

# Grand Gala Marks Centenary of CPC's Founding

By Jin Lu

To celebrate the 100th birthday of the Communist Party of China, an art performance was held at Ningbo Cultural Poly Grand Theatre on June 30.

Featuring a thousand performers, the spectacular three-part grand production portrayed the CPC's hundred-year history of revolution, national development, and reform through a combination of music, dance and drama.

It highlighted China's historic achievements in the past century and the transformations that have taken place under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee, while outlining the promising future of fully realizing a modern socialist country.

Rehearsals and planning efforts for the gala began five months in advance, bringing together over ten professional art troupes from across Ningbo. Most of the music and scripts are original.

The act *Xing Huo Liao Yuan* told a vivid tale of outstanding Ningbo Communists over the past century through music, dance, and drama. The sketch *The Power of Faith* featured heroes and role models from Ningbo who contributed to the founding of New China. The short play *Response in Spring* was about an ordinary family in Hengkantou Village, Yuyao, who received a letter from General Secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee Xi Jinping in 2018. In the dance *Cotton Girl*, female students dressed as cotton farmers delivered a stunning performance.

The acts were threaded together by a common theme: our nation marching towards a brighter future under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era.

"This gala was a heartfelt present from Ningbo to the CPC on the centennial of its founding. It was great honor to have this opportunity to express our love for the Party," said Yang Dongbiao, the leader of a local chorus.



①Choral performance *Ode to the Motherland*.  
②The dance *Cotton Girl*. ③The short play *Response in Spring*.

[Photo by Cui Xiaoming]  
[Photo by Tang yan]

## INFO&TIPS

## Fenghua Peach is in Season!

By Dong Na

Fenghua, Ningbo is China's "peach capital". Fenghua peach represents the best of Ningbo's fruit produce. This year, Fenghua's honey peach farms cultivated 290 hectares of the popular fruit. 2021's total output is expected to be approximately 53,700 tons, or 500 million yuan, up by about 10,000 tons from last year.

As the peach trees blossomed earlier than usual this year, the fruits have ripened a week ahead of time. Several early-maturing varieties, including the *Bai Li*, are now available on the market in large quantities. During this year's "plum rain season", Fenghua saw 40% less precipitation than last year. The relative dryness, coupled with the improvement in cultivation technology, means that peach quality is much better than 2020: the fruits are significantly larger and sweeter.

In 2019, Fenghua farms launched the premium peach variety *Huanxi Fengtao* ("Fenghua joyous peaches"). Last year, more than a thousand tons of the *Huanxi* were sold. This year, *Huanxi* producers formed a strategic partnership with Alibaba Group to sell the peaches online.

2021 also marks the new 5,000-acre *Huanxi Fengtao* plantation's inaugural season. Spread across rolling hills, the plantation has a team of farmers who spend each morning of the harvest season rising at 3 or 4AM to pick and pre-sort the fruits.

At the plantation's processing area, there are refrigerated warehouses and storage space specially designed for fresh produce. The recently-picked peaches are cooled down rapidly from about 30°C to 0°C. They enter a state of "hibernation" before being packaged and transported. This technology originated in Japan and is being used for the first time in Zhejiang.

The plantation's team is equipped with hand-held non-invasive sugar detectors to ensure that the sugar content of each *Huanxi* peach reaches the threshold of 12 Degrees Brix. Thanks to partnerships with regional logistics companies, the peaches can reach any market in the Ningbo urban area within 2 hours after picking, and any market in Hangzhou and Shanghai within 5-6 hours. The *Huanxi* is guaranteed to firmly occupy the high-end peach market in major cities of the Yangtze River Delta.

Chief Adviser: Zhao Qingchuan  
Proofreader: Dong Na

## SPOTLIGHT

# The Strengths of an Attractive City: Impressions from International Experts

By Gou Wen

In recent years, Ningbo has been actively attracting global experts to work in the city. Many pioneering policies have been formed, such as providing annual salary subsidies to encourage businesses to recruit more talent internationally.

In 2017, Ningbo established the country's first official platform for bringing in talents from Central and Eastern European countries. Being the host city of the China-CEEC Expo, Ningbo is continuously increasing its contact with the rest of the world. Currently, close to 4,000 international experts work in Ningbo in a variety of industries, contributing their valuable skills to the city's development.

### Infinite Business Opportunities

Hartmut Albert Nagel is a magnet technology expert from Germany. Despite being over 80 years old, he remains committed to his career, which he has stayed true to since college. According to his colleague Engineer Yang, Nagel still takes the subway to work and keeps regular working hours. He founded the Ningbo Dr. Nagel Magnet Technologies Company in 2006, which develops advanced magnetic material.

