

Masked Memories (Combat Paper)

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Giuseppe Pellicano (U.S. Army)



Cast Combat Paper (2012), 11 X 18 X 8 in., From the Combat Paper Project Exhibitions Collection, Washington, DC, digital image courtesy Giuseppe Pellicano

Description:

Masked Memories was created from a mold of a gas mask and paper pulp made from the uniforms of combat veterans. The uniforms possess the memories of war and trauma, and the mask represents the concealment of the veterans' emotions and experiences.

My interest in sculpture stems from my experiences as a soldier. These experiences lead me to search for passionate and creative means of exploring my emotions and beliefs in politics, religion, and psychological distress. I am in agreement with many artists who feel art is not meant to fix problems, but to make others aware that they exist. This awareness may lead to change or at the very least comfort and understanding through conversation.