

Cosmosapiens: Human Evolution from the Origin of the Universe

By John Hands



Cosmosapiens: Human Evolution from the Origin of the Universe By John Hands

The book that transforms our understanding of what we are and where we came from.

Specialist scientific fields are developing at incredibly swift speeds, but what can they really tell us about how the universe began and how we humans evolved to play such a dominant role on Earth?

John Hands's extraordinarily ambitious quest is to bring together this scientific knowledge and evaluate without bias or preconception all the theories and evidence about the origin and evolution of matter, life, consciousness, and humankind.

This astonishing book provides the most comprehensive account yet of current ideas such as cosmic inflation, dark energy, the selfish gene, and neurogenetic determinism. In the clearest possible prose it differentiates the firmly established from the speculative and examines the claims of various fields such as string theory to approach a unified theory of everything. In doing so it challenges the orthodox consensus in those branches of cosmology, biology, and neuroscience that have ossified into dogma.

Its striking analysis reveals underlying patterns of cooperation, complexification, and convergence that lead to the unique emergence in humans of a self-reflective consciousness that enables us to determine our future evolution.

This groundbreaking book is destined to become a classic of scientific thinking.

(67 black and white illustrations)

60 b&w diagrams and illustrations



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Editorial Review

Review

"In this audacious, ambitious, and philosophically completist study, Hands leads an interdisciplinary search through all the current human knowledge that may help answer two burning questions: What are we, and where do we come from? The result is a pearl of dialectical reasoning between Hands and the most celebrated experts he can find. In today's age of specialization, readers will welcome this throwback to the days of the well-informed layperson, conversant and opinionated in a variety of topics. Hands grounds his musings in logic and scientific fact to produce a thoughtful treatise for the eternally curious" (Publishers Weekly (Starred Review))

"A thoughtful, well-written volume" (Library Journal)

"[A] Book of astonishing ambition and scope." (TLS (A Best Book of the Year))

"A compendious work that will intrigue serious readers" (Kirkus)

"This is a truly exceptional piece of work." (Tim Crane, Knightbridge Professor of Philosophy, University of Cambridge)

"A magisterial, persuasive and thought provoking survey of the horizons of modern science." (Dr James Le Fanu, author of The Rise and Fall of Modern Medicine)

"This book is an intellectual tour-de-force...highly recommended for anyone wishing to get a deeper insight into the fundamental but typically arcane theories that purport to explain where we and the universe that surrounds us are coming from." (Professor Francis Heylighen, Evolution, Complexity and Cognition Group, Free University of Brussels)

"A major accomplishment" (Professor James Shapiro, author of Evolution: A View From The 21st Century)

"Any conventional Darwinist (and I am one of them) will find a lot to take exception to: but disagreement is the fuel of progress and if you enjoy an argument this is the book for you." (Professor Steve Jones, author of The Language of the Genes)

"An audacious and admirable book...written with engaging style, and the strongest scientific ideas across a swathe of fields in physics and biology are presented lucidly" (Larry Steinman, Professor of Neurological Science, Stanford University)

"With depth and virtuosity, John Hands explores the Big Questions of human existence: who are we? why are we here? where are we headed? ...Hands's voyage of inquiry will not only educate you, it will also surprise." (Derek Shearer, Director, McKinnon Center for Global Affairs, Los Angeles)

"A fine book...brave, very wide ranging, synoptic." (Professor Stuart Kauffman, author of At Home in the Universe)

"John Hands...came to realise, and makes us realise, how much we don't know. Nevertheless, he is

optimistic, and when he comes to human evolution and a schematic view of our history, he is hopeful and sees progress in understanding and co-operation. From his book we get that big picture he sought." (Professor David Knight, author of The Making of Modern Science)

"Hands's book is a game-changer. In the tradition of Thomas Kuhn's The Structure of Scientific Revolutions, this lucidly written, penetrating analysis challenges us to rethink many things we take for granted about ourselves, our society, and our universe. It will become a classic." (Peter Dreier, E P Clapp Distinguished Professor of Politics, Occidental College)

"John Hands is an astute observer of recent trends in scientific ideas bold enough to point out what he sees as sense and nonsense and intelligently explain why. Even in cases where one might disagree, the arguments are thought-provoking." (Paul Steinhardt, Albert Einstein Professor in Science, Princeton University)

"A work as bold, broad, and challenging as this will no doubt tweak the bias any one of us may have regarding a particular event, but, then, so did Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*." (Jeffrey Schwartz, Professor of Physical Anthropology and of The History & Philosophy of Science at the University of Pittsburgh)

"[A]rgues that mind and matter evolved in unison and, one day, human consciousness and the star-filled universe will be revealed as part of the same cosmic whole. Such ideas were lapped up by the 19th-century followers of Hegel and it is both shocking and invigorating to hear them stated again...in the context of a quantum universe" (Nicholas Blincoe - The Telegraph (UK) Best Science Books of 2015)

"Hands wants to create here a grand synthesis of the history of scientific research in such fields as astronomy, physics, and evolutionary biology. He lays out a sharply lucid picture of each of these disciplines and expertly summarizes the latest thinking on each." (Open Letters Monthly)

About the Author

John Hands has devoted more than ten years to evaluating scientific theories about human evolution from the origin of the universe. He graduated in chemistry from the University of London and co-authored two research studies and published one book in the social sciences. He was the founding Director of the Government's Co-operative Housing Agency and served on three Government committees. He has tutored in both physics and management studies for the Open University and was Royal Literary Fund Fellow at University College London. He has written three novels and been published in 8 countries.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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Do you certainly one of people who can't read satisfying if the sentence chained in the straightway, hold on guys this specific aren't like that. This Cosmosapiens: Human Evolution from the Origin of the Universe book is readable by you who hate the perfect word style. You will find the info here are arrange for enjoyable studying experience without leaving also decrease the knowledge that want to offer to you. The writer associated with Cosmosapiens: Human Evolution from the Origin of the Universe content conveys thinking easily to understand by many people. The printed and e-book are not different in the written content but it just different by means of it. So, do you still thinking Cosmosapiens: Human Evolution from the Origin of the Universe is not loveable to be your top collection reading book?

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