



## LALITH JAYAVANTH RAO

Akademi Award: Hindustani Vocal Music

Born on 6 November 1942 at Madras, Tamil Nadu, Shrimati Lalith Jayavanth Rao received training in music from Shri Ramarao Naik and later received training under the tutelage of Shri Dinkar Kaikini and Shri Khadim Hussain Khan. She belongs to the Agra-Atrauli Gharana.

An M.Sc.Eng. in Electronic Engineering from the University of New Brunswick, Canada, and a top-grade artist of All India Radio and Doordarshan, Shrimati Lalith Rao has performed in many prestigious music festivals in India and abroad. She has been documented by many cultural institutions including the filmmaker Maya Chandra, and by the Government of Karnataka. She has conducted many lecture-demonstrations on music in India and abroad. Shrimati Lalith Rao has been associated with many prestigious cultural institutions in various capacities such as Member of Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, and Archive of Indian Music, Bengaluru. She has many recordings to her credit.

For her outstanding musicianship, she has received many titles and awards including the Sur Mani bestowed by the Sur Singar Samsad, Mumbai (1970); the Karnataka Kalashree Gaurav Puraskar conferred by the Karnataka Sangeetha Nritya Academy (2012); the Nishagandhi Award given by the Government of Kerala (2014); the ITC Sangeet Research Academy Western Region Award (2015); the Tana Riri Award given by the Gujarat State Sangeet Natak Academy (2016); the Guru Kripa Award bestowed by the Shankar Mahadevan Academy (2017); and the Karnataka Rajyotsava Award from the Government of Karnataka (2017).

Shrimati Lalith Jayavanth Rao receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for 2017 for her contribution to Hindustani vocal music.