

Karnataka Kalasri

Dr.Shridhar and Anuradha Shridhar

Dr.Shridhar and Anuradha Shridhar are internationally acclaimed as the best dance couple in Bharatanatyam today. They have enthralled the audience all over the world with their astounding technical virtuosity and emotional intensity.

Learning

Shridhar and Anuradha were both initially trained in Bharatanatyam by Guru Smt.Radha Sridhar of Bengaluru. They were later attracted towards the **Kalakshetra style** and studied under the guidance of Guru Sri. M.R.Krishnamurthy of Kalakshetra.

Shridhar was also fortunate to have received training from Guru Smt.Narmada, Guru Smt.Bhanumati and Guru Smt.Vasanta Vedam (Kalakshetra). He also received special training in Kuchipudi from Guru Sri C.R.Acharyulu of Darpana Academy, Ahmadabad. Shridhar was adjudged the 'Best dancer' in the state level dance competition conducted by the Karnataka Sangita Nritya Academy in the year 1982. Very soon he was recognized as one of the best male dancers in Bharatanatyam. He performed as Shiva with the legendary cine actor Smt. Hemamalini in her dance drama Durga.

Shridhar is a BE graduate. Anuradha after finishing her B.Com studied at Kalakshetra College of Fine Arts, Chennai and graduated with distinction in the year 1993.

Shridhar and Anuradha were later nurtured by the renowned danseuse and Guru Nritya Chudamani Smt.Krishnaveni Lakshmanan of Kalakshetra.

After their marriage in the year 1991 Shridhar & Anuradha started performing together as a duo. Their stunning coordination, impeccable nritta, and deeply moving abhinayam are a feast to the connoisseurs. They received tremendous appreciation for their choreography, which is remarkably creative, imbued with deep spiritual overtones and reflects extensive research. Insatiable

passion towards the art and fierce dedication has placed them among the foremost dancers in the country today.

Without compromising the essential aesthetics of Bharatanatyam, the couple with great dexterity, depth of understanding, have woven into the fabric of their dance, episodes from epics and great literary works that highlight human emotional conflicts, and spiritual values of life. Their dance features like the ***Ramayana, Mahabharatam, Mahaveera Karna, Kumarasambhavam, Bharata Shapatham, Tirumangai Alwar, Samyak Jnanam, Karntaka Vaggeya Vaibhava, Dhritarashtra Vilapam, Nathicharavaha*** etc. have received international acclaim. Their choreographic feature **The Upanishad** which explains the concepts and message of the Upanishads, received high appreciation.

Performances in India

Shridhar and Anuradha have performed in most of the prestigious Sabhas in India like the Madras Music Academy, Sri Krishna Gana Sabha, Narada Gana Sabha, Karthik Fine Arts, Bharat Kalachar, Chennai, Sangith Natak Academy, Hampi festival, Soorya festival, Nishagandhi Festival, Thaalam festival etc.

Performances Abroad

Shridhars' have received high accolades for their performances in USA, France, Germany, Switzerland, UK, Singapore, Kenya, Sri Lanka and the Gulf countries.

D.Lit (Doctor of Letters)

Shridhar received Doctorate (**D.Lit**) for his thesis on the 'Socio- cultural aspects of the Male Dancer in Bharatanatyam' from the Kannada University, Hampi in the year 2014.

AWARDS & HONOURS

Karnataka Rajyotsava Prashasthi from the Govt. of Karnataka-(2002)

Karnataka Kalasri Award form Karnataka Sangita Nritya Academy, Govt of

Karnataka-(2007)

U.S.Krishnarao & Chandrabhagadevi award from Ashish Khokar's

Attendance (2012)
Senior Dancer's Award from **Narada Gana Sabha**, Chennai-(2009)
Best Performance in the Season Award from **Sri Krishna Gana Sabha**, Chennai(2008)
Yuva Kalabharathy from Bharat Kalachar, Chennai (2001)
Karnataka Chetana from Karnataka Journalists Forum-(2000)
Nrutyakalabhushana from Aryabhata Cultural Organization (1996)
Z-Essel Culture Award from Z-Kannada Tele Channel-(2007)
E-TV & Big FM Award in the field of Dance(2011)
Hamsaratna Award from Hamsajyothy Organization (2011)
Sagar Award from Dayanand Sagar Prashtana & Rangasri Kala Samsthe (2011)
Ugadi Puraskar from Sri Shankara channel- (2012)
Parimala Prasasti from Parimala Geleyara Balaga,Bengaluru (2012)

Cinema

Shridhar was a celebrated hero in cinema during the 80s and 90s. He won the Karnataka State Govt's **Best Actor Award** for his performance as the Saint Poet Shareef in the Kannada film "**Santa Shishunala Shareefa**" (1989-90).

He received the **Best Supporting Actor** for the role of a Kamsale Guru in the Kannada film "Kamsale Kaisale" directed by Sri.Nagabharana(2011).

To pass on the rich legacy which they received from great gurus Dr.Shridhar and Anuradha established **Khechara Academy of Bharatanatyam** in the year 1994. They have dedicated their lives for the preservation and propagation of Bharatantnyam as well as the rich cultural heritage of Bharat.

Khechara Academy of Bharatanatyam

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