



UNIVERSITÄT DES SAARLANDES

Multicultural Americas

Dr. des. René Dietrich Justus-Liebig-University Giessen

N. Scott Momaday's

The Way to Rainy Mountain:
Survivance Strategies and the Power of the Word in Indigenous Life Writing

Tuesday, January 11, 2011 12.15 pm Building C 5.1, Musiksaal

The Way to Rainy Mountain (1969) by N. Scott Momaday, Pulitzer Prize winner 1970, is a prime example of indigenous life writing from the "Native American Renaissance" period. The work does not only depict the rise and decline of a Great Plains Native American people, but at the same time sketches its ongoing strategies in a struggle of ,survivance' (survival + resistance) against a US colonial rule which claims absolute power over life and death. For Momaday, a particular strength in this struggle arises from being aware of the subversive power of the word, and of literature.

