

GOURMAND
World Media Awards
2005



PRESS RELEASE
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Council of Europe Book Wins Best in the World at Gourmand Awards

On May 20, 2006, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the book "*Culinary Cultures of Europe, identity, diversity and dialogue*" received the award for "Best in the World for Culinary History". It is edited by Darra Goldstein and Kathrin Merkle, and published by Council of Europe Publishing Division of the Communication and Research Directorate. The book is available in French or English.

The text of the book is written by 40 authors from the 40 member countries of the Council of Europe. Among them, some have won in the past their own Gourmand Award :

Velajko Barbieri from Croatia
Henry Notaker from Norway
Janez Bogataj from Slovenia
Heather Hay Ffrench from the United Kingdom, etc.....

"There is nothing trivial about food: the study of culinary culture and its history provides an insight into broad social, political and economic changes in society. The present collection of essays reflects many of the important transitions through which 40 European countries have passed, and in this sense, it is a history book. It is also a colourful celebration of an enormously rich part of our cultural heritage.

The tastes and smells of a country's traditional table are a meaningful route to an important part of its collective memory, accessible to everyone. Food is also one of the simplest and most direct ways to promote multicultural understandin. This book offers an excellent insight into the meaning of food culture and will be of interest to anyone who wishes to explore the diversity of our European cultural heritage.

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“We have ever identified our neighbours and friends by their culinary customs: here, in one book, is a groundbreaking study, bringing to one table the infinity of dishes that make Europe today”- Tom Jaine, Publisher.

The past winners of **Best in the World** in this category of **Best Culinary History Book** are:

1996	Australia – Jean Paul Bruneteau (Harper Collins)
1997	France – Anthony Rowley (Hachette)
1998	France – J.L.Flandrin, C.Lambert (Imprimerie Nationale)
1999	UK – Alan Davidson (Oxford University Press)
2000	Sweden – Carl Jan Granqvist Ingrid Nilsson (Fargspelet)
2001	UK – Elisabeth Luard (MCP)
2002	UK – Colin Spencer (Grub Street)
2003	Australia – C.Murphy (Wakefield Press)
2004	France – G.Fumey, O.Etxeberria (Autrement)

Complete information on the Gourmand Awards will be published after May 20 in
The Gourmand Yearbook 2006.

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