

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
1 The Structure of the Universe	1
2 Why Does the Sun Shine?	8
3 The Expansion of the Universe	18
4 Space, Time and Gravity	23
5 Particles and Forces	32
6 Grand Unification, Higher Dimensions and Superstrings	43
7 The Big Bang	55
8 Beyond the Big Bang	66
9 The Inflating Universe	77
10 The Eternal Universe	87
11 Black Holes	96
12 The Birth of the Universe	112
<i>Index</i>	131