Contents

	Notes on contributors	ix
l	Introduction: Theoretical explorations in African religion Wim van Binsbergen and Matthew Schoffeleers	1
2	Perspectives on divination in contemporary sub-Saharan Africa Renaat Devisch	50
3	Towards a semantic approach to the principle of transformation: An analysis of two myths concerning the origin of circumcision among the Komo of Zaire Wauthier de Mahieu	84
1	From waste-making to recycling: A plea for an eclectic use of models in the study of religious change André Droogers	101
5	Religious pluralism: An ethnographic approach Johannes Fabian	138
5	Oral history and the retrieval of the distant past: On the use of legendary chronicles as sources of historical information Matthew Schoffeleers	164
7	The historical interpretation of myth in the context of popular Islam Wim van Binsbergen	189

v

Contents

8	The consequences of literacy in African religion: The Kongo case John M. Janzen	225
9	The argument of images: From Zion to the Wilderness in African churches Richard P. Werbner	253
10	Religious studies and political economy: The Mwari cult and the peasant experience in Southern Rhodesia Terence O. Ranger	287
11	Dini ya Msambwa: Rural rebellion or counter-society? Robert Buijtenhuijs	322
12	Prophets of God or of history? Muslim messianic movements and anti-colonialism in Senegal Christian Coulon	346
	Author index	367
	Subject index	372