

Imelda May has released a new poem, written in response to Black Lives Matter and the death of George Floyd

### You Don't Get To Be Racist And Irish

You don't get to be racist and Irish  
You don't get to be proud of your heritage,  
plights and fights for freedom  
while kneeling on the neck of another!  
You're not entitled to sing songs  
of heroes and martyrs  
mothers and fathers who cried  
as they starved in a famine  
Or of brave hearted  
soft spoken  
poets and artists  
lined up in a yard  
blindfolded and bound  
Waiting for Godot  
and point blank to sound  
We emigrated  
We immigrated  
We took refuge  
So cannot refuse  
When it's our time  
To return the favour  
Land stolen  
Spirits broken  
Bodies crushed and swollen  
unholy tokens of Christ, Nailed to a tree  
(That) You hang around your neck  
Like a noose of the free  
Our colour pasty  
Our accents thick  
Hands like shovels  
from mortar and bricklaying  
foundation of cities  
you now stand upon  
Our suffering seeps from every stone  
your opportunities arise from  
Outstanding on the shoulders  
of our forefathers and foremother's  
who bore your mother's mother  
Our music is for the righteous  
Our joys have been earned  
Well deserved and serve  
to remind us to remember  
More Blacks  
More Dogs  
More Irish.  
Still labelled leprechauns, Micks, Paddy's,  
louts  
we're shouting to tell you  
our land, our laws

are progressively out there  
We're in a chrysalis  
state of emerging into a new  
and more beautiful Eire/era  
40 Shades Better  
Unanimous in our rainbow vote  
we've found our stereotypical pot of gold  
and my God it's good.  
So join us.. 'cause  
You Don't Get To Be Racist And Irish.