



C.V. CHANDRASEKHAR

AKADEMI AWARD: BHARATANATYAM

Born in 1935 in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, Shri C.V. Chandrasekhar was trained in Bharatanatyam at Kalakshetra, Madras, by Shrimati Sarada Hoffman, S. Sarda and Rukmini Devi Arundale. While there he also learnt Carnatic music. He received his diploma from Kalakshetra in 1954.

He began his career as a dance teacher at Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Varanasi, in 1958 and served Banaras Hindu University as a Lecturer in dance from 1965 to 1979. In 1980 he joined Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda, retiring in 1992 as head of the Department of Dance and Dean of the Faculty of Performing Arts. Subsequently he established his institution Nrityashree in Baroda, where he continues to teach with his wife Jaya.

Shri Chandrasekhar has made a significant contribution to Bharatanatyam as a performer, teacher, composer and scholar. He has groomed a number of dancers at the two universities where he has worked. His choreographic works in Bharatanatyam for solo and group presentation have been highly acclaimed. His major productions in recent years include *Ritu Samharam*, *Meghadutam*, *Bhoomija*, *Aparajita* and *Pancha Mahabhootam*. As a soloist and with his group, Shri Chandrasekhar has performed in major dance festivals. He received the Uttar Pradesh Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1978 and the Gujarat Nrutya Nataka Akademi Award in 1988.

Shri C.V. Chandrasekhar receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Bharatanatyam.

