Haole Hula

F  C7  F
Oh, when I hear the strains of that sweet “‘Alekoki”
And stealing from a far-off guitar “Penei no”
When “Lili‘u e” makes you sway in the moonlight
I know the reason why fair Hawai‘i haunts you so

F  C7  F
The lovely blue of sky and the sapphire of ocean
The flashing white of clouds and of waves’ foaming crest
The many shades of green from the plains to the mountains
With all the brightest hues of the rainbow we’re blessed

F  C7  F
I hear the swish of rain as it sweeps down the valley
I hear the song of wind as it sighs through the trees
I hear the crash of waves on the rocks and the beaches
I hear the hissing surf and boom of the sea

F  C7  F
I love to dance and sing of the charms of Hawai‘i
And from a joyful heart sing aloha to you
In every note I’ll tell of the spell of my islands
For then I know that you’ll be in love with them too

R. Alex Anderson composed Haole Hula for Don Blanding’s Hula Moon show, performed at the old Princess Theater in Honolulu in 1927. Although written in English, Anderson’s songs are thematically Hawaiian, such as this one in which he shares with you the beauty of the islands through sight, sound and motion. ‘Alekoki, Penei no and Lili‘u e are titles of popular songs, the strains of which would haunt anyone who loved the islands.