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Chicago
Humanities
Festival



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Chicago Humanities Festival Appoints Associate Artistic Director *Matti Bunzl joins CHF January through November 2010*

The Chicago Humanities Festival announces the appointment of **Matti Bunzl** as Associate Artistic Director, effective January 15, 2010.

Bunzl joins the CHF staff through mid-November 2010, which will mark the conclusion of the 21st annual festival. He will work closely with CHF programming and artistic staff to develop ideas and reach out to speakers and performers for the 21st annual festival. Bunzl shoulders some artistic direction responsibilities during the sabbatical of CHF Artistic Director Lawrence “Ren” Weschler. CHF Executive Director Stuart Flack notes, “Matti’s infectious energy, lively intellect, and deep knowledge of the humanities make him a perfect fit for the Chicago Humanities Festival.”

A graduate of Stanford University and the University of Chicago, Bunzl has been on the faculty of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign since 1998. He is a professor of anthropology, history, and German and also holds appointments in the Program in Jewish Culture and Society, the Gender and Women’s Studies Program, the Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, the Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center, the Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, and the European Union Center, a range that reflects his broad scholarly interests.

At the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Bunzl has served as director of the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities (2003–2007) and the Program in Jewish Culture and Society (2008 to present). Bunzl is the author of two books, *Symptoms of Modernity: Jews and Queers in Late Twentieth-Century Vienna* (2004) and *Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia: Hatreds Old and New in Europe* (2007), as well as many articles. He is currently writing a book on the contemporary art world. Since 2003, he has also served on the board of directors of the Illinois Humanities Council.

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