



**10 July – 12 July 2009**

**READING FOR WORKSHOP AT ARCHPOLE**

In preparation for the workshop in Moscow design office ARCHPOLE held a roundtable discussion on micro-interventions in the context of Moscow suburbia. As local architects, we want to emphasize a real world approach during the workshop at ARCHPOLE.

In Russia, workshops such as this unfortunately have almost no chance to realistically impact the city situation, since investors' main interest is to earn as much as possible with least financial input. Aesthetics and community are the least of concerns, the results surround us. How can the workshop offer something truly realizable and have an impact in Moscow?

As architects we think not only of the planning, functionality & aesthetics of the project, but also of what is required to make it happen. What can make ordinary citizens who don't care about design want to invest in it? The key is to offer a business system that will bring profit. If this system is also beautiful and community building, it becomes a real and positive intervention.

Thus we have come to the idea of *artifact*:

Artifact (n): *a micro architecture capable of transforming life in the neighborhood.*

A business structure that would attract private capital. An optimal form easily reproduced across several locations in town, the spread of which would be profitable for its investors. A multiple intervention into the Microrayons that builds local interaction & enhances its immediate surroundings. A synergy of good design, function and business. A design intervention on a city scale.

To begin thinking on what this could be, *artifact* will be the theme of our upcoming ARCHPOLE\_Friday session. This is a weekly evening run by ARCHPOLE to present & discuss design ideas with all willing participants. We also present ideas that are emailed in by those who can't make it in person.

We would like the Future Faculty participants to get involved in this Friday to help generate ideas and get the most out of their short stay at ARCHPOLE the coming week.

We welcome emailed ideas in the form of sketches and/or light renders, with a presentation format 2480x1048 pixels. During the workshop's time at ARCHPOLE, the ideas will be developed into models for an exhibition in the city. On Monday all who joined in will get feedback, as well as a catalogue from the evening.

ARCHPOLE will offer to host this three days of the workshop to generate a solid output for the final presentations of the Future Faculty workshop.