# My HERO is nothing like the movie HEROES

A COLLECTION OF POEMS PRESENTED AT AUTOGRAPH GALLERY, HACKNEY 2023



# You are invited to come and meet our heroes...

In this anthology you will find mothers and best friends, football GOATs and firm-but-fair teachers, super-strong superheroes and ancient doctors. We invite you to think about what makes someone heroic, and who might be unsung – and why.

These poems are written by young writers aged 8-15 who attend our Writing Labs. The theme was inspired by Autograph's mission to highlight questions of race, representation, human rights and social justice. We took a small group to the gallery last autumn, who saw Sasha Huber's exhibition, 'YOU NAME IT'; it made us think about who we celebrate and how we can raise our everyday heroes up.

Over the term we discussed what makes a hero – from the traits we see in them, to questioning the idea of heroism itself. We considered ourselves as heroes, then moved on to personal and everyday heroes. We used the Rebel Girls and Little Leaders book series to learn about unsung heroes, and thought about why they might be unrecognised. Each writer then picked their favourite work from the term to polish up to share with you.

A trip to Autograph and a joyful time with instant cameras, props and costumes helped us think about the ways we might represent someone we admire – the angle we view them from, and how we might show what makes them who they are.

The groups also spent a session with artist Shepherd Manyika learning to create heroic self portraits as cyanotypes (sun prints).

It was wonderful to hear about the people who inspire our writers – and some of you might spot yourselves in these poems. As Heja says, "Never forget everyone is a hero. Everyone has a little kindness in them." My Hero Can Make Food That Are Bussin Bussin What Is a Hero?

5	Heroes are normally really famous	by Heja
6	A hero is evil/good	by Ezra
7	OK so basically this has to catch your attention	by Fathia
8	My hero is different	by Simon
9	A Hero is	by Lucy
10	A Hero's Death	by Holly
11	Super hero poem	by Olaoluwa
12	Humility	by Jasroop
13	Pain	by Blai
14	Heroes	by Liberty
15	Villain	by Saint-Cyrs
16	Mysterious	by Dylan
17	How does one become a hero?	by Alinda
18	A man, fighting for his country	by Cian
19	A hero is as brave	by Wednesday Lab
20	A hero is	by Thursday Lab

Heroes are normally really famous, Heroes are normally powerful or have powers, But not this one, Not all heroes have to be famous, But that doesn't stop them, Not all people are heroes at first, But that doesn't matter, Not just heroes that are not famous are bad Do you know what movies that have heroes are well they just think they have a 5 year old watching, I am talking about real ones, Not the ones that are just perfect, Nothing is perfect in life!

My hero is nothing like the movie heroes, My hero knows what real solemn is, Do you have a hero that you know? Do you know a person that is not perfect and has faced sadness before? Well, that's a real hero!

Do you know someone not really getting recognised? Did that put them down, No way, Did they get stopped trying to chase their dreams? Did that stop them No way.

I hope you get my message Now that you know what a real hero is, My job is over, I hope you understand, Please don't judge, But never forget everyone is a hero, Everyone has a little kindness in them,

> Thank you for listening that's my cue to finish!

Remember whoever you are, you can achieve anything.

A hero is evil/good

and the big question is is killing bad guys a good thing or a bad thing OK so basically this has to catch your attention otherwise sleep with your eye open TONIGHT! (tough love)

OK so strength is you strength is me strength is slithery strength = gym and the Rock's baby strength smells like sweat after you have been in the gym

Strength sounds like Young Sheldon telling you to breathe air. Strength makes me feel like a crazy fangirl

Strength is power Strength is shine power sparkle STRENGTH IS ME My hero is different

Because his bravery smells like

a bombastic cup that has never been washed

and trustworthiness tastes

like raw chicken

and his resilience feels like

a hard orange but his loyalty looks like

a fatty chicken ball that is falling in the sky falling like

an enormous car which is enormous poopy plant

A HERO IS

My hero can make food that are bussin bussin. She gives hugs softer than a squishmelon. She makes music like DJ javey. Her favourite colour is purple. She smells like butterscotch. She is short like a minion. A hero is as salty as the carrot cake they serve at the cafe. A hero makes a noise that goes on and on and on. A hero drowns in the big blue ocean and...Death! If I was a super hero I would smell like roses and save people like Moses. I will look like a frog and I will save dogs.

