



VEDANTAM RADHESYAM

Akademi Award: Kuchipudi

Born on 1 November 1955 in Kuchipudi village in Andhra Pradesh, Shri Vedantam Radhesyam was introduced to the literature of Kuchipudi dance-drama by his father, Vedantam Suryanarayana Sarma. Later, he received training under his brother, Vedantam Seeta Rama and gurus PVG Krishna Sarma, Vedantam Parvateesam, Vempati Pedasatyam, Pasumarthy Krishnamurthy, Vempati Chinna Satyam, and Vedantam Satyanarayana Sarma.

Shri Vedantam Radhesyam is today among the senior performers and teachers of Kuchipudi dance, who also excels both as Nattuvanar and Sutradhar. He has performed widely in the major dance festivals with his gurus from a young age and has acted in various roles such as Bala Krishna, Chitrlekha, and Gopika. He has also received acclaim for his roles including Narada in *Sri Krishna Parijatam*, Parvathy in *Parvathy Kalyanam*, Chitrlekha in *Ushaparinayam*, Satyabhama in *Bhamakalapam* and Hiranyakasyapa in *Bhakta Prahlad*. He has travelled extensively within the country and abroad for conducting workshops and giving performances in the U.S.A., and in Europe. Shri Radhesyam has imparted training in the art at a number of institutions since 1970, chief among these being the Kuchipudi Art Academy and Siddhendra Yogi Kuchipudi Kalapeetham of the Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University. He continues to impart training in Kuchipudi dance and music to young artists at his institution Vedantam Wari Melam in Kuchipudi village.

Shri Vedantam Radhesyam has received several awards and honours including the Kala Neerajan (1995) and Hamsa (2013) bestowed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Shri Vedantam Radhesyam receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for 2014 for his contribution to Kuchipudi dance.