



**Neither here nor elsewhere**

Peekskill, New York, 2008

This landscape intervention consists in the creation of 'a garden of displaced weeds', by transplanting a number of weeds within an area located in an *ecotone*, an ecological term that defines a space between two different ecosystems, the forest and the lawn in this case, a place where ecologies are in tension, frequented by a growing number of deers, who graze the area intensively. The term 'weeds' in its general sense is a subjective one, without any classification value, since a 'weed' is not a weed when growing where it belongs or is wanted. In a historical moment characterized overwhelmingly by war, forced displacement, and environmental devastation, the creation of an area of possible disruption might pin-point the social, economical and political factors that produce these conditions.

'Neither here or elsewhere' was the slogan used in one of the largest demonstration in Europe, the 30th of November 2002, against the Centro di Permanenza Temporanea (migrants detention centre) on Corso Brunelleschi in Torino. This protest was conducted under the slogan 'Né qui, né altrove' (Neither here, nor elsewhere), indicating that the protest was a matter of principle, a stance against the system of detention as such and not just against one particular centre. By reivindicating the creation of a 'common' territory, in which non-native species can proliferate, this action becomes 'a right of resistance', where Paolo Virno's in his book 'The Grammar of the Multitude' defines as a practice belonging to a community assembled to defend either certain elements in common or its existence as such from attack by a centralized power. Resistance against the effort to control the migrants mobility, which has become the motor of the capitalist system and the contemporary detention centre appears as one in a long line of administrative mechanisms that function to this end. 'Neither here, nor elsewhere', registers the importance of local mobilizations, but it also signals the necessity to open such struggles to the global dimension.