Sakura

Steven Espaniola
Edited 6-24-24

INTRO
C7 | F | C7 | F C7

VERSE 1
| F | Bb | F |
Ua ’ike maka iho nei I have seen
F | C7 | Bb C7 | F | C7
I ka nani o nã sa ku ra The beauty of the sakura

| F | Bb | F |
Ua ’ike maka iho nei I have seen
F | C7 | Bb C7 | F | F7 |
I ka nani o nã sa ku ra The beauty of the sakura

CHORUS (HUI)
Bb | Bb
Kuhi nö au Thinking of you
| F | F |
’o ’oe ia
G7 | G7 | C7 | C
Ho’olana i ku’u pu’u wai Brings peace to my heart

VERSE 2
| F | Bb | F |
Ua like me nã hökü The flowers are like the stars
F | C7 | Bb C7 | F | C7
E kau ana i nã lani Placed into the heavens

| F | Bb | F |
Ua like me nã hökü The flowers are like the stars
F | C7 | Bb C7 | F | F7 |
E kau ana i nã lani Placed into the heavens

CHORUS (HUI)
Bb | Bb
Kuhi nö au Thinking of you
| F | F |
’o ’oe ia
G7 | G7 | C7 | C
Ho’olana i ku’u pu’u wai Brings peace to my heart

VERSE 2
| F | Bb | F |
Ka li’i ’ae’ ae o nã pua The small frail flower
F | C7 | Bb | C7 | F | C7
Pua no ka ma na wa The flower that blooms
| F
kou lei in time for your lei

| F | Bb | F |
Ka li’i ’ae’ ae o nã pua The small frail flower
F | C7 | Bb | C7 | F | C7
Pua no ka ma na wa The flower that blooms
| F
kou lei in time for your lei

CHORUS (HUI)
Bb | Bb
Kuhi nö au Thinking of you
| F | F |
’o ’oe ia
G7 | G7 | C7 | C
Ho’olana i ku’u pu’u wai Brings peace to my heart

VERSE 3
| F | Bb | F |
Ha’ ina mai ka pu ana Tell the refrain
F | C7 | Bb C7 | F |
I ka nani o nã sa ku ra Of the beauty of the sakura
C7 | F | Bb | F |
Ha’ ina mai ka pu ana Tell the refrain
F | C7 | Bb C7 | F |
I ka nani o nã sa ku ra Of the beauty of the sakura
F | C7 | Bb C7 | F |
I ka nani o nã sa ku ra Of the beauty of the sakura
**F | C7 | Bb slower C7 | F | F **
I ka nani o nã sa ku ra Of the beauty of the sakura

Steven Espaniola’s new single "Sakura"

was released on February 4, 2022 on all major digital and streaming music platforms including iTunes, Apple Music, Spotify, Amazon Music, Pandora & iHeart.

The entire project was an absolute labor of love from start to finish which began as a heartfelt poem gifted by Steven’s dear friend and longtime songwriting collaborator from Pakala, Kaua’i Puni Patrick. Puni presented the makana to Steven and his wife April during their visit to Kaua’i in 2016. The poem’s imagery compares their late son Phoenix Kahanu Espaniola to the beauty of the fleeting Sakura flower. Upon initially reading his friend’s beautiful words, a haunting melody began to swell from within and Steven felt compelled to immediately arrange it into a song. The mele was recorded by multiple Nā Hōkū Hanohano and GRAMMY® Award winning Producer Dave Tucciarone in Hawai’i and mastered by GRAMMY® Award winning Mastering Engineer John Golden in Ventura, CA. Steven’s good friend Kris Kanoho (One Groove) helped to finish recording the song in the middle of the pandemic at his Northern California based Crossed Culture Music studio and also sprinkled an amazing lead guitar track throughout, reminiscent of falling cherry blossom petals. Kris’ son Tyler Kanoho provided the absolute perfect visual counterpart to the song’s kaona and message with his original artwork.

