

An exhibit of sculptured portraits in bronze of the presidents of the South American republics will be open to the public next Sunday at the National Gallery of Art. The bronzes are the work of the United States sculptor, Jo Davidson.

Ambassadors and ministers to the United States from these countries, Central America, Mexico, Cuba, and Haiti, will be special guests at a formal opening of the exhibit on Saturday afternoon. Vice President Henry A. Wallace will speak briefly at the official opening, which will also be attended by other invited guests from Washington's diplomatic, artistic, and official circles.

The ten South American republics were visited last year by Mr. Davidson under auspices of the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. Through the cooperation of the chief executives, and other officials, the sculptor was given fullest opportunity to study and to model his distinguished subjects in person. The bronzes were cast upon his return to this country.

To signalize completion of the busts, to honor the South American republics, and to give the nations's capital an opportunity to see these works of art, this public exhibit has been arranged. Later, the bronzes will be sent to the various republics of South America, and officially presented to the respective governments by the Department of State.

The exhibit will be held in the patio setting of the Garden Court of the National Gallery of Art, where, after Saturday's formal opening, the public may see for the first time the entire group of Davidson bronzes of the following South American presidents:

Roberto M. Ortiz, Argentina; Enrique Penaranda, Bolivia; Getulio Vargas, Brazil; Pedro Aguirre Corda, Chile; Eduardo Santos, Colombia; Carlos Arroyo del Rio, Ecuador; Higinio Morinigo, Paraguay; Manuel Prado Ugarteche, Peru; Alfredo Baldomir, Uruguay; Isaias Medina Angarita and Elcazar Lopez Contreras, Venezuela.

The latter country is represented by two presidents, because the sculptor's visit to Caracas coincided with the post-election change in the presidency, and Mr. Davidson sculptured both the out-going and the incoming presidents.