

Culture

exhibition

Remembering Berlioz

A poster exhibition focuses on life and works of a French composer

By Fayza Haq

AN exhibition of posters dealing with the life and works of Hector Louis Berlioz is being held at the Alliance Francaise.

The French composer, critic and conductor of the Romantic period (1803-1869) is famous for his "Symphonie fantastique", the choral symphony "Rmeo et Juliete" and his dramatic piece "La Damnation de Faust".

During his childhood there was war in the north east of Grenoble where he was born and where he grew up so that schools were disrupted. His father, who was an enlightened physician, educated him and gave him his first lessons in music and Latin. Like many composers, Berlioz received little formal training in his early years. He worked out elements of harmonies by himself at the age of 14. With the help of performers he learnt to play the flute and the guitar.

When he went to Paris in 1821 to study medicine, he also studied Gluck who influenced him greatly. His musical vocation became clear in his mind and this led to disagreements between Berlioz and his parents. He took courses at the Conservatoire and in 1830 he won the Prix de Rome, having won a second prize earlier. This pacified his parents and that year he composed his "Symphonie fantastique".

During his long apprenticeship he learned to appreciate Beethoven and Weber apart from the two great poets Shakespeare and Goethe. At this time he fell in love with the Shakespearean actress, Harriet Smithson who had taken Paris by storm. A rebound from this one-sided attachment, he became engaged to the beautiful pianist, Camille.

When one understands the intellectual and intuitive basis of Berlioz music one understands also the unceasing effort to have his music played. The result of his many journeys to Germany, Belgium, Russia and Austria-Hungary was that he taught the leading



orchestras of Europe a new style, and through them, taught the new idiom to the young composers and critics who flocked wherever he went.

Back in Paris, he set about conquering it anew and wrote his new work "Le Retour a la vie" which ended in the death of the protagonist, and this enjoyed great success.

Although his marriage to Harriet Smithson, whom he married in 1833, did not last, the couple led a peaceful coexistence in Montmartre in a house that Maurice Utrillo never tired of painting. Here he received many musicians and poets of the romantic movement and he composed the great "Requim", "Harolde en Italie", "Romeo et Juliette" and the opera "Benvenuto Cellini." After 1840 Berlioz' life consisted of a series of tours across Europe including Moscow and St Petersburg. Among Berlioz's dramatic works are the internationally known "La Damnation de Faust", "L'enfance du Christ", and "Beatrice et Benedict" which was based on Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing".

The outstanding characteristics of Berlioz' music its dramatic expressiveness and variety account for the feeling of attraction or repulsion that it produces in the listener. Its variety also means that devotees of one work may dislike others, as one finds lovers of Shakespeare who detest "Othello". Berlioz is certainly a dramatic musician of the first rank and the poster exhibition, which marks all the important turning points of his life presents a small section of European culture with effectiveness.

The exhibition will be on till 31st January.

fashion

Responding to The Call of The Heart

School teacher Nadira Azad turns fashion designer

By Ziaul Karim

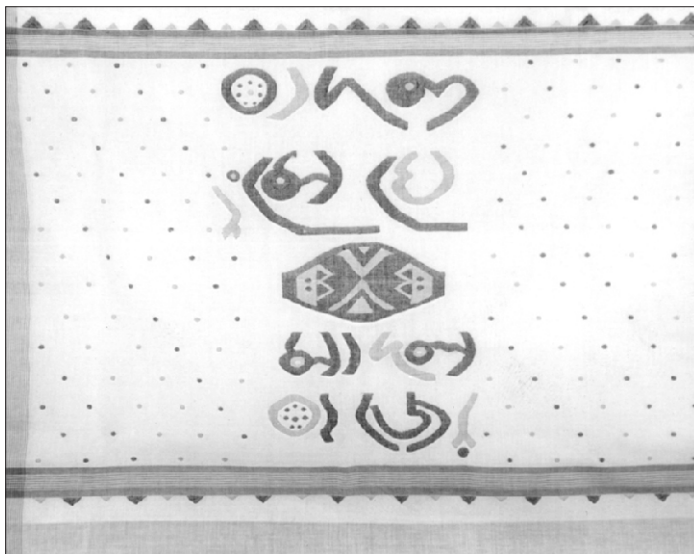
HER life had been caged into the routine of a typical school teacher, her creative self buried under the heap of copies she had to sign and check out everyday. But I kept on asking myself whether this is the life I wanted to live and the answer from within was do something different.

What can she really pursue at her mid forties? Starting life anew is a difficult and unassailable proposition.

