

5 ART SHOWS YOU SHOULD SEE IN L.A. THIS WEEK

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Deathly joyride

Liz Craft's *Death Rider (Leo)*, which first appeared in the Whitney Biennial in New York in 2004, now presides over the Hammer Museum's lobby gallery. The bronze, life-size sculpture of a skeleton riding a chopper — rich in detail and solidly built — is probably more comical than sinister, though it's definitely an ominous presence. The skeleton's bike has a pine-cone gas tank and beehive engine. A headless, limbless shell of a female figure sits behind him. His head tilted back and his fleshless face grinning, the skeleton looks to be on a joy ride, except a little patch of mushrooms has grown behind the bike's back wheel. So maybe he's been going nowhere for a long time. *10899 Wilshire Blvd., Westwood; through April 30. (310) 443-7000, hammer.ucla.edu.*