

ALOHA OE

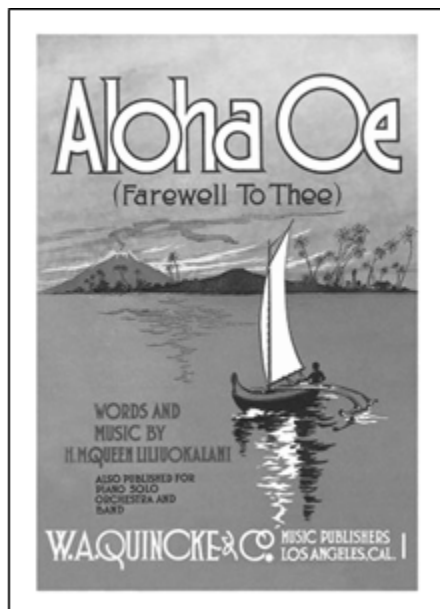
H. M. Queen Lili'uokalani, 1877

In the late 1800s The Royal Family became not only patrons of the arts but contributors as well. Around 1872 Prussian bandmaster Captain Henri Berger was brought to Hawaii to lead the Royal Hawaiian Band, which he did for the next 43 years. He loved the developing musical heritage of Hawaii and collaborated with the Royal Family, many of whom had become avid musicians, themselves. That music is now known as, *Monarchy Music*.

The most famous of the Royal compositions is *Aloha Oe*, composed by Queen Lili'uokalani, the last of Hawaii's ruling monarchs. She began studying music at an early age and went on to write over 160 poetic melodies and chants, including one of the four Hawaiian National Anthems. Through her music and lyrics, she expressed her feelings about Hawaii and its people. *Aloha Oe* is actually a love song, and tells the tale of two lovers as they reluctantly depart, and is often called, *Farewell to Thee*.



There is a manuscript of *Aloha Oe* in Queen Lili'uokalani's handwriting in the Bishop Museum.



This arrangement of *Aloha Oe* contains two parts, a melody and a harmony.

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