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Reiko Chiba : Painted Fans of Japan: 15 Noh Drama Masterpieces before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Painted Fans of Japan: 15 Noh Drama Masterpieces:

Noh Fans are an essential element element of Japanese theater and this collection of fans is a rare example of this fine Japanese art. The chief purpose of Painted Fans of Japan is to present for Westerners some of the gorgeous paintings found on fans used in the traditional Japanese Non drama. Painting as limited to conform to the fan shape has teen practiced for hundreds of years in Japan, even by such immortal artists as Sotatsu and Korin. Until now, however, there has been no popularly available volume of reproductions to reveal the almost limitless possibilities in color, design, and perspective within this restricted form of painting. The artists whose works are reproduced in this book are unknown, and the time when the works were painted can only he estimated as early (1601-1741), middle (1742-1791), or late (1792-1867) Tokugawa, the period of Japanese history that extended from the beginning of the seventeenth century to well past the middle of the nineteenth.