

The next numbers

The Journal has already scheduled the next four numbers. They will deal with the theme of the "return" which will be referred to four different contexts/situations, which are: *Earth, City, Mountains, and Local economies*. Here the "Return" is not intended as a move towards the past, but much more as the need of "changing direction" and also as a priority project, open to the future and working to overcome the present forms poverty is assuming. Critically questioning history, and territorial history in particular, it would be possible to better understand its sense and the wisdoms that were (and, in our view, still are) able at producing complex, dense, ecologically balanced landscapes.

Back to earth. The issue intended to highlight the actions (and the economic, urban, cultural, social and environmental problems) related to the "counter-exodus" which is taking an small but increasing part of urban populations back to the countryside. This process brings to rediscover the deep value of earth: for food production, for socio-environmental balances, at symbolic level, and for the landscape. The issue will focus on new and old rural worlds, presenting policies and projects for rural re-population, for sustaining the access to land, for promoting multifunctional agriculture, ecosystem services, etc.

Back to the city. The issue deals with the transition from urbanisation without limit and shape to a different, meaningful configuration of cities, to be intended as an objective. The new models can obviously be different from the past, but they could retrieve from that past a way of thinking and acting, along with different temporalities, which are more related to "human scale". It will take into account the emergence of a new "urban effect" developing and enhancing new centres, polycentrism and urban networks while re-configuring urban edges, re-connecting the outside and the inside, developing and sustaining forms of urban agriculture, applying new standards for ecology and rural landscape as well as new forms of management of public and common spaces, etc.

Back to the mountains. The issue is centred on the counter-exodus leading to repopulate those places which are defined as marginal "par excellence": the mountains. It will focus on innovative forms of recovery and integrated use of forest resources, on intermediate forms of ownership "between state and market" (such as "civic uses", "commons", etc.), on the facilities to ensure in order to have resident population, on local economies and the integration with local tourism, etc.

Back to local economies. The issue is about the emergence of new economic paradigms which follow theories of local development, like that of de-growth, new economies of proximity, the idea of new "baskets" of goods and services, which consider all the territorial resources (water, forest, etc.) into the network of local economies, following fair and ethical forms of accounting and investment, etc.
