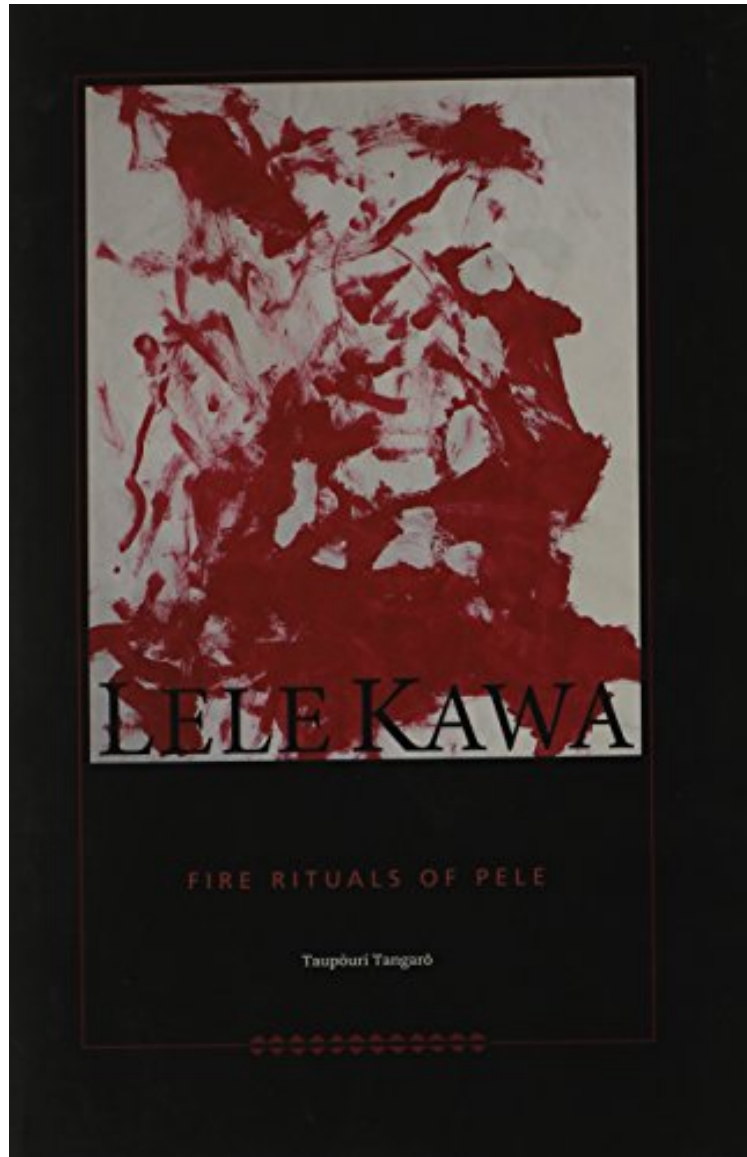


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## Lele Kawa: Fire Rituals of Pele

*Tangaro Taupouri*

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The mele contained in this book are fundamental to hula Pele and reflect a vast and dynamic Hawai'i worldview. These mele have been preserved for centuries via oral traditions, the sacred hula of Hawai'i, and more recently, in twentieth-century written texts. *Lele Kawa* offers original translations and provocative interpretations of the Pele literature from a practitioner's perspective. The author's work is based on generations of ancestral connections and years of immersion in the fiery ahi advances of the hula Pele. This work was originally published by I Ola Haloa, Hawai'i Community College.

About the Author: Taupouri Tangaro, PhD, is a practitioner of the hula Pele through Halau O Kekuhi, Keaukaha, Hawai'i. The signature dance style of Halau O Kekuhi is the ahi'a, a strenuous delivery of chants and dances of the fire dance genus, access to which is bequeathed to them by the ancestor Kekuewa Ahi ena. The interpretations of the sacred fire texts given in this book are underpinned by the experiences of the author as provided by and through Halau O Kekuhi. Doctor Tangaro received his Doctor of Philosophy from Union Institute University, Cincinnati, Ohio in 2004. He resides in Panaewa with his wife Kekuhi, and five children.