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[Songs of Kalaupapa \(Page 4\)](#)

Sweet tones of slack key reverberate down the hallway of Kalaupapa's old bunkhouse- style visitors' quarters as Dennis and Stephen warm up for the show. Out on a bench with a millionaire's view of the ocean and cliffs, Patrick is plucking a small, six-string hybrid instrument he says is called a "guitarlele."

"Man, this is awesome," he marvels. "I think I could write like seven songs right now."

He grabs his iPhone and records a quick Facebook video update: "Hey folks, I'm sitting here right now at the visitors' quarters in Kalaupapa! Can you believe it?"

Later at the concert, Dennis gets a little misty as he recounts for the audience the day's emotional visits. Whenever he used to tell stories



about his earlier Kalaupapa visit, he says, "People would say, 'It must be a sad place.' But I would always say, 'For who? Because if you go down there, there is such a sense of peace. But now that I'm back again after so long, I have to say that it has been a little sad, because so many of the wonderful people I met the first time are buried in the graveyards now. But it's OK because I can see them in all of your faces.'"

His comments segue seamlessly into a powerful rendition of Stephen's song "Na Pua o Kalaupapa" ("The Flowers of Kalaupapa"), a tribute to the settlement's courageous souls who are facing an uncertain future:

I keia huliau ke nalowale nei ka nohona i ka wa kahiko ua hala ke kualau e kinai ai i na pua o Kalaupapa ...

In this period of change and transition, the lifestyle of old is slipping away the sea showers have passed and have quenched the flowers of Kalaupapa ...

Mai na Pali uluwehi i ka `ehu o ke kai Ko `oukou mau leo e mau ai He makana ia kakou, he mau pua mae `ole ...

From the lush, verdant cliffs to the misty sea spray Your voices will forever live These never-fading flowers are a gift to us all ...

Stephen Inglis' and Dennis Kamakahi's CD, Waimaka Helelei, won the Na Hoku Hanohano Award for Slack Key Album of the Year in May 2012.

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