



Kaimanu Productions, LTD.

“Menehune Mythology” (or at least our version)



In Hawaii the mischievous Menehune roam the deep forests at night. They are the little people of Hawaiian folklore. They might be viewed as the “Hawaiian Leprechaun”.

Menehune are rumored to be about two feet high, although some are said to be only six inches high! Nobody knows for sure, because according to legend, they only come out at night to perform their magic, and NEVER in view of humans!

Each Menehune is supposed to have a unique personality and appearance just like us. They are generally categorized in two groups, “Mischievous and always playing pranks on humans”, or “Friendly and helpful to humans, often performing magic to help humans with their work”. All of their work, no matter how large or complex, is always finished in the span of one night. Accordingly, Menehune are reputed to be very strong and capable of great magic. Because of their many powers and the ability to effect the human emotions, they are considered to be little Gods among many of the Hawaiian people.

The mythology of the Menehune is very old. Legend has it that the first Polynesians arriving in the Hawaiian Islands found great dams, huge fish-ponds, and other architectural wonders, that had been built by the Menehune, supposedly living in the caves and mountain tops of the islands.

Other ancient stories tell tales of Hawaiian men who would marry Menehune women, who were reputed to be very beautiful.

Menehune enjoy dancing, singing, archery and cliff diving. At night, if you listen closely, you will hear their songs high up in the mountain meadows as they gather to plan their evening activities. If you are close to the water, you may also hear the splashes of their cliff diving!