But she took up the challenge of starting something fresh giving the old adage 'life begins at forty' its full due. Today the fashion boutique, Shatabdi, she runs received accolade and appreciation from country's fashion pundits and fashion conscious people.

"When I decided to open my fashion boutique in December 1999 at the fag end of the twentieth century I thought Shatabdi or the century would be a fitting name for my boutique," says Nadira in her simple but precise expression.

Nadira has no formal training in fashion nor did she had a knack for



Line from Tagore's song accentuate Nadira's saris.

it at any moment in her school-teacher life.

"I feel I have a delicate taste for designing and being an art collector I'm confident I have developed an eye for fine art. I may not have the fashion designer's skill but have the aesthetic taste to try my luck in designing. It was a gamble I played

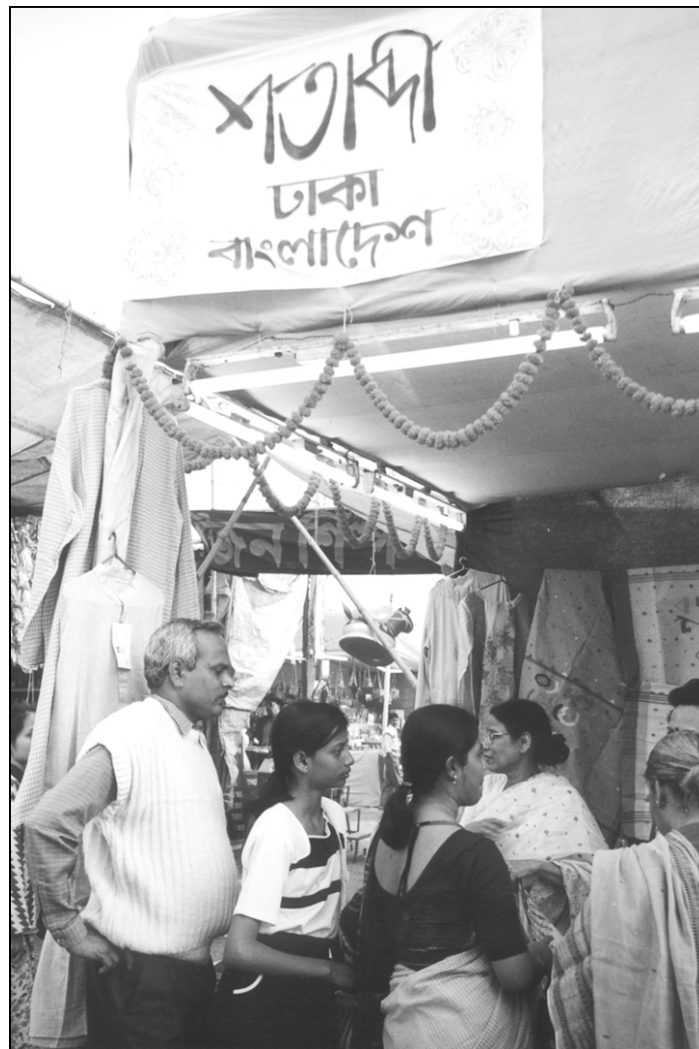
and now I'm enjoying my time designing saris and salwar-kameez ensembles," Nadira explains.

Nadira Azad does not know how to draw and paint but knows what she wants. She explains her concepts to an artist who draws the designs for her.

"I have to spend long hours with



Nadira Azad presents a sari to the wife of Dilip Kumar



Visitors at Nadira's show at Shantiniketan.

my artist to elaborate the notions and images that I have in my mind and work on them till I get the desired result."

A perfectionist to the bones, Nadira sits with the weavers next with the designs she has made by the artist. "Usually the weavers are reluctant to transfer the designs on to the saris or dresses primarily because my designs are atypical and to some extent idiosyncratic. So, there also I have to be very patient to achieve my goals."

Her recent show held at Paush Mela in Shantiniketan turned out to be a huge success. Her recent sari collection is unique in style and design. She has embroidered lines from Rabindra Sangeet in a fascinating calligraphic style to win

the appreciation of the literati of Shantiniketan.

Nadira has found her aficionado in Vice-chancellor of Biswabharati Dipil Kumar Singha, among others.

She has had four solo exhibitions in Dhaka and two at Shantiniketan till date and will bring her new collection to capture the mood of Baisakh in April next.

At present Nadira is contemplating about doing a show before Eid.

Nadira always emphasises on our tradition in designing and with her sensitive eye things turns into wearable art.

