



MARGI VIJAYAKUMAR
Akademi Award: Kathakali

Born on 31 May 1960 in Thonnakkal, Kerala, Shri Margi Vijayakumar was groomed in Kathakali in the traditional Gurukulam system under several eminent gurus Kalamandalam Krishnan Nair, Mankulam Vishnu Namboodiri, Inchakkattu Ramachandran Pillai and Thonnakkal Peethambaran.

Shri Margi Vijayakumar is known today as an outstanding Vesham artist who excels in almost all the roles but gained popularity particularly for his performance in the female roles. He performed extensively and conducted Kathakali workshops in several countries including France, the U.K., the U.S.A., Germany, Italy, Poland, Thailand, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Malayasia, Mexico and Japan. Shri Margi Vijayakumar joined the Margi Kathakali School as a teacher and artist in 1982 and served as Principal from 2014 to 2020.

Shri Margi Vijayakumar has been conferred honours for his work including the Kerala Kalamandalam V.S. Sarma Endowment Award (2005), Kerala Kalamandalam Award (2021), and Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Akademi Guru Pooja Puraskaram (2022).

Shri Margi Vijayakumar receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for the year 2023 for his contribution to Kathakali.