Many topics studied in the arts and humanities can be studied as complex systems, specifically as networks of interacting components. After a brief overview of the use of networks in the arts and humanities, the presentation explores the early development of the iconography of Saint Francis as a network. As with other networks of sufficient complexity, this iconographic network demonstrates properties and emergent behaviors similar to those of other complex systems, specifically food webs. The talk concludes with a general discussion of the exciting opportunities for multidisciplinary research in networks, complex systems, and the arts and humanities.

Dr. Thomas Lombardi is an assistant professor of Computing and Information Studies at Washington and Jefferson College. He studies networks and their application to the arts and humanities.

For more information, contact Hiroki Sayama (sayama@binghamton.edu)
http://coco.binghamton.edu/