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## Flowing (Nageru)

(1956, 116 min., b/w)

Director: Mikio Naruse

Cast: Kinuyo Tanaka, Hideko Takamine

Recently released in the United States, this master work by a director now ranked with Ozu, Mizoguchi and Kurosawa, is the account of an aging geisha's struggle to keep her business afloat. Featuring an ensemble of Japan's finest actresses, this poignant film illustrates Kurosawa's description of Naruse's work as "a deep river with a quiet surface disguising a fast-raging current underneath." "An immensely moving portrait...the performers are all splendid" (Vincent Canby).