



## NALINI AND KAMALINI ASTHANA

Akademi Award: Kathak

Shrimati Nalini Asthana was born on 5 November 1955 and Shrimati Kamalini Asthana was born on 11 November 1954 in Agra, Uttar Pradesh. They received their training in Kathak from Jitendra Maharaj of Varanasi gharana.

Nalini-Kamalini have performed in numerous national and international dance festivals. Top grade artists of Doordarshan, Shrimati Nalini Asthana and Shrimati Kamalini Asthana specialize in depicting religious stories through Kathak. Their artistry led them to perform at the sacred Kailash mountain, 18,000 feet above sea level. With a repertoire that includes performances at major pilgrimages and temples across India, they have enchanted audiences with choreographic works such as “Kala aur Vasana,” “Akhand Saubhagyavati,” “Abhivyakti,” “Madhav Kunj Bihari,” and “Yashodhara,” among others. Beyond their performances, their lectures and workshops at prestigious institutions like Oxford, Cambridge, Leiden, Manchester University, London School of Economics, and Kings Medical College have been well appreciated. Nalini-Kamalini’s dedication to Kathak and their ability to weave stories through dance continue to leave a lasting impact on audiences.

Shrimati Nalini Asthana and Shrimati Kamalini Asthana have been honoured with multiple prestigious awards including the Padma Shri, Atal Samman, Uttar Pradesh Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, and the Lifetime Achievement Award by Bay Area Guild, USA.

Shrimati Nalini and Kamalini Asthana receive the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for the year 2022 for their contribution to Kathak dance.