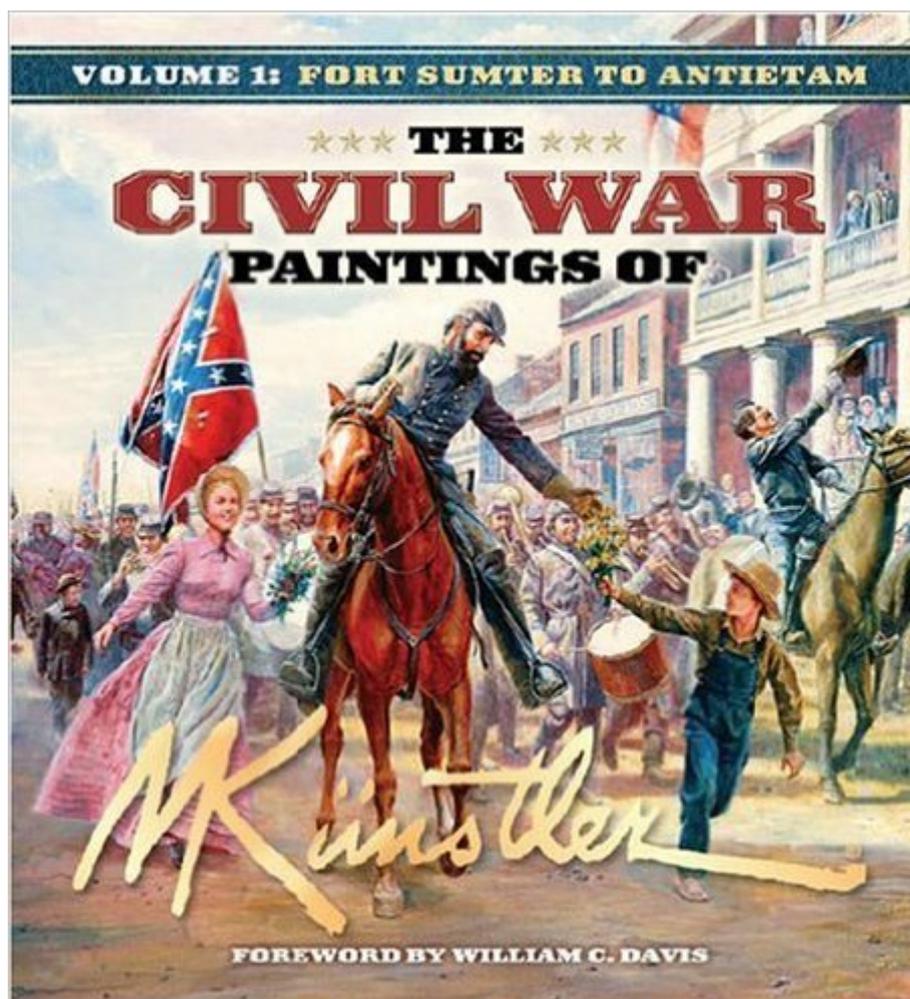


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The Civil War Paintings Of Mort Kunstler, Vol. 1: Fort Sumter To Antietam



Synopsis

For nearly thirty years, Mort Kunstler has focused his considerable artistic talent on interpreting the Civil War. In crafting his work to reflect poignant moments or critical circumstances of the conflict, he has turned to leading historians and scholars for informative details that he has then translated on canvas to create an indelible image of this defining ordeal in America's history. More than 160 of these images—supplemented by preliminary sketches, early studies, and photographs of works in progress—are the basis for this book. Kunstler has also explored the human side of this national struggle. Thus he has produced thoughtful studies of leaders at decisive moments, instances of daily camp life for the soldiers, and those early romantic notions that it would be a bloodless war, predicated on the belief that a show of inner strength would prevail. In the past twenty years, Kunstler's portfolio has been published in twelve books, including companion pieces for the epic films *Gettysburg* and *Glory*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Mort Kunstler is a fine artist who has made the Civil War one of his important areas of work. He is known for the accurate historical detail in his paintings that come from extensive research and careful composition. While they depict historical scenes, these paintings do not duplicate photographs. Remember, at the time of the Civil War photographs took a great deal of time to set up and expose the film. So, the kinds of action scenes and small moments depicted in Kunstler's

work are not scene in most photographs. Yes, he uses photographs of buildings and places to place them in his work, but the composition is all his. While the detail of uniforms, buildings, weapons, and so much else in his work is spot on, you should not think these are mere illustrations of events. His composition, use of light, color, texture, line, and the way our emotions are enlisted show these paintings as important historical artwork. This book not only shows the full paintings, you also get a very interesting article about the composition of the painting, details of the painting in larger format, a bit about the historical event painted, and even some photographs that were helpful to the artist in putting the painting together. You can see the care put into these artistic works when you see these photos and the finished work of art. Pay attention to the horses. K nstler prides himself in his ability to paint horses and I have to say I think his pride is well judged and justified. He also includes some of the sketches and studies he made in preparing to make the final painting. There are more paintings of the Confederate forces and its officers than of the Union and its officers.

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