

## 209 of Thousands

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W. A. Ehren Tool (U.S. Marine Corps)



Stoneware Cups (2012), 48 X 25 X 5 in., 11 rows of 209 cups, Photo Courtesy G. Pellicano

### Description:

The cups are made to remind people about issues of war and violence. They are the only useful scale to talk about such issues. Face to face and hand to hand—share a beverage—and talk about war and violence.



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### Description:

Since my experience in the Marine Corps, I have been wary of the gap between stated goals and actual outcomes. I am most comfortable with the statement “I just make cups.” I’d like to trust that my work speaks for itself, now and over the next five hundred thousand to one million years. Peace is the only adequate war memorial. All other war memorials are failures at best and are usually lies that glorify war. I am compelled to make work that talks about the strange places where military and civilian cultures collude and collide. Since 2001 I have made and given away more than 14,100 cups. I believe the cup is the appropriate scale to talk about war. The cups go into the world hand-to-hand, one story at a time.