



## KADRI GOPALNATH

### Akademi Award: Carnatic Instrumental Music (Saxophone)

*Born in 1950 in Pane Mangalore, Karnataka, Shri Kadri Gopalnath was initiated into music by his father Shri Thaniappan, a Nagaswaram vidwan, who trained him in the Nagaswaram in his early years. Shri Gopalnath gravitated towards the saxophone as his instrument of choice while still a boy of fifteen, taking instruction from Shri N. Gopalakrishna Iyer at the Kalanikethan Music and Dance School of Mangalore. The versatile musician Shri T.V. Gopalakrishnan has guided his onward development as an artist.*

*Starting with a concert under the auspices of the Chembai Memorial Trust, Shri Kadri Gopalnath has performed under the banners of major Sabhas in southern India, winning a place for his instrument in the field of Carnatic music. He has also played extensively in prestigious music festivals abroad — the Berlin Jazz Festival, the Music Halle Festival in Paris, Saxophonia 2003 in Latvia — working closely with jazz musicians of Europe. Audio-cassettes and CDs of his music number over a hundred and fifty.*

*Shri Gopalnath has been honoured with the title Karnataka Kalashree bestowed by the Karnataka Sangeetha Nrithya Academy in 1995, and the Kalaimamani conferred by the Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram in 1997. He received the Kannada Rajyotsava Award from the Government of Karnataka in 1998, and the Padma Shri in 2004. He is Asthana Vidwan of the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham and the Sringeri Sharada Peetham.*

*Shri Kadri Gopalnath receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Carnatic instrumental music.*