Recommendations

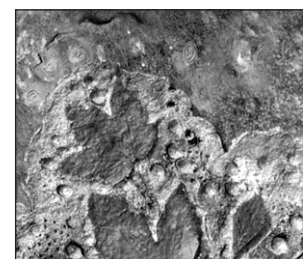
14th National Art Exhibition.

Three-week long Fourteenth National Art Exhibition 2000, organised by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, will be inaugurated on January 23, 2001 at the Academy auditorium at 4:00 afternoon. The exhibition will go on till 12th February daily from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. From 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday. The exhibits will be on display at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Gallery.

Musical evening

Muktijudha Jadughar (Liberation war museum) presents a fund raising winter evening of musical soiree.

Pramila Chakrabarti's solo musical recital will be held at the Cafe Theatre of the Museum--5, Segun Bagicha, on January 26 at 6. Snacks will be served in the tea-break.



Art exhibition

Alka mathur and Naresh Kapuria's joint show opens at Bengal Gallery on January 18. Alka Mathur is a familiar name in the Dhaka art circle. These two artists together promise a mind stirring show for the city's gallery-goers.

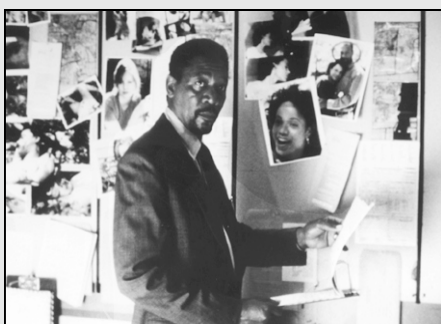
The War We

Forgot

A photography exhibition on the history of country's Liberation War has opened at the Drik Gallery. The show displays historic images of the internationally renowned press and other photographers who were in Bangladesh during the War in 1971. The works of Abbas, Barbey, Henri Bureau, David Burnett, Horst Faas (Associated Press), Michel Laurent (Associated Press), Raghu Rai Rashid Talukder, among others, have been kept on display. The exhibition is open for all from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily and will come to an end on February 2.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



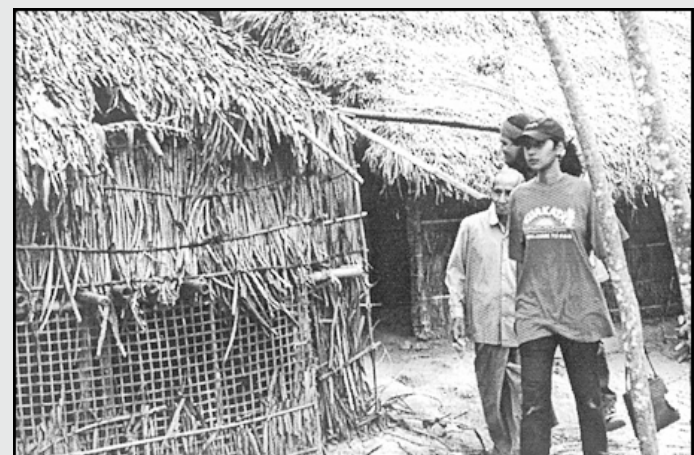
Kiss the girls on HBO at 10 pm

Watch out for this terrific suspense thriller. A serial killer is on the loose. His modus operandi is to kidnap girls and kill them at his leisure. Alex Cross, a forensic detective and best-selling crime author gets into the act when his niece becomes the latest victim. So who's the killer? Watch out. Starring: Morgan Freeman, Ashley Judd.

BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 Talking Movies 4:00 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 SCI

CNN 4:00 World Business Today 4:30 Inside Asia 5:00 CNN World View 5:30 Moneyline News Hour 6:30 World Beat World News Americas 7:00 The Artclub 8:00

News 11:30 Science and Technology Week 12:00 World News 12:30 CNN Hotspots 1:00 World News 1:30 World Sport 2:00 World News 2:30 Style with Elsa Klensch 3:00 Larry King Live (replay) 4:00 World News 4:30 CNNdotCOM 5:00 World News 5:30 World Sport 6:00 World News 6:30 Biz Asia 7:00



Adventure Bangladesh on Ekushey TV at 4:00 pm.

