

Nukuhiva, Marquesas Islands, 1675

FESTIVAL [For Greg Dening]

Haka'iki and *tau'a*, chief and warrior priest
 You of so much uncollected fruit, so many conquests
 We honor the songs of your ancestors, your *mana*
 The *atua* gods before you, the *atua* to follow

We honor *atua* with these *heana Teii*
 Enemy men taken from *Teii* for sacrifice this day
 Take them to the *me'ae*, crush them twice
 Kill them and kill them again
 Hang them like fish on hooks
 They will invigorate, honor us
 Replenish and restore, honor us

Spirits of the sky, rock, sea, wind, and tree
Sky, rock, sea, wind, and tree
 Spirits of the sky, rock, sea, wind, and tree
 Sky, rock, sea, wind, and tree

Hear us, we sing to you, dance this story
 Hear us, we sing to you, dance this story

Spirits of *te vaka* canoe, *Tua to Ha* breadfruit wind
Te vaka, Tua to Ha i Mataiki, Ua, Ko-mui

Spirits of *ehi* coconuts, *meika* plantains, *tao* taro, *ika* fish
Ehi, meika, tao, ika, e ika

Spirits of *matta puovu* lean-faced old men
Huepo black-faced men, tattooed warriors
Matta puovu, huepo

Spirits of *Enata* the men, *Te Henua* the land
Enata, Te Henua
 Spirits of *Enata* the men, *Te Henua* the land
 Enata, Te Henua

Hear us, we sing to you, dance this story
 Hear us, we sing to you, dance this story