"When the poet Luis Cernuda flees Spain in February of 1938, he has no idea that he will never again set foot on his native land. In exile in England, his former lover finds him a disheartening job that only intensifies his feelings of bitterness and despair: caring for 3,800 refugee children who have also fled to England after the city of Bilbao fell to Franco’s army.”

"The critic Harold Bloom, in his book Genius, calls Cernuda a “saint” of the art of poetry, comparing him in this aspect to Emily Dickinson and Paul Celan. Federico García Lorca famously complained, shortly before his death in 1936, that Cernuda’s poems set a maddening standard of sublimity”.

Eloy Urroz is the author of The Obstacles and Friction, both available from Dalkey Archive Press, along with several other volumes of poetry and literary criticism. He was one of the authors of the “Crack Manifesto,” a statement by five Mexican writers dedicated to breaking with the pervading Latin American literary tradition. Born in New York in 1967, Urroz is currently a professor at The Citadel in South Carolina, where he teaches 20th century Latin American Literature, 20th century Spanish Poetry, and Creative Writing.

Ezra E. Fitz began his literary life at Princeton University, studying under the tutelage of James Irby, C.K. Williams, and Jonathan Galassi. His senior thesis was described by the late Robert Fagles as "a heartening manifesto" on the art of translation. Since then, he has worked with Grammy winning musician Juanes, Emmy winning journalist Jorge Ramos, and the king of soccer himself, Pelé. His translations of contemporary Latin American literature by Alberto Fuguet and Eloy Urroz have been praised by The New York Times, The Washington Post, The New Yorker, and The Believer, among other publications. His work has appeared in The Boston Review, Harper’s Magazine, Words Without Borders, and The Brooklyn Quarterly, he has been awarded grants from the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Mexican National Fund for Culture and Arts (FONCA), and he was a 2010 Resident at the Banff International Literary Translation Centre in Alberta, Canada.

The Morning Side of the Hill is his first novel.

Thursday, September 28, 2017
6:00-7:00, Olin 011 (reception to follow in Laminan Lounge)

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