

Mr. Cairns
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NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
WASHINGTON, D. C.

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

WASHINGTON, MAY 27th: Some of the most outstanding examples of pre-Columbian art in the United States have been placed on display at the National Gallery of Art, with important additions to the recently rearranged Robert Woods Bliss Collection of Indigenous Art of the Americas, David E. Finley, Director, announces.

A number of objects have been replaced by others in the Collection not previously on exhibition at the Gallery. They include examples of particular interest in Aztec, Mayan, Olmec, and other cultures of pre-Columbian art.

Commenting on the exhibition, John Walker, Chief Curator of the Gallery, said: "Many of these pieces are pre-eminent in the field of pre-Columbian art, and are unexcelled in other museums in America or Europe."

This Collection, one of the finest in the United States, was gathered by Mr. Bliss over a period of thirty-five years, and is especially rich in small and precious objects. Works in gold, silver, alabaster, bronze, jadeite, obsidian, travertine, serpentine, woven fabrics, and other materials

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provide a comprehensive cross section of the art of the inhabitants of Mexico and Central and South America before the arrival of the Spanish conquerors.

A special illustrated catalogue of the exhibition is available.

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