



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Sheila Hancock for the Gibunco Gibraltar International Literary Festival**

Sheila Hancock will be joining the Festival line up for 2018. Sheila won the British Book Award for Author of the Year for her autobiography *The Two of Us* which she followed with *Just Me*; and then, aged 81, with her debut novel *Miss Carter's War* for which she was nominated in the Political Fiction Awards. Her first book, *Ramblings of An Actress*, was published in 1987, and she is currently working on another non-fiction work.

Her extensive career has ranged from playing in the original West End casts of *Sweeney Todd*, *Annie* and *Sister Act* to being the first Woman Artistic Director of the RSC's tour; from playing Ranyevskaya in *The Cherry Orchard* at the Royal National Theatre to being a judge on BBC TV's search for a Dorothy in *Over the Rainbow*, and from playing Senna Pod in *Carry on Cleo* to winning an Olivier Award for her performance as Fraulein Schneider in *Cabaret*.

Her most recent work includes the title role in the feature film *Edie* (about to have its DVD release) as well the films *The Dark Mile* and *The More You Ignore Me*; the ITV series *Endeavour*; *The Dali* and the Cooper in Sky TV's 'Urban Myths' series, and as Maude in *Harold & Maude* at the Charing Cross Theatre. She has just finished filming a third series of the Sky TV drama *Delicious*.

Sheila is an active Patron of the Digismart Charity; Trustee of the John Thaw Foundation, and Vice President of St Christopher's Hospice. She was also Chancellor of the University of Portsmouth University 2008-2012.

Sheila Hancock will take part in two events. The first will be *An Audience with Sheila Hancock* and she will form part of the *Just A Minute* panel.