

Basic Detail Report

“The Brain of Europe,” 1974.

Date

2021

Primary Maker

Caroline Tisdall

Medium

Archival monoprint

Dimensions

71 × 47 cm

Description

Beuys referred to Ireland as “the Brain of Europe”, an “imagination organ” that could receive and generate new ideas. His blackboard of the same name is based on a diagram of a circle representing the range of political opinion in Ireland that Caroline Tisdall originally sketched for Beuys. The Brain of Europe formed the centre of *Hearth I* (Feuerstatte), an installation at Ronald Feldman Fine Arts, New York, in 1975. He optimistically expressed the range of positions in Northern Ireland as “unity in diversity,” a metaphor he saw echoed in the basalt rocks of the Giant’s Causeway.