Jon Stewart Will Host Apple TV+ Current Affairs Show

Jon Stewart is heading back to TV.

Apple TV+ has signed the late-night legend to host and produce a new current affairs series, Adweek has confirmed.

As part of a multi-year deal, Stewart will host and executive produce current affairs program for the nearly year-old streaming service. Stewart's show is also reportedly being worked on with former HBO chief Richard Plepler, whose production company already has a production deal with Apple TV+.

The Hollywood Reporter was the first to report the news.

It's a huge get for Apple TV+, which has aimed to use its programming and service as an incentive to sell more Apple products, some of which come with a free year of the service with a purchase. Stewart's nearly 20-year tenure as the host of the Comedy Central's Daily Show was a ratings and awards magnet, bringing in 20 Emmys.

For Stewart's fans, it marks a long-awaited return to television since the show host left the Daily Show in 2015. As part of a four-year first-look TV and movie deal with HBO, Stewart had previously been working on an animated series that was slated to debut ahead of the 2016 presidential election, but that project never came to fruition—HBO announced it had scrapped the deal in May 2017.

And while Stewart has made some periodic appearances on late-night shows—most frequently on The Late Show With Stephen Colbert, which he executive produces, he has not made a full-

time return to entertainment until now.

For Apple TV+, Stewart’s popularity may help the streamer break through as it looks to use the streaming service to sell more Apple products. Apple TV+ has already brought daytime talk legend Oprah to the streamer with interview series, including a free series centered on Covid-19, that’s part of a multi-year partnership struck in 2018. And just last week, the streaming service nabbed the rights for the Charlie Brown holiday specials and upcoming series.

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