Eros and *poesis*: Towards a Language of Seduction in Eighteenth-Century Spain

This presentation takes a look at the language of rococo eroticism in eighteenth-century Spain, tying European visual and decorative arts — the paintings of Boucher, Fragonard, and Watteau; architectural styles and *objets d’art* — with the poetic production of authors such as José Cadalso and Juan Meléndez Valdés. This language, and the class determined cultural habits it signified, marked a radical shift away from frivolity, innocence and playfulness towards a paganized and dark (if joyous) corruption from which there was no turning back.