



AKADEMI AWARDS 1972

Sikkal R. Ramaswami Pillai

I present to you, Sir, Shri R. Ramaswamy Pillai.

Born in 1888 in Sikkal, in Thanjavur District, Shri Ramaswami Pillai received training in Bharata Natyam from various leading exponents of the time, in particular Smt. Bhamarambal Ammal, a renowned Devadasi from Tiruvarur. In his days Shri Ramaswami Pillai was well known not only as a Nattuvanar, or teacher and conductor of Bharata Natyam, but also as a dancer. Later, he taught in Ceylon and in New Delhi. A number of leading dancers of Bharata Natyam today are among his pupils.

For his eminence in the field of dance and his contribution to its enrichment, Shri Sikkal R. Ramaswami Pillai receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Bharata Natyam.