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Read an excerpt from [How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia](#)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Chicago Humanities Festival Presents  
Mohsin Hamid**

*The New York Times* Bestselling Author of  
***How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia***

**In Conversation with WBEZ's Alison Cuddy**  
**Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at First United Methodist Church**

**Chicago, IL--Feb. 20, 2014--**The Chicago Humanities Festival (CHF) hosts award-winning author **Mohsin Hamid** on **Tuesday, March 11, at 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church at The Chicago Temple (77 W. Washington St.)**. Author of *Moth Smoke* and *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*, Hamid comes to Chicago to discuss his latest work, *How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia*, with WBEZ's **Alison Cuddy**. **Tickets are on sale now for \$10–15** and can be purchased online at [chicagohumanities.org](http://chicagohumanities.org) or at [312-494-9509](tel:312-494-9509).

*The New York Times* bestselling author **Mohsin Hamid** comes to the Festival to speak about his most recent novel: ***How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia***. Receiving global recognition for its unique 'how to' format, the book tells the rags-to-riches story of a young Pakistani man. Described by *The Telegraph* as a "vital and affecting portrait of a teeming and globally significant, but largely unrecorded culture," and by *Bloomberg Businessweek* as a "powerful reverie on life in a time of soul-shaking change," *How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia* was shortlisted for the DSC Prize for South Asian Literature and selected for over 30 "best book of the year" lists in 2013.

"Mohsin Hamid is at the forefront of a truly global literature," said CHF **Artistic Director Matti Bunzl**. "With roots in South Asia, he is just as American or British, playfully inventing a cosmopolitan language unique to our 21st century. We are thrilled for him to be in conversation with Alison Cuddy, who has been chronicling an ever more globalizing Chicago in over a decade of arts reporting on WBEZ."

Hamid grew up in Lahore, Pakistan and attended Princeton University and Harvard Law School. His first novel, *Moth Smoke*, won the Betty Trask Award and was a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway Prize. His second, *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*, spent over two months on *The New York Times* bestseller list. It was published in over 30 languages and was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, and was named by the *Guardian* as one of the books that defined the decade. Hamid contributes to *Time*, the *Guardian*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and other publications. He lives in Lahore.

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Alongside Hamid will be **Alison Cuddy**, the arts and culture reporter at WBEZ 91.5 FM Chicago Public Radio. Cuddy has been with the station since 2001, working as a producer and host. She was previously host of *Eight Forty-Eight* and currently co-hosts *Changing Channels*, a podcast about the future of television, and *Strange Brews*, which explores the culture around craft beer. Prior to joining WBEZ, Cuddy worked in the Immigration Department of ThoughtWorks, Inc. in Chicago, and was an adjunct professor at DePaul University as well as a teaching fellow at the University of Pittsburgh.

**Event Details:**

**G=General Admission, M=CHF Member, ST=Students**



**Mohsin Hamid: How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia**

**Anita and Prabha Sinha Program | Tuesday, March 11, 2014 | 6 p.m.**

**First United Methodist Church at The Chicago Temple | G \$15, M \$10, ST \$5**

Who doesn't love a get-rich-quick scheme? That's the conceit of **Mohsin Hamid's** witty and wicked novel *How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia*, which cleverly mimics the self-help genre to tell the story of one man's rise from rural poverty to massive wealth. Hamid, a Booker Prize finalist and *The New York Times* bestselling author, gives voice to the relentless churning of our global moment.

For more information about the **Mohsin Hamid** program, visit [chicagohumanities.org](http://chicagohumanities.org). Tickets are on sale now [online](#) or through the **CHF Box Office** at **312-494-9509**, Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. **Tickets range from \$10–15, with a limited number of reduced-price tickets available for students and teachers (with valid ID).** A \$6 per order processing fee is applied to all pre-event sales. Tickets are \$5 more per ticket at the door.

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**About the Chicago Humanities Festival**

The Chicago Humanities Festival began in 1989 as a dream shared by a determined group of Chicago's cultural leaders eager to extend the riches of the humanities to everyone. Since that first year, some of the world's most exciting thinkers, artists, and performers have come to Chicago each fall for a festival that celebrates ideas in the context of civic life. Past Festival themes include Laughter, The Body, tech knowledge, America, and last year's **Animal: What Makes Us Human**. Under the leadership of **Executive Director Phillip Bahar** and **Artistic Director Matti Bunzl**, CHF partners with Chicago's premier cultural institutions and the festival has become an annual highlight for thousands of people from Chicago and beyond. In addition to the annual fall festival, CHF also presents the spring **Stages, Sights & Sounds**, an international children's theater festival, and programs throughout the year that encourage the study and enjoyment of the humanities. Visit [chicagohumanities.org](http://chicagohumanities.org) for more information.