THE CAROLINA-DUKE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN GERMAN PRESENTS A GERMAN IN DIALOGUE TALK:

This talk will focus on the destruction of Germany by the Allies, seen in heretofore unpublished photographs taken in 1945-6. The talk will pose the question, among others, of how the gaze is constructed to view these photos of disaster, and of the enemy, seventy years later.

François Meltzer (Chair of the Department of Comparative Literature and Professor in the Divinity School and the College, University of Chicago) specializes in French and German literature and critical theory. She is co-editor of Critical Inquiry and author of Seeing Double: Baudelaire’s Modernity; For Fear of the Fire: Joan of Arc and the Limits of Subjectivity; The Trials of Psychoanalysis; Satoms and the Dance of Writing; Portraits of Mimesis in Literature; and Hot Property: The Stakes and Claims of Literary Originality. She has just completed a book on photographic, painterly and textual descriptions of the bombing of Germany in 1945.

Annabel Wharton (William B. Hamilton Professor of Art History, Duke University) was Vincent Scully Visiting Professor of Architectural History at the Yale School of Architecture in 2015. Focusing on Late Ancient and Byzantine art and culture as well as on modernity, often in combination, she is author of Building the Cold War: Hilton International Hotels and Modern Architecture, Selling Jerusalem: Relics, Replicas, Theme Parks, and Architectural Agents: The Delusional, Abusive, Addictive Lives of Buildings. She is currently working on a new book project on the agency of models—conceptual and material, analog and digital.