Clyfford Still: Up/Down?

Every Tue., Wed., Thu., Fri., Sat., Sun. until May 3

Clyfford Still Museum
1250 Bannock St. Denver, CO
720-354-4880
Price: $10, $8 seniors, $6 students and teachers, members free
https://clyffordstillmuseum.org/

The most enduring joke about modern abstract art has to do with the question of orientation: Which way do you hang it, and unless it’s clearly signed, how do you even know? *Up/Down?*, the newest exhibit at the Clyfford Still Museum, might have you wondering whether or not Still got the joke so well that he went along with its perpetuation, as records show that one of his works was clearly displayed in two different orientations during Still’s lifetime, with no protest from the artist. Consisting of only four paintings, the show focuses without judgment on orientational mysteries inherent in some of Still’s work, including one rare unsigned,uncatalogued painting recently unrolled behind the scenes at the museum.

“The most interesting thing about this show is its accessible topic,” says assistant curator and collections manager Bailey Harberg Placeek, who put the mini-show together. “I hope people walk away knowing we’ve encouraged them to engage with his work and form their own opinions on how they think a work looks best. That’s what Still is all about: interaction and engagement with his work. We want this to be an ongoing conversation — we’re not trying to set the record straight in any way.”

To that end, the museum has set up an online poll on its website and Facebook page, where the public can vote on their preferred orientation for two of the paintings. *Up/Down?* opens today and runs through May 3 at the Clyfford Still Museum, 1250 Bannock Street; admission is $6 to $10 (free for members). For information, go to clyffordstillmuseum.org or call 720-354-4880.

Susan Froyd

Art - Museums | Arts | Museum Exhibits and Events | Visual Art

Location

Clyfford Still Museum
1250 Bannock St. Denver, CO
720-354-4880