

Beat: Arts

## LEILA SLIMANI THE FRENCH-MOROCCAN GONCOURT 2016 WINNER APPOINTED AT FRANCOPHONIE

BY FRENCH PRESIDENT MACRON

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**USPA NEWS** - The President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron has decided to entrust, from today, the role of "Personal Representative of the Head of State for the Francophonie" to Mrs. Leila Slimani. According to the mission letter she received from the President of the Republic, Ms. Slimani will represent France on the Permanent Council of La Francophonie. Leila Slimani is the winner of 2016 Goncourt Award, one of the most prestigious French Literature Prize.

LEILA SLIMANI IS THE GONCOURT 2016 WINNER AUTHOR OF "SWEET SONG"<sup>[?]</sup>

The French-Moroccan writer, winner of Prix Goncourt 2016, will represent "personally" the head of state on this issue. A year ago, Leila Slimani received the prestigious Goncourt Prize for her second novel, "Sweet Song" ("Chanson Douce"). This Monday, when she goes to the Elysee Palace at 3 pm, for an appointment with Emmanuel Macron, the author of 36 years should become, according to Elysee source, the "Personal representative of the president for the Francophonie".-----

The choice of President Macron's interview at Eysee today with Leila Slimani, whose choice is as symbolic as the appointee to represent France at the Francophonie, is not entirely by chance. Indeed today, also coincides to the new Prix Goncourt 2017, ceremony, one of the most praiseworthy French literary awards. All a symbol!-----

Leila Slimani is a 36 years old Franco-Moroccan author whose "Sweet Song" novel, won last year the Goncourt Prize, has long been the focus of attention by President Macron and his wife, Brigitte, both of whom are French literary critics and passionate. The first lady, a former teacher, has recently chosen a text from the writer to make a dictation intended to support an association committed to the fight against rare diseases. The role of the future representative of "La Francophonie" is to promote the French language, as well as cultural diversity and to mobilize the friends of France on themes such as equality between men and women ... Moreover Leila Slimani has just published his recent book "Sex and Lies: Sexual Life in Morocco".-----

The head of state and his wife have certainly identified in this young and talented woman, open-minded and stating progressive ideas, in accordance with a certain idea of "political engagement by literature and sociology, turned to a more modern society, evolving nowadays . It is also a symbolic choice that President Macron decrees, by his choice of a woman, in her thirties, emancipated and talented, as to send a message of hope towards the same generations of age, in these stormy times following the affairs of the sexual harassment towards women.

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