



### MALABIKA MITRA

Akademi Award: Kathak

Born in 1956 in Calcutta, Shrimati Malabika Mitra was groomed as a Kathak dancer by Gurus Ramgopal Mishra of the Jaipur gharana and Om Prakash Maharaj of Lucknow. She also trained briefly with Shri Vijay Shankar and attended workshops in Kathak conducted by Pandit Birju Maharaj and Shrimati Sitara Devi. She equipped herself further with training in vocal music, Tabla and Sitar. Dr Mitra is a graduate in medicine from the National Medical College in Calcutta, and has applied her knowledge to develop a better understanding of the body and its movements.

Shrimati Malabika Mitra has established herself as an outstanding exponent of Kathak dance. She has performed widely in national and international dance festivals. She is the founder-director of the institution Shibpur Onkar Dance and Music Centre, where she has imparted training to many young dancers. She has also choreographed several dance productions based on literary works in Bengali and Sanskrit. She has written articles on Kathak, conducted seminars, and presented papers on Kathak at prestigious dance conferences. Her performance has been filmed in documentaries on dance.

Shrimati Malabika Mitra has received several awards for her work from institutions within and outside her State. She was named Eminent Dancer of 2004 by the Government of West Bengal.

Shrimati Malabika Mitra receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution to Kathak dance.