

Objecta Arboria LXXXVI | Mountain turf, granite, metapelite, acrylic resin on linen | 30 x 33 x 6 cm | 2013-2021 Copyright VG-Bild-Kunst Gregory Sheehan 2025

Initially the Objecta Arboria work derived mainly from canvases which had been cut up and stripped of their original context. The strips were then rearranged and woven into new forms and frames of reference.

Over the past years, access to turf was mainly limited to aircraft-baggage-allowances and so the material was used sparingly — like an expensive, rare pigment.

A motorized visit to Ireland in 2013 enabled the transport of larger amounts of turf, granite, and shale which were collected on the Dublin mountains. Back in the studio, scarcity was replaced by abundance. This profusion had a direct influence on the way this group of work developed.

Avoiding the sheer darkness of the material used, I often found myself adding colour for comfort. The later pieces in the Objecta Arboria series tend to be darker, getting directly to the heart of the matter.

Gregory Seán Sheehan, Göttingen 2025