

Illustrated scroll of samples of Noh masks and a record of props, in Japanese "Noh-men hinagata emono hikae" 日本舞踊 面立 絵巻 巻物

circa late 19th century or early 20th century

## Title Statement

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**Subtitle:** Illustrated scroll of samples of Noh masks and a record of props, in Japanese "Noh-men hinagata emono hikae"

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## Publication Statement

**Publisher:** George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

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November 18, 2021

## Profile Description

**Creation:** This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2024-07-17 07:02:32 -0400.

**Language Usage:** Description is written in: English, Latin script.

**Descriptive Rules:** Describing Archives: A Content Standard

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

C0495

### Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/599

### Unit Date

circa late 19th century or early 20th century

### box

1

### Language

Japanese .

### Abstract

An illustrated scroll - or emakimono - of samples of masks and a record of props used in Noh theater, created circa late 19th century or early 20th century. The scroll measures nearly 30 feet in length when unrolled and is constructed of individual illustrated leaves that have been adhered together to create the scroll. When rolled, the scroll is housed in a wooden box.

**Creator**

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

**Extent**

.5 Linear Feet 1 scroll 29 ft, 3 in when unrolled.

**Physical Location**

R 72, C 3, S 5

**Repository**

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

## Administrative Information

**Access Restrictions**

There are no access restrictions.

**Use Restrictions**

Public Domain. There are no known restrictions.

**Acquisition Information**

Purchased by Steve Gerber on March 16, 2018 from Schubertiade Music.

**Processing Information**

Processing completed by Amanda Brent in November 2021. EAD markup completed by Amanda Brent in November 2021. This item was formerly part of the Performing Arts Manuscript Materials collection, C0215.

Primary Japanese translation and research credit goes to Yoko Ferguson, Metadata and Cataloging Librarian at George Mason University Libraries. Additional translation and research credit goes to Reiko Yoshimura at the Freer Gallery of Art/Arthur M. Sackler Gallery Library, Smithsonian Institution Libraries.

**Preferred Citation**

Illustrated scroll of samples of Noh masks and a record of props, in Japanese "Noh-men hinagata emono hikae," C0495, Special Collections Research Center, George Mason University Libraries.

## Historical Information

Noh theatre is a traditional Japanese style of theatre created in the 14th century, and is the oldest continuously performed theatrical tradition in the world. Noh plays, which combine drama, music, and dance, are very structured with specific characters, emotions, words, and costumes. In Noh there are always designated roles (played by men), which in turn determine the masks worn. These masks inform the audience which character is which. Traditionally, Noh masks are carved from Japanese cypress. There are more than 200 Noh masks in use today.

## Scope and Content

An illustrated scroll - or emakimono - of samples of masks and a record of props used in Noh theater. The scroll measures nearly 30 feet in length when unrolled and is constructed of individual illustrated leaves that have been adhered together to create the scroll. When rolled, the scroll is housed in a wooden box. The scroll features illustrations of masks and props from traditional Japanese Noh theatre, including masks of characters from a variety of plays, such as Yama-uba, Hannya, Atsumori, Shunkan, and Ikkaku Sennin.

The scroll was likely used as a visual catalogue of items by a collector of Noh masks and props. It is possible this scroll is a copy of an original scroll, based off of the title's translation.

## Related Materials

The Special Collections Research Center also holds rare books on Japan and Japanese culture.

The of Hosei University in Tokyo, Japan holds and other materials on Noh theatre.

## Keywords

Japan

Nō

Performing arts  
Theater

## **Bibliography**

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## **Arrangement**

This is a single item collection.