

## Document Citation

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Friday, September 21

*Mikio Naruse: A Master  
of the Japanese Cinema*

*Film Critic Audie Bock in Person!*

**REPAST**

(MESHI)

1951, Mikio Naruse, Japan, 97 min.

5:30 only; also October 4

A poignant study of a disintegrating marriage, *REPAST* is told from the point of view of a childless young wife who longs to escape her dreary routine and return to her family in Tokyo. After catching her husband in a compromising position with a visiting niece, she leaves him, and heads for Tokyo; yet her memories of Tokyo were before defeat and occupation by a foreign army, and in the end she resigns herself to her fate. Naruse's mature style took full bloom here; framings, are rigid and settings sparse, with a minimum of any technical flourish, yet the "calm" seems, and is, unnatural, and instead reveals tensions seething below the surface.

It was also with *REPAST* that Naruse discovered the novels of Fumiko Hayashi, an important feminist author; over the next decade, Naruse would bring all of her important works to the screen.

**The Essential Naruse**

*Lecture by Audie Bock*

Immediately following this screening of *REPAST*, Audie Bock, a leading authority on Japanese cinema and author of an upcoming, book-length study of Mikio Naruse (to be published by the University of California Press), will discuss the development of Naruse's unique artistry.