If I was a super hero I would be brave so no-one will go to the grave. I will feel soft so I can be the top.

If I was a super hero I would think and my colour will be pink.



What does Humility taste like? Humility tastes like healthy red cherries picked off a beautiful plant.

What does Humility smell like? Humility smells like sweet, sour, green apples.

What does Humility feel like? Humility feels like juicy tart pomegranate. PAIN

Scared and lost. Pained and failed. Not a single drop of emotion left. Fiery eyes, and eyes reddened, Dried blood for breath. Slowly walking, the people move aside, and his tears flow no more, his rough voice scares loved ones away, his strong touch rattles even the strongest beast, and he feels nothing anymore. What a hero must go through, what a PERSON must go through, Sometimes isn't worth it.



Are they really all they are thought to be! Because they are actually nothing like me, They always stop the villain in the end. And have a sidekick to help and lend, We forgot about the violence as a cost. Leaving me feeling slightly lost.

In reality Heroes and villains are the same, Just with something else to gain.



I'm a good guy, I've done nothing wrong, they hurt me thinking that they fight for justice. I've killed the face of heroes. Oh how silly are these people. The Heroes are wrong. MYSTERIOUS

is in front of your face before you even know he's in the room

With eyes as grey as steel you will find him eating chicken tacos

His mind is calm He uses that to fuel his cloak making him disappear in the shadows

As he talks to you with no more than a whisper you will feel yourself sinking into his command

Some people call him the villain,

But when did they see what he saw?

How does one become a hero? Is it by saving the world? Is it by saving everything they can? or is a hero someone who doesn't save anything? someone who knows when to let go?

A hero knows when to stop when saving the world hurts everyone a hero doesn't have to be brave a hero doesn't have to be kind or selfless a hero just needs to save something or someone or knows when to *stop* 

stop trying to save a world that cannot be ... saved

A man, Fighting for His country. they call Him a hero but is He? He killed thousands of men with the clench of a finger while He's fighting He feels something at His feet Tick Tick... He's dead. They are not heroes and they are not monsters They are HUMANS A hero is as brave as the taste of watermelon As the smell of cheesy pizza As Ministry of Stories

A hero is as reliable as a star

A hero is as loyal as the smell of cucumbers and strawberry lollipops and the sound of a bus

A hero is as resilient As smooth dark blue A hero is Brave as the smell of durian fruit Honest as a sweet sugary taste Kind like quiet calm waves Different like a croaky sound, like running out of air Loyal as Ronaldo fans saying suuiii like someone chewing loud and crunchy Tenacious as a sweet taste and sight Resilient as a banana As the smell of a book when you first open it Strong like a sweaty meaty smell Strong as the taste of rock

# You Are MyYellow Personal Heroes

23	Friend	by Marie
24	mum	by Amelie
25	Michael	by Abel
26	Dad you're a sunny	by Arsema
27	My Mother	by Miaa
28	When I am sad my mum	by Amelia R
29	Me, Grandpa and Grandma	by Olamiposi
30	My Cousin Ashgo	by Ezra
31	Bonnie	by Mia
32	My Family Poem	by Emily
33	You are a sunny weather	by Isla
34	YOU make sure I don't get in trouble	by Tenar
35	Me and Miaa were walking the dog in the park	by Morgan
36	Aunt	by Hivda
37	Everyday Heroes	by Raaj
38	Mark	by Isaac
39	My dad taking me to his shop	by Roop
40	My mum is great	by Noor
41	My Extraordinary Grandad	by Berzun
42	Poem of Dimatia	by David
43	Nana	by Frankie
44	Heroes	by Ishaq
45	Grandma	by Mimi

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FRIEND

Friend, you're my best friend.Thank you for always being there for me.Sometimes you can be very honest but...I still wanna be friends. Friend thank youfor being my best friend when I started in year 3.

