

For Immediate Release

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Waters of Waimea art at Kahilu Theatre

KAMUELA, Hawai‘i—April 29, 2009—The varied physical and cultural landscapes of the waters flowing through Waimea from Kohala Mountain to the ocean are the inspiration for the invitational artist event May 10 through June 12 at Kahilu Theatre.

Kahe Mau Ka Wai A Waimea: Forever Shall the Waters of Waimea Flow reflects on the enduring waters of Waimea and cultural landscape through art and sharing.

For sensory and creative inspiration, participating artists were invited to journey into the cultural landscape of the *wahi pana* (storied places) of the Kohala Mountain upland waters and of Keanui‘omanō and Wai‘ula‘ula streams in the leeward Waimea *kula* grasslands. There Ku‘ulei Keakealani and Keali‘i Bertelmann shared stories and tributes to their ancestral lands with the artists to collectively deepen a connection to the spirit of place.

The mixed-media art show opens at 4 p.m. May 10 at the theatre. The opening includes a multi-media performance by Keakealani and Bertelmann with hula, *mele* (music) and *mo‘olelo* (stories) honoring the Waters of Waimea. The public is also invited at 7 p.m. on June 1 to presentations by Carolyn Stewart on the Wai‘ula‘ula Watershed, Melora Purell on the Kohala Mountain resources and partnership, and Bob Nishimoto on the native aquatic species found in the watershed.

Kahe Mau Ka Wai A Waimea is a collaboration of partners volunteering their time and resources so that the *mo‘olelo wahi pana* (stories of sacred sites) and precious watershed endure including Ku‘ulei Keakealani, Keali‘i Bertelmann, Yvonne and Keoki Carter, TryLookInside Graphics, Kahilu Theatre Foundation, The Kohala Center, and Wai‘ula‘ula Watershed Partnership.

For a complete list of participating artists and additional information, visit www.kohalacenter.org/KaheMauKaWaiAWaimea/about.html.