

Soledad O'Brien: 'Who Is Black in America?'

Soledad O'Brien is the anchor for the CNN morning show, Starting Point, and a special correspondent for CNN/U.S. Since joining the network in 2003, O'Brien has reported breaking news from around the globe and has produced award-winning, record-breaking and critically acclaimed documentaries on the most important stories facing the world today. In 2010, she wrote a critically-acclaimed memoir "The Next Big Story: My

Journey through the Land of Possibilities," which chronicles her biggest reporting moments and how her upbringing and background have influenced these experiences.

A graduate of Harvard University, Soledad lives with her husband and four children in Manhattan. Here, she talks about her upcoming Black in America special "Who Is Black in America?" which is set to premiere on CNN on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 8 p.m. ET/PT.

(Check local listings)

Kam Williams: Hi Soledad, thanks for another interview.

Soledad O'Brien: Thank you, Kam.

KW: Let's talk about your upcoming special. Where did you come up with the idea for Who Is Black in America?

SO: We were thinking about universal themes for Black in America that really touch people, that really

matter to people, and one of the themes that we kept

nating to hear the conversations that were happening between people who were light-skinned, people who were dark-skinned, and people somewhere in between. Just the hurt, the pain and anger on all sides was very interesting. So, we thought we would explore that because it seemed

generationally. The conversations I was having with men and women of my age group were very different from the conversations younger men and women were having with people of their age group. It's fascinating to hear the take of those that we feature in the doc around 17, 18 and 19, as they kind of grapple with their identity and with where America is today.

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CELEBRITY INTERVIEW

by Kam Williams

coming up with was colorism, discrimination based on skin tone. It was fasci-

like a very interesting story to tell, especially since we were seeing a big change,

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