



## ADYAR K. LAKSHMAN

AKADEMI AWARD: BHARATANATYAM

Born in 1933 in the village of Kuppam in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Adyar K. Lakshman learnt Bharatanatyam at Kalakshetra, Madras. He received training from several eminent teachers including Shrimati Rukmini Devi Arundale, Shrimati S. Sarada, Shrimati Sarada Hoffman, and Shrimati Mylapore Gouri Amma. Under Shrimati Rukmini Devi Arundale and Shri K.N. Dandayudhapani Pillai he specialized in *nattuvangam*. He also learnt Carnatic music from Shri Visweswarayya, Shri Budalur Krishnamoorthy Sastrigal, and Shri Mysore Vasudevacharya. Besides, he received training in Mridangam from Shri V. Vittal Iyer and Shri Karaikudi Muthu Iyer. He also learnt Kathakali from Shrimati Ambu Panicker and Shri Chandu Panicker.

Trained thus as a complete and versatile artiste, Shri Adyar Lakshman began his career participating in the early dance-dramas of Kalakshetra. In the coming years, however, he established himself as a leading *nattuvanar* and teacher of Bharatanatyam. He initially taught at Kalakshetra and later established his own institution, Bharat Chhhoodamani. Shri Adyar Lakshman has trained a large number of students, several of whom have achieved renown as dancers. Besides, he has choreographed several dance-dramas and provided dance direction for feature films. Among other honours, Shri Adyar Lakshman received the title of Kalaimamani from the Government of Tamil Nadu in 1981 and the Padma Shri in 1989.

Shri Adyar K. Lakshman receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Bharatanatyam.

# Akademi Awards 1991