MUM

mum, mum you are a bright, sunny day you are a sofa allowing me to lay mum, mum you are a beautiful, long dress you are a limo driving through the sunset mum, mum You are the morning but take care of me at night and you are my light

> Mum, mum you are my hero

you, you you are a bright sunny day you are a sofa allowing me to lay you, you you are a beautiful, long dress you are a limo driving through the sunset you, you MICHAEL

Michael, Υ u 0 much fame, have SO with and come me to Spain. make You always happy and rappy. me You good football SO at are cool, and you are so but a fool. You like look not the and have sun SO You fun. like much are that watermelon is very а lemon. tasty not sour а You and are SO warm You be torn. never can like 3pm and are with me cover а lovely den.

Dad you're morning а sunny with blossoming flowers it doesn't take hours for your fresh rain to touch me like a shower. Thank you for catching me when you was on the train and thank You for using your brain. You broke out all the pain. You snuggle me like a cushion that's why you get all the attention. you are as warm as a jacket but as strong as a racket. In the night I sleep in the morning leap. L Dad!

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## MY MOTHER

Natalie Grant you are incredible! You are phenomenal. You are amazing.

You are as wonderful as a new born kitten. You are as courageous as an elephant and as ferocious as a mother bear.

You are what makes me get up in the morning, my pride and joy. You are as beautiful as a dove and as fun as a kia.

I'd commit to the phrase "I love you to the moon and back." As nobody matters to me more than you.

You are my yellow. You are my friend. You are my mother. You are my favourite. You are my other half. when I am sad my mum gives me a warm hug it makes me feel over the moon because the hug is so warm you are a sunny day you are a hot day you are a lobster because you are delicious you are a gigantic warm coat you are a aeroplane because we go on lots of holidays you are like a sunset because you are a bright mum.

### ME, GRANDPA AND GRANDMA

Me, Grandpa and Grandma are amazing Grandpa Grandma and me are always gazing Me Grandpa and Grandma are kind Grandpa Grandma and we can always sing Me Grandpa and Grandma stare at the moon Grandpa Grandma and me know we will meet again soon

Me Grandpa and Grandma go to the park Me Grandpa and Grandma play together Grandpa Grandma and me want to be together forever.

#### MY COUSIN ASHGO

She always fun when she comes but sometimes we can have rough mornings but we get along afterwards she's like a train going so fast you can barely see that you're moving but you're the best at fun & games. Once we were playing swing ball you told me that I kept missing but when you served you completely missed but we started laughing a lot. But secretly In my mind I said

••• •••		
	long pause	
	even longer	
pause	instant karma.	

BONNIE

Bonnie you're as warm as the sun always cheering up my day.

Bonnie you're as bright as the lamp in my room just a tiny lamp but it always lights my room.

Bonnie you're as amazing as the plane that stands above my room

Bonnie you're as smart as the calculator in my room just there

Bonnie you're as just brilliant in every way and if I could I would stay.

#### MY FAMILY POEM

My Mum: I love my mum She cares for me. I love my mum. She buys treats for me.

My Dad: He works so hard. He travels many places. He earns lots of money. I care for him. I am proud of him.

Me: I am a hero, I feel the breeze. I am a hero, I help the trees.

In the morning, me. In school, me. In the night, me. When I wake up, me!

My sister: You are the sun beaming on my face. You are the wind passing through me. You are the chicken without ketchup. You are amazing and wonderful. You are my protection.

by Emily

You are a sunny weather with little breeze. You are a fluffy chair that you don't ever want to leave. You are a breadstick that everybody loves. You are an odd sock in the back of your cupboard. You are a warm afternoon that goes by too fast. You are amazing. You are my greatest friend.

