



PRIYADARSINI GOVIND
Akademi Award: Bharatanatyam

Born on 1 February 1965 in Chennai, Shrimati Priyadarsini Govind received her initial training in Bharatanatyam from Shrimati Usha, and was later groomed in the art under S.K. Rajarathnam Pillai of the Vazhuvoor school and Kalanidhi Narayanan.

A Bharatanatyam artist of exceptional ability, Shrimati Priyadarsini Govind has perfected a dance style marked by fluid movement and a sharp sense of rhythm. She has presented dance recitals under the aegis of several sabhas and other institutions working in support of the arts. Among other appearances, she has performed at dance festivals of the Music Academy, Madras (2003, 2004, 2006); at the Khajuraho Festival (1998, 2004); and at Sangeet Natak Akademi's Swarna Samaroh (1997), Nritya Sangam (2008), and Rabindra Pranati (2011). On foreign shores, Shrimati Priyadarsini has performed at prestigious events such as the Festival of India in France (1985), the Medina Festival in Tunisia (1998), the Milap Festival in Britain (2003-2005, 2007-2010), the Oriental Festival in France (2004), the Festival of India in Japan (2006), the Sifas Annual Festival in Singapore (2007), and the India Festival in the United States (2011).

Besides solo performances, Shrimati Priyadarsini has closely worked with Bombay Jayashree, Gouri Ramnarayan, Leela Samson, T.M. Krishna, and Umayalpuram Sivaraman to produce a number of collaborative works. Her own works of choreography include *Vande Mataram*, *Netru Indru Nalai*, *Sringaram*, *Sri Rangam*, *Siva Sakthi* and *Om Namō Narayana*. She has also presented on Doordarshan a television production based on the Tamil devotional hymn Tiruppavai in Bharatanatyam idiom. She has participated in seminars at several sabhas and organized the Kartik Fine Arts Seminars in 2007 and 2008.

Shrimati Priyadarsini Govind has received several honours for her work including the Kalaimamani title conferred by the Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram (1998); the Nritya Choodamani bestowed by the Sri Krishna Gana Sabha (1998); and the Yuva Kala Bharati award presented by Bharat Kalachar (2000).

Shrimati Priyadarsini Govind receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution to Bharatanatyam.