Walter Isaacson becomes contributor on ‘Amanpour & Company’

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Acclaimed author and Tulane University Professor Walter Isaacson will appear on the new late-night public affairs series “Amanpour & Company.” (Photo by Patrice Gilbert)

As an acclaimed biographer, University Professor Walter Isaacson is known for uncovering the lives of history’s visionaries, including Steve Jobs, Benjamin Franklin and Leonardo da Vinci. Now, Isaacson will bring new stories to life through one-on-one interviews in his role as a contributor on the late-night public affairs series “Amanpour & Company.”

Launched through a collaboration between CNN and WNET, the nation’s flagship PBS station, the one-hour program will feature conversations with global thought leaders on hot-button issues.

“Rather than shouting about the latest tweet, the show will feature in-depth interviews with people who are deep thinkers,” said Isaacson. “I will be doing two to three interviews a week, some from New York but mostly from New Orleans. I also hope to conduct some from Tulane.”

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The show will be helmed by Christiane Amanpour, CNN’s award-winning chief international correspondent, who will lead the conversation on the latest global news from London.

The new series will act as an extension of CNN’s long-running show “Amanpour,” which will continue to air weekdays on CNN International.

Isaacson will be joined by fellow contributors Michel Martin, a veteran journalist and weekend host of NPR’s "All Things Considered," Alicia Menendez, contributing editor at Bustle and host of the “Latina to Latina” podcast, and Hari Sreenivasan, the anchor of “PBS NewsHour Weekend.”

Isaacson says that the show will feature his talks with Wynton Marsalis, trumpeter and artistic director of Jazz at Lincoln Center, and journalist and lawyer Ronan Farrow.

When asked who he would like to interview next, Isaacson says that his shortlist of ideal guests includes political consultants James Carville and Mary Matalin, physicist Brian Greene — one of the preeminent researchers in the field of string theory — and novelist and Tulane professor of English Jesmyn Ward.

“Amanpour & Company” will premiere this September on PBS.