



THE FIRST ZEN INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

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會協禪一第國美

Film Series

# The Men Who Tread on the Tiger's Tail

A Film by Akira Kurosawa

# Bodhidharma's Shoe

A Film by Tom Davenport

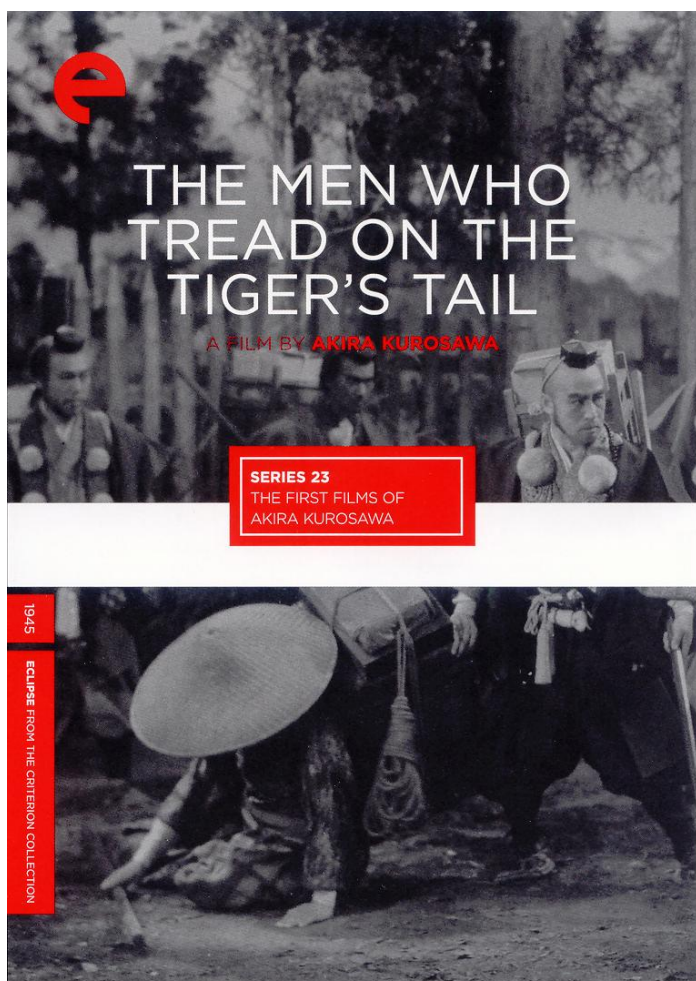
Friday, October 1, 2010 7:30 PM

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*The Men Who Tread on the Tiger's Tail* is an early (1945) Kurosawa classic depicting what appear to be six Buddhist monks on a pilgrimage to solicit alms for construction of the Great Buddha of Nara. In reality, they are samurai disguised as monks, and their mission is to deliver Minomoto Yoshitsune across a border guarded by forces working for his hostile brother, the Shogun Minomoto Yoritomo. It is based on the well known kabuki play Kanjinchō, which is in turn based on the Noh play Ataka, written in 1465, during the Muromachi Era by playwright Kanze Nobumitsu. This film was censored by Japanese authorities during World War II, and also by the occupying American forces after the war. Starring Denjiro Okochi and Susumu Fujita, it runs for 60 minutes. Spoken in Japanese with English subtitles.

*Bodhidharma's Shoe* is a film about a seven-day intensive *Sesshin* with Joshi Sasaki Roshi at the Bodhi Manda Zen Center in Jemez Springs, New Mexico. Videos of the retreat are interspersed with watercolor drawings of traditional Japanese monastic life painted by Giei Sato in the 1940s, and taken from the book "Unsui: A Diary of Zen Monastic Life," (University of Hawaii Press.). The drawings depict life at Tofukuji monastery, and are Giei Sato's recollections of his life as an Unsui – a novice monk. Tom Davenport is an independent film producer and distributor and has studied Zen with Joshi Sasaki Roshi since 1976. This film is being screened at the First Zen Institute courtesy of Davenport Films ([www.davenportfilms.com](http://www.davenportfilms.com)). 27 minutes.

Admission is free.



## Bodhidharma's Shoe

Bodhi Manda Zen Center  
Jemez Springs, New Mexico  
[bmzc.org](http://bmzc.org)



A film by Tom Davenport