Claude Lévi-Strauss is one of the major thinkers of the modern age. Regarded as a crucial figure in the development of structuralism, his writings are studied across a wide range of disciplines, including anthropology, philosophy and literary studies. The Cambridge Companion to Lévi-Strauss presents a major reassessment of his work and influence. The fifteen specially commissioned essays in this volume engage with the controversies that have surrounded his ideas, explore the concealed influences that have shaped his thought and expose the obscuring clichés that have all too often been used by commentators and critics. The contributors are experts drawn from a number of fields, demonstrating the durability and importance of Lévi-Strauss's work in contemporary thought. Written for students and researchers alike, these incisive, jargon-free essays will be essential reading for anybody who wishes to gain a deeper understanding of this important thinker.

Boris Wiseman is Senior Lecturer in the School of Modern Languages and Cultures, University of Durham.

Cover photograph: Claude Lévi-Strauss. Private collection. Reproduced by kind permission of Claude Lévi-Strauss.