

**Ian Joseph Kekoa Kualī`i, b. 1977**

*Princess Victoria Kawēkiu Ka`iulani Lunalilo Kalaninuiāhiālapalapa Cleghorn, 1875 – 1899 Kai He`enalu Ho`ilina (The ones who are the legacy of surfing)*

Hand-cut paper portrait with painted verso

30”X 40”

2022

Before the surf industry and social media glamorized the female wave slider of a mixed ethnic background, there was Princess Kai`iulani: the original hapa haole surfer girl of Waikīkī. Although her time in this realm was short, Kai`iulani’s legacy lives on in song, the defiance of the proper Victorian Lady image through surfing and how she fought to restore the Hawaiian Kingdom through diplomacy abroad.

Like many Hawaiian royalty of the time, Kai`iulani was shipped off to boarding school and in 1889 was sent to England for a “proper” education. It was a time of much turmoil for the Hawaiian monarchy while Kai`iulani was abroad. King Kalākaua died in San Francisco on January 20, 1891. Ka`iulani learned of her uncle's death by the next day through the Transatlantic telegraph cables while news did not reach Hawai`i until January 29, when The Charleston returned to Honolulu with the king's remains. Lili`uokalani ascended immediately to the throne, and on March 9, 1891 – with the approval of the House of Nobles – Queen Lili`uokalani appointed her niece Ka`iulani as her heir apparent and eventual successor to the throne. Princess Kai`iulani would never know the kuleana (*responsibility/privilege*) of ruling the Kingdom of Hawai`i because Queen Lili`uokalani and the Kingdom of Hawai`i was overthrown by haole (*foreign*) businessmen on January 17, 1893. Upon learning of the overthrow, Kai`iulani promptly traveled to Washington D.C. to urge U.S. leaders to restore the Kingdom of Hawai`i. For the rest of her years, she would make many of these kinds of diplomatic missions, advocating for Hawaiian sovereignty.

In 1897, Kai`iulani returned to Hawai`i to live full-time at `Āinahau. Her home was a quick walk to the surf breaks of Waikīkī like Kapuni (*Canoe's*) and Maihiwa (*Cunha's*) so it's not surprising that Kai`iulani was a skilled surfer. According to Hui Nalu surf club founder, William “Knutē” Cottrell, Kai`iulani was an expert kanaka he`e nalu (*surfer*). Sadly, Princess Kai`iulani passed away in the prime of her life at the young age of 23 from inflammatory rheumatism. She was frequently ill during her time abroad, and she contracted rheumatism from a trip to Waimea on Hawai`i Island for a wedding and Christmas holiday. One of Kai`iulani's papa he`e nalu (*surfboard*) – a 74” Alai`a – is preserved at the Bishop Museum.

**Ian Joseph Kekoa Kualī`i, hānau `ia. 1977**

*Ke Ali`i Wahine Victoria Kawēkiu Ka`iulani Lunalilo Kalaninuiāhilapalapa Cleghorn, 1875 – 1899 Kai He`enalū Ho`ilina*

Ki`i pepa `oki lima `ia me ke kua pena `ia  
30”X 40”

2022

Ma mua o ka ho`okaulana `ia `ana o ka wahine he`enalū o nā koko like `ole e ka `oihana he`enalū a me ka pāpaho launa, ua loa`a Ke Ali`i Wahine Ka`iulani: ke kaikamahine hapa haole he`enalū mua o Waikīkī. Ua pōkole kona nohona ma kēia ao, mau nō na`e ka ho`oilina o Ka`iulani ma o nā mele, ke kū`ē `ana o ka hō`ailona kūpono o ka Wahine Wīkōlia ma o ka he`enalū a pehea nō ho`i `o ia i paio aku ai no ka ho`iho`i `ana a`e o ke Aupuni Mō`i Hawai`i ma o ka noho nihi ma ka `āina `ē.

