



PADMA SUBRAHMANYAM
Fellowship of Sangeet Natak Akademi

Born on 4 February 1943 in Madras, Shrimati Padma Subrahmanyam received her training in Bharatanatyam under Vazhuvoor Ramaiah Pillai and Mylapore Gouri Amma. She studied Carnatic music from B.V. Lakshmanan.

Acknowledged as an outstanding exponent of Bharatanatyam, Shrimati Padma Subrahmanyam has presented her art across the world, participating in prestigious national and international festivals of dance. She has also received critical acclaim for her choreographic works and dance-dramas. She brings to her discipline the insights gained from her research in the field of performing arts, studying Karana sculptures in the temples of Tamil Nadu under the guidance of Dr T. N. Ramachandran. She has received a Ph.D. from the Annamalai University for her thesis on 'Karanas in Indian Dance and Sculpture', and has authored several books on dance and treatises such as the *Natyashastra*. She is unique among dancers today for having incorporated outputs from her research in her dance compositions, thus crafting a distinct style in Bharatanatyam.

Shrimati Padma Subrahmanyam has written scripts for dance compositions and dance-dramas, composed music, and choreographed numerous productions. She has been featured in several telefilms including *Bharatiya Natya Sastra*, produced by Nrithyodaya for Doordarshan, which created widespread interest among the lay public in traditional Indian dance. She is currently President of Nrithyodaya, a leading organization of the arts founded by her father K. Subrahmanyam. Here, she imparts training in dance and music, including *nattuvangam*, to dancers and dance teachers.

The honours bestowed on Shrimati Padma Subrahmanyam include the Padma Shri, the Padma Bhushan (2003), the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1983), the Kalaimamani, and the Kalidas Samman.

Shrimati Padma Subrahmanyam is elected Fellow of Sangeet Natak Akademi for her contribution to Indian dance.