



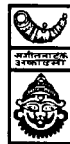
VEERANALA JAYARAMA RAO & BANASHREE RAO
Akademi Award: Kuchipudi Dance

Shri Veeranala Jayarama Rao was born in 1947 in Peethapuram, Andhra Pradesh. He received training in Kuchipudi dance under Shri Chinta Krishnamoorthy and Shri P.V.G. Krishna Sarma at the Siddhendra Kalakshetram, Kuchipudi. He received further coaching from Shri Vempati Chinna Satyam. Initially he performed female roles in traditional Kuchipudi Yakshaganas. He moved to Delhi in 1969 where he started teaching the dance.

Born in 1954 in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, Shrimati Banashree Rao learned Kuchipudi dance from Shri Krishna Kumar, Shri Jayarama Rao and Shri Vempati Chinna Satyam. She also received lessons in abhinaya from Shri Nataraj Ramakrishna and Shrimati Kanaka Srinivasan and in Odissi dance from Shri Mayadhar Raut.

Shri Jayarama Rao and Shrimati Banashree Rao are among the leading exponents of Kuchipudi dance. They have participated in prestigious national and international festivals and have travelled to various parts of the world representing the art. Shri Jayarama Rao is also known as a senior teacher of the dance form, having initiated and trained some well-known dancers. The couple have received various honours and awards including the Sahitya Kala Parishad Samman of Delhi in 1996.

Shri Jayarama Rao and Shrimati Banashree Rao receive the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for their contribution to Kuchipudi dance.



Akademi Awards 1998