

# Maori Brown Eyes

**Words and Music By: Claude Malani & John Noble**

☞ **Source: Copyright 1942, 70 EMI Miller Catalog Inc - The composer spent time in New Zealand (Aotearoa) and was inspired to write this song for his wife. He thought her eyes were like those of the Polynesian people of New Zealand**

## **Sample Song List:**

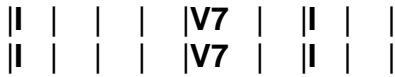
- Brothers Cazimero, Some Call It Aloha...Don't Tell, 2004
- Sonny Chillingworth, Sonny Solo, 1994
- Troy Fernandez, Hawaiian Style Ukulele, 2005
- Leonard Kwan, The Legendary Leonard Kwan, 2003
- Ron Loo, Kahalu`u Slack, 1998
- Peter Moon Band, The Best of Peter Moon, 1981
- Bla Pahinui, Mana, 1997
- Palolo, Palolo, 1995
- Various Artists (Na Leo O Nu`uanu), Waimea Music Festival, 1995, 1974

# Maori Brown Eyes

Key of G Major (#) 3/4 Time

## Song Structure:

**Verse** – 16 bars



**Hui** – 20 bars



## Kika Ki Ho'alu Basic Chords (Maori Brown Eyes (MBE) Tuning – DGDEGD – a G6th Mauna Loa tuning)

<p><b>I6 = G6</b></p> <p>Root <b>G6 (I6)</b></p> <p>5   1   5   6   3   1          D G D E B G</p>	<p><b>ii7 = A6</b></p> <p>Root <b>A6 (vi6)</b></p> <p>5   1   5   6   1   5          E A E F# A E</p>	<p><b>IV6 = C6</b></p> <p>Root <b>C6 (IV6)</b></p> <p>5   1   5   6   1   5          G C G A C G</p>	<p><b>V7 = D7</b></p> <p>Root <b>D7 (V7)</b></p> <p>1   1   7b   1          D D C D        3        F#</p>
<p>Inversion <b>G6 (I6)</b></p> <p>5   1   5   6   5   3          D G D E D B</p>	<p>Inversion <b>A6+7 (vi6+7)</b></p> <p>5   1   5   6   1   7b          E A E F# A G</p>	<p>Inversion <b>C6 (IV6)</b></p> <p>5   1   5   6   1   6          G C G A C A</p>	

## Ukulele Basic Chords (C Tuning – GCEA)

<p><b>I6 = G6</b></p> <p>Root <b>G6</b></p> <p>1   5   6   3          G D E B</p>	<p><b>ii7 = A7</b></p> <p>Root <b>A7 (ii7)</b></p> <p>A7 Chord Form</p> <p>7b Low</p> <p>7b   3   5   1          G C# E A</p>	<p><b>IV6 = C6</b></p> <p>Root <b>C6</b></p> <p>C6 Chord Form</p> <p>5 Low</p> <p>5   1   3   6          G C E A</p>	<p><b>V7 = D7</b></p> <p>Root <b>D7 (V7)</b></p> <p>C7 Chord Form</p> <p>5 Low</p> <p>5   1   3   7b          A D F# C</p>
<p>Inversion <b>G6</b></p> <p>3   6   1   5          B E G D</p>	<p>Inversion <b>A7 (ii7)</b></p> <p>G7 Chord Form</p> <p>1 Low</p> <p>1   5   7b   3          A E G C#</p>	<p>Inversion <b>C6</b></p> <p>5   1   5   6   3          C G A E</p>	<p>Inversion <b>D7 (V7)</b></p> <p>A7 Chord Form</p> <p>7b Low</p> <p>7b   3   5   1          C F# A D</p>

**Performance Notes:** This song was originally written as a waltz. It was changed by some (notably Leonard Kwan) to 4/4 time. A nice bass pattern can be played on the open strings (5-4-3, G-D-E) in a 3/4 eighth note pattern 5-4-3-4-3-4. This adds a 6<sup>th</sup>(E) to the alternating bass and a nahenahe sound. The highest two strings then can play the melody in a Mauna Loa tuning style. Sonny Chillingworth played in this tuning (MBE) -- on his Sonny Solo Album -- but used the same measures in 4/4 time and with a 5-4-3-4-3---4--- bass pattern (an old cowboy, walking horse beat).

# Maori Brown Eyes

♪ Intro ♪

Verse:

**G6**  
| Beau-|-ti-|-ful. | |  
**D7** **G6**  
| Oh beautiful | Maori | eyes | |  
**G6**  
| Beau-|-ti-|-ful. | |  
**D7** **G6**  
| Maori brown | eyes ona-|-ona | |

Hui:

**C6** **G6**  
| Huli aku | wau, a | loa- |-a | *Turn to accrue to me*  
**C6** **G6 D7**  
| Kui aku | wau, e | lei | | *I string a lei*  
**G6** **A7**  
| Ku-|-'u-|-i-|-po, | *My sweetheart,*  
**D7** **G6**  
| Maori brown | eyes ona-|-ona | | *Beautiful Maori brown eyes*  
**D7** **G6**  
| Maori brown | eyes ona-|-ona | | *Beautiful Maori brown eyes*

♪ Instrumental Bridge of Verse and turnaround or Pa'ani ♪

~~ Repeat ~~

PAU

# **Maori Brown Eyes**

## **Additional Verses:**

**On an island in the Pacific  
Lives a lovely Maori belle  
She has eyes that shine like the starlight  
And to all the world I'll gladly say**

**Beautiful, oh what beautiful Maori eyes  
Beautiful, eyes that I love to idolize  
Soon I'll be returning  
To a dream come true  
Oh my sweetheart  
Maori brown eyes I love you**

**Two bright stars ku`u beautiful Maori eyes  
Two bright stars ku`u maka aloha`ia  
Huli aku wau a loa`a  
Ki ino wau a ako  
Ku`u ipo Maori brown eyes ona ona**