E Manu Rere Hau

Words, Music, Translation by Manea Tepairu
Featured instruments: Tahitian ‘ukulele, drums, vovo - Jesse Jesse

The composer of this song was born in Tahiti, raised in New Caledonia and now calls Kaua’i his home. Manea crafts Tahitian ‘ukulele, Polynesian drums and has been a South Sea island resource in the community for many years. He is the founder of the Heva I Kaua’i Taorana Tahiti Festival now celebrating its seventh year. He has composed several Tahitian songs for Leilani and this song was written two years ago, as a gift for Leilani and her hala‘u. “The Flying Bird of Peace,” is a tropic tern with satiny-white plumage, a metaphor Manea uses for Leilani as a the kumu and spiritual elder of the hala‘u.

Ua rere maira te ho’e manu i ni’a i te ra’i
E manu hau tona i’oa
E manu e, e manu e
Tahirihiri noa tona pererau i ni’a i te ra’i
E manu e, e manu e

There is a bird that soared into the sky
She is the bird of peace
O bird, o bird
Flying along
O bird, o bird

Ua ‘ite ona te ho’e motu api roa
E ua tau te manu hau i ni’a i te femua
No reira e tiare ho’i matou no te motu ‘o Kaua’i

She saw a new island
And landed there
Hence we’re the flower of this island, Kaua’i

E manu e, e manu e, e manu e
E manu e, e manu e, e manu e

O bird, o bird, o bird
O bird, o bird, o bird