

What do you think?

2015 Election Special

annemarie wright

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Wright (b.1979) brings us a sideways look at people and places drawn from pop culture icons and current affairs by recreating their image using only hand-written text that describes, criticises, or comes direct from the mouth of the people she draws.

Portraits of David Cameron, Ed Miliband, Nick Clegg, Nigel Farage and Natalie Bennett, hand-written by Annemarie Wright using the opinions expressed by the public will be exhibited at her 2015 solo exhibition at Woolff Gallery, opening the week before the UK general election from 30th April to 15th May 2015.

The opinions used to create these artworks were collected by Wright from Twitter. She set up an account for each politician with the acronym WDYTO (What Do You Think Of) and invited the public to share their thoughts on each subject. "They range from vaguely complimentary, to absolute condemnation", she says. Visitors to Wright's solo exhibition, will be encouraged to share their own opinions of the election outcome in a guest book. The text will later be turned into a portrait of the winning party, which will be exhibited later in the year.

Wright cemented her place in history last April when her portrait of Sir Alex Ferguson - created from the names of every player who had ever played for him - went viral on Twitter following his retirement. Images of the finished artwork appeared in newspapers around the world. Wright counts Stephen Fry among her fans, and the singer Adele commissioned a portrait of herself created using her song lyrics.

Wright spends 30-40 hours handwriting each portrait, painstaking attention to detail is essential, always keeping an eye on current events to incorporate her unique style.

Although she developed her technique at University, it was not until Wright created a portrait of former Prime Minister Tony Blair, made up from the names of fallen British soldiers from Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts, that she realised the political potential for her work. Later, "Buildings don't go anywhere, they shouldn't be restless" - an image of New York's World Trade Center towers created from the names of the victims of the 9/11 attacks - received considerable exposure in national media. Proceeds from these artworks went to Help the Heroes, and the National September 11 Memorial Museum charities respectively.

Following the 2010 general election, Wright set up a website "WhatDoYouThinkOfDavid-Cameron.com" (no longer active) to garner opinions of the then new prime minister. The resulting full-length portrait was purchased by a member of the House of Lords.

The five party leaders on show at Woolff Gallery will be joined by the Queen, as head of state, who Wright says elicited a generally very positive response. Portraits of Lady Thatcher and Winston Churchill composed from some of their most famous, or infamous, speeches, will also be on display alongside other popular figures, musicians and celebrities.

Wright intends to provoke thought and debate with her work, she lives and works in Birmingham, UK.

Annemarie Wright

What do you think of: Election Special

We live in a world made smaller by social media. Everybody has an opinion to be shared, an online footprint that will last forever. The urge to go viral.

We live in a world where, the way we communicate has moved on, we have the power to create heroes and villains in 140 characters.

My latest exhibition “What do you think of?” is an attempt to capture this, to take a snapshot of the thoughts and opinions of the www. generation.

Sound bites manipulate, perceptions are created, people become overnight sensations, people take to Twitter to rant, grieve and inform.

Times have changed. This is now the world we live in.

I will gather views by Twitter feed, email, Facebook to name a few, in order to create public perception pieces - turning your words into art.

Please RT.

ANNEMARIE WRIGHT





Annemarie Wright

'Queen Elizabeth II: Longest to reign over us'

Handwritten text: Comments and opinion
collected from social media

190 x 80cm (framed)

Annemarie Wright
'David Cameron: '
Handwritten text:
Comments and opinion
collected from social media
93 x 66cm (framed)



Annemarie Wright

'Ed Miliband'

Handwritten text:

Comments and opinion

collected from social media

93 x 66cm (framed)



