

## **GENNADY "GGG" GOLOVKIN IS BACK!**

**New Undisputed King of Cinco De Mayo  
to Make Record-Tying 20th Consecutive  
World Middleweight Title Defense**

**Saturday, May 5 at StubHub Center  
Live on HBO World Championship Boxing®**

**Tickets Go On Sale  
*Today!* Wednesday, April 18 at 10 A.M. PT**

**CARSON, CALIF. (April 18, 2018)** -- Undefeated World Middleweight Champion and boxing superhero **GENNADY "GGG" GOLOVKIN** is saving Cinco De Mayo for boxing fans! Golovkin (37-0-1, 33 KOs), from Karaganda, Kazakhstan, boxing's longest-reigning world champion, returns to the ring, **Saturday, May 5**, against two-time world title challenger **VANES "THE NIGHTMARE " MARTIROSYAN** (36-3-1, 21 KOs), from Glendale, Calif. The fight will headline an exciting world championship card which will take place, under the stars, at **StubHub Center**, in Carson, Calif. It's the first time Golovkin has fought in Southern California in over two years. Golovkin has proved himself to be a sterling gate attraction in his previous three fights in the Southland, selling out The Fabulous Forum twice, in 2016 and 2015, and setting the all time attendance record for boxing at StubHub Center in 2014. Golovkin vs. Martirosyan will be televised live on **HBO World Championship Boxing** beginning at 11 p.m. ET/PT. Not only will this mark Golovkin's first non-pay-per-view fight since 2016, if successful, it will also be his 20th consecutive and record-tying middleweight title defense.

Golovkin and Martirosyan boast a combined record of 73-3-2 (54 KOs) -- a winning percentage of 94% with close to 3/4 of those victories coming by way of knockout.

Golovkin had originally been scheduled to defend his WBC, WBA, IBF and IBO middleweight titles on May 5 in a rematch against **Saul "Canelo" Alvarez**, in the biggest and most-anticipated event on the 2018 boxing calendar. But that fight was canceled when Alvarez withdrew after twice testing positive for the banned substance Clenbuterol

Promoted by GGG promotions, in association with Don King Productions, and sponsored by Tecate, Chivas Regal, Jordan and Hublot, tickets to the Golovkin vs. Martirosyan world championship event go on sale **Today! Wednesday, April 18, at 1 p.m. ET / 10 a.m. PT** Priced at \$750, \$500, \$300, \$200, \$100 and \$50, tickets may be purchased online at AXS.com, by phone at (888) 9AXS-TIX, or by visiting the StubHub Center box office.

"Vanes Martirosyan is now the most important fight of my career. He has my respect and I am training hard to defend my titles against him," said Golovkin. "I am happy to be back on HBO and fighting at StubHub Center because they have great boxing fans. I will give my fans another big drama show."

"Gennady has had such a terrific training camp in Big Bear. It wouldn't be fair to him to let it go to waste just because Canelo was being punished," said Abel Sanchez, Golovkin's trainer. "Gennady is going to light up Cinco De Mayo as only a true Mexican-style fighter can. I can't wait to unleash him."

"We are adding extra bleachers to accommodate the demand from Gennady's fans. We are prepared for Gennady to break his own StubHub Center attendance record for a boxing event, which he set in 2014," said Tom Loeffler, Golovkin's promoter. "When you think about all the great champions and exciting world title fights StubHub has hosted, that's quite an accomplishment. Vanes Martirosyan brings a passionate Armenian fan base from nearby Glendale and an aggressive style of fighting. Best of all, he is ready and wants the fight. Golovkin vs. Martirosyan will definitely be the fiesta de resistencia of Cