

## Year 7 into 8 Art: Positive Responses to Conflict.

**Watch:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PszMmYpQjPo&safe=true>

In the video, Poet Tony Walsh, performed his poem "This is the Place" to those gathered in Albert Square in the aftermath of the horrific Manchester terror attack at Manchester Arena.

His passionate performance of his work, which documents the city's achievements, traits and history in typically Mancunian parlance, was met with cheers and wild applause.

It will stand as the perfect symbol of the pride, passion and defiance of Manchester's people.

### ***This is the place***

*In the north-west of England. It's ace, it's the best*

*And the songs that we sing from the stands, from our bands*

*Set the whole planet shaking.*

*Our inventions are legends. There's nowt we can't make, and so we make brilliant music*

*We make brilliant bands*

*We make goals that make souls leap from seats in the stands*

*And we make things from steel*

*And we make things from cotton*

*And we make people laugh, take the mick summat rotten*

*And we make you at home*

*And we make you feel welcome and we make summat happen*

*And we can't seem to help it*

*And if you're looking from history, then yeah we've a wealth*

*But the Manchester way is to make it yourself.*

*And make us a record, a new number one*

*And make us a brew while you're up, love, go on*

*And make us feel proud that you're winning the league*

*And make us sing louder and make us believe that this is the place that has helped shape the world*

*And this is the place where a Manchester girl named Emmeline Pankhurst from the streets of Moss Side led a suffragette city with sisterhood pride*

*And this is the place with appliance of science, we're on it, atomic, we struck with defiance, and in the face of a challenge, we always stand tall, Mancunians, in union, delivered it all*

*Such as housing and libraries and health, education and unions and co-ops and first railway stations*

*So we're sorry, bear with us, we invented commuters. But we hope you forgive us, we invented computers.*

*And this is the place Henry Royce strolled with Rolls, and we've rocked and we've rolled with our own northern soul*

*And so this is the place to do business then dance, where go-getters and goal-setters know they've a chance*

*And this is the place where we first played as kids. And me mum, lived and died here, she loved it, she did.*

*And this is the place where our folks came to work, where they struggled in puddles, they hurt in the dirt and they built us a city, they built us these towns and they coughed on the cobbles to the deafening sound to the steaming machines and the screaming of slaves, they were scheming for greatness, they dreamed to their graves.*

*And they left us a spirit. They left us a vibe. That Mancunian way to survive and to thrive and to work and to build, to connect, and create and Greater Manchester's greatness is keeping it great.*

*And so this is the place now with kids of our own. Some are born here, some drawn here, but they all call it home.*

*And they've covered the cobbles, but they'll never defeat, all the dreamers and schemers who still teem through these streets.*

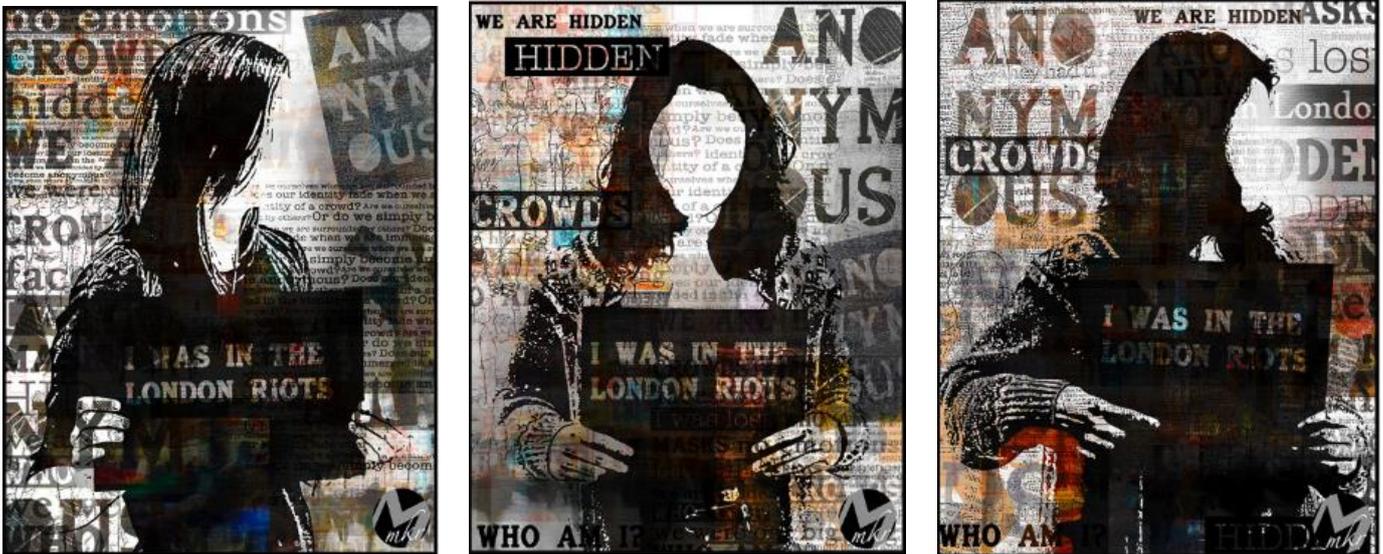
*Because this is a place that has been through some hard times: oppressions, recessions, depressions, and dark times. But we keep fighting back with Greater Manchester spirit. Northern grit, Northern wit, and Greater Manchester's lyrics.*

*And these hard times again, in these streets of our city, but we won't take defeat and we don't want your pity.*

*Because this is a place where we stand strong together, with a smile on our face, greater Manchester forever.*

# VISUAL RESPONSES TO CONFLICT

Here are some visual examples of how Artist Michelle Robb responded positively to the conflicts during the London Riots:



*Michelle Robb explored the theme of hidden identity, mainly how people can hide from or lose their identity when they become part of a crowd.*

*Robb's work focusses specifically on the identity (or lack thereof) of the people involved in the London Riots in early August 2011. She layered collage paper and acrylic paint, using figures and text to illustrate her message.*

# THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

**If you created Art in response to an incident of conflict...**

- What would it look like?
- How would it show a positive response?
- How could you communicate the theme without any words?
- What colours do you think you would use, why?