

A poem inspired by the beat poets about protest

Questions from the Negro Swan

I turned on the TV,  
They said Nanterre was

*en feu*

If everything starts with a feeling  
Why did you choose to turn yours into words?  
Si la beauté est dans la rue  
Pourquoi sont-ils en flammes?

Do we spread fire because  
The body knows hunger?  
Or because  
We hate feeling hungry?

Do we turn breath into  
vibrations into  
a r t i c u l a t i o n  
because  
We can't feel without

Construction?

What's the point of speech if  
Our wooden letterbox of words will be set ablaze  
Eventually

I'll put up the posters anyway.  
If he wants me to,  
The boy in the plaid jacket wearing the pompidou  
Who has the resemblance of  
Mao Zedong  
Because to set your own path alight is to  
Make it  
..... untraceable

Is it?

Noah Totten, Music Producer, Year 12