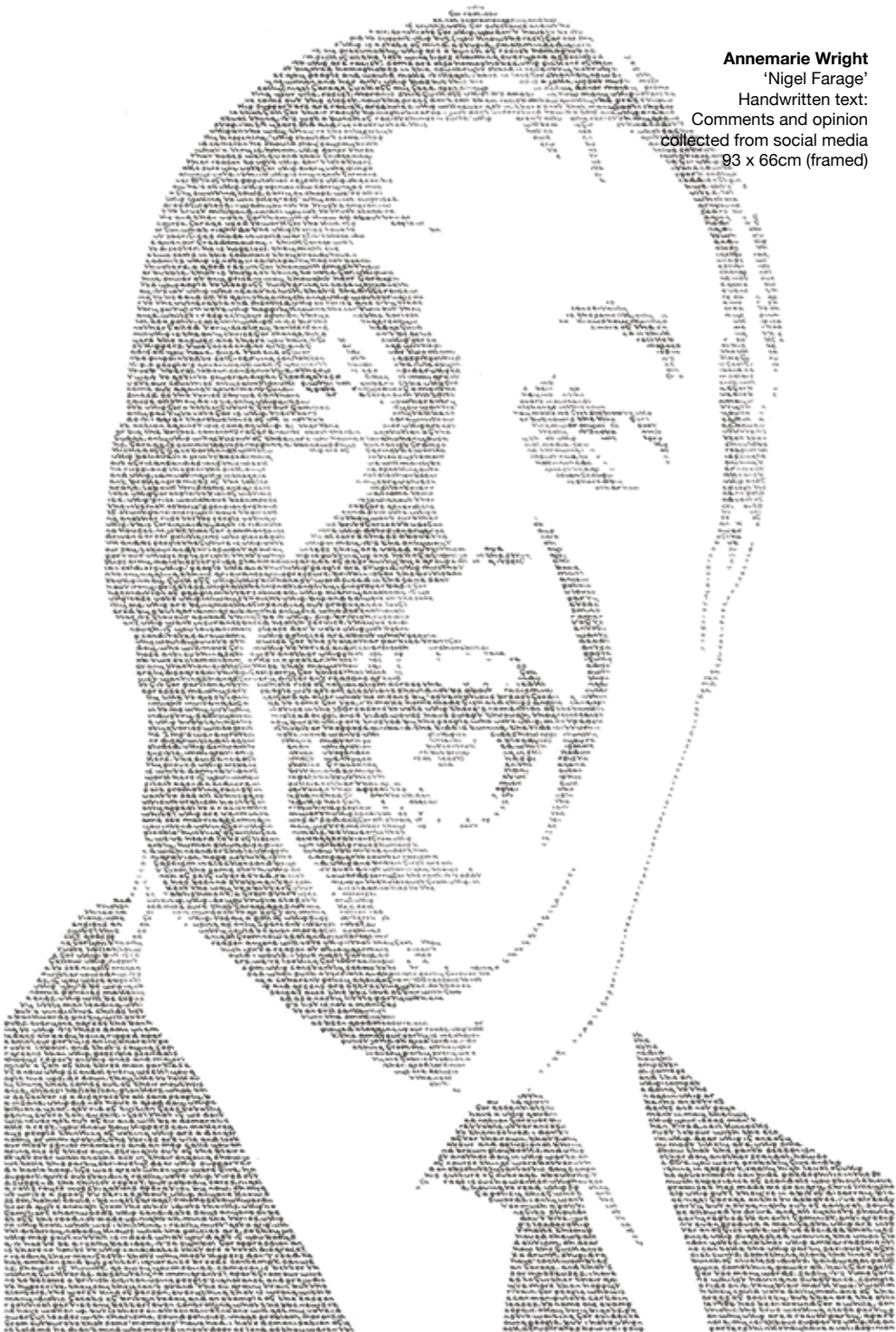
Annemarie Wright
'Nick Clegg'
Handwritten text:
Comments and opinion
collected from social media
93 x 66cm (framed)

