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Cover: A carved greenstone pendant plaque of a human head from the Maya site of Ucanal in Guatemala. The plaque, possibly reworked from an heirloom Olmec-style pendant, and other objects were recovered from a Late Classic royal tomb, re-entered and ritually closed by a burning event in the early Terminal Classic (early ninth century AD). The authors argue this ritual marked a revolutionary moment through which the K'anwitznal polity reinvented itself. For more information, see 'A pivot point in Maya history: fire-burning event at K'anwitznal (Ucanal) and the making of a new era of political rule' by C. Halperin, M. Perea Carrera, K. Miller Wolf & J.-B. LeMoine in this issue (photograph by C. Halperin).

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