

Maika'i Kaua'i

1. Maika'i Kaua'i, Hemolele i ka mālie *Beautiful is Kaua'i in the calm*
2. Kupu kelakela ke po'o a'o Wai'ale'ale *Where Wai'ale'ale raises its head high in the sky*
3. Malo'elo'e e ka la'au, Huli mai o ka palai *The tall straight trees, the waving fern*
4. Owa'owala ua naulu O Ha'ena i ka makani *Swaying in the naulu breeze of Ha'ena*
5. Ō mai e ka lani,ke ali'i he inoa *Answer oh heavenly one, to your name chant*

This mele was originally dedicated to Kaumuali'i – the king of Kaua'i in the days of Kamehameha-the-Great. Kapi'olani, or Kamaoha'i as she was sometimes known as, was the great grand daughter of this famous king, and so the mele is often dedicated to her because of this ancestry.

It speaks of the beauty of Kaua'i and some of the features identified with that island: the head waters of Wai'ele'ale, which is the wettest place on earth; the breeze of Ha'ena and many other things in the omitted verses.

Another story concerning the meaning of this chant is that a man peeked into the bath house of the women and saw a gorgeous lady which he describes from head to toe in poetic terms. The entire mele is 16 lines long (or more) – we only include 5 of them here. If one read the lines with that thought in mind, one can easily see this idea as well.

There are many, many versions of this dance – the one I share was given to me by Leina'ala Kalama Heine many years ago. I have several other versions of this hula in my repertoire, but this is one of my favorites.

Maika'i Kaua'i

1. (hula pos. Rt) (R-reach hi-R, L@chest, then fingertips together at piko) (reverse)
Maika'i Kaua'i **hemolele** **i ka mālie**
 'uehe R-L-R-L K-R w/'uehe in front K-L w/'uehe in front

(in place R-L-R w/hds hula pos on Rt, and reverse all 2nd time)

2. (bend from hip toward toe, palms dn 8X – R & L with feet...)
Kupu kelakela ke po'o a'o Wai - - 'ale'ale
 going forward, step R-toe ('ulili)& stamp moving forward, turning body side to side

(in place R-L_R w/hds hula pos on Rt, and reverse all 2nd X moving backward)

3. (hula pos. leaning R, 'pull' w/body to Rt & reverse each step 8X)
Mālo'elo'e ka lā'au huli mai 'o ka palai
 step R w/huki L to front, repeat facing L w/qtr turn, then face fack, then R-side, complete 2 full turns)

(In place R-L-R w/hds hula pos on Rt, and reverse all 2nd time)

4. (2hds w/heels together, plms to floor, then arms out-stretched to either side, finger tips up)
'Owā'owala ua nāulu o Hā'ena i ka makani
 hela going forward 2/each step 8X

(In place R-L-R w/hds hula pos on Rt, and reverse all 2nd time)

5. (head bow-down, R@ mouth, then extend hi-Rt, p/i 4X)
O mai e ka lani ke ali'i he inoa
 K-R 4X, bringing body to full open in front

(In place R-L-R w/hds hula pos on Rt, and reverse all 2nd time)

5. (head bow-down, L@ mouth, then extend hi-Lft, p/i 4X)
O mai e ka lani ke ali'i he inoa
 K-L 4X, bringing body to full open in front

(hula pos. on Rt.....) (L@ chest, R-to front, then both to chest)(auī lima L)

'Ea la, ea la, 'ea A-E-I e-ie
 'uehe R & L & Kū Aui R-forward, back & 'uehe, aui L (out/bk)

soft lele pos, w\'pick" L-R-L 2 hds shldr & out & together pau in front
 lele imua L – R – L 'Oniu back R-L-R and point R for pau

"He inoa no Kamoha'i