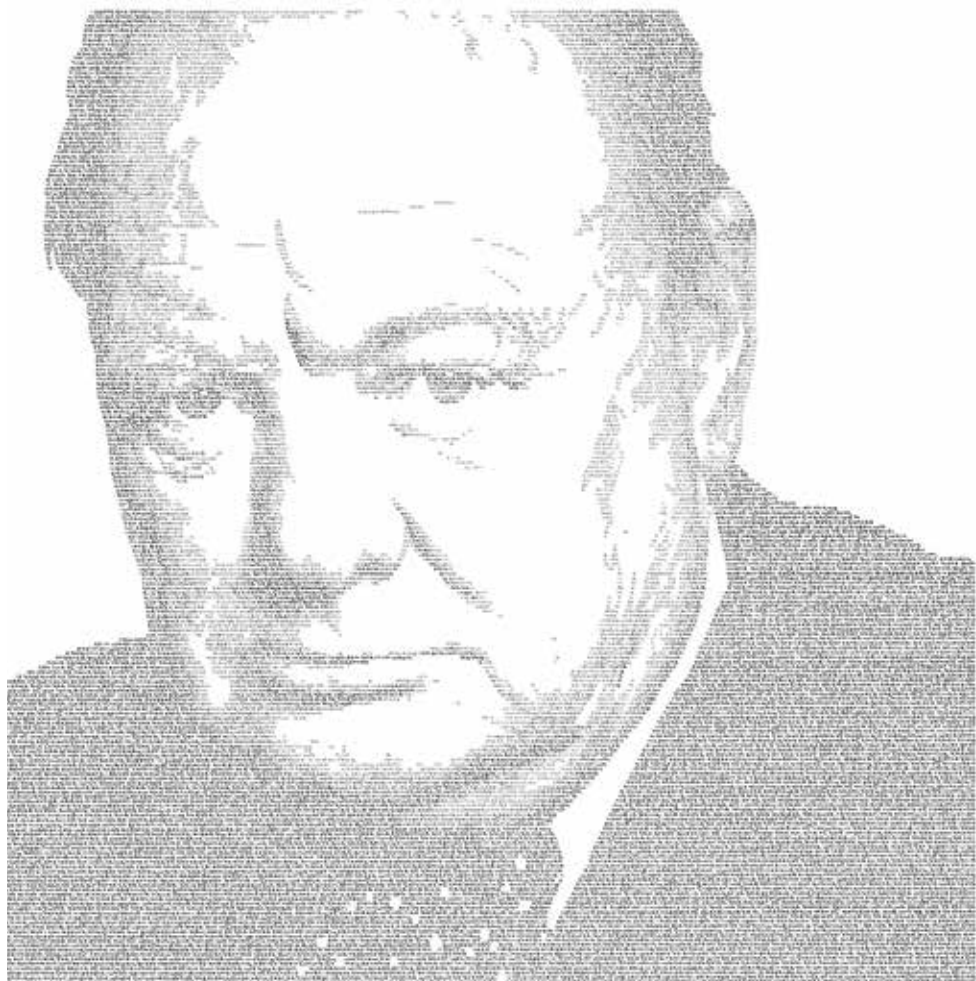
The image displays a large, dense, handwritten text piece in black ink on a white background. The text is a collection of comments and opinions related to Nick Clegg, gathered from social media. The handwriting is cursive and somewhat messy, filling the entire page with a dense forest of words and phrases. The overall shape is a large, downward-pointing arrow, with the widest part at the top and tapering towards the bottom. The text is organized into several columns, with the most text in the middle and fewer lines towards the left and right edges. The background is plain white, making the black ink stand out sharply.

Annemarie Wright
'Natalie Bennett'
Handwritten text:
Comments and opinion
collected from social media
93 x 66cm (framed)



Annemarie Wright
'Nigel Farage'
Handwritten text:
Comments and opinion
collected from social media
93 x 66cm (framed)





Annemarie Wright

'Winston Churchill: Our Finest Hour'

Handwritten text: Finest Hour speech

116 x 92cm (framed)



Annemarie Wright

'The Iron Lady'

Handwritten text: Information about Tory cut backs on milk for school children

81 x 71cm



Annemarie Wright

'JFK: The Grassy knoll'