Worlds 7:15 Heart-break Ridge 10:00 Kiss The Girls 12:15 The Glimmer Man 2:15 Woo 4:00 The War

AXN

6:00 Walker's World 7:00 Heart of Courage 8:00 Grandeur Musashi RV 9:00 Silk Stalkings VI/ Love the Nightlife 10:00 Beastmaster II 11:00 World Most Amazing Video II 12:00 Pensacola III/A Wing and a Prayer 1:00 Movie: The Opportunists 3:00 Silk Stalkings VI/The Rock 4:00 Grandeur Musashi RV 5:00 Heart of Courage 6:00 World Most Amazing Video II 7:00 Beastmaster II 8:00 Premiere Movie: Scissors 10:00 World Most Amazing/Video II 11:00 Silk Stalkings VI/The Rock 12:00 Movie: Scissors 2:00 Pensacola III/A Wing and a Prayer 3:00 Silk Stalkings V/Family Values

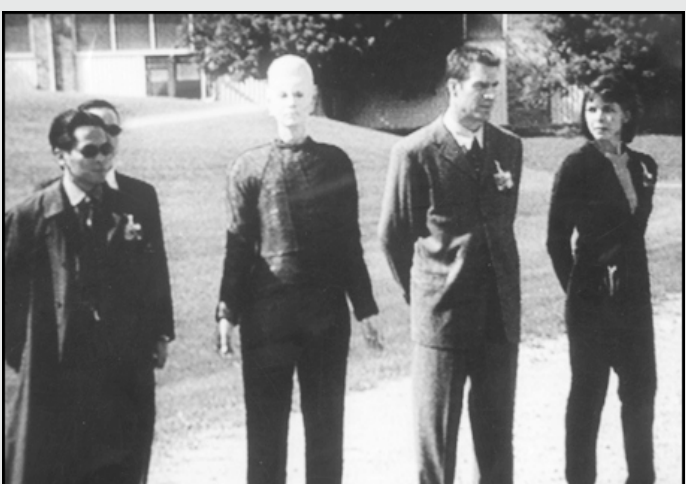
ZEE CINEMA

6:30 Gopal Krishna (Sachin, Jarina) 10:30 Love Love Love (Amir Khan, Juhi Chawla) 2:00 Deedar (Ashok Kumar, Nargis) 6:00



Xena on at 5:00 pm

Larry King Live 9:00 World News 9:30 World Sport 10:00 World News 10:30 Showbiz Today 11:00 World



Earth Final Conflict on BTV at 7:00 pm

BTV 9:10 Khela-Dhula 9:35 Angana 10:00 Naba Yuge Aamra 10:25 Programme on Mother & Child Healthcare 10:40 Manche-Nepathya 3:15 Telefilm: Beder Meya 4:00 Khabar 5:25 Programme on Population 5:50 Nibedan 6:00 Khabar 6:35 Geetimalya 7:00 Earth Final Conflict 7:25 Special Programme on Martyr Asad 8:00 News in Bangla 8:20 Drama of the week: Shephalika 10:00 News at Ten 10:20 Talk Show Khola Janala 10:45 Mini Series 11:30 Khabar/The News 11:45 Closing

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

6:30 Eyewitness II 7:00 In Care of Nature 7:30 Outer Bounds I&II 8:00 Without Warning I 8:30 Lonely Planet VI 9:30 Cafe Digital 10:00 Medical Detectives 10:30 Extreme Machines 11:30 Amazing Worlds 12:30 Wild Asia 1:30 Ultimate Guide 2:30 Trauma IV-Life in the ER 3:30 Uncharted Africa 4:00 In Care of Nature 4:30 Decisive Weapons (I & II) 5:00 Discovery News 5:30 Assignment Discovery 6:30 Real Kids, Real Adventures 7:00 Splat IV 7:30 Medical Mysteries 8:30 Health Showcase 9:30 New Detectives III 10:30 Journeys to the Ends of the Earth 11:30 Trailblazers II 12:30 Medical Mysteries 1:30 Health Showcase 2:30

EKUSHEY TV

2:00 Ekushey News Headlines 2:05 Ajker Potrikay 2:15 Ei Shoptaho 2:40 Classic Cartoons 3:00 Ekushey News Headlines 3:05 Shorashori 4:00 Adventure Bangladesh 4:30 Toyota World of Wildlife 5:00 Documentary: Savage World 6:00 Ekushey News Headlines 6:05 Noorjahan



Nurjahan on Ekushey TV at 6:05 pm.

7:00 Mukto Khobor 7:30 Ekushey News 8:00 Bangla Movie 10:00 BTV News 10:20 Bangla Movie (Cont) 11:00 Ekushey Late Night News

STAR GOLD

8:30 Bollywood News



Hercules on Star World at 4:00 pm.

