**John Keawe** was born and raised on the Big Island of Hawaii, in the little town of North Kohala. John grew up with rock and roll music and enjoyed listening to singer/songwriters. After four years in the service, John returned to Hawaii and fell in love with Hawaiian slack key. He listened and watched and taught himself to play this style of music. After a few years, he developed his own distinct style.

About the same time, John began writing songs, and began to play publicly. He had two compositions, “Kaauhuhu Homestead” and “Big Island Magic” which were chosen for album cuts on projects that involved various artists.

In the late 1980's, his debut album, "Island Touch" won him a nomination at the 1990 Na Hoku Hano Hano awards for most promising artist. In late 1990, he released a second album, "We All Need Friends" which included his buddies – the Homestead Gang.

From 1993 to 1996, John released four new recordings, all of which were nominated for Hoku awards. His 1993 release “Hoonanea” won an award for best instrumental performance. "Auhele" and "Manaolana" are also exclusively Hawaiian slack-key instrumentals.

"Christmas Is" features classic Christmas songs, done in the slack key style, and six original vocal compositions penned by John.

John travels frequently in the islands and also works with young children at Kahala Elementary School as part of the Makua Program.

At the 1998 Hawaiian Music awards, John received an award for best slack-key artist for his "Manaolana" CD.

John is a multiple Na Hoku Hanohano and Hawaii Music awards recipient and a contributing artist on Hawaii’s 1st Grammy award in 2005.

All original "Vocal" CD was released in early December 1999. This new recording entitled "Heartfelt" offers some powerful and touching compositions … songs that capture his most intimate thoughts and emotions, and truly reveals what dwells in his heart.

Latest project is a CD entitled "Aloha Kaikua'ana", which contains eleven instrumentals and two bonus vocals.