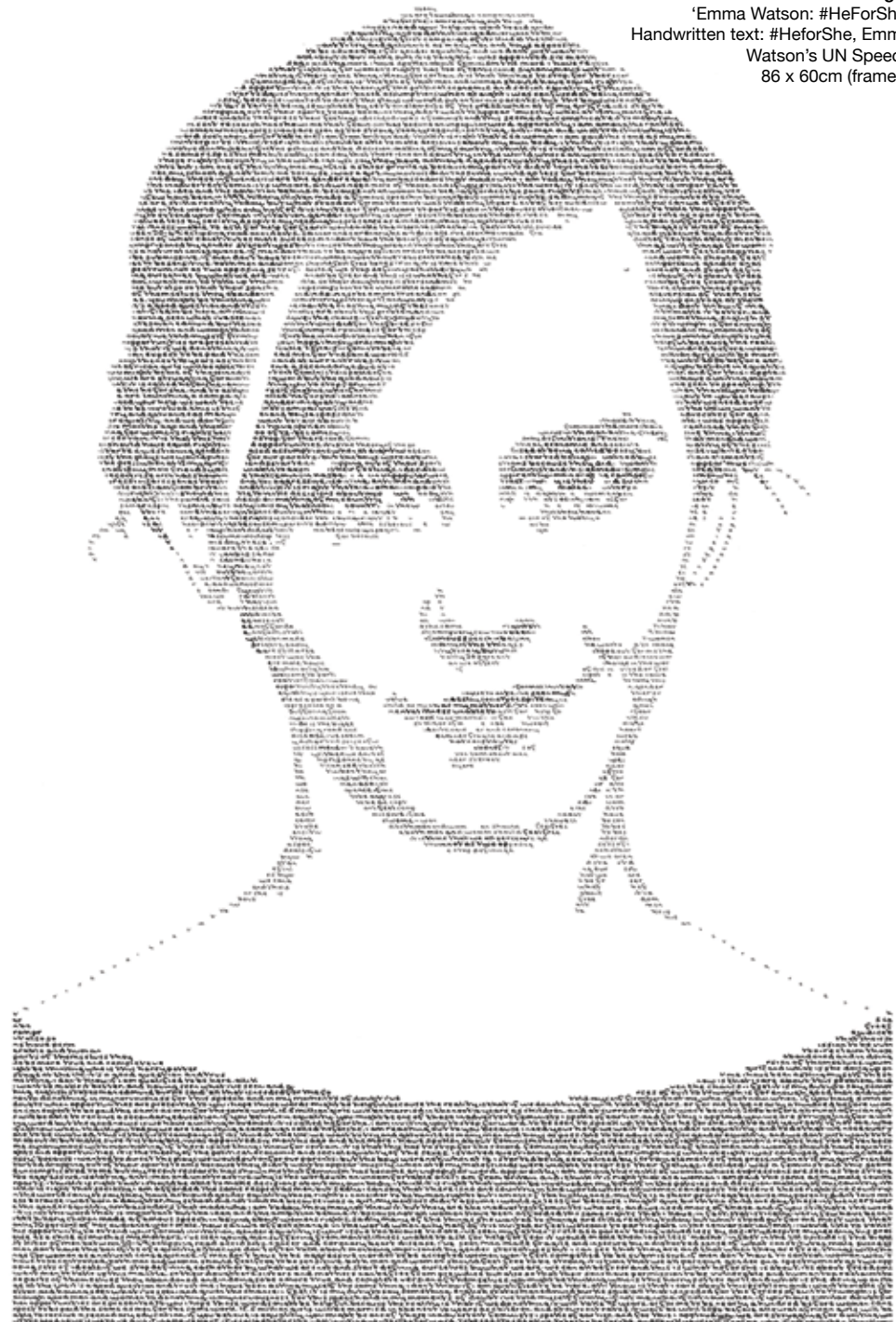
Handwritten text: Conspiracy theories about the JFK assassination

92 x 116cm (framed)

