• Heathcote's (great) take on the Venice Biennale: "an exuberant display of architectural anxiety. It is by turns witty, surprising, impressive, banal...a provocation about the diminishing influence of the architect - a brilliant and frustrating show."

• Glancy talks to the cheerleaders and the nay-sayers re: the second "Guggenheim invasion" of Helsinki: "To see Helsinki become a kind of dumping ground for 'global brands'...and, now, on modest means, to fund an American art foundation with an unsure record of success overseas is, indeed, somewhat bizarre."

• Paletta ponders Brutalism's need for its own "Penn Station moment," but "in the absence of such a moment, the greatest need for Brutalism is likely not buildings that die spectacularly but that simply live effectively" (great read).

• British residents of many post-war prefab bungalows are not happy at the prospect of seeing them torn down.

• Wainwright x 2: he cheers "social housing stars who really know what makes a city tick - crafting a future for London housing of simple, robust and generous new homes."

• He also cheers the 10-day International Architecture Showcase that is reviving the 1951 Festival of Britain energy, "dreaming up plans for east London estates."

• King has high hopes for Piano's "new gig": a suburban shopping center. It may sound "preposterous," but "the everyday nature of the commission is what makes it important, oddly heroic."

• Ransford calls for a change to Vancouver's "arbitrary rules" regulating the minimum size of dwelling units that "seem to defy both what has been successful and what many people are looking for."

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In Chinatown, Remembering the Origins of a 126-Year-Old Synagogue: A permanent exhibition...on the ground floor of the landmark Eldridge Street Synagogue, which is home both to K'hal Adath Jeshurun, the Orthodox congregation that built it, and to the Museum at Eldridge Street...simultaneously dense with artifacts and relatively small...appealing combination... By David W. Dunlap -- Kiki Smith/Deborah Gan (2007); Archimuse [images] - New York Times

Phyllis Lambert: The recipient of this year’s Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at the Venice Biennale discusses her career, Mies, the state of contemporary architecture, why she founded he Canadian Centre for Architecture (CCA)...her influential life in architecture. By Christopher Turner - Icon (UK)

Five Letters Are Driving Chicago Out of Its Mind: If Chicago sees Donald Trump as a threat, does that mean it takes its architecture too seriously? What might be greeted as a nuisance in many other cities has hit Chicago as an almost spiritual insult...where was it when the Prentice came down? Would things have gone differently had Trump been driving the wrecking ball? By Kriston Capps - CityLab (formerly The Atlantic Cities)

Philips Recreates NYC’s Times Square In A Moscow Mall: ...installed a mix of connected LED façade lights, light panels and HD-screens into the interiors of the VEGAS Crocus City mall. [images] - DesignTAXI

Selfies from around the world used to cover up scaffolding on Paris Pantheon: A mosaic of black and white portraits will canvas renovations and scaffolding...while the iconic building undergoes extensive restorations. [images] - Architecture & Design (Australia)

Call for entries/Call for Nominations: 2014 ADPSR Lewis Mumford Awards (international); people or organizations that are working to further peace, environmental protection, ecological building, social justice, and the development of healthy communities, and who may have been under recognized in the past; deadline: June 30 - Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility (ADPSR)

Call for entries: Paradise Lost, Paradise Found: Smart Tourism: proposals, ideas, information, projects and papers from the fields of architecture/design, planning, culture, environment, etc.; deadline: July 31 - ANCB The Metropolitan Laboratory / Aedes Network Campus Berlin

*MVRDV Buildings* by Ilka Ruby & Andreas Ruby (editors): ...a highly accomplished and quietly radical monograph that sums up the work of controversial Dutch architects - not by showing their buildings as objects but by portraying life as it's lived within them...this is not your dime a dozen architectural monograph.

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