In 1958, after viewing a performance of Chekhov’s The Cherry Orchard, George F. Kennan (1904-2005), America’s most famous foreign policy strategist, confided in his diary that the play “stirred up my Russian self, which is more genuine than the American one – and I sat there blubbering like a child and trying desperately to keep the rest of the company from noticing it.” Here was the author of the containment doctrine, America’s lodestar in the Cold War, feeling more Russian than American. Here, moreover, was a spokesman for reason in foreign relations struggling to hide his own intense feelings. Costigliola’s talk, in keeping with the “emotional turn” in historical scholarship, explores how Kennan’s passions influenced his attitudes toward Russia and the United States – and the course of the Cold War.