

DIRECTORS STATEMENT

Moving countries frequently during my childhood, had an important influence on my own life and on my films - and especially on ‚Molly’s Way’. Molly leaves her life in Ireland. She steps onto a train, not knowing what is to be expected. She searches for a man in Poland, who she met one night only. However she might be searching for something else. Through her we get to know this country and to love the people that inhabit it.

People from different European countries, having different cultures and traditions, made a film together. The producers, the co-writer and the editor are German, the main actress is Irish, the Dop Polish, the music composers French. The languages spoken in the film are English, Polish and German. It could have been chaos and sometimes it was. But this European melting-pot is the core of ‚Molly’s Way’.



EMILY ATEF

Emily Atef is half French, half Iranian, and was born in Berlin. With her family she moved to Los Angeles at the age of 7. At 13 they moved to France and later she left to London to work in the Theatre. Emily finally settled down in Berlin where she is studying directing at the DFFB (German Film Academy) since autumn 2001. Molly’s Way is her first feature film.

FILMOGRAPHY

2004	Djibril und Zoran	One episode of the episodic feature film „Asyl“
2004	Nike	Commercial 30 sek., S16mm
2004	I love you I kill you	15 min., 35mm
2003	Sundays	6 min., 16mm
2002	XX to XY fighting to be Jake	Documentary, 21 min., Beta

MO LLY'S WAY



MO LLY'S WAY

BY EMILY ATEF

Germany 2005, 84 min, IMX / 35mm, Colour, 1:1,85, Dolby SR

CAST

Mairead McKinley (Molly) **Ute Gerlach** (Britta) **Geno Lechner** (Sophia)
Mirosław Baka (Taxi Driver) **Robert Gonera** (Guardia Civil) **Beata
Lehmann** (Lilly) **Jan Wiczorkowski** (Marcin) **Anna Ilczuk** (Violeta)
Adrianna Biedrzyńska (Isabella) **Jakub Kazmierczak** (Pawel) **Maciej
Robakiewicz** (Szymon) **Ireneusz Koziol** (Marek)

Script **Emily Atef und Esther Bernstorff** Dop **Patricia Lewandowska**
Editor **Beatrice Babin** Music **Bumcello** Graphics **Ta-Trung** Producer
Benjamin Seikel Commissioning editor **Annedore v. Donop** (ZDF - Das
Kleine Fernsehspiel) Produced by **Deutsche Film- und Fernsehakademie
Berlin** (dff), **Andreas Louis** On behalf of **ZDF**, in cooperation with **ARTE**
Director **Emily Atef**

FESTIVALS AND AWARDS

Filmfest München 2005 Förderpreis Deutscher Film for Best Script
International Filmfestival Geneva 2005 "Prix Tudor" for Best Actress
Ourense International Film Festival (Spain) 2005 for Best Actress
Filmwochenende Würzburg 2006 audience award for 2nd best feature film
21st Mar del Plata International Film Festival 2006 (Argentina)
Official Competition
CROSSING EUROPE Film Festival 2006 (Austria) Official Competition

On one of those days when the sky seems to cry grey tears, Molly, a young Irish woman, shows up in a small town in the middle of Poland. Dragging a red rolling suitcase, she wanders the muddy streets, looking for Marcin, the man with whom she only spent one night, loved for only a day, and now is carrying his child.

"Sometimes you have to loose your way, only to find a better way." This, being the key wisdom of the film, comes from a good willed taxi driver who finds Molly stranded in the middle of nowhere. She turns to the camera, her face devastated, but her eyes bright. She seems to have been walking and going nowhere, but then her journey takes a new turn. Molly says she's searching for Marcin, but all along she's really trying to find herself. Aided by excellent camera work, which doesn't romanticize nor protect its heroine, but succeeds in staying sensitive and respectful, Emily Atef weaves this modern fable, displaying a high level of maturity. This is all displayed with great imagery and a flawless dramaturgy. Molly, played by the brilliant Mairead McKinley, is a brave and tender girl. With a blue wooly hat screwed on her head, she strays through the more sordid places in the town in her search. She's the princess of gloom, a Cinderella to the hotel keeper Mrs. Britta and her 'clan' of colorful female tenants. She confronts and endures a voyage of misery, arriving at her dreams...and never stops!

M.L. Geneva, Cinemas tout ecran