



Saturday, September 10, 2016, 2pm and 8pm
Zellerbach Hall

Shanghai Acrobats of the People's Republic of China

Liu Junke, *director*

Zhao Shuangwu, *choreographer*

Additional choreography and staging by Iryna Kovalova

Shanghai Nights

Opening

A dreaming boy enters a world of fantasy and encounters a beautiful fairy phoenix flying over the sea, wings splashing in the waves along the coast. Attracted by the beauty of the scene, the boy runs into the water.

Act I

The fairy phoenix is touched by the boy's courage. Saving the boy, she invites him to fly with her up to the warm sun and down into the wonderful world of the sea.

Aerial Silk

Su Zihui and Cao Zhiqiang

Energy – Adagio Trio

Hu Tao, Li Yi, Deng Xinpeng

Foot Juggling with Balls

Tao Linyu, Li Jin, Zeng Nifei, Zeng Jing, Chen Fang



Act II

The phoenix leads the boy to a fantasy palace, where they step together into a lovely garden filled with singing birds, clowns, teeterboards, and flying hats.

But evil eyes are watching them.

Teeterboard

Xiang Yang, Li Yi, Hu Tao, Liu Ying, Huang Liang

Clowning Kicking Bowls to Head on Rola Rola

Nie Jian

Vocal Imitation

Zhang Kui

Straw Hats Juggling Dance

Qiu Guosheng, Zhou Zhenliang, Wu Yan, Zhou Tianchen, Yuan Yuan

Aerial Ring

Wang Caihong

Intermission

Act III

The fantasy palace is invaded by evil forces. In order to seize control of the phoenix, the evil beings decide to kill the boy. The clown saves the boy. The angry evil beings jail the phoenix and tear at her feathers. Having no choice, the phoenix flies into the fire.

Unicycle Troupe

Hu Tao, Li Yi, Zheng Tian, Qiu Guoshen

Ballet on Shoulders

Luo Xichen and Hu Tao

Leather Straps

Fan Lilei, Ge Hongxu, Pei Cunchuang, Zhou Shibang, Wang Dingding

Hoop-Diving

Xiong Yi, Wu Yan, Zheng Tian, Li Chong, Liu Ying, Wang Dingding, Zhang Jie

High Chairs

Cheng Zhi

Act IV

Music wakes the boy. He is in a forest of shining fairy trees. The boy looks for the phoenix and finds only her feathers. The phoenix is reborn from the fire and happiness returns to the world.

Vocal Imitation

Hu Tao, Li Yi, Zheng Tian, Qiu Guoshen

Plates Spinning on High Stilts

Chen Fang, Wang Ji, Shen Zhonghui, Li Nan, Nie Li, Xie Qian

Finale

Company



Founded in 1959, the **Shanghai Acrobats of the People's Republic of China** is one of the most influential and competitive acrobatic companies in the world. The troupe has won many awards at acrobatic and circus competitions at home and abroad.

The company has performed before thrilled audiences in more than 30 countries, including the United States, Germany, Spain, the United Kingdom, Mexico, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Japan, Turkey, Canada, Indonesia, Fiji, Cameroon, Guinea, and Nigeria. These tours have introduced diverse audiences to the Chinese acrobatic and circus arts, and also have promoted friendships between the artists and

peoples of many countries. In recent years, the company has performed with the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, Cirque du Soleil at Treasure Island Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, and Stardust's World Christmas Circus in Germany and the Netherlands. The troupe performed at Rixos Hotel in Turkey from 2004-10, and in 2012 toured Canada with the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony's 52-piece orchestra. The company also performed in Xinyang, one of China's main tourist cities, from 2012-14.

The current debut tour of *Shanghai Nights* includes coast-to-coast appearances throughout North America.