



## KALAMANDALAM VIMALA MENON

Akademi Award: Mohiniattam

*Shrimati Vimala Menon was born in 1943 in Trichur in Kerala. Initially, she trained in dance under Trippunithura Vijaya Bhanu and learnt Carnatic music from Madhusudhanan Nair. She joined Kerala Kalamandalam in 1960 and studied Mohiniattam under the eminent gurus Chinnammu Amma, Kalamandalam Sathyabhama, and Thanjavur Bhaskara Rao. She also learnt Kuchipudi dance as a student of Vempati Chinna Satyam and studied Thiruvathirakali under Malathi G. Menon.*

*Shrimati Vimala Menon is well known both as a performer and teacher of Mohiniattam. She has trained a large number of students in Bharatanatyam and Mohiniattam at institutions including the Kerala State Jawahar Bala Bhavan, the Desseya Kala Kendram, and her own institution Kerala Natya Academy. Her articles on Mohiniattam have been published in several journals.*

*In recognition of her work as a Mohiniattam teacher and performer, Shrimati Vimala Menon has been honoured with the Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Akademi Award and the Kerala Kalamandalam Award.*

*Shrimati Vimala Menon receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution to Mohiniattam.*

Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards 2006