

## Parasol unit

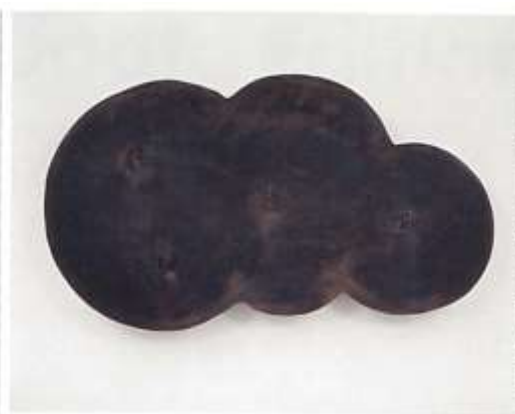
foundation for contemporary art

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**Now Showing: Robert Therrien at Parasol unit**

Elephant Magazine, Autumn 2016 issue #28, pg. 38



Robert Therrien, *No title, 1991*  
Steel, paper, enamel, mixed media, 147.3 x 260.2 x 33 cm

### ROBERT THERRIEN

2 Oct — 11 Dec  
*Parasol unit, London*

Scale is one of the major themes of the oeuvre of American artist Robert Therrien, whose *Under the Table* (1994) presented a kitchen table and chairs at several times their normal size to give viewers an extraordinary underside view of these otherwise ordinary domestic objects; another sculptural piece of the 1990s likewise scaled up household plates. Earlier work often eschewed such explicit reference to real objects, drawing on a repertoire of simpler, almost abstracted forms that—like the later, more obviously representational pieces—suggest childhood narratives and lend themselves to psychological interpretation. Placing watercolours and other works on paper alongside the towering geometric bronze *No Title (Bear Coat)* (1996), this retrospective at Parasol unit reaches as far back as 1975 and promises

to be a fiesta of dream-inducing archetypal forms.

**Bio:** Born in Chicago in 1947, Therrien completed an MFA at the University of Southern California and began making reliefs that hover between painting and sculpture. His work has been the subject of numerous solo and group exhibitions, including *Sculpture by Robert Therrien* at the Contemporary Arts Center, Ohio (1997). Therrien currently lives and works in Los Angeles, California.

**Quote:** 'People my age grew up with abstraction. Many of us worked our way out of it, where abstract artists had worked their way out of the representational. Sometimes I think maybe we should work our way back—maybe we were better off.'

[parasol-unit.org](http://parasol-unit.org)