



**MALLIKA SARABHAI**  
**Akademi Award: Creative Dance**

*Born in 1953 in Ahmedabad, Mallika Vikram Sarabhai learnt Bharatanatyam under her mother Mrinalini Sarabhai. She trained in Kuchipudi under Guru C. R. Acharyalu and also learnt Mobiniattam and folk dances at the Darpana Academy of Performing Arts, Ahmedabad.*

*Lead soloist since 1977 at the Darpana Academy, Mallika Sarabhai has won fame as a dancer, choreographer and actress. She has performed widely, leading her dance group in prestigious festivals in India and abroad. Her work has found a focus in socially relevant subjects — women's issues, ecology, literacy. Using the tools of classical dance, folk forms, theatre, and other vocabularies of the Indian performing tradition, she has crystallized choreographic and theatrical works like Shakti and Sita's Daughters. She has also collaborated with various choreographers and directors abroad, and won acclaim for her role as Draupadi in Peter Brook's Mahabharata.*

*A multifaceted personality, she has acted in films and television, directed several educational programmes, and published articles and books on a wide range of subjects. She is now co-director of the Darpana Academy of Performing Arts.*

*Among the awards she has received are the Gaurav Puraskar of the Government of Gujarat in 1992, and the Best Actress Award for Gujarati films in 1975.*

*Shrimati Mallika Sarabhai receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution in the field of creative dance.*



Akademi Awards 1999 – 2000