

Five Artsy Things to do in L.A. This Week, Including Parisian Morphine Addicts, by Catherine Wagley (February 19, 2014)



Robert Therrien, *No title (Beard cart II)*, 1999-2014

1. Beard on a cart

One of the first objects you see in *Unsparring Quality*, curated by artist Farrah Karapetian at Diane Rosenstein Fine Art, is My Barbarian's bust of *Helen*. The mythic Greek beauty has white wavy hair and a papier-mâché face that's pasty and haughty. Soon, you'll also see Robert Therrien's *No title (Beard cart II)*, and the white plaster beard that hangs from two hooks attached to a steel stand may remind you of *Helen's* hair. Though it's thicker, it drapes similarly and reads as another quirky take on some myth or folk tale - maybe it's the beard of a god or a mountain man. The show, which includes 50-plus artworks but doesn't ever overwhelm, propels you forward like that, by making the work feel as if it's all part of the same unfolding experiment in storytelling.