

The O'Hara Sisters



A charming study of Mary with her harp with which she won the *Townshend Cup* for singing two songs to her own accompaniment at the Feis Ceóil.

Indeed for one who has played so gracefully as Joan did a few weeks ago in *The Dreaming of the Bones*, I was surprised to find her so natural and unaffected. When I stopped her on the street to tell her how good she was, she answered back in the sweeping Irish girl's way of "Indeed, I'm not." And she wasn't acting, either.

Mary is the younger and more musical sister. Having learnt from Máirín Ní Seadha - she finds that harp-playing is her first love, and with the long dark hair and Irish face and Irish mellow voice, Mary makes a beautiful picture playing her harp and beautiful music too.

In the daytime she learns how to be face-beautiful and over at *Jill Fisher's School of Modeling*, this nineteen-year-old girl can pluck an eyebrow with any of them.

What will she do - music or beauty? Mary isn't sure: she's willing to wait and see what comes but I have a feeling that the Sligo girl with the blood of an artist will find her life among one or other of the arts.

LIKE quite a lot of artistic people the O'Hara sisters, Joan and Mary, come from Sligo.

Both of them carry the inspirations of the Yeats' country in their ambitions.

Joan was awarded a prize at the *Sligo Feis* a few years ago for her poem on the bringing back of Yeats' body, to Ben Bulbin.

Joan, a tall brown-haired, embryo *Caithlín Ní Houlihan*, is one of the youngest members of the *Abbey Theatre*. At first she thought writing was her real talent but when she went to the Abbey School to learn a bit of acting it was a welcome surprise to find that the stage would claim her.

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