- YOU... make sure I don't get in trouble
- YOU... The sunny weather that comes after a rainstorm
- YOU... Are the giant not so fluffy rainbow Llama plushie and we can't put it anywhere
- YOU... are the pizza sticker that I will give you don't WORRY!
- YOU... Have become a style at my house for your flowy trousers underneath dresses
- YOU... are a beautiful necklace with ruby gems

Thanks

Me and Miaa were walking the dog in the park. Me and Miaa were riding on our scooters. When I fell down, Miaa helped me up Me and Miaa were running to the park. I am feeling very happy because I like riding on my scooter and running. Miaa you are a good friend. You are a cold, cloudy day and a hot day, You are a sunny bright sun, You are a grey metal chair, You are a plane flying in the sky, You are a soft yellow T-shirt, You are a tasty hamburger with cheese and burger. Yummy! Look at you. AUNT

You are a hamburger with unique ingredients, with cream and a cherry. Don't worry I will not eat you. When I eat a cake I think it's you because you're sweet just like it!!!!!!!! The cake is vanilla flavour...
#### **EVERYDAY HEROES**

breadstick helps me to eat.

breadstick is like a breadstick chair (red plastic chair).

breadsticks taste like super bread.

breadstick makes me feel calm and happy.

breadstick is crunchy and really nice.

breadstick is really tall and thin.

breadstick is skinny like a half pencil.

breadstick is like a bread and a stick.

breadstick gives me more bread sticks like a vending machine

breadstick is weak like a baby.

breadstick has the most babies in the world.

breadstick is very young because it has no age.

breadstick sounds like it is dying when I take a bite out of it.

breadstick is really smooth.

breadstick smells like bread

I would say it is about breadsticks

Also it is about breadstick is

my hero



Mark, you wrote an amazing poem about me. You have made me warm and serene. You would look like a beautiful T-shirt. You are like a private car. Mark you would taste like a cheesy pizza, if you were a feast you would feel like sitting on a cozy couch. When you are in a good mood.

Mark you are like a dazzling, summer morning. You make my insides fuzzy. Moral: love your family! My dad taking me to his shop.

To help my grandad when he was in the hospital.

They make me feel happy and safe.

You are hot blazing weather in India

You are a wooden chair in the big brown wooden chair.

You are like a sweet mango.

You are good because you would help mum.

On Thursday we go to the shop with me and my brother and sister and my mum.

#### MY MUM IS GREAT

You are a sunny bright morning that is relaxing your heart.

You are a soft furry pillow because you're always there for me.

You are a cheesy pasta because you're lovely.

You make me feel happy when you read

A story to me.

You are a warm and colourful scarf.

You are a red car going on the road

You are a shiny light in the evening

Grandad Grandad Help me be You spend all the time with me You dress complex and basic Normally wears a beanie You helped me at Mathematics LOL and Hilarious All the same When I look at my grandad I hug him at first sight Everytime he eats something I want to eat that as well I really love my grandad When I first saw him I was **INFx Excited.** My genes because of you I love, do, do anything for you **Grandad Grandad** 

POEM OF DIMATIA

Dimatia is as smart as a Teacher, skilful as a Drogba, feels nice, looks like a cart and is beautiful.

I hope you like the poem

#### NANNA

Having tea with me in the afternoon Making me a chocolate cake for my birthday Cups of tea together She helps me by making me tea She is like a cup of medium tea Blue dressing gown which she drinks tea while wearing Armchairs which she drinks tea on Doing the crossword while drinking tea She makes me feel amazing and not bored She is lavender in the front garden She is summer Summer is when I see her the most HEROES

Big thank you to my history teacher. Without her I wouldn't be here. Always putting up with my nonsense Putting me in detentions. Times were tense.

#### GRANDMA

Chicken soup and pasta, bowl after bowl,

As well as some peas strawberries and sometimes an artichoke When I take the train over the sun is beating down,

but not too hot, just how I like it.

Your laugh is infectious

So is your love for music

Your food is delicious

Especially your apple crumble.

