

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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FOR RELEASE: TUESDAY  
August 25, 1953

## RENE D'HARNONCOURT TO VISIT SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES TO AID GOVERNMENT PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF MANUAL INDUSTRIES

Mr. René d'Harnoncourt, Director of the Museum of Modern Art, will leave Tuesday, August 25, for Quito, Ecuador to visit manual industry and craft centers for the Institute of Inter-American Affairs in Washington, D. C. From Quito Mr. d'Harnoncourt will go to Lima, Peru; Santiago, Chile, and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The purpose of this trip is to aid in the Institute's program of providing technical assistance to handicraft centers in order to improve the form and variety of local production in ceramics, weaving, woodworking and metal work. Under the program the Institute will provide American handicraft teachers for their centers and bring talented teachers and students to the U. S. for training in handicraft schools.

Mr. d'Harnoncourt's wide experience in this field and knowledge of Latin American arts and handicrafts will be put to use in his position as Consultant. At present Mr. d'Harnoncourt is Chairman of the Indian Arts and Crafts Board of the U. S. Department of the Interior, with which he has been associated since 1937. He is also a member of the Program Committee of the U. S. Commission for UNESCO.

Mr. d'Harnoncourt expects to be able to obtain on this trip important loans for an exhibition on the ANCIENT ARTS OF SOUTH AMERICA which is scheduled to open at the Museum in January 1954. A major Museum publication of the same name written by Mr. d'Harnoncourt in collaboration with Wendell Bennett will be issued at the time of the exhibition.