The Center for Global Education, in conjunction with the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, hosted Villa Lobos and Friends, our Fall Gala Concert on November 12, 2014. This concert marked the official launch of CUA’s Brazil Year Initiative. The program of performers included Catholic University’s most acclaimed professors and graduate students. We were honored to have João Paulo Figueirôa as well as Jose Ramos Santana perform at the concert gala. Santana, a member of the piano faculty at Catholic, is an acclaimed pianist who has appeared with major orchestras as the New York Philharmonic and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra of London. Figueirôa is a professor of guitar studies and one of the most influential classical guitarists from Brazil, with appearances at The Kennedy Center and Sal do Coro do Teatro Castro Alves. The student performers were Chun-Ting Chao, a graduate vocal performance student, and Rodrigo Vasco, a Fulbright second year graduate student. The program included compositions by Egberto Gismonti, Sergio Assad, Heitor Villa Lobos, Ernani Braga and Jayme Ovalle.