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*When a mentor departs, there is always the feeling of a dialogue that has been interrupted, a weaving that becomes unraveled, or a cat's cradle (like the one in Donna Haraway's Staying with the Trouble) with a missing loop, a broken string. Though we have no way of filling this gap, we nonetheless think it is necessary to transform it into a space of research and relation, where the dialogue may continue, where the loop may turn into new, extraordinary shapes. For this reason, we have decided to publish two issues of de genere that will explore literature, the visual arts, the body, migrations, sci-fi in a feminist or xenofeminist perspective, among other areas of studies, all within the profound and prolific trace of Lidia Curti's research; two issues, in order to allow – albeit within the restrictive timelines imposed by academia – respect and acknowledgement of the time and rhythms of the scholars that have wished to contribute. To allow ourselves the time to breathe in this moment of loss.*

*Marta Cariello e Serena Guarracino*

*Cover image: Alessandra Cianelli, Seme-Luce*

*Seme-Luce is a still from the video "Dormitio Virginis – grano semi cultura e agricoltura"; it is part of a series of works that Lidia particularly loved and that focused on rural landscape/culture, seeds, madonna-deities, and sleeping beauties, looking at the suspended time of nature and the transition time of cultures in "internal Italy", as it is now known. "Biological Archives, Biographical Archives" is the title of the field research in Irpinia during which Lidia and I truly got to know each other, when her listening, her gaze and her reflections began intersecting and fertilizing my work, as well as my way of inhabiting the world. Simply speaking, living and sharing places, encounters, food, and words.*

*Alessandra Cianelli*

