

## ***Gakuya***

The *gakuya* is on two floors. It is here that the actors and staff prepare for the performance, not unlike the Green Room of a Western theater. It includes the actors' changing rooms, the musicians' (*hayashi kata*) resting rooms, and a place for the hairdresser (*tokoyama*) to prepare the elaborate hairstyles of the actors. The *gakuya* in this theater still retains the atmosphere of the Edo period. However because actors today are much taller than they were in earlier eras, it is difficult for them to descend the stairs in full costume. Thus only the first floor is now in regular use.