

## The Mobile Garden

Lois Weinberger

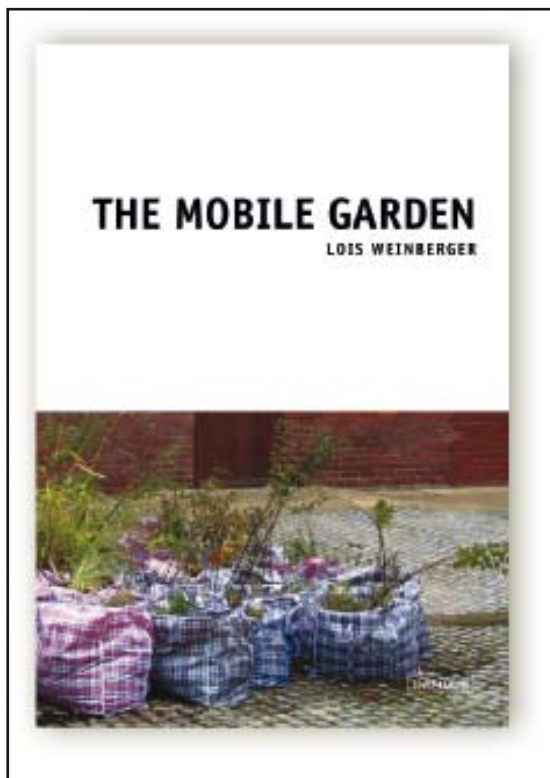
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**The book>>>** Lois Weinberger plays a fundamental role in the art-nature debate: for thirty years now he has been developing the theme of gardening as a possibility of reconciliation between nature and human intervention. His work, in which his wife Franziska has been actively participating since 2003, has much in common with that of Gilles Clément and in particular with the concept of “third landscape” developed by the French garden designer. Known above all for their environmental projects featuring dynamics of spontaneous expansion of the vegetable world in marginal and rundown areas of the urban fabric, the Weinbergers have been committed for years to interventions with high social and political content. In parallel they have gathered together an organic corpus of photos, texts, objects, preparatory drawings and video installations, a part of which now converges in the book edited by Claudia Zanfi. “The Mobile Garden” was developed from a workshop held during Green Island ‘09, one of the side events at the Salone del Mobile in Milan, and from the exhibition “Mobile Gardens” at the Triennial for which Lois created an installation with more than 100 seeds of species on the way to extinction, taken from his “Archive of Memory” which to date includes more than 650. Among the projects documented in the book are “Present, time, space”, created in a dump on the outskirts of Tel Aviv, “Recreation Yards”, for the courtyard of Innsbruck prison, his intervention on the abandoned Kulturbanhof railroad in Kassel for Documenta X, “The edge city”, created with the homeless in Exeter, “Portable gardens”, a metaphor of nomadism and migration, and “Laubreise”, a project presented at the Austrian pavilion during the 53<sup>rd</sup> Venice Biennale of Art.

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**The artist>>>** Lois Weinberger (b. Stams, Tyrol, 1947) lives in Vienna. He has created environmental projects in cities worldwide and presented his works in various European and Japanese museums, winning numerous prizes and acknowledgements. In 1997 he took part in Documenta X. Since 2003 he has been working with his wife Franziska (b. Innsbruck, 1953), an artist and art historian. In 2009 they were selected to represent Austria at the 53<sup>rd</sup> Venice Biennale

