



GEETA MAHALIK

Akademi Award: Odissi

Born in 1948 in Koraput in Orissa, Shrimati Geeta Mahalik trained in Odissi dance under the late Deba Prasad Das and further honed her art under the guidance of Guru Mayadhar Raut.

Shrimati Geeta Mahalik is among the leading Odissi dancers of her generation, and has performed extensively within the country and abroad. Her performances overseas have been presented at the Silk Road International Fair in China in 2004, the Indo-Canadian Economic Symposium at Calgary, the India Nite at Berlin, and the Indo-Greece Cultural Symposium at Delphi, Greece. She has also choreographed several dance-dramas including *Lavanyavati* and *Krishnabhilasha*. She is the founder-Director of Upasana, an institution for promotion of dance and music, where she trains young Odissi dancers. Shrimati Mahalik has undertaken research on Odissi dance supported by a Senior Fellowship from the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. She has been associated in advisory capacities with the Orissa Sangeet Natak Akademi, Bhubaneswar, and the Sahitya Kala Parishad, New Delhi.

Shrimati Geeta Mahalik has been honoured with several awards including the Odra Pankaj Nrutya Award and the Guru Deba Prasad Das Award of Berhampur, Orissa.

Shrimati Geeta Mahalik receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution to Odissi dance.