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The American Corner Innsbruck cordially invites you to the talk

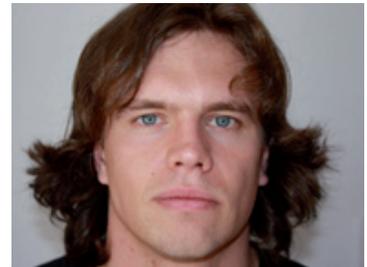
New Western Films

by Mag. Robert Spindler

Independent (Hobby) Filmmaker and Lecturer

Wednesday, 14 April 2010, 7.00 p.m.
 Room 50105/2 (Bruno-Sander-Haus, 1st floor)

The Western is a film genre of superlatives and paradoxes. It is the oldest narrative film genre of all and has produced some of the worst and some of the greatest films of all times. No other genre combines such genre limitations with such great variation. It once was the most popular of genres but now might well be the least popular. It has been declared dead several times – but is still breathing, faintly, that is, if one watches closely. And this is exactly what I did: I analyzed and studied almost every major film production that came out after the year 2000 and that can be defined as a Western, even in the remotest sense. Most of these films require a makeshift subgenre specification such as “Neo-Western,” “Post-Western,” or “Pro-Western.” The more prototypical ones of the last decade are only a fistful of films. In my talk I will analyze a selection of these films to demonstrate where the recent Western stands in relation to its predecessors and speculate on the current state and on the future of the Western genre and what this could tell us about American society at present.



Mag. Robert Spindler is an independent (hobby) filmmaker and lecturer at the Department of American Studies. His diploma thesis focused on deconstruction and nostalgia in recent Westerns. In 2008, Robert Spindler won the audience award at the student film festival “Filmriss” in Salzburg for his feature-length film “McFinnen & Wallace.” He is currently working on his PhD thesis “Screening Gawain: Refashioning of a Medieval Hero” and a short film project “The Fencers.”



Looking forward to welcoming you to this ACI event,

Univ.-Prof. Mag. Dr. Gudrun M. Grabher
 Director, American Corner Innsbruck