

Immensely influential, the remarkable *Symphonie fantastique* was composed while Hector Berlioz was suffering an intense and unreciprocated passion for the Irish actress Harriet Smithson. Its autobiographical tale describes a young musician's opium-poisoned nightmares of jealous despair and fatal justice following the murder of his beloved. Berlioz wrote a second movement cornet solo into a subsequent revision of the score, here included as an optional extra. He wed his sweetheart actress but, recuperating in Nice, wrote *Le corsaire* after the final breakup of their marriage.

Hector
BERLIOZ
 (1803-69)

1	Le corsaire – Overture, Op. 21	8:06
	Symphonie fantastique, Op. 14	62:15
Episode de la vie d'un artiste en cinq parties (An Episode in the Life of an Artist in five movements)		
2 I. Rêveries – Passions (Dreams – Passions):		
	Largo – Allegro agitato e appassionato assai – Religiosamente	14:37
3	II. Un bal. Valse (A Ball. Waltz): Allegro non troppo	6:38
4	III. Scène aux champs (Scene in the Country): Adagio	17:20
5	IV. Marche au supplice (March to the Scaffold): Allegro non troppo	7:01
6	V. Songe d'une nuit de Sabbat (Dream of a Witches' Sabbath):	
	Larghetto – Allegro –	3:31
7	Dies irae –	1:57
8	Ronde du Sabbat –	2:51
9	Dies irae et Ronde du Sabbat (ensemble)	1:49
10	II. Un bal. Alternative version with Cornet obbligato	6:43

Orchestre National de Lyon • Leonard Slatkin

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Produced and engineered by Tim Handley • Booklet notes: Keith Anderson

Cover painting: *Strong Dream* by Paul Klee (1879-1940)

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Playing Time
70:21



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