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Cover illustration
Aoinoue by Ototaka Sakai
Photo: Yoshihiro Maejima

NO *Aoinoue*

The cover pictures represent the scene from *Aoinoue* performed by NO actor. NO is one of the Japanese traditional musical drama. It has been enacted since fourteenth century. The source of *Aoinoue* is *The Tale of Genji* that allegedly is the oldest novel in the world.

The role shown on the cover is Lady Rokujyo. She is a noble woman, a widow of a prince and she also is a mistress of Genji who is the hero of *The Tale of Genji* and famous for having affairs with many ladies. She is a highly sophisticated lady and of great pride. Although she logically understands that it is not a befitting manner to indulge herself in the love with a renowned playboy, Genji, she can't stand arouse a feeling of jealousy and finally her Ikiryō (wandering spirit) curse some of Genji's mistresses to death.

Lady Rokujyo as a pulchritudinous noble lady and as a horrible demon-like figure can be interpreted Logic and Sensibility behind human mind, respectively.

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