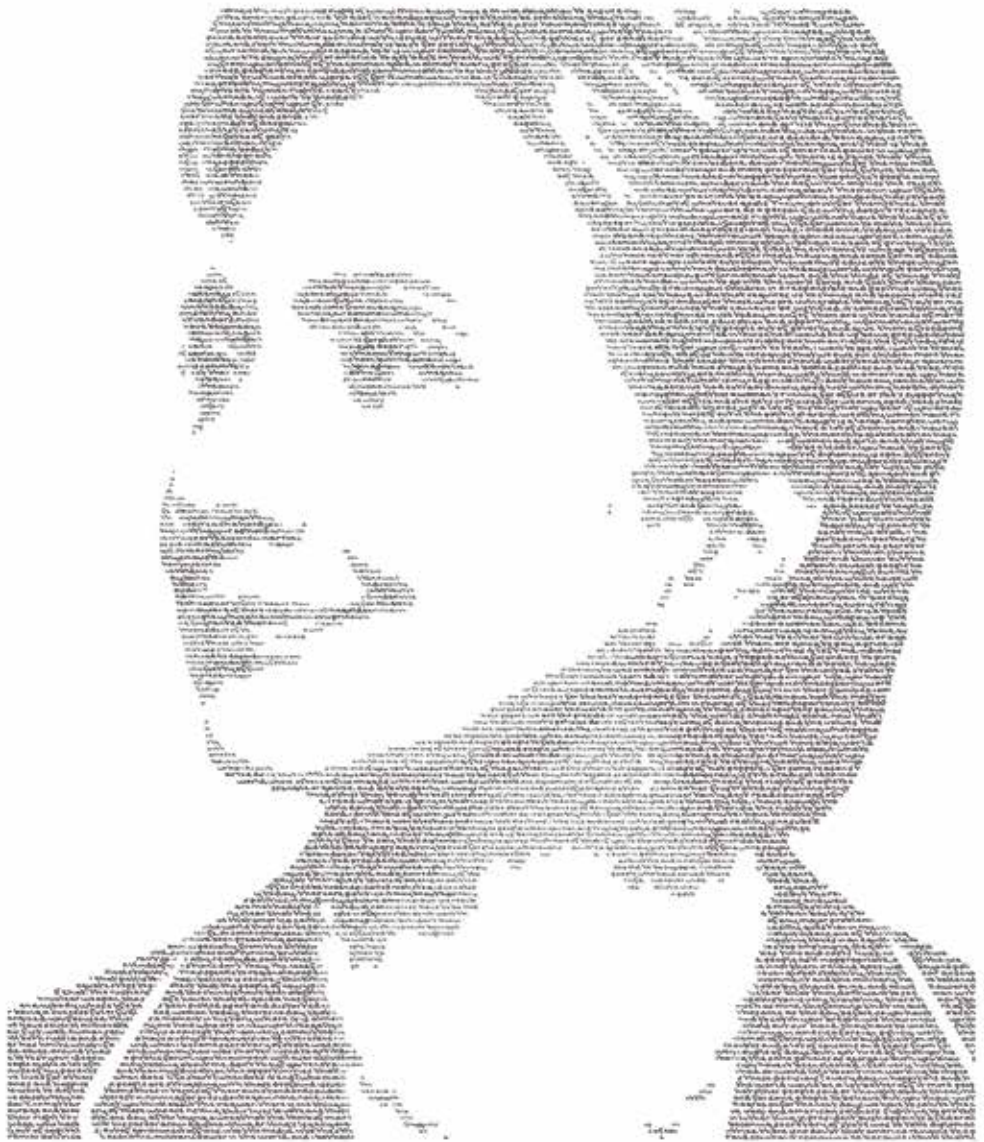


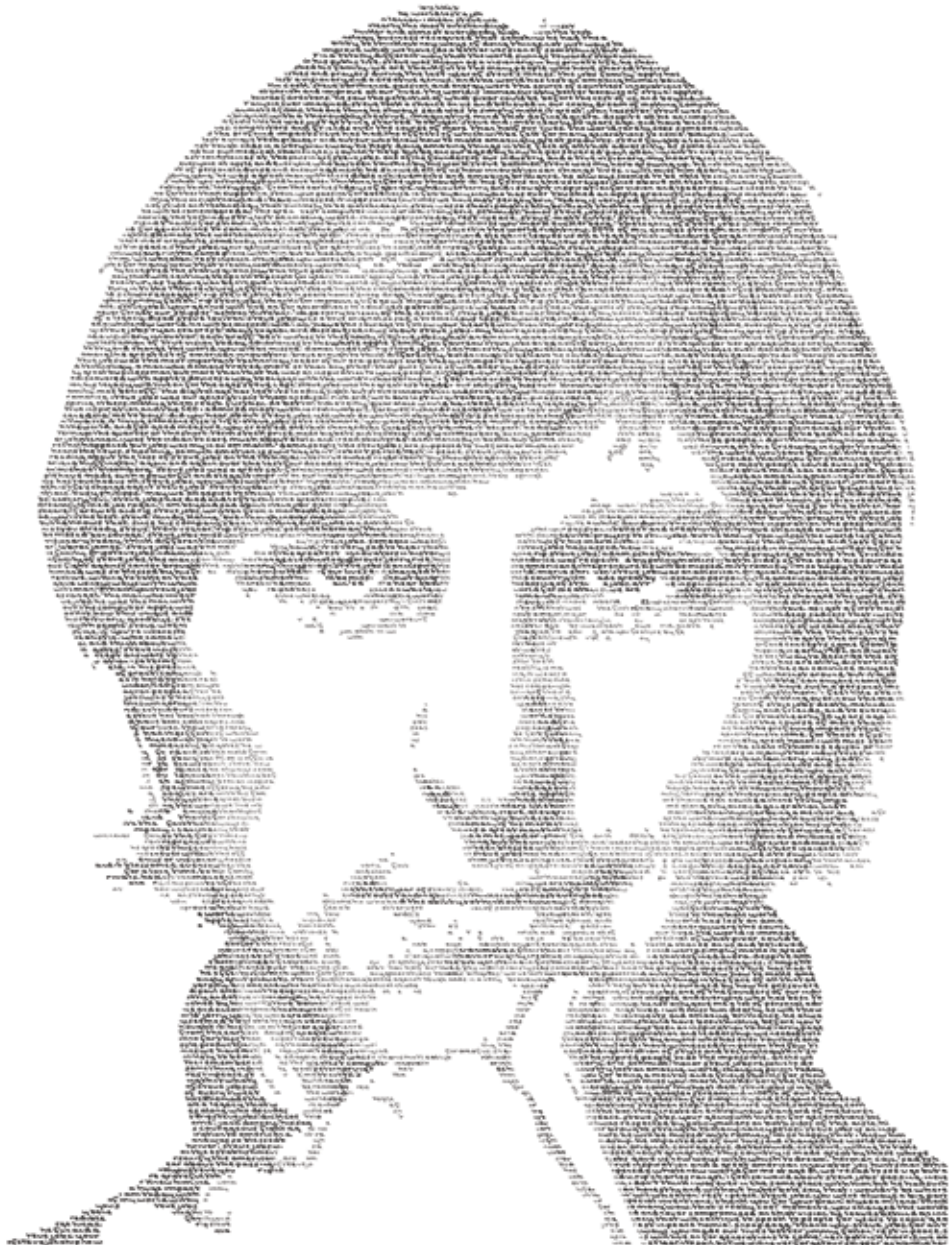
Annemarie Wright
'Nelson Mandela: Madiba'
Handwritten text: Quotes about Nelson Mandela
92 x 116cm (framed)

