



## KALA KRISHNA

Akademi Award: Other Major Traditions of Dance – Andhranatyam

Born in 1951 in Kallepalli village in Karimnagar district of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Kala Krishna received his training in Andhranatyam under Shrimati Saride Manikyamma, Shrimati Annabattula Satyabhama, and Shrimati Jampa Mutyam. He later specialized in the art under the renowned teacher and scholar Shri Nataraj Ramakrishna. He also learnt Kuchipudi dance under Shri Jagannadha Sarma and Dr Vempati Chinna Satyam, and Bharatanatyam under Shrimati G. Visalakshi.

Shri Kala Krishna has established himself as an outstanding performer of the temple dance of Andhra Pradesh. He has received critical acclaim as a performer of Navajanardana Parijatam, traditionally performed over nine nights in the temples of the East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. He has performed extensively in India and other countries including the United States, Britain, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Mauritius. He has presented lecture-demonstrations and workshops on Andhranatyam, and participated in seminars on the subject both here and abroad. He has been teaching dance in his institution Hari Hara Nrithya Niketan, and has presented several choreographic works on Andhranatyam. He is on the visiting faculty of the University of Hyderabad where he teaches abhinaya to postgraduate students of dance.

Shri Kala Krishna has received various honours for his work including the Kala Ratna Hamsa Award and the Nandi Award of the Government of Andhra Pradesh; the Pratibha Puraskar of the Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University; and the award of the Kuchipudi Art Academy of Hyderabad.

Shri Kala Krishna receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution in the field of Andhranatyam.