

Island Mele

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[By John Berger](#)

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"Crossroads"

Eric Lee
(Lee Enterprises)

The tremendous changes in marketing and distribution of recorded music are seen in the release of Lee's solo album. The founding member of Na Kama could have released it as a conventional "hard copy" album on the Hoku Award-winning trio's in-house record label. Instead, he's going online only - May 1 is the date it goes on sale on iTunes and Amazon.com.

Lee explains in press materials that he wanted to represent his career experiences playing "a little of this, a little of that" and include some of his original compositions as well. He opens with "Ku'i Ka Lono," a song commemorating King Kalakaua's 50th-birthday jubilee in 1886, and continues with an assortment of Hawaiian, hapa-haole and pop tunes presented in clean contemporary Hawaiian arrangements.

Lee uses studio technology to present several songs as they would be done by a group - he plays several instruments, and harmonizes with himself on multiple vocal tracks. Fans of Na Kama can count on liking Lee as a solo artist.

"E Ho 'Ho'olalelale" is a beautiful example of his feel for traditional Hawaiian music. "I'll Never Find Another You," originally a hit for the Seekers in 1965, is a wistful yet romantic sample of his talent as a pop artist.

"Sunrise," a meticulously crafted guitar instrumental, spotlights yet another portion of his repertoire.


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- ▶ ["He Mele Lei No Namakaalohakawena"](#)
- ▶ ["I'll Never Find Another You"](#)
- ▶ ["On The Shores Of Waikiki"](#)



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