# Next Round: Me vs. Ronaldo *Me, the Hero*

48	ME	by Simbiat
49	Hey you guys all around the globe	by Noel
50	l am Cabel yeah broskis	by Cabel
51	Michael's Story	by Michael
52	Ме	by Zuzu
53	Why am I so clever?	by Keira

They are 2 mes G me and A me

Talking to G is no problem so sit down and drink some tea

On the other hand A is no wolf to tame so lock your doors and keep your keys

G and A are complete opposite cousins they fight and bustle everyday

The only trouble is that they live inside of ME!

G likes cats and A likes Dogs. Who is better G or A.

They both make me the hero I can be today.

Hey, you guys all around the globe ME - 8 billion followers Legend, I am me, I'm me, So yeah I'm walking down the street looking like a preet from Pret I'm playing FIFA 23 BEE BOO GAME ON While I'm walking freely ME VS MESSI GOALS MESSI ASSISTS ME DRIBBLING TIE SHOOTING ME AIM ME SKILLS TIE IQ ME DEFENCE VISION ME ATTACK ME ME PASSING ME GOAT

LOADING

• • •

ME TACKLING ME BETTER ME AND GUESS WHAT I can beat Messi in a 1v1 in 10 seconds, I'M THE GOAT of football ZOOWEE! I'm smiling strangely back home Next round ME vs Ronaldo

# I am Cabel yeah broskis Haaland sucks in football

In football I say SUIII Trust me I don't smell like POO. I chill playing Roblox with my cousin Nems he is 4 days older and it's so Annoying. PIs donate 1k to me and you'll get <u>free chicken</u> wings to your house and a week of good luck. <u>Sike I lied</u> I need a <u>PS5</u> Mr bombastic bomber fantastic

# SUIIIIIIIIII

Michael's outside foot techniques will make you stunned of the amount of goals that you'll score.

Michael's fantastic outside foot ability will make you roar of laughter.

Michael's brilliant outside foot ability will make you celebrate

Michael's extraordinary skill will make you smell like orange PRIME. You will taste yellow prime. ME

I am great I am amazing I have an imagination as big as a dragon's mind I have got great at football & I love doing sports but I don't like orange juice & I love making films I am a goalie in the field being a bit funny I am as determined as a lion trying to catch his prey! I am better and faster than a cheetah running at top speed! I am great I am amazing I am me!

#### WHY AM I SO CLEVER?

Riddle me this why am I so clever? Goodness my own genius astounds me Could anyone be better?

And truthfully, I would much rather suffer, than dream of becoming any other Especially when the God of dreams, wishes he had the level of eloquence that is found in me

So I don't think I can answer that question, the only question that eludes me As to why I'm so smart, so wise, so bougie

But no-one else can solve these complex queries Not ever

Except for me, of course, because I'm just so clever!

She Can Lift a Whole Building Across the River Thames *Fictional Heroes* 

56	The Cucumber and Broccoli Poem (The CBB Poem)	by Israel
57	Bob the Builder	by Henok
58	Hero's Defeat / Poo School	by Rafael
59	The Rich Transforms to the Poor	by Ariel
60	People who are good	by AJ
61	The Little Prince	by Koby
62	The air is air	by Bianca
63	Feisty	by Sydney
64	Worlds	by Amelia C
65	The Raid of the Mortal Gods	by Negev

THE CUCUMBER AND BROCCOLI POEM (THE CBB POEM)

Cucumber Cucumber what am I? A garden with flowers inside. Broccoli Broccoli, what do I play? Roblox without even doing homework.

Broccoli Broccoli what do I eat? 3 things that I don't even want to say.

Cucumber Cucumber, what do I do? Watch the skies as time flies by

Cucumber Cucumber, how do I feel? A cold breeze inside of Canada.

Breadsticks Breadsticks, what do I sit on? A cushion with lots of fur.

#### BOB THE BUILDER

Bob the Builder is as buff as chicken wings from the sewer.

Bobby is named after my father Bob the Builder.

Bob the Builder is the GOAT and him compared to Harry Maguire is the WOAT.

Bob the Builder became the ugliest FIFA present before Harry Maguire farted.

