Prof. Jonathan Culler (Cornell University)

Jonathan Culler is Class of 1916 Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Cornell University. He holds degrees from Harvard University and Oxford University, and he has taught at Cambridge University, Yale University, and the École Normale Supérieure in Paris. Well known for the remarkable clarity, economy, and quality of his expositions of literary and cultural theory, Professor Culler is the author of Structuralist Poetics: Structuralism, Linguistics, and the Study of Literature, On Deconstruction, and Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction. His book, Barthes: A Very Short Introduction, provides one of the best short studies of Barthes currently available. His most recent book, Theory of the Lyric, was published this past May. Professor Culler has served as President of the American Comparative Literature Association, and he is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society. He also serves on the Editorial Board of Barthes Studies, an open access journal published by Cardiff University.

Organizing Committee
Madeline Campbell, Gloria Cejudo, Jessica Cordova, Thea Diklich-Newell, Michael Farkas, Laura Gagliardi, Leah Ginty, Kaitlyn Quaranta, Roser Lopez Cruz, Mario Lorenzo, Heather Sanders, Matteo Venieri

Faculty Advisers
Prof. Mattia Acetoso, Prof. Larysa Smirnova

Special Thanks
Prof. Kevin Newmark, Prof. Franco Mormando, Joanna Doyle

Language is Never Innocent
Roland Barthes at Boston College
November 13-14, 2015
Stokes Hall Auditorium (S195)

“Barthes in America/America in Barthes”
Keynote address by
Jonathan Culler, Cornell University
CONFERENCE PROGRAM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

5:00PM OPENING REMARKS
Kevin Newmark (Boston College)

5:15PM “Barthes in America/America in Barthes”
Keynote Address by Jonathan Culler
(Cornell University)

6:00PM REFRESHMENTS
Free and Open to the Public

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

9:00AM A Society of Signs: Uncovering Today’s Myths
Moderator: Gloria Cejudo

Anick Boyd (CUNY)
“Mythologies of Tragedy: Recovering Meaning Through Barthes”

Ivana Durovic (CUNY)
“The Migrant Myth”

Jamie Monterroso (The New School)
“Barthes in a Post-Colonial Guatemala: Dismantling the National Hero”

10:30AM Between deuil and bonheur: Uncovering Today’s Myths 2
Moderator: Heather Sanders

Kaitlyn Quaranta (Boston College)
“Dresses and Children: the Myth of Domestic Happiness in Varda’s Le Bonheur”

Matthew Rodriguez (Harvard University)
“Writing to Death: Mourning Light and New Forms in Journal de deuil, La Préparation du roman, and La Chambre claire”

2:00PM Where is Desire? The Shaping of Love Discourse
Moderator: Thea Diklich-Newell

Anne-Gabrielle Roussel (Brown University)
“A Lover’s discourse: Barthes’ Camp Affirmation”

Laura Gagliardi (Boston College)
“Pier Vittorio Tondelli’s Camere Separate through the Lexicon of Roland Barthes”

Dalila Colucci (Harvard University)
“Roland Barthes, Japan and l’utopie de l’écriture”

3:30PM The Fruitfulness of Death: New Readings on Struggling Categories
Moderator: Madeline Campbell

Ryan Todd (University of Pennsylvania)
“Literature as Struggle: Variations on The Death of the Author”

William M. Burton (Columbia University)
“Barthes and Moses: The Critic as Prophet of the End of Literature”

Geraldine Monterroso (Cornell University)
“After Roland Barthes: The Subject in Ricardo Piglia’s Diary”

5:00PM FINAL ROUNDTABLE
Roundtable with a Response to Jonathan Culler’s Keynote by Larysa Smirnova (Boston College)

6:00PM CLOSING REMARKS
Mattia Acetoso (Boston College)