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The American Corner Innsbruck cordially invites you to the talk

Consumption and Communion in a Changing South: Food and Feasting in the Fiction of Thomas Wolfe, Eudora Welty and Writers of the Next Generations

by Univ.-Prof. Dr. Waldemar Zacharasiewicz
University of Vienna

Wednesday, 26 May 2010, 7.00 p.m.
 Room 50109 / Seminarraum 3 (Bruno-Sander-Haus, 1st floor)

The lecture will consider significant differences in the extensive descriptions of food eaten in the fiction of Thomas Wolfe and Eudora Welty. It will relate the contrast between individual or communal consumption to formative experiences in their youths. It will interpret their renditions of individual or collective enjoyment of regional foods as tributes to eating habits and culinary practices which are today under severe threat by the spread of fast food restaurants in the South. Wolfe's and Welty's retrospective renditions of home-made dishes and delicacies are also correlated to the nostalgic or critical recovery of regional culinary arts and rituals in the fiction of Southern women writers of subsequent generations (for instance, Anne Tyler, Bobbie Ann Mason, and Gail Godwin).



Univ.-Prof. Dr. Waldemar Zacharasiewicz is a professor of American Studies and director of the Canadian Studies Centre at the University of Vienna, a member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, and vice president of the International Society of Travel Writing. His research areas include the literature and culture of the American South, imagology and travel literature, Canadian fiction, and ethnic voices in North America. He has numerous publications in this field, one of the more recent ones is *Transatlantic Exchanges: The American South in Europe – Europe in the American South* (2007) co-edited by him.



Looking forward to welcoming you to this ACI event,

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