



Big Island Music Videos Slated to Play at Made in Hawai'i Film Festival June 1-2



– **Baby's Riding on a Falling Star**, a musical story of yearning and unrequited love from Big Island-based writer and musician Dennis Lee Foster with music by his band Kellian and Company.

Dennis Lee Foster: "Music videos are the structural opposite of feature films. In a music video, the visuals are an extension of the music, whereas in cinema, music generally plays a supportive role. All music videos are basically promotional in nature, seeking to cultivate exposure for the songs and the performers. However, as a writer and artist as well as an instrumentalist, I strive to create music videos that are themselves a form of artistic expression—visual poems accompanied by passionate performances. In fact, most of my songs are based on poems I've written, and the music videos for these songs include a dramatic recital of the poem on which the song is based. The poems, by the way, are recited by Robyn Selman, who has narrated documentaries for BBC and is presently the lead singer for the British band Autorotation. The songs are performed by my band Kellian and Company. Most of the poems are from my published collection, *Across the Blood Red Plain*, or ones that appeared in *Poetry Quarterly* magazine.

"Baby's Riding on a Falling Star" is an exception, in that it wasn't based on a poem. I wrote it in the 1970s and sang it to my girlfriend while strumming a custom Seagull acoustic guitar. I recently revived it in the context of my visual poetry project, which now includes around 30 videos. The lead singer, Kellian, really brought the song to life and, in my opinion, is one of the most vibrant, passionate, and versatile recording artists on the scene today. In this song, her vocal style and phrasing are acutely reminiscent of Jewel—so much so that when I first shared it, many listeners thought Jewel was the singer. I gave the song the full DAW treatment with full orchestra based on audio samples by the London Philharmonic Orchestra."