Ua hānau `ia `o ia ma O`ahu ma ke Aupuni Mō`i Hawai`i - ma ka wā o ka Mō`i Kalākaua - a `o ia ho`okahi ke kaikamahine na ke Ali`i Wahine Miriam Likelike a me ke kanaka pā`oihana Sekotia `o Archibald Scott Cleghorn. Ua kapa `o Ka`iulani ma hope o kona `anakē makuahine `o Anna Ka`iulani, a me ka Mō`i Wahine Wīkōlia o ke Aupuni Mō`i Hui Pū `ia, nona ke kākō`o i ho`iho`i i ke ea a me ke kū`oko`a o ke Aupuni Mō`i Hawai`i ma ka wā o Kamehameha III. `O ka mana`o o Ka`iulani ma ka `ōlelo Hawai`i, `o ia ho`i `o “ka `iu ho`i ma ka lani” a me “ka mea la`a ali`i”.

E like ho`i me nā ali`i Hawai`i o ke au, ua ho`ouna `ia `o Ka`iulani i ke kula ho`omākaukau a i ka makahiki 1889, ua ho`ouna `ia `o ia i `Enelani no ka ho`ona`auao “kūpono”. He wā nui ho`i o ka pi`oloke no ke aupuni mō`i Hawai`i iā Ka`iulani ma ka `āina `ē. Ua hala ka Mō`i Kāne Kalākaua ma Kapalakiko i ka lā 20 o Ianuali 1891. Ua lohe `o Ka`iulani no ka hala `ana o kona `anakala i kekahi lā mai ma o nā kelekalapa `Akelenika, ma mua na`e o ke ku`i `ana o ka lono i Hawai`i ma ka lā 29 o Ianuali, i ka wā i ho`i aku ai ka moku `o The Charleston i Honolulu me nā iwi o ka mō`i kāne. `A`ole o kana mai ka noho ali`i `ana o Lili`uokalani, a ma ka lā 9 o Malaki 1891 - me ka `ae o ka Hale `Aha`ōlelo Ali`i - ua ho`onoho ka Mō`i Wahine Lili`uokalani i kāna `ohana kaikamahine `o Ka`iulani, `o ia ka ho`oilina mō`i e noho ali`i ana ma hope ona. `A`ohe `ike o ke Ali`i Wahine Ka`iulani i ke kulana o ka mō`i o ke Aupuni Mō`i Hawai`i `oiāi, ua ho`okahuli `ia ka Mō`i Wahine Lili`uokalani a me ke Aupuni Mō`i Hawai`i e nā kānaka pā`oihana haole ma ka lā 17 o Ianuali 1893. I ka wā i lohe ai `o Ka`iulani no ka ho`okahuli `ia `ana, ua holo koke `o ia i Wakinekona D.C. i mea e kauleo nui aku ai i nā alaka`i o `Amelika Hui Pū `ia e ho`iho`i i ke Aupuni Mō`i Hawai`i. No ke koena o kona mau makahiki, ua nui kāna mau hana kuhina e like ho`i me kēia, he ho`olale i ke ea Hawai`i.

I ka makahiki 1897, ua ho`i `o Ka`iulani i Hawai`i a ua noho piha `o ia ma `Āinahau. Ua kokoe kona hale i nā po`ina nalu o Waikīkī e like ho`i me Kapuni (*Canoe`s*) a me

Maihiwa (*Cunah's*), no laila, 'a'ohē pū'iwa o ka mākau he'enalu o Ka'iulani. Wahi a ke kanaka ho'okumu i ka Hui Nalu Surf Club, 'o William "Knutē" Cottrell, he loea 'o Ka'iulani ma ka he'enalu.

'O ka minamina, ua hala ke Ali'i Wahine Ka'iulani i kona wā u'i loa, i ka piha 'ana iā ia he iwakāluakūmākolū makahiki, i ka ma'i lumakika. Ua loa'a pinēpine 'o ia i ka ma'i ma kona wā ma ka 'āina 'ē, ua loa'a ka ma'i lumakika iā ia ma ke kahi huaka'i i Waimea ma ka mokupuni 'o Hawai'i no kekahi 'aha male a no ka lā nui Kalikimaka. Mālama 'ia kekahi papa he'enalu o Ka'iulani - he Alai'a, 'ehiki kapua'i me 'ehā 'īniha ka lō'ihī - ma ka Hale Hō'ike'ike 'o Pīhōpa.