



MARIO BARZAGHI



Mario Barzaghi, actor and director of Teatro dell'Albero, started studying Kathakali in 1981 after meeting Teatro Tascabile di Bergamo. He has been practising this form of theatre for 35 years under the guidance of his Master Kalamandalam K. M. John. He danced with him in India, Europe and Latin America. In 1985 and 1999 he studied with Kalamandalam Padmanabhan Nair (Master of Kalamandalam K. M. John) who gave him the blessing to be able to dance (*arangettam* or initiation to dance). He's now working with Master Sankar Lal Sivasankaran Nair to prepare a demonstration show focused on the connection between Kathakali and Kalaripayattu. Together with the other members of Teatro dell'Albero he has built the demonstration show *An Athlete of Heart: an actor swinging between Eastern and Western* with the aim of demonstrating the connection existing between the art of Western and Eastern actors. This work has been presented in theatres, universities, academies, schools, festivals, theatrical reviews in Italy and in many European and Latin American countries.