

Clyfford Still

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3. Verb - Past Tense
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Clyfford Still

Biography

Clyfford Still was a part of the _____ generation of Abstract Expressionists in the years immediately following World War II. Still is criticized as being the most non-traditional of the Abstract Expressionists, but others credit him with laying the _____ for the movement. Still _____ his first solo show in the San Francisco Museum of Art, and he later met Mark Rothko in Berkeley, _____. In the early 1950s, he _____ his ties with commercial galleries and distrusted curators. During the height of Abstract Expressionism, Still lived in New York. Then, he moved to Maryland in 1961, where he later _____, in order to distance himself further from the art establishment. Like _____, Rothko and Barnett Newman, Still is considered to be one of the _____ artists who painted the "abstract sublime."

Methods and Style

Abstract Expressionist works featured _____ forms, expressive brush strokes, and were on a large scale. Still used harsh and stark colors, often having _____ areas of black. His paintings _____ the late 1940s consist of jagged shapes in a dense, highly-worked surface; he applied his _____ with a palette knife. Over the _____, he increased the size of the shapes and also the size of his canvases.

Shift

to Abstract Expressionism

From 1938 to 1942, Still's works shifted from paintings with a _____ Adjective _____, recognizable subject to abstraction. His early works were based on the Western landscape, featuring large figures and _____ Noun _____. formations. The elements in his paintings _____ Adverb _____ became more abstract, but they kept their organic shapes and _____ Noun - Plural _____.

Themes

Abstract Expressionist paintings usually conveyed universal themes like life, death, creation, and struggle. Like other Abstract Expressionists, Clyfford saw painting as a heroic assertion of being and _____ Noun _____, especially following World War II. Still's paintings were not narratives, but rather were intended to hit the viewer all at once. He used the large _____ Noun _____ of the picture to envelop viewers in pure sensation. Still was interested in conveying awe before the unknowable and sublime. His work _____ Verb - Past Tense _____ many artists, including Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko, and Barnett Newman.