Annemarie Wright
'Emma Watson: #HeForShe'
Handwritten text: #HeForShe, Emma
Watson's UN speech
86 x 60cm (framed)



Annemarie Wright
'Hillary Clinton: The first lady
Handwritten text: Hillary Clinton quotes
90 x 80cm (framed)





Annemarie Wright

'Steve Jobs: Apple 1'

Handwritten text: Quotes and comments about Steve Jobs

116 x 92cm (framed)

Annemarie Wright
'JK Rowling: I'll be writing
until I can't write anymore'
Handwritten text: Harry
Potter character list in full
86 x 60cm (framed)

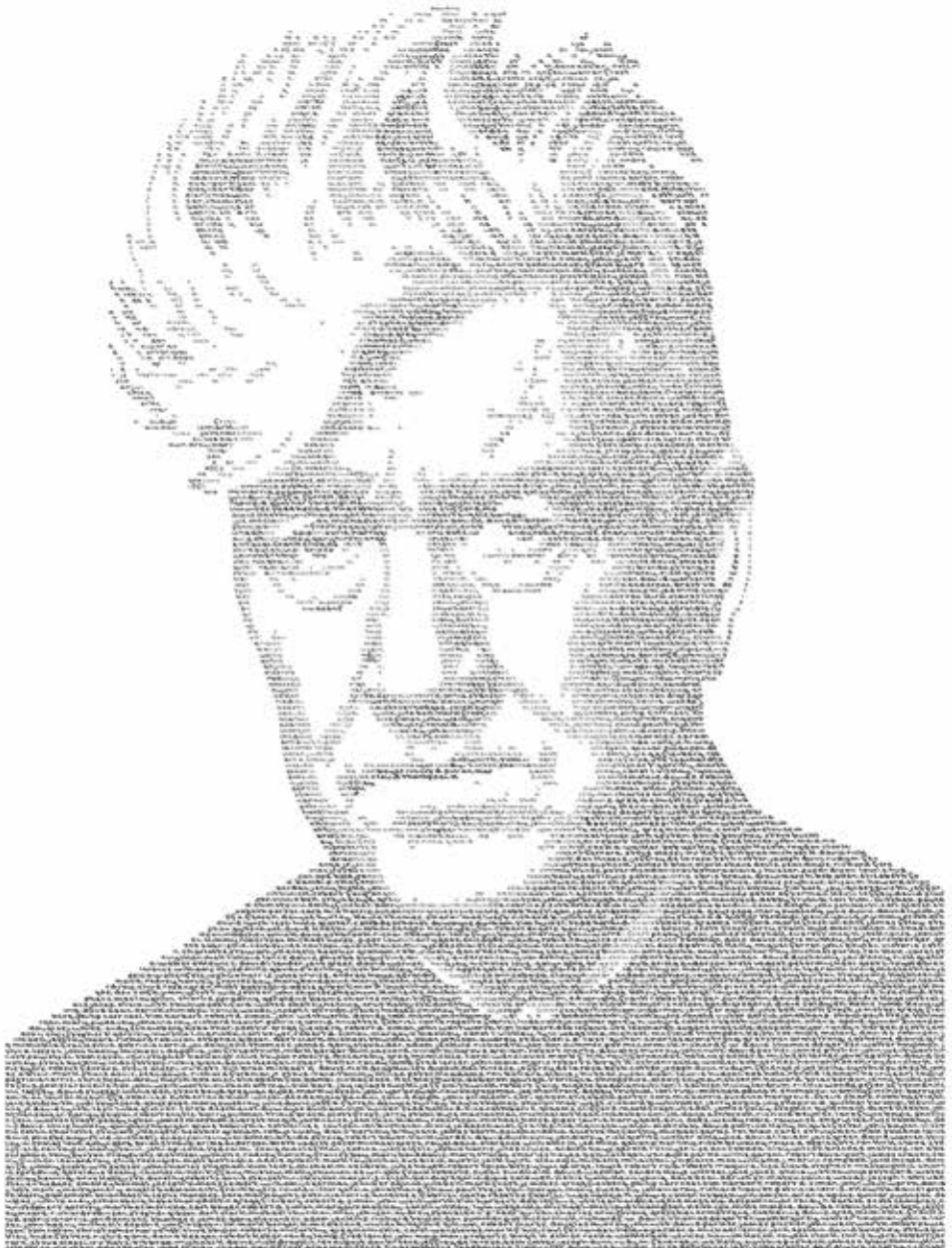


Annemarie Wright

'David Lynch: I killed Laura Palmer'

Handwritten text: Twin Peaks cast & crew

116 x 92cm (framed)



Annemarie Wright
'Dylan Thomas: Under Milk Wood'
Handwritten text: Under Milk extracts
86 x 60cm (framed)





Annemarie Wright

'Michael Eavis (young):

It's been tough on the cows #1'

Handwritten text:

Acts to have played at

Glastonbury Festival since 1970

90 x 75cm (framed)



Annemarie Wright

'Michael Eavis (now):

It's been tough on the cows #2'

Handwritten text:

Acts to have played at

Glastonbury Festival since 1970

90 x 75cm (framed)

