

# Contents

<i>Notes on contributors</i>	page vii
1 Introduction: towards a cognitive science of religion <i>Jensine Andresen</i>	1
PART I: BELIEF ACQUISITION AND THE SPREAD OF RELIGIOUS REPRESENTATIONS	45
2 On what we may believe about beliefs <i>Benson Saler</i>	47
3 Cognition, emotion, and religious experience <i>Ilkka Pyysiäinen</i>	70
4 Why gods? A cognitive theory <i>Stewart Guthrie</i>	94
PART II: QUESTIONING THE “REPRESENTATION” OF RELIGIOUS RITUAL ACTION	113
5 Ritual, memory, and emotion: comparing two cognitive hypotheses <i>Robert N. McCauley</i>	115
6 Psychological perspectives on agency <i>E. Thomas Lawson</i>	141
7 Do children experience God as adults do? <i>Justin L. Barrett</i>	173

PART III: EMBODIED MODELS OF RELIGION	191
8 Cognitive study of religion and Husserlian phenomenology: making better tools for the analysis of cultural systems <i>Matti Kamppinen</i>	193
9 Why a proper science of mind implies the transcendence of nature <i>Francisco J. Varela</i>	207
10 Religion and the frontal lobes <i>Patrick McNamara</i>	237
11 Conclusion: religion in the flesh: forging new methodologies for the study of religion <i>Jensine Andresen</i>	257
<i>Index</i>	288