



SHOVANA NARAYAN
Akademi Award: Kathak Dance

Born in 1950 in Kolkata, Shrimati Shovana Traxl Narayan was initiated in dance by the pioneering dancer Sadhana Bose. Later she learnt Kathak under Gurus Kundan Lal and Birju Maharaj.

Shovana Narayan is among the foremost exponents of Kathak dance. A versatile dancer, she has evolved an individual style of presentation and gained wide popularity with her innumerable performances since the 1970s. She has won particular acclaim for her exposition of socially relevant themes, women's issues, and philosophical and literary works through her choreographic presentations — solo and group. She has also been teaching dance to young people for many years.

Shovana Narayan has undertaken research in the Kathak traditions of Bihar and has authored two books on the dance apart from a number of articles. She has also been associated with several films on dance. She combines a commitment to dance with her duties as a senior officer of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service.

For her dedicated service to dance, Shovana Narayan has received a number of honours including the Parishad Samman of Sabitya Kala Parishad, Delhi, the Gaurav Puraskar of the Government of Bihar, and the Padma Shri conferred by the Government of India in 1992.

Shrimati Shovana Narayan receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution to Kathak dance.



Akademi Awards 1999 – 2000