

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jensen discusses Hawai‘i Maoli arts

KAMUELA, Hawai‘i—March 24, 2011—Sculptor, historical illustrator, educator, and cultural exponent Rocky Ka‘iouliahikolu ‘Ehu Jensen will discuss the concepts and philosophy which underlie Hawai‘i Maoli arts in an upcoming *Puana Ka ‘Ike* lecture in Kona and an *Eia Hawai‘i* presentation in Hilo.

Jensen will speak on “Unveiling Concepts & Philosophy behind Maoli Arts” from 5:30–7 p.m. on Friday, April 1, at the Keauhou Beach Resort Ballroom in Kona and from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Monday, April 4, at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, Campus Center Room 301.

Jensen’s talks will reveal the reasons why Hawai‘i Maoli imagery was and continues to be created. Taking his audience on a journey from pre-contact to the contemporary present, Jensen will discuss the philosophy and language behind Maoli artistic iconography. Protocol and procedure will be revisited in order to debunk common misinterpretations of Maoli artistic culture.

Jensen is co-founder and director of the contemporary art conclave, *Hale Naua*, Society of Maoli Arts. Jensen’s work is exhibited in premier venues throughout the country. He has had 12 major exhibitions at Honolulu’s Bishop Museum and his work has been displayed in museums and galleries throughout the United States, Canada, New Zealand, and Paris, and most recently at Taiwan’s Natural Museum of Prehistory.

In 1999 Jensen installed the monument *Na Lehua Helelei* for the Hawaiian war dead at Fort DeRussey Army Museum in Waikiki. He is also distinguished by having a permanent collection of his works installed in the newly renovated Hawaiian Hall at the Bishop Museum, and he currently serves as the Bishop Museum’s cultural advisor on pre-contact art. Jensen played a pivotal roll in the construction of the Hawai‘i Maoli ship *Hawai‘iloa*, lending his expertise in woodworking and Maoli culture.

For more information on Jensen’s presentations, contact Joy Cunefare at (808) 534-8528 or e-mail info@kohalacenter.org. For lecture schedules and webcasts of previous lectures, visit <http://kohalacenter.org/puanakaike/about.html> and www.keauhouresort.com/learn-puanakaike.html.

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The Puana Ka 'Ike and Eia Hawai'i lecture series are presented in partnership with Keauhou-Kahalu'u Education Group of Kamehameha Schools, The Kohala Center, the Kīpuka Native Hawaiian Student Center at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, and Keauhou Beach Resort.

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[photo caption] Rocky Ka'iouliokahihikolu 'Ehu Jensen