



Woodrow Wilson
International
Center
for Scholars



**The Brazil Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for
Scholars and the Brazilian Embassy in Washington**

Invite you to a seminar on

*Brazilian Cultural Identity: Shaped or Limited by
Language?*

Wednesday, November 3, 2010 – 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars
6th Floor Moynihan Board Room

RSVP (Acceptances only): james.hodges@wilsoncenter.org

Speakers: **Cristovão Tezza**, Federal University of Paraná; **Marçal Aquino**, Journalist;
Luiz Ruffato, Author; **Vivaldo Santos**, Department of Spanish and Portuguese,
Georgetown University
Moderator: **Paulo Sotero**, Brazil Institute, Woodrow Wilson Center

Surrounded by 10 Spanish-speaking neighbors, Brazil is the sole country in the Americas that speaks Portuguese. How has Brazil's relative linguistic isolation influenced the development of the country's strong cultural identity? As Brazil rises in the international scene, should we expect the country to export its culture abroad beyond music and soap operas? How do Brazilian writers view the exposure of their work around the world?

Portuguese is more spoken today as a native language than French, German, Italian or Japanese and is present in every continent. Notwithstanding the reach of their language and the quality of their work, Portuguese speaking writers' participation in the global editorial market remains modest. What could be hindering the projection of such talent? Why does there seem to be little thirst for Brazilian literature abroad, especially when compared to the interest sparked by other Brazilian cultural manifestations?

Four renowned Brazilian writers and scholars will discuss how the Brazilian cultural identity is shaped by its language, as well as the challenge the nation faces to add this rich dimension of the national culture to its international image.

For more information on the Brazil Institute, visit www.wilsoncenter.org/brazil
Woodrow Wilson Center – 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. - Washington, DC 20004