9:00 Gharana (Rajendra Kumar, Asha Parekh) 12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30 Jyoti (Jeetendra, Hema Malini) 3:30 Bollywood News 4:00 Hare Kanch Ki Chooriyon (Biswajit, Naina Sahu) 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30 Saturday Special Angoor (Sanjeev Kumar, Deven Verma, Moushmi Chatterji) 10:30 Rahein Na Rahein Hum 11:00 Dilruba (Dev Anand, Rehana) 12:30 Dilruba (Contd...) 2:00 Geet Bahar 2:30 Hare Kanch Ki Chooriyon (Biswajit, Naina Sahu) 5:30 Dilruba (Dev Anand, Rehana)

STAR WORLD

6:00 The Adventure of Sindbad 7:00 The Simpsons 7:30 Things People Do 8:00 The Bold & the Beautiful 10:00 TV. Com 10:30 Travel Asia 11:00 FOX

Special 11:30 Love My India 12:00 Chhupa Rustom 12:30 Mirch Masala 1:00 TSN 1:30 Gharwali Uparwali 2:00 Kabhi Kabie Mere Ghar Mein Bhuchal Aata Hai 2:30 National Geographic Special 3:30 Tea Time Cinema: 6:30 Musaffir Hoon Yaron 7:00 Family Fortunes 7:30 Chalti Ka Naam Antakshiri 8:30 STAR Mast Movies: Hamesha (Kajol, Saif Ali Khan) 11:30 Aaj Ki Baat 11:45 Hamesha (contd.) 12:30 Siski 1:00 Kalash 1:30 Sewalal Mewawala 2:00 Kabhi Kabhie Mere Ghar Mein Bhuchal Aata Hai 2:30 Hasna Matt 3:30 National Geographic Special 4:30 Musaffir Hoon Yaron 5:00 Gharwali Uparwali 5:30 Shrimati Sharma Na Kehi Thi

STAR MOVIES

7:30 Comedy: Bitter Suite 9:30 Action: American Born 11:30 Action: 6 Days 7 Nights 1:30 Drama: Simon Birch 3:30 Action: Silicon Towers 5:30 Action: Red Sonja 7:15 Action: Enemy Of The State 9:30 Thriller: Guilty As Sin 11:30 Action: Jack Of Hearts 1:30 Action: American Born 3:30 Action: Rambo 3 5:30 Comedy: Bitter Suite

BBC WORLD

6:00 BBC News 6:30 World Business Report 7:00 BBC News 7:30 Asia Today/World Business Report 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Asia Today/World Business Report 9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today/World Business Report 10:00

STAR PLUS (INDIA)

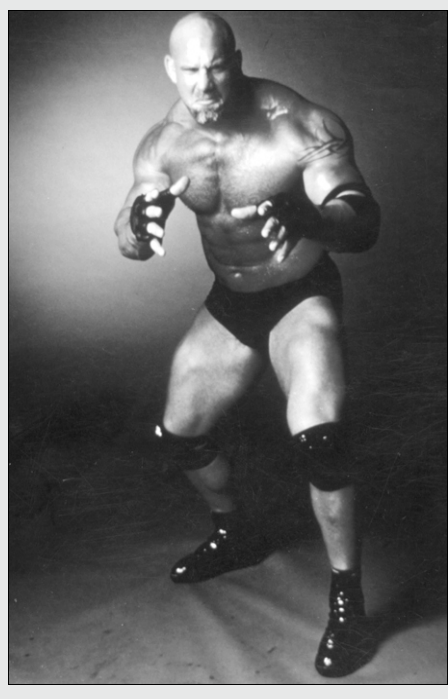
6:30 Star Geetmala 7:30 Hit Ya Fit 8:00 Cine Jharokha 8:30 Good Morning India 9:30 Fox Kids 10:30 National Geographic

KIDS Goosebumps 1:00 World Championship Wrestling Nitro 3:00 Baywatch 4:00 Hercules 5:00 Xena 6:00 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World 7:00 First Wave 8:00 Water Rats 9:00 STAR News 10:00 Baywatch 11:00 First Wave 12:00 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World 1:00 Xena 2:00 Hercules 3:00 Morris Cenuilo 4:00 Space Island One 5:00 Lasse

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STAR PLUS (INDIA)

6:30 Star Geetmala 7:30 Hit Ya Fit 8:00 Cine Jharokha 8:30 Good Morning India 9:30 Fox Kids 10:30 National Geographic



World Championship Wrestling Nitro on Star World at 1:00 pm.