



R.N. THYAGARAJAN & R.N. THARANATHAN (Joint Award)
Akademi Award: Carnatic Vocal Music

Shri Rudrapatnam N. Thyagarajan and Shri Rudrapatnam N. Tharanathan are a unique team of brothers who have been performing Carnatic vocal music for many years. Shri Rudrapatnam N. Thyagarajan was born on 15 July 1943, and Shri Rudrapatnam N. Tharanathan on 11 November 1946 in Hassan, Karnataka. They received their initial training in music from their father Shri R.K. Narayana Swamy, and were later students of Shri R.K. Venkatarama Shastry.

The duo have participated in many prestigious festivals, seminars and conferences of music in India and abroad, and have published many articles on the subject of Carnatic music. They have been associated with many prestigious institutions as members such as Selection Committee Member of Music Audition Board, All India Radio, New Delhi; and Local Audition Board, All India Radio, Bangalore. Top-grade artists of All India Radio and Doordarshan, they have many recordings to their credit.

For their excellence in the field of Carnatic vocal music, the duo have been honoured with several titles and awards. These include the Certificate of Excellence Award by the American Institute of World Culture, USA (1991); the Rajyotsava Award by the Karnataka State Government, Bangalore (1992); the Karnataka Kalashree by the Karnataka Sangeetha Nritya Academy, Bangalore (2003); the Sri K.K. Murthy Memorial Chowdiah Award by the Academy of Music, Bangalore (2011); and the Kalajyothi Samman by the Nadajyothi Sri Thyagaraja Swamy Bhajana Sabha, Bangalore (2011).

Shri Rudrapatnam N. Thyagarajan and Shri Rudrapatnam N. Tharanathan jointly receive the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for their contribution to Carnatic vocal music.