



ASHIT DESAI

Akademi Award: Music for Dance

Born on 28 June 1951 at Vadodara, Gujarat, Shri Ashit Desai is a singer, composer and arranger of music. He has lent his voice to many creative productions composed by Pandit Ravi Shankar, and has assisted in composing music for many television serials in Hindi and Gujarati composed by Jaidev and Avinash Vyas. Shri Ashit Desai has composed music for many dance ballets and also accompanied many eminent dancers such as Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra, Protima Gouri Bedi, Malavika Sarukkai, Birju Maharaj and Hema Malini. He has conducted many workshops on Voice Culture.

Shri Ashit Desai has presented many thematic shows in India and overseas such as Namostute (bhajans on various Hindu pantheon deities), Kavya Gunjan (selected poets of the Gandhi era), Megh Malhar (monsoon songs), and Geet Ateet (Gujarati Natya Geet).

For his contribution to Music for Dance, he has received many titles and awards including the Asiad Jyoti Award given by the President of India (1982); the Pandit Omkarnath Thakur Award bestowed by the Government of Gujarat (2001); and the Transmedia Award for his Television serial *Shraddha* in 2008.

Shri Ashit Desai receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for 2017 for his contribution to Music for Dance.