



32A

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Director's Statement

I see the tone of this piece falling between the funny and the sad, the painful emotional truth of early adolescence which we can laugh at with the distance of time. Taking that inevitable step to womanhood and buying a first bra is a universal female experience, something which interests me. It's an age when seemingly trivial events have a huge importance. Emotions take on a greater complexity and expressing them is never easy. This is the delicate place that is Maeve's world.

There comes a time in every young girl's life when she discovers that the world is no longer flat...



BETA CINEMA PRESENTS A JANEY PICTURES/FLYING MOON CO-PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH BORD SCANNÁN NA hÉIREANN / IRISH FILM BOARD, THE BROADCASTING COMMISSION OF IRELAND RTÉ, MEDIENBOARD BERLIN-BRANDENBURG, MITTELDEUTSCHE MEDIENFÖRDERUNG AND THE MEDIA PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN UNION CAST AILISH MCCARTHY SOPHIE JO WASSON ORLA LONG RIONA SMITH AIDAN QUINN ORLA BRADY JARED HARRIS WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY MARIAN QUINN PRODUCER TOMMY WEIR CO-PRODUCER ROSHANAK BEHESHT NEDJAD EXECUTIVE PRODUCER JAMES FLYNN LINE PRODUCER ADRIAN DEVANE CINEMATOGRAPHY PJ DILLON PRODUCTION DESIGN PAKI SMITH COSTUME DESIGN DRISCOLL CALDER COMPOSER GERRY LEONARD SOUND DESIGN LARS GINZEL EDITOR RUNE SCHWEITZER





## The Cast



**AILISH MCCARTHY** (Maeve Brennan)

Ailish turned 14 while shooting “32A”, her debut. She is a true unknown, having trained in a local drama group in Dublin. This is her first time on the big screen.



**AIDAN QUINN** (Maeve’s father)

Aidan Quinn trained in Chicago and came to prominence in the feature “Desperately Seeking Susan”. His many credits include leading roles in “Legends of the Fall”, “The Mission”, “Benny and Joon”, “Michael Collins”, “Song for a Raggy Boy”, “Practical Magic” and “In Dreams”.



**JARED HARRIS** (Ruth’s father)

Jared Harris worked off-Broadway with Marian Quinn in Mike Leigh’s “Ecstasy”. His many screen credits include leading roles in “I Shot Andy Warhol”, “Igby goes Down”, “Natural Born Killers”, “Mr Deeds”, “I Love Your Work”, “Happiness”, “The Notorious Bettie Page” and “Lost in Space”.



**ORLA BRADY** (Maeve’s mother)

Orla Brady has starred in the features “The Luzhin Defence”, “A Love Divided”, “Words on the Window Pane” and “Silent Grace”. She has received two IFTA awards as Best Actress for her leading roles in Irish television.

## Short Synopsis

Dublin, 1979. Maeve Brennan is 13 going on 14, striding, lurching, sometimes stumbling on the road from girlhood to womanhood. Today she’s reached a new milestone: she’s going to put on her brand-new bra for the very first time. Maeve and her best pals Ruth, Claire and Orla realize that it’s a lot harder than they thought to become a woman. There’s the matter of breasts, for example, which troubles and fascinates Maeve. And, of course, there are boys. Like the dashing, curly-haired 16-year-old heartthrob Brian. Who would have thought that sweet, quiet, unspectacularly pretty Maeve would snare him? But she seems to – and begins to neglect school and her friends to be with him. When he dumps her, she’s devastated; but the biggest blow comes when she’s rejected by her best friends for having let them down when they needed her. Becoming an adult doesn’t seem like such a great idea anymore. Aware that her first steps toward womanhood were misguided, Maeve returns to the fold a little wiser as her friends rally around for her 14th birthday.

## Writer-Director Marian Quinn

Marian Quinn trained as an actor in the innovative Piven Theater Workshop in Chicago and worked as an actress on stage and screen in Chicago and New York. Her theater work has included the OBIE-award winning “Ecstasy” by Mike Leigh, and “Looking at you (revived) again” by Gregory Motton. Her acting career in cinema has covered many independent features in America and Ireland including “Heavy” by James Mangold, “I shot Andy Warhol” by Mary Harron, “Alchemy” by Suzanne Myers, “Though the Sky Falls” by John MacItyre and “Evelyn” by Bruce Beresford. She directed several shorts and a television pilot for RTE before winning the Tiernan McBride Screenwriting Award for “32A”. “32A” is her debut feature.

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