Dr. Thomas Connolly is a professor at Yale University. He obtained his BA in Modern Languages from the University of Oxford in 2002. He spent three years at the École normale supérieure (Ulm) as “élève de la Sélection internationale,” and completed a “Maitrise” and a “DEA” at the Université de Paris IV – La Sorbonne. He received a PhD in Comparative Literature from Harvard University in May 2012.

Professor Connolly is completing a book entitled Unfinished Poetics: Reading Poetry, Reading Celan, which attempts to formulate new modes of reading in the “sous-oeuvre,” the unauthorized, incomplete, and often overlooked elements of an author’s textual production. His new research project examines literary ekphrasis as it operates in cultures in which there has traditionally been a prohibition on representative images, focusing on Maghrebi Francophone poetry.
Friday, October 14th, 2016
East Pyne 010

9h00 – 9h30: Welcome Breakfast

9h30 – 11h15: The Francophone world looks back
Brahim El Guabli, chair
Valentine Meydit-Gianonni, Paris IV Sorbonne
“Opaque is the new bright? The Inquisition of the transparency - history, evolution and questioning in Western and world literature, Michaux and Glissant”
Lucie Dubail, University of Kansas
“Assia Djebar, l’Amour, la Fantasia entre voilement et dévoilement”
Karine Belizar, University of Delaware

11h15 – 12h15: Lunch

12h30 – 14h15: Photography, Modernity, and Literature
Lindsey Richter, chair
Julien Defraeye, Université de Waterloo
“Que nous dit la photographie de Paris ? : Ekphrasis et mensonge chez Philippe Delerm”

14h30 – 16h15: Poetic Visions
Macs Smith, chair
Jill Owen, Indiana University – Bloomington
“The Bedroom as Portrait-Miroir: Ekphrasis, Balzac’s Bedrooms and Impressionism in the 19th Century”
Raphaëlle Décloître, McGill University
“Les errances de l’écriture : Thomas de Saluces et l’allégorie”
Liesl Yamaguchi, Princeton University
“Nothing But Nuance: On Paul Verlaine”

16h30 – 18h00: Keynote Address
Thomas C. Connolly, Yale University
“Televisions, Burials, and Barzakh: Afterimages of Aniconism in North African Lyric.”

18h15 – 19h00: Reception, East Pyne 305