

## KALAMANDALAM M. AMALJITH

### KATHAKALI



Born in 1974 at Alleppey in a family of eminent Kathakali exponents, Shri Amaljith was initiated into the art of Kathakali by his grandfather Champakulam Pachu Pillai, and Guru Gopinath. He also received training from Kudamaloor Karunakaran Nair, Mathoor Govindan Kutty, Kalamandalam Ramakrishnan, and Kalamandalam Murali. He got his Diploma and Post Diploma in Kathakali Vesham from Kerala Kalamandalam, and has received a Scholarship and a Junior Fellowship from the Ministry of Culture. Amaljith joined the International Centre for Kathakali as a Teacher-cum-Performer in 2000, and since then has been invited to lecture as well as perform at various places within India, and abroad, such as U.S.A., Thailand, Netherland, Spain, Kazakhstan, and Pakistan.

Amaljith has played various character-roles from the *Mahabharata* and the *Ramayana*. He has received the KPS Menon Award from Kerala Kalamandalam, and Natana Praveena title from Guru Gopinath Trust.

Shri Kalamandalam M. Amaljith is awarded the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar of Sangeet Natak Akademi for the year 2010 for his talent in the field of Kathakali.