The Shanghai Acrobats of the People’s Republic of China
Direct from Shanghai, the P.R. of China, *Shanghai Acrobats of the People's Republic of China* 2016 was founded in 1959 and belongs to the artistic entities of governmental finance allocation (state-owned enterprise). After more than 50 years' efforts, it has become one of the most influential and competitive acrobatic companies in China, and has won many awards at the acrobatic and circus competitions at home and abroad.

Its acts Two Persons Climbing the Pole, Leather Belt, and Bottles and Branches won 2nd prizes in the Central South Competition in preparation for the 2nd National Acrobatic Competition of China in 1986. Silkworms Spin Silk and Balancing on the Ball won gold medals in 1990 Belgium Young Star International Acrobatic Competition. Chairs Pyramid in Two Towers won the first prize and the prize of creation at the 3rd China National Acrobatic Competition. Climbing Pole, Hoop Diving and Two Persons Twirling Lanterns won the second prizes at the Third Central South Acrobatic Competition in 1995. Acrobatics on Pole and The Balance Arts of Acrobatic Gymnastics won the first prizes at the 1995 Central South Preliminary Competition for the Second National Acrobatics Competition. In the same year, The Balance Arts of Acrobatic Gymnastics won the Golden Lion award and Acrobatics on Pole won the Silver Lion award at the Fourth National Acrobatic Competition. Snow Carpets Twirling won the Silver Lion award plus the prize of creation and Acrobatics on Pole won the silver award at the 1998’s Third National Juvenile Acrobatic Competition. Also, the troupe’s Acrobatics on Pole won the Silver Clown Award at the Monte Carlo International Circus Festival in 2009. In August 2010, the company's Four Girls’ Contortion and Aerial Ring both won the silver awards at the 3rd Hanoi International Circus Festival in Vietnam.

Since the 1980s, the company has been invited and successively performed in more than 30 countries including the United States, Germany, Spain, Great Britain, Mexico, Netherlands, Switzerland, Japan, Turkey, Canada, Indonesia, Fiji, Cameroon, Guinea and Nigeria. Through the frequent activities of the international tours and performances, the troupe has not only introduced Chinese acrobatic and circus art worldwide, but also promoted the friendships with the peoples of various countries. In 1999 and 2000, the company toured Germany and Netherlands as The Great Chinese State Circus for seven months. In the most recent 15 years, the company and its acts have performed for the tour of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus in 2002/03, Cirque du Soleil’s *Mystere* at Treasure Island Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, Stardust’s World Christmas circuses in Germany and Netherlands 2011/12. From 2004 till 2010, the troupe performed for seven years as a permanent show for six months each year at Rixos Hotel in Turkey. In 2012,
its 40 acrobats performed a tour in Canada with the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony’s 52 pieces orchestra. The company also performed ERA, a permanent show of over 50 performers as Shanghai Acrobats in Xinyang, one of China’s tourist cities for three years from 2012 till 2014. The tour of Shanghai Acrobats of the People’s Republic of China 2016 will see the company performing coast to coast in North America. The presentation will be the debut of Shanghai Nights!!