

**Graphite**  
Cristian Zuzunaga



**kvadrat shade**



### **Graphite**

Type: Roller blind textile

Composition: 100% recycled polyester (recycled textile waste) with cool grey aluminium backing

Solar reflection: 44%

Openness factor: 3%

Colours: 8

Width: 275 cm

*Graphite* is a metallised roller blind textile designed by Cristian Zuzunaga and is the pinnacle of design, innovation, and sustainability. It is the first Kvadrat Shade roller blind textile manufactured with recycled polyester, made entirely from textile waste. Its colours are inspired by the Northern European weather conditions in autumn and winter.

The metallised backing of *Graphite* is a distinctive feature of the Kvadrat Shade textile range. Our metallised textiles typically feature a highly reflective light grey backing, but *Graphite* has a darker backside. This cool grey metallised layer provides a more subtle appearance behind windows, which is often a feature requested by architects. At the same time, *Graphite* offers excellent glare control, minimising harsh light and creating a comfortable and visually balanced indoor environment, while maintaining a good visual contact with the outside. When developing the metallised layer of *Graphite*, Cristian was inspired by urban materials such as asphalt and concrete. Asphalt darkens and mutes when wet, and the same is true of *Graphite*'s metallised backside. On sunny days, the metallised layer takes on a lighter tone. In grey or rainy conditions, it deepens, just like city streets after rainfall.

The textile is named after one of the artist's essential objects, reflecting Cristian's affinity for his pencils and his fascination with stones and minerals. The metallised layer of *Graphite* captures the dynamic, mineral qualities of graphite, subtly shifting its appearance under varying light intensities – much like the reflections and the natural shimmer of minerals like graphite and pyrite. This seamless blend of his creative tools and inspirations brings a unique depth to the name.

*Graphite* is a triumph of collaborative innovation between the R&D team at Kvadrat High Performance Textiles in Eibergen and the Kvadrat Innovation Lab in Ebeltoft. It is made from 100% textile-to-textile recycled polyester yarns. *Graphite* is durable and fully recyclable, contributing to a circular design process that reduces waste. The textile is produced at Kvadrat Weaving and Kvadrat High Performance Textiles, where we ensure the highest quality through our in-house expertise and craftsmanship.

#### **Textile-to-textile recycled polyester**

Textile-to-textile recycled polyester is crafted from textile waste and offers the same performance as virgin polyester. The textile waste is first collected, sorted, and shredded, before being recycled using a depolymerisation technology. It is then purified from any chemicals and dyes, repolymerised into polyester chips and spun into yarn. This circular process closes the loop within the textile lifecycle.

#### **Cristian Zuzunaga**

Cristian Zuzunaga creates innovative work that sits between art, fashion, and design. By examining the symbiotic relationship between analogue and digital technologies, his practice aims to make sense of our place in the world today. He has become best known for his use of pixels, which he describes as "the icon of our time", to create colourful visual landscapes.

Zuzunaga studied Typography and Graphic Design at the London College of Communication and the Royal College of Art in London, before starting and running his own eponymous label, Zuzunaga, from 2010 to 2023. He now works in Bristol, where he recently launched Frankenstein Press, a new printmaking space, gallery, and creative workshop dedicated to his artistic practice, teaching, and meaningful collaborations.

**Kvadrat Shade**

Kvadrat Shade offers an aesthetically outstanding, versatile roller blind solution, which leverages Kvadrat's leadership in textile and design innovation. Crafted with metallised fabrics and creative talents, this enables architects to complete any design theme and optimise visual, acoustic or thermal comfort – or a combination of all three. Reflecting a commitment to longevity, simplicity and premium quality materials, the Kvadrat Shade hardware is designed by the internationally-acclaimed Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec, while Kvadrat produces the textiles. Kvadrat Shade completes this offering with end-to-end expert support that includes the advantages of Kvadrat's global network.

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