



April 2009 – September 2009

Description of Post-Socialist Russian City

The interdisciplinary platform, Future Faculty jointly organizes a new open end research and design project with Project Russia, the International Rotterdam Architecture Biennale 2009 and the Faculties of Architecture and Industrial Design at the TU Delft:

Micro-Urbanistic interventions within the Post-Socialist Russian city.

Project Description

In this project, students and professionals will collaborate to explore the Russian living environment within pre-fabricated (pre-fab) housing blocks. Conflict and possibility within the collective space will be the main subject for round table discussions accompanied by workshops in both Russia and the Netherlands.

Project Outline

This project will examine post-Socialist housing blocks in Moscow in order to explore possible solutions that can increase the quality of live in this social environment.

At the basis of this is an event-driven process. Students and experts from various backgrounds will come together in intense round-table discussions and one-day workshops within the Netherlands. These events will constitute the practical and theoretical groundwork for understanding communal space of living/housing areas.

The basic knowledge gained in the first part of this program will be adapted and applied to the actual context of post-Socialist Russia during an exploratory 7 day workshop in Moscow. In this period, a particular housing area will be analyzed, and design ideas will be generated in collaboration with Russian students and professionals.

As a final phase of this project – an open debate/seminar and one-day workshop will be hosted by the Rotterdam Architecture Biennale – to reflect/rethink/criticize the acquired experience and open the discourse towards future development and possible application.

Participants are asked to actively take part in the process by suggesting material on subjects they consider relevant for this project, including lectures or seminars (that could be attended “guerilla-style”), documentaries, films, music, etc.

For the first meeting, each participant will be asked to present his/her view on the topic 'What does the collective mean for you?' within 5 minutes.

Results

Results of the project could range from: Proposals, ideas, product concepts, project spin-off ideas, complementary research ideas, new starting points, potential collaborations for further work.

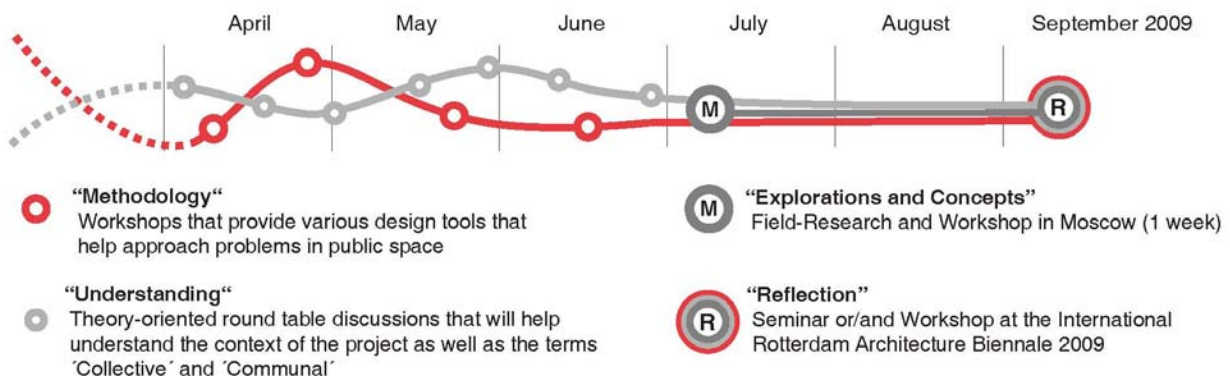
Program

The underlying themes serve to organize and structure the complete program of the project:

April 2009 – June 2009: Roundtable discussions and workshops in the Netherlands

July 2009: International Workshop in Moscow

September 2009: Open debate/seminar and International Workshop in Rotterdam



Active and Recent Projects

In the following paragraphs you will find descriptions of ongoing and completed projects which are part of Future Faculty. This platform is in stages of development.

Future Faculty Platform

(September 2008 – Ongoing)



Future Faculty is an interdisciplinary research and design platform initiated by students. It engages and unifies people from academic, private and governmental practices to work together on understanding problems and generating solutions that are both conceptual and tactile. It gives both students, other academia and external parties the chance to initiate their project that encourages a dynamic exchange outside their own environment. Future Faculty actively targets students to take a more advocate and responsible stance towards their education by developing their projects and learning from these experiences. It will serve as a test bed for new evolutionary educational models.

The Post-Socialist Russian City

(April 2009 – September 2009)



Future Faculty organizes together with Project Russia, the Rotterdam Biennale 2009 and the Faculties of Architecture and Industrial Design at the TU Delft an interdisciplinary project; Micro-Urbanistic interventions in the post socialist city. In this project students and professionals will get together and challenge the mono-functionality and uniformity of public space in pre-fab large scale housing projects. Conflict and possibility within the collective space will be the main subject for round table discussions accompanied by workshops in both Russia and the Netherlands.

(Re)Think and Design Architectural Education

(September 2008 – January 2009)



With the support from the Rector of the TU Delft (Prof.dr. Jacob Fokkema), Future Faculty developed a Master Studio to (re)think and design the new Faculty of Architecture. Results of the master studio were included in the international design competition Building for Bouwkunde, held in December 2008. Alongside the master studio continued research on collaborative education by translating research seminars into architectural practice. At UNStudio a multi-disciplinary theory seminar was given by ir. Dr. Leslie Kavanaugh and was joined by professionals, BSc-, MSc- and PhD students.

International Workshop and Lectures Series, Venice Biennale 2008

(September 2008)



In collaboration with the NAI, the TU Delft and the architectural firm Stealth UIttd., Future Faculty organized an international workshop and lecture series "Future Faculty" that was part of the Dutch contribution for the 11th International Architecture Exhibition. Invited speakers gave their opinion on architectural education for the 21st century. In the workshops international students and professionals envisioned future architectural educational models. Results were used in the final debate, for the international publication "ArchiPhoenix" and further academic research.