The Characters of Kabuki Theatre

A Japanese Theatrical Tradition
What is Kabuki?
The Main Character Types:

• **Onnagata** – female characters portrayed by male actors

• **Wagoto** – male characters played with a feminine acting style such as romantic leads; close to that of the onnagata roles and more fluid in comparison to the aragoto roles

• **Aragoto** – translates as "rough stuff or business" and refers to the super heroes and villains in kabuki plays, wearing heavily padded costumes and brightly colored face makeup; performed with a broad and bombastic style
Here Are Some Examples...
Onnagata Characters
Wagoto Characters
Aragoto Characters