



SAJI MENON
MOHINIATTAM

Born on 29 May 1979 in Palakkad in Kerala, Shrimati Saji Menon was introduced to the world of dance by her father, Kalamandalam Shankar Narayan, a well-known Kathakali artist, at the tender age of five. Later, she joined Nalanda Nritya Kala Mahavidyalaya, Juhu, Mumbai, in 1996 under the guidance of Shrimati Kanak Rele. She has a Master of Performing Arts degree with first class distinction from Nalanda Nritya Kala Mahavidyalaya and is presently pursuing advanced training under her guru.

Shrimati Saji Menon has given numerous solo performances and played the lead role in productions of the Nalanda Dance Research Centre such as 'Prithivi – Aanandinee' and 'Vithala Tujhe Charnee'. She has performed at many prestigious events including the Nritya Pratibha of Sangeet Natak Akademi, Kerala Festival in Mumbai 2015, Krishnanjali – Seva Sadan, Bengaluru; Mahashivratri Nrityaparva, Ahmadabad; Cuttack Mahotsav, Vishwa Nruthya Bhushana Dance Festival Mysore; 58th Art and Dance Festival, Sri Krishna Gana Sabha, Chennai; Udai Shankar Nrityotsav, Kolkata; Khajuraho Dance Festival; and the 66th Indian Independence Celebration in Sri Lanka.

Shrimati Saji Menon has taught at the Nalanda Nritya Kala Mahavidyalaya, Mumbai. At present she has established her institute Kanakam Nritya Academy, affiliated to Nalanda Dance Research Centre and continues to impart training to young dancers.

Shrimati Saji Menon is awarded the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar of Sangeet Natak Akademi for 2013-2014 for her notable talent in the field of Mohiniattam.