

## **From a territory in-between**

by Kolar Aparna, Beatrice Catanzaro

We have crossed the boundaries of our fields, to converse in a space where we could listen, dialogue and reflect through the lenses of our experiences – what we call entangling biographies. This journey has been a walk through stories intertwined with our personal lives and with history. An exercise of balance.

“We are all participants”, in the most profound sense. Our journey goes beyond a mere attempt to generate participation around a theme, it addresses the inevitable participation in being and building relations.

We could not stay on the periphery, as observers, but had to immerse ourselves with our world of the imagination, with our lives, and our hopes and defeats. As the alchemist had to enter the mood of the transformation, so did we enter a process that would take us into a journey of understanding and connecting. We were constantly searching for insights in those moments of understanding that take one from the surface into complexity and eventually allow one to see. We moved from “looking at a phenomenon (of migration)”, into speaking from ourselves, as in a game of mirrors, where you suddenly observe yourself from a multiplicity of angles. Then migration and otherness cannot be seen through a simplified lens any more, but unfolds in relations with equal complexity.

“I feel like in Asmara”, Efrem would say, “the mountains, the architecture, street names”. Efrem joined our journey into the unknown territory and shared his insights where we, for him the “other”, would also become as complex as he was to us. And then? Then we ARE.

Dialogue was our main vehicle, a dialogue that would slowly leave behind academic constructions and immerse us in the alchemy of the process: a thin balance between intention and trust. Between holding onto a horizon and yet reverberating with the multiplicity of voices heard and yet-to-be heard.

This work is (grounded in) RELATIONS

Emerging always through inter-actions between one anOther

One is always in relation to the Other

Relations of power

Relations of biographies

Relations of here and there

Relations of affect

Relations of dependencies

Relations of languages

Relations of in/visibility

Relations of trajectories

## RELATIONS OF INTER-ACTING

This work emerges Between actors — witnessing, seeking, travelling, crossing, waiting, connecting, translating, listening, acting, claiming and becoming —

Actors who ARE but ARE NOT

CITIZENS

WHERE?

This work is routed in many places, and yet is located in

BOLZANO

Bolzano as a border place from where one can imagine the future beyond national borders.

Bolzano as a geological metaphor for rethinking identity as a RELATION

Bolzano as a place that moves and relates to many Other places