• Heathcote has a heavenly time at the Tate's Switch Building that seems to have "sucked the power of the past up from below ground to create...an intriguing cocktail of rough and comfortable, tough and inviting."

• Baillieu bemoans that she probably "won't feel the same shiver of excitement" as she did when the Tate Modern opened in 2000 - it now seems "like the end of an era and a last blast for the expensive icon."

• Wynn explains why cities should stop building "concrete culture" like museums and stadiums that usually end up as "bad deals and bad policy," and focus on festivals instead ("and maybe a building will follow").

• Jacobs delves into the machinations, bargains, and trade-offs that went into transforming Saarinen's landmarked Bell Labs into a New Urbanist hub (sort of).

• The Watergate Hotel "embraces its scandalous past" with a renovation that makes it "Don Draper's kind of place" (uniforms by "Mad Men" costume designer included - we'll take the rooftop bar!).

• Great Q&A with Sadik-Khan re: insights from "Street Fight": "Work with the streets and the budgets you've got. When you change that street, you change that city. When you change that city, you change the world."

• Cheers all around and pedestrians abound on Sydney's elevated The Goods Line, where the "level of occupation is noteworthy - in stark contrast to nearby Barangaroo's headland park."

• Meanwhile in Melbourne, the government is seeking design ideas for an "urban oasis" as part of the Chandler Highway upgrade (link to the EOI).

• RIBA joins the Global Alliance for Urban Crises "to offer the international humanitarian and development community with a more effective mechanism to harness its members' collective expertise."

• King reports that San Francisco's agency for bay development is taking sea-level rise seriously by taking "assertive new steps."

• Hosey has a field day imagining "Trumpstown" - a "yuuuge domed complex created, not for the 'undesirable's, but the people trying to flee from them."

• George Smart's smart move to align North Carolina Modernist Houses with Hanley Wood to launch the Colossus Architecture Magazine Archive - the "largest digital resource of architectural magazines" - many out of print (we got a sneak-peek - wow - worth it just for the vintage ads!).

• Schumacher reflects on "three wholly original and empowering 'discoveries' that Zaha gifted to our discipline."

• The Venice Biennale is upon us: PLAN-E's "Time Space Existence" collateral exhibition includes Denise Scott Brown's "crucial advice for all budding architects": "I've done a great deal of fighting...Seek ye the political kingdom and all shall be given to ye."

• "LifeObject" at the Israel Pavilion is a fascinating "study of the relationship between biology and architecture," such as "employing cancer treatment techniques to deal with urban densification."

• Zaera-Polo is suing Princeton for causing "substantial damage" to his business and reputation (2014 Biennale involved).

• Eyefuls of Canada's Governor General's Medals in Architecture (great presentations!).

• Harvard GSD awards this year's $100,000 Wheelwright Prize to Anna Puigjaner for "Kitchenless City: Architectural Systems for Social Welfare."

• Call for entries: AIA launches second Look Up Film Challenge.
Patrick Schumacher: Zaha's incredible moves: [He] reflects on the startling curves and audacious moves that made Zaha Hadid's work so compelling and daringly new to the profession: ...Zaha had expanded architecture's universe of possibilities...unprecedented solutions...I would like to focus on three wholly original and empowering 'discoveries' that Zaha gifted to our discipline. - DesignCurial / Blueprint Magazine (UK)

"Time Space Existence": Denise Scott Brown’s Crucial Advice for All Budding Architects and Urban Planners: "I've done a great deal of fighting...to make buildings useful and beautiful, and in that order"...[she] gives some advice to young women architects. "Seek ye the political kingdom and all shall be given to ye"... [video - part of PLANE-SITE's Biennale collateral exhibition]- Architizer

LifeObject: Israel Pavilion at the 2016 Venice Biennale to Study the Relationship Between Biology and Architecture: ...will focus on the relationship between biology and architecture...with examples ranging from using nano-materials to naturally control transparency...to employing cancer treatment techniques to deal with urban densification. -- Bnaya Bauer, Arielle Blonder, Noy Lazarovich [images]- ArchDaily

Alejandro Zaera-Polo sues Princeton for 'damaging his reputation': Architect files papers claiming he has missed out on 'lucrative and prestigious' work...causing "substantial damage" to his business and reputation. - BD/Building Design (UK)

In the Public Interest: Governor General’s Medals in Architecture: 12 winners are entirely institutional, government and commercial projects. -- Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC); Canada Council for the Arts; Paul Laurendeau Architect/Beauchesne Architecture Design; Hensworth Architecture; Stantec Architecture/KPMB Architects/HDR Architecture/Diamond Schmitt Architects; Sturgess Architecture; Fower Bauld & Mitchell; PLANT Architect/Perkins+Will Canada (formerly Shore Tilbe Irwin & Partners); MacLennan Jaunkalns Miller Architects; MGA | Michael Green Architecture; ABCP architecture/Anne Carrier architecture; Patkau Architects/LM Architectural Group; Shim-Sutcliffe Architects [images]- Canadian Architect magazine

Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD) names this year’s Wheelwright Prize winner: Anna Puigjaner’s winning submission...Kitchenless City: Architectural Systems for Social Welfare, explores collective dwelling and new ways of living to combat the affordable housing issues around the world. -- MAIO Studio- The Architect's Newspaper

Call for entries: AIA Kicks Off Second Look Up Film Challenge: ...calls for short pieces about the impact of architecture; cash prizes; registration deadline: July 10 (submissions due August 14)- Architect Magazine

Herzog & de Meuron: Blavatnik School of Government, Oxford, U.K.: ...creates an unapologetically contemporary addition to the streetscape, holding its own against the neoclassical stone portico of Oxford University Press...Yet one traditional marker of scholarly life is missing: a library...The building's materiality is surprisingly traditional in appearance, though stunningly detailed. By Alice Haugh [images]