Bob the Builder is a builder is a hero like superman.

Bob the Builder.

A school in West London was haunted!!!!!!! The boy who went there knew there was something fishy. He was the only one who was brave enough to go to the toilet and look at the vampire, even the headmaster was scared. He wanted to stop the vampire haunting the place because he was murdering people.

He went to the toilet and saw a vampire pooping. He ran out and saw the vampire turning into a poo with legs through transfiguration and run inside. The vampire appeared and farted a hundred times until he turned into a sharper. The boy saw the vampire transfigurate into a vampire and weeing until he went down the toilet. The next day he sees the vampire but the vampire murders him. The end This is not the end

10 years later...

(the real end)

It was one morning where Leora (the famous celebrity) just woke up from her beauty sleep. Even her beautiful red bloody dress woke up ready for her to wear. Her being a celebrity at 21 was a big shock to everyone. This is because her majestic voice is really soft. That is until Beyoncé came. Leora is always mean to her fans. The only thing she likes is to sing and be the boss. She is really rich and affluent. She has a best friend called Anna who is her only best friend, who has only one thing in common. She always talks about her fans. Isn't that disrespectful!

Sunny like the sun that's 93 million miles but they are still bright in my eyes.

They are a sunset because they are beautiful as one with the clouds red orange and pink.

The night sky and the northern lights can't compare how beautiful they are.

The Club is so light they are brighter than a lightbulb.

The Club is so fun that you feel like the fastest train in the world.

They are so tasty (as a food) they are every expensive food in the world and the good foods.

They are merch that is so cool everyone will buy it.

They make me feel happy.

They make people's imaginations bigger

People have courage and respect.

(The person is Ministry of Stories)

THE PRINCE

The Little Prince he rinses out the bad he's a dove flying up above

My Little Prince his face like the sun his kindness is like eating a bun his hair feels like a fluffy bear he always cares

The Little Prince his star like eyes he never lies he'll always be my Little Prince

by Koby

The air is air It's cold and warm. The air is as beautiful as the sun. I love the air because it has air.

The air is nothing.

The air outside smells like grass. The air is as energetic as me.

by Bianca



She can play musical instruments. She can make a gentle blowing breeze. She can lift a whole building across the river Thames. She can eat fire without burning her tongue. She can run into fire rescuing people in danger. Whenever there's trouble Feisty is there on the double. She can croak like a frog to lead frogs safely to the pond.

When she sees a child in danger she can rush in like a spider and get them to safety. She can jump from building to building. She can notice a family shivering and will warm them up by making a fire, even if she burns herself. Her spit is gravy that can feed starving children. Her breath smells like buttercup syrup that lulls children to sleep. And if she sees someone bullying a child, she'll burn their hair off.

## WORLDS

Worlds are unspoken of,

They are small.

They overthink.

And it's not fair when others push the weight of universes on their weak,

Feeble,

Shoulders,

Worlds are small,

incompetent.

With their eyes filled with human sorrows,

life and death rolled into one.

Worlds can be powerful.

'Run Get away!'

### THE RAID OF THE MORTAL GODS

The new humans the only ones. Thrive on the bridge between the mounts. The heroes of the bridge of genesis. The new humans the only ones. Thrive on the land between the solar plane. The heroes of the land. Till the mortal Gods of no mercy came to the land between the solar planes and destroyed it. And burned the bridge of Genesis. The old humans the living ones left the existence.

# I Persist, Despite Their Chains Historical Figures and Celebrities

68	Harry Maguire	by Dawit
69	Granny Nanny	by Pamela
70	Frida Kahlo	by Orson
71	Molly Kelly	by Arsha
72	Hedy Lamarr	by Safi
73	Ethiopia	by Shalom
74	Agnodice of Athens	by Arietta

HARRY MAGUIRE

Harry Maguire is the G.O.A.T. of football.

His dad's name is Gary Lineker

who pooped in a match then even got subbed off in a match.

Harry Maguire's mum is a poop player.

