

# Wuhan shines in *Amazing China*

By Wan Xuming



Poster of *Amazing China*

*Amazing China*, a documentary film offering Chinese filmgoers a chance to gain a comprehensive understanding of their country's achievements, was released nationwide on March 2. For Wuhan audiences, one highlight of the film is how an amazing Wuhan is presented in the film through its bridges, ports, and manufacturing.

Prior to its debut, the film's Hubei-born director Wei Tie,

revealed that Wuhan had to play a key role in the film when it comes to the recent economic development of China. Wei said that Wuhan is mentioned several times in the introduction on the Yangtze River economic belt. In fact, the film opens with scenes of Wuhan's landmarks, such as the Wuhan Yangtze River Bridge, and the Guishan TV Tower. Also, CPC's General Secretary Xi Jinping's inspection of the Wuhan Yangluo Port in

the rain is captured in the film.

The city contributes to many "Chinese miracles" presented in the film. For example, the reflector of the world's largest single aperture telescope "FAST Eye" was installed by Wuchang Shipbuilding Industry Group. About half of China's high-speed rail mileage opened to traffic is surveyed and designed by the China Railway Siyuan Survey and Design Group Co., Ltd based in Wuhan.

## Classical poetry revitalized with modern performance

*Eternal Classics in Song*, a recent cultural program hit of CCTV, reignites people's interest in classic poems. Songs adapted from ancient poems such as Yuan Mei's "Moss," and Li Bai's "Bringing in the Wine" went viral after they premiered on the program. The same is true in Wuhan. In fact, singing ancient poetry has long been a prevalent local practice deeply favored by college students and children.

A teacher in Shuiguohu

Middle School said that the approach of combining singing and dancing to teach children to learn ancient poetry is welcomed as it helps children better understand and memorize poems. A 6-year-old child demonstrated this sing-and-dance practice in front of our reporter, smoothly reciting Li Bai's long poem "Hard Roads in Shu."

A modern touch of ancient poetry in the form of music is

also popular at the Wuhan Poetry Festival and Wuhan Subway Poetry Festival.

Yang Hong, a teacher at the School of Humanities of Jiangnan University, said singing classic poetry is not new. Popular singers like Teresa Teng and Faye Wong all have performed songs adapted from ancient poetry. It is always updated interpretations that breathe life into traditional classics.

## Stan Lai's *Peking Man* set for late April



Director Lai (third from right) and the cast of *Peking Man*

Qintai Grand Theater released its show schedule for the first quarter of this year. One of the highlights of the program list is *Peking Man* directed by Stan Lai.

*Peking Man* is based on Cao Yu's famous play of the same title. Written in 1941, the four-act play set in Beijing, dramatizes the conflicts in a declining feudal family during the 1930s. The coincidence was that 38 years ago, Lai, a then student at University of California, Berkeley, actually met Cao in his lecture about Chinese theater. Lai recalled this meeting had a lifelong influence on him. He chose to reproduce this masterpiece for the play's "richness, exquisiteness, and deepness." Wan Fang, daughter of Cao, served as literary consultant for this play.

The play will be performed at Qintai Grand Theater on April 28 and 29.

## 37 winners of "Plum Blossom Award" perform in Chinese Opera Festival

By Wang Juan

The 6th Chinese Opera Art Festival opened on March 9. Thirty-seven top opera performers, all winners of the Plum Blossom Award, the highest award in Chinese opera performance, will participate in the festival.

During the festival period, 34 performances of 22 different operas will be presented. Additionally, 16 opera activities will be held on campuses, subways, and other public places. Audiences can also enjoy the highlights of the festival through online live broadcasts.

Audience members will also have the opportunity to participate in photo competitions of characters in the operas and in the work of making action figures of operas.