



PORTLAND SECONDARY COLLEGE  
**TOP ARTS** *EXCELLENCE*

Inspired by observing the development of a child into adulthood, especially when influenced by high school and our often sexualised society, I represented these stages using symbolism and the dark tonal qualities of etching. The permanency of marks made in etching act as a metaphor for the lasting effects of decisions made in a young person's life. The portrait includes a nest, suggesting family protection and support, and in my second work a swooping bird, symbolising the repercussions of behaviour. More literal symbols in the accompanying watercolours and found objects create a sense of innocence lost and the erosion of childhood values.

Molly Baulch

2009



**Oscar with Nest**

40.5 x 23.5 cm  
etching, aquatint, steel, watercolour