For many years, he had been constantly travelling between Ningbo, Zhejiang and Jiangxi province. As a technical engineer, he provides technical support, conducts product R&D, and offers consultation to other companies seeking to upgrade their production process. Nagel settled down in Ningbo in May 2019. When asked about his impressions of the city, he said, "I think Ningbo is a perfect city, not only for working but also for living." Ningbo lies in

close proximity to major cities in the area, which makes travel convenient. As a manufacturing hub, Ningbo has a well-formed industrial ecosystem, where magnetic materials and relevant technologies are widely used, which generates ample opportunities for Nagel's business.

Nagel believes Ningbo to be an ideal place for the engineers: there are many potential clients to be found. "Ningbo is famous. Every engineer can find customers and partners in Ningbo," he said. He has personally benefitted from these opportunities.

However, Nagel still encounters challenges from time to time. "My company is a 'laowai company', so sometimes there are difficulties in getting financing," he said. He hopes to have more assistance in building ties with local public institutions and banks, which would greatly boost his company's growth.

### Rewarding Career, Promising Environment

Florent Capou is the senior chief engineer of the Geely Automobile Research Institute at Hangzhou Bay New Zone.

Capou has been in China for ten years. He moved to Ningbo three years ago. Before settling down in Ningbo, he had visited the city on several occasions during business trips. "My job is actually extremely interesting and very rewarding, and that is why I decided to come." Capou believes that with his current work in developing new concept vehicles, he is contributing to the future development of Chinese automobiles as well as Geely's growth.

Capou is from France. Ningbo, like his

home city, has many rivers and wooded areas. The resemblance in environment makes him feel very much at home. Compared to major Chinese cities in which he had lived, Ningbo has a slower-paced, more relaxed lifestyle. The traditional stores and restaurants here have given him a unique taste of local Chinese culture, which could be hard to find in cities like Shanghai. "I like that this is not a big city, so it's very convenient to commute from work to home," said Capou.

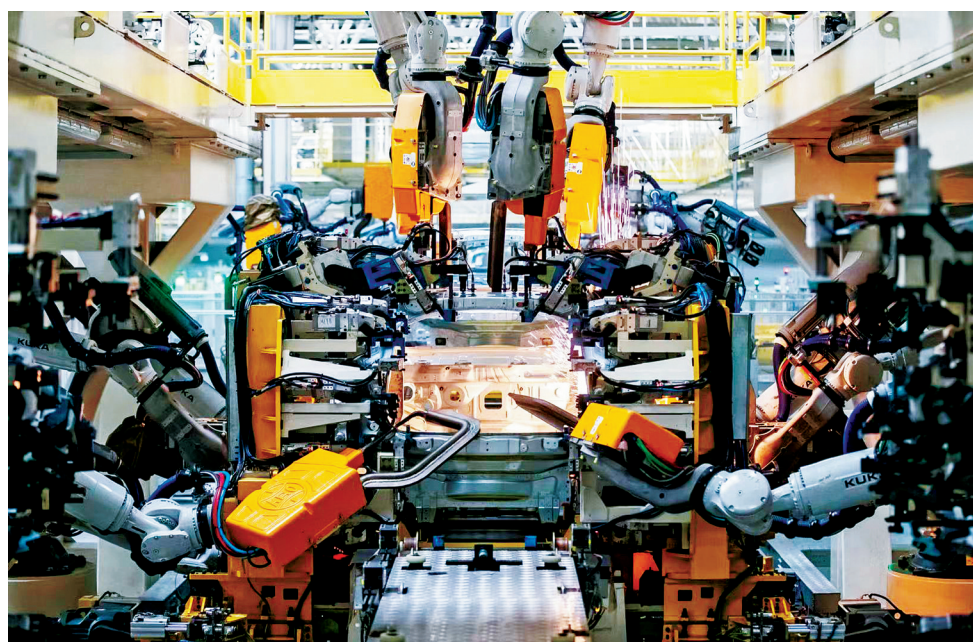
Capou does not find communication to be an issue, as many people around him can speak English. "This city is more like an international city, so you can speak English freely."

For Capou, a family man, it matters greatly whether a city has a good education system. The well-being of his family

members means just as much to him as his own career opportunities. Capou enjoys his current job and would like to live here long-term, but still has reservations. "The school [that my child goes to] is not here. They [my family] would have to live away from me," said Capou.

Capou is glad to see more public infrastructure being built in the surrounding areas. "The new hospital is beautiful. The equipment is fantastic." Although, Hangzhou Bay's healthcare system still needs to recruit more medical professionals to meet the growing demand.

Capou feels optimistic about his professional development at Hangzhou Bay New Zone. He is confident that when more public facilities for education and healthcare are built, more overseas professionals would be motivated to work here.



Geely's intelligent factory.

[Photo provided to Ningbo Times]

