

exhibition

Remembering Berlioz

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

By Fayza Haq

A 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 "Romeo et Juliette" 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



fashion

Responding to The Call of The Heart

School teacher Nadira Azad turns fashion designer

By Ziaul Karim

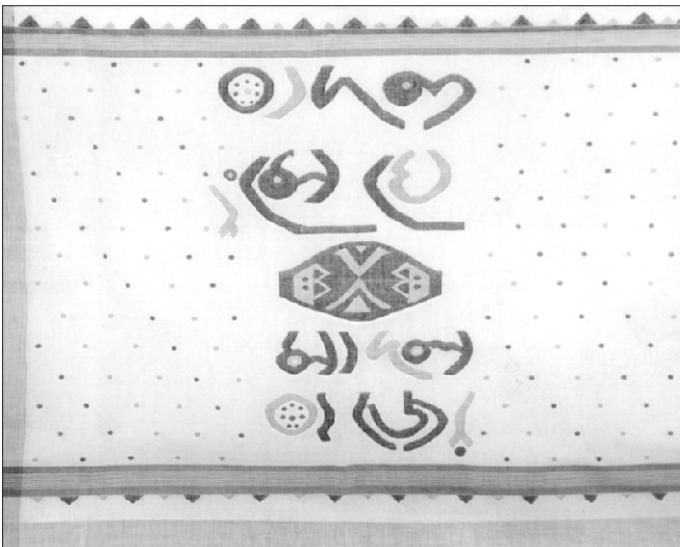
HER life had been caged into the routine of a typical school teacher, her creative self buried under the heap of copies she had to sign and check out everyday. But I kept on asking myself whether this is the life I wanted to live and the answer from within was do something different.

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 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



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

knack for 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

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.

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

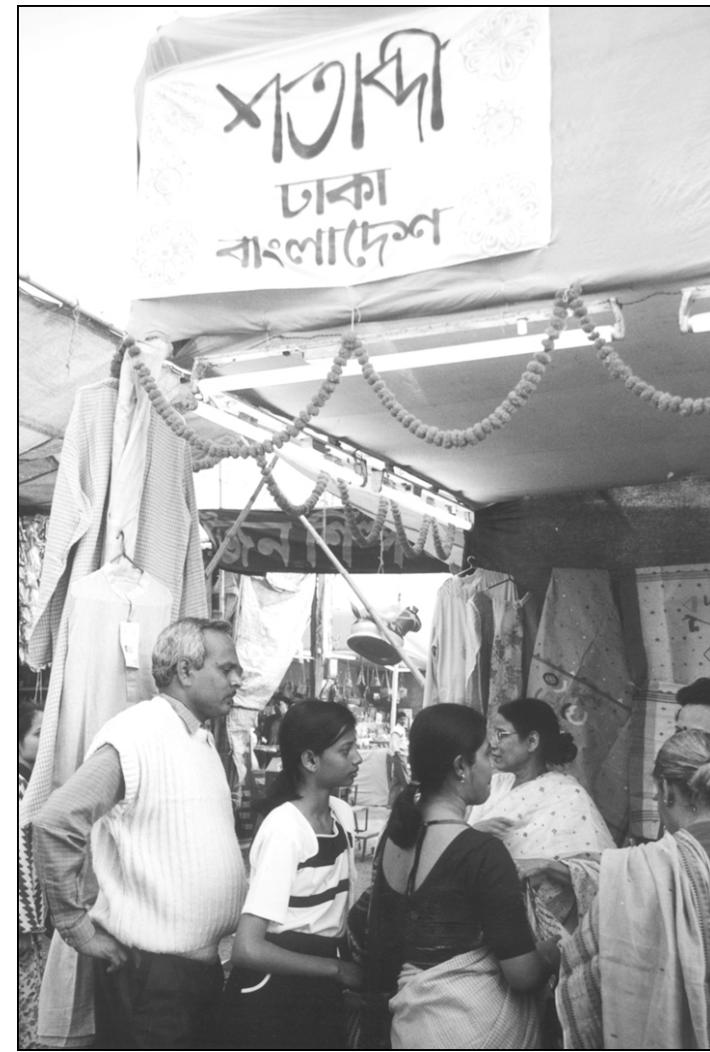
Nadira Azad does not know how to draw and paint but knows what she wants. She explains her concepts to an artist who draws the designs for her.

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' 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 is 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.

Nadira Azad presents a sari to the wife of Dilip Kumar Shinha.



Visitors at Nadira's show at Shantiniketan.

"I have spent long hours with 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.

Nadia has found her aficionado in Vice-chancellor of Biswabharati Dilip 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 Baisakhi in April next.

At present Nadia 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

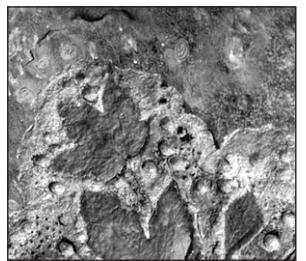
14th National Art Exhibition.

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 Drift 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, Barbe, 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,

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 BBC News 10:30 Asia

Hardtalk 11:00 BBC News 11:30 Talking Movies 12:00 BBC News 12:30 Question Time 1:30 Click 1:00 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:00 BBC News 11:30 BBC News 12:00 BBC News 12:30 BBC News 1:00 BBC News 1:30 BBC News 2:00 BBC News 2:30 BBC News 3:00 BBC News 3:30 BBC News 4:00 BBC News 4:30 BBC News 5:00 BBC News 5:30 BBC News 6:00 BBC News 6:30 BBC News 7:00 BBC News 7:30 BBC News 8:00 BBC News 8:30 BBC News 9:00 BBC News 9:30 BBC News 10:00 BBC News 10:30 BBC News 11:0