Thus, in a first aspect, the present disclosure relates to a method for the preparation of a composite article comprising aerogel particles, graphite and ceramic and/or glass fibers, the method comprising:

- providing a fibrous article comprising ceramic and/or glass fibers,
- providing an aerogel composition comprising an aerogel powder, graphite and an organic solvent,
- combining the fibrous article and the aerogel composition, and
- partially or completely removing the organic solvent to obtain the composite article.

The graphite is preferably used as opacifier and is more preferably used as a synergist in conjunction with other opacifiers.

In another aspect, the present disclosure furthermore relates to a composite article obtainable by the method as disclosed herein.

In addition, the disclosure relates to a composite article comprising aerogel particles, graphite and ceramic and/or glass fibers, wherein the composite article is obtainable by injecting, or impregnating, or soaking an aerogel composition comprising an aerogel powder, graphite and an organic solvent, and optionally further inorganic opacifiers and/or mineral fillers, into a fibrous article comprising ceramic and/or glass fibers, and partially or completely removing the organic solvent to obtain the composite article.

In still a further aspect, the present disclosure relates to a composite article comprising aerogel particles, graphite and ceramic and/or glass fibers, wherein one or more of the following requirements (i) to (vii) are fulfilled:

(i) the composite article contains less than 15% by weight organic compounds;
(ii) at least 50% of the fibers in the composite article have a length of 5 mm or more;
(iii) the composite article contains less than 10% by weight binder;

(iv) the composite article exhibits a total weight loss in thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) when being heated in a nitrogen atmosphere from 30°C to 1100°C with a temperature increase of 10 °C/min of less than 35% by weight;

(v) the weight ratio of the one or more aerogels to the one or more fibers (aerogel/fiber) in the composite article is 1:8 or higher;