



WANGKHEM LOKENDRAJIT SINGH
Akademi Award: Contemporary / Experimental Dance

Born on 30 January 1958 in Imphal, Manipur, Shri Wangkhem Lokendrajit Singh received his initial training in Manipuri dance under Guru L. Amuyaima Singh and Shri Th. Babu Singh. Later he specialized in Manipuri dance from Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal. He also learned Thang-ta under S. Debavrata Singh and Pung under Kulla Singh, L. Bokul Singh, Th.

Babu Singh and N. Gulamjat Singh. Shri Wangkhem Lokendrajit Singh further studied choreography under the guidance of Maya Rao at the Natya Institute of Choreography, New Delhi. He is a recipient of the Fulbright scholarship.

Shri Wangkhem Lokendrajit Singh has won critical acclaim as a dancer and choreographer. He joined the production unit of Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal as a dancer in 1985 and was appointed choreographer in 2009. He has choreographed a number of dance-dramas for the production unit of JNMDA including *Moirang Sha*, *Wainupareng*, *Shakuntala*, *Hijan-Hirao*, *Meghnath Bodha* and *Shradhanjali*. He has toured extensively with the production unit of JNMDA both in India and abroad for performances in the Festival of India in Japan, Kazakhstan and South Africa, and also festivals in Singapore, Germany and USA, and has also conducted workshops and lecture-demonstrations within the country and abroad in prestigious institutions and universities.

For his contribution to contemporary and experimental dance, he has received several honours including the Manipur State Kala Akademi Award in 2007.

Shri Wangkhem Lokendrajit Singh receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Contemporary and Experimental dance.