

Cory Kamehanaokala Holt Taum, b. 1990

Hānau Ka Pō – The Night Gave Birth

Vinyl mural, 2022

Hō'ike aku kēia hakuhia lauana i ka huaka'i o ke kanaka no'eau ma ke 'ano he haumāna na ke Kumu Kākau Uhi, 'o Sulu'ape Keone Nunes. Hō'ike kā Cory hakuhia i ka wehena o ka wā mua o ke kumulipo, ka wā ho'i e hānau mua 'ia nā mea mua o ke kai mai ka pō mai.

He 'elua kaukani a 'oi lālani o ke Kumulipo, a 'o ke mele ko'ihonua ho'i e hō'ike ana i ka loli 'ana o ke ola, ka hānau 'ia 'ana mai o ke kanaka, a me ka pilina o ke kanaka i kēlā me kēia mea o ke ao. He pilina ko ke kai me ko ka 'āina, a hō'ike 'ia ia 'ano pilina mao nā lālani mele o ke Kumulipo. Hō'ike pū 'ia ka mo'okū'auhau o nā ali'i mai kinohi a hiki mai i nā makahiki 1700.

Ho'olauna: He kanaka no'eau 'ōiwi 'o Cory Kamehanaokalā Holt Taum e noho a hana ana ma Hawai'i. He kanaka haku ki'i paia a he kanaka no'eau i pā kāna mau hana a hakuhia i nā mo'olelo a me nā ha'awina o ke au i hala a pehea ho'i e pili ai i ko kēia au, i loko nō o ka loli mau e 'ike 'ia nei ma Hawai'i. Puni 'o Cory i nā lauana ikaika a 'a'ā o ka po'e Hawai'i kahiko. Kaulana 'o ia i kāna mau ki'i pena ma nā 'ano 'ili like 'ole, 'o ke keleawe kūkae hao, 'o ke kimeki uhi 'ia i ka limu, a 'o ke kumu Albezia ho'i. Koho 'o ia i ia mau 'ili like 'ole i mea e pā ai ka mea nānā, i no'ono'o ho'i i ka ho'okiwikā 'ia 'ana o ka 'āina a pehea nō ho'i ka hopena o ke ola o ka 'āina a me ka po'e o Hawai'i. Nui kā Cory mau hana ma nā ki'i paia nui o ke kaiāulu a ua komo pū ho'i 'o ia i mau nohona hana no'eau a me nā ho'olaule'a ki'i paia kau'āina ma ka Pākīpika.

Cory Kamehanaokala Holt Taum, b. 1990

Hānau Ka Pō – The Night Gave Birth

Vinyl mural, 2022

This composition of patterns reflects the artist's journey as a haumana (apprentice) of Master Tattoo Practitioner, Sulu`ape Keone Nunes. Cory's composition captures the opening of the first Wā (division/era) of the Kumulipo (creation chant) where the first elements of the ocean are born from the darkness. Containing over 2,000 lines, the Kumulipo is the story of the evolution of life, the emergence of kānaka (humans) and the connection of kānaka to all elements of the universe. The Kumulipo describes how organisms living in the sea are linked to organisms living on land. It traces the genealogy of ruling Chiefs of the 1700's back to the beginning of time.

Bio: Cory Kamehanaokalā Holt Taum is a Kānaka 'Ōiwi artist that lives and works in Hawai'i. He is an active mural artist and cultural practitioner sourcing his inspiration from the stories and teachings of the past and their relevance in today's drastically changing Hawai'i. Cory is fascinated with the bold, and powerful visual forms and patterns developed by the original people of Hawai'i. He is best known for his iconic paintings on a wide range of surfaces from rusted metal, moss covered concrete, to an invasive *Albizia* tree. The surfaces he chooses as his canvas hope to encourage the viewer to question the current state of urbanization, and its effect on the health of the `aina (land) and the people of Hawai'i. Cory has worked on numerous large scale community murals as well as participated in multiple artist-in-residences and international mural festivals throughout the Pacific.