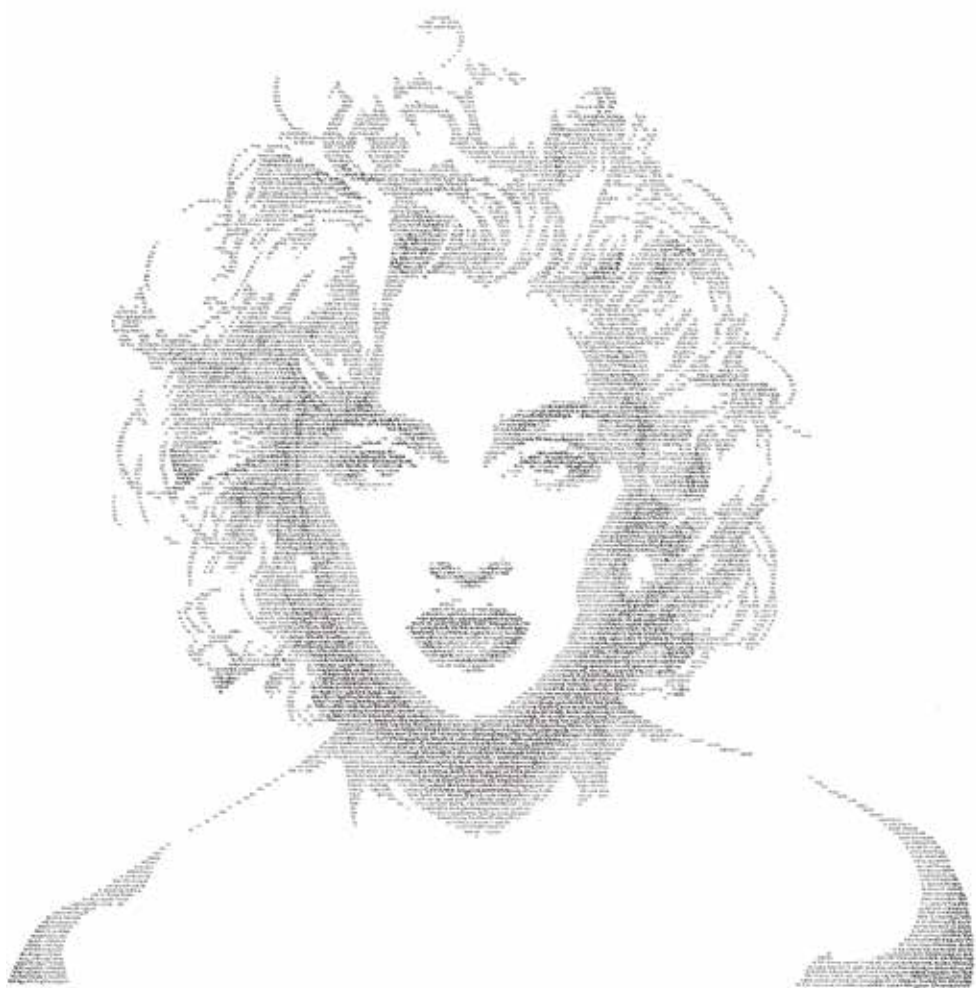
Annemarie Wright

'The Beatles: The Summer of love'

Handwritten text: Sgt. Pepper reviews

100 x 132cm (framed)





Annemarie Wright

'Madonna: I am a work of art'

Handwritten text: Quotes from and about Madonna

116 x 92cm (framed)

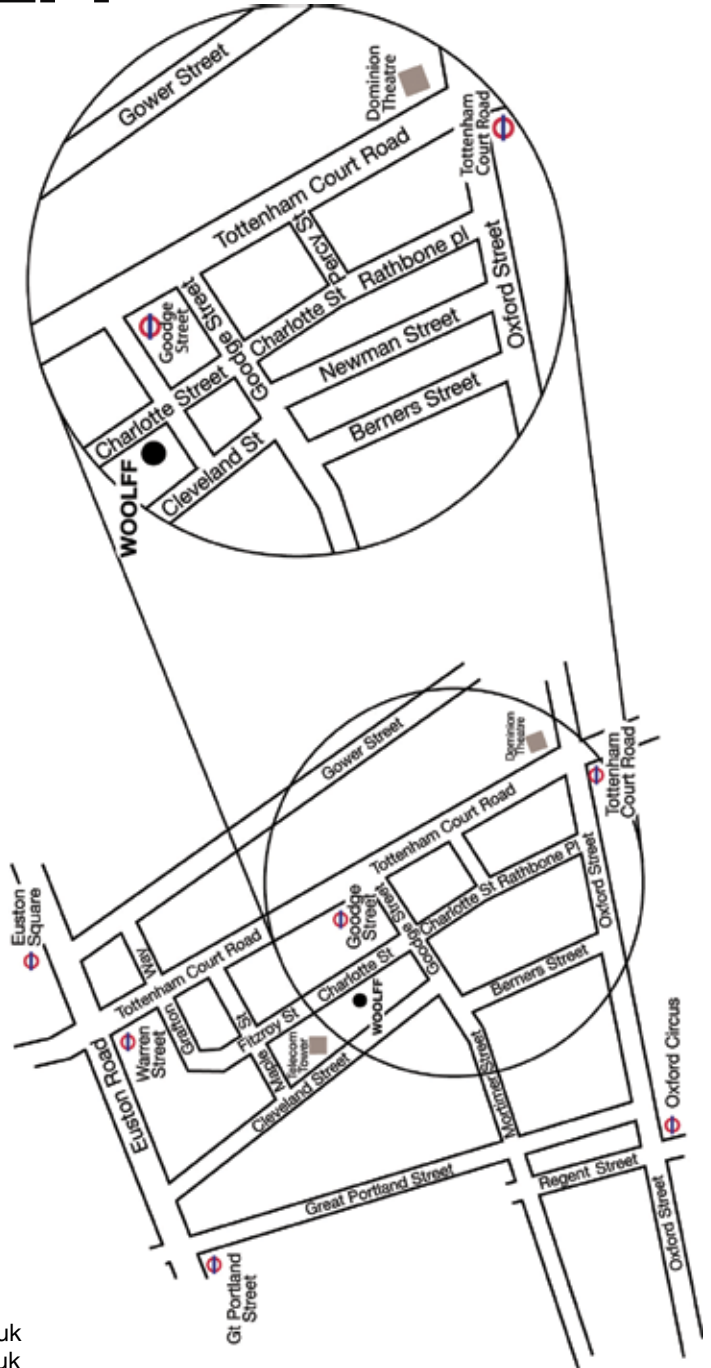
Annemarie Wright

'Amy Winehouse: Will you still love me tomorrow'
Handwritten text: Quotes about Amy Winehouse
100 x 80cm (framed)



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