Harry Maguire is a Barcelona, Santos and

Manchester United player and won the

**Champions League** 

with them all.

Harry Maguire was born in Brazil and qualified in the world cup

and made it to the world cup final against Ireland.

Harry Maguire won the world cup with the

G.O.A.T.

I want a PS5 and unseeable teeth.

Harry Maguire won billions of pounds for drinking 20 gallons of milk

pooping every time he was speaking to Erik Ten Hag. Harry Maguire has managers called Joe Biden, Boris Johnson and Donald Trump.

His brother is adopted he's Georgely Greg.

When Harry drinks milk he smells like cabbage.

This guy scores every time

it makes me feel perfect

to have weird feelings.

by Dawit

Granny Nanny was born in the 1900s and when she was 15 she travelled on the Windrush. She is now 80 years old, she is OLD!!! Let me tell you about her life on the Windrush boat. She was travelling through the seas with other Jamaicans. The wind was woosh (an expression of saying heavy).

The seas were rough and the food was disgusting! Sleeping was noisy, with all the snoring and the ship going side to side. The ship was sinking, so they had to act fast. They had to jump on the lifeboats, but some people had to sacrifice because there wasn't enough lifeboats. Granny Nanny was about to but she didn't.

Someone told her she was too young, so she had to go on the lifeboat with no other choice. And that was the last time she would see that person AGAIN! Frida had a tough life but loved painting. When she was 6 she nearly died from polio and later she went in a bus crash but she didn't give her passion up, painting when she was in her hospital. Her mum made her a special easel for her in hospital. She loved painting herself with animals.

She is a real inspiration because when she got injured she followed her passion and was a very good artist.

'follow your dreams'

#### MOLLY KELLY

It's inspiring because it's a bit of a scary thing that she did. It was scary because she was getting kidnapped. She smells lots of lovely things. She touches everything. She looks like a hero. Her voice is like a flower My hero feels happy.

#### HEDY LAMARR

Oh you poor girl you made so much but you knew it was never yours oh you poor girl how much is yours how little is his oh you poor girl no-one sees how hard you worked oh you poor girl the epitome of beauty, grace and class oh you poor girl all you could be was a 'caring wife' 'loving actress' oh you poor girl it was always his his his never yours oh you poor girl you put on a smile even as they ripped parts of you out you were left bleeding oh poor girl

ETHIOPIA

**Dear Diary** 

England seems scary, The people don't speak, However, home is like a continuous parrot, I feel like I am making everyone uncomfortable, Or making them afraid, I can feel them Peeking at me, I can feel their eyes on me, And I don't like it.

### AGNODICE OF ATHENS

These eyes These eyes have seen things Women screaming Crying Dying

These hands These hands have done things Held new life within them Felt it fade Lives unmade

These ears These ears have heard things Murmurs from locked doors Knowledge barred Away and far

But I persist I persist, despite their chains And push through it all To the freedom After them

# Responses to the exhibition...

"What a gift - the freedom within a poem."

## If this exhibition was a food - what would it taste like?

"It would taste like a custard filled pastry with lots of layers. Great mix of the rich, tasty writings and wonderful smooth and light artistic pieces."

### What did the exhibition make you think?

"The writers are more creative than most people I know."

#### What did the exhibition make you think?

"Heroes come in lots of different forms and make people think different ways."

#### If it were a place, where would it be and why?

"Home. Reminded me that true heroes are all around us!"

"The small ones - children they call them - they appear to be the keepers of instinctual wisdom. That wisdom is shed as the humans grow. Visit to see the true mind of the human."

Ministry of Stories champions the writer in every child. Co-founded by author Nick Hornby in 2010, we help young people write brighter futures for themselves through the power of their ideas and imagination. We build confidence, self-respect and communication skills through innovative writing programmes and one-to-one mentoring for children, working in schools and at our dedicated writing centre in east London.

Congratulations to all the young writers of our 8-12s and 11-15s Writing Labs. With huge thanks to our volunteer writing mentors.

#### For Ministry of Stories:

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