public works:

A proposal to collectively develop a sustainable network for speaking, listening, discussing, doing and therefore learning about architecture. In short: a rhizomatic school.

What next:

To continue the Engaged and Enraged Friday Sessions on architectural education.

public works is an East London based art and architecture practice with a national and international track record of developing and delivering collaborative public realm concepts.

As an interdisciplinary practice public works is involved in architectural production in a number of ways:

- developing and experimenting with modes and methodologies of spatial production
- making, shaping and designing space
- teaching architecture
- organising and taking part in peer group and public debate
- publishing.

In 2005 public works started the Friday Sessions as an informal format for presentation and exchange related to current matters of architecture, art, design and planning. The Sessions continue since, and have become an important space for presenting and discussing ideas related to architectural production in a practice driven and non-institutional context.

On Friday 1st April 2011 the 45th Friday Session “Engaged and Enraged” took place, as the start for a more public debate on architectural education. The need and idea for such a session came out of multiple discussions with colleagues and students who are very actively and constructively involved in thinking, developing, practicing, studying and teaching architecture. The engagement is driven by a concept of architecture which can see, allow and support spatial production that is developed, delivered and used by many.
The engagement is fuelled by the dominance of an architecture that is confined by its single-authored, formal and physical components.

This proposal is submitted by all those who attended the Friday Session. (see list of names below).

The proposal is to use the publicness of the competition and the possible financial support to continue, extend and publish the sessions.

As a format and methodology the Friday Sessions believe in the pedagogy of everyday practice, thinking whilst doing and non-hierarchical exchange.

Public works is networked with other practitioners and initiatives with similar ambitions, with the aim to work towards a rhizomatic school, where people do what they do and bring this into the network for further debate and action.

Participants in the 45th Friday Session

Ruth Morrow, Andreas Lang, Torange Khonsari, Trenton Oldfield, Andrea Placidi, Emily Crompton, Sara Thor, Fiona Mac Donald, Daniel Lobo, Rachel Hill, Ivan Redi, Pol Gallagher, Sandra Denicke Polcher, Lara Gibson, Julia Dayer, Katy Beinart, Luisa Aimea, Agnieszka Mlicka, Esme Fieldhouse, Helena Webster, Bethany Wells, Alex Warnock-Smith, Elena Pascolo, Colin Priest, Ro Spankie, Gibert Richards, Emma Cummings & Vilma Marques, Kathrin Böhm (and more whose names weren’t captured).

This proposal is also on behalf of other collaborators and partners in this ongoing and networked exchange about architecture and spatial production

This Is Not A Gateway, London
atelier autogeree d’architecture, Paris
Agency, School of Architecture, Sheffield
Support Structure, Celine Condorelli, London
networked cultures, Vienna
Concrete Geometries Cluster, Architectural Association, School of Architecture, London
Rotor, Association for contemporary Art, Graz
Institute for Independent Urbanism, Park Fiction, Hamburg
ASF-UK, London
IBAI Lectures, recycart, Brussels
26 10 South Architects, Johannesburg
City(m)ined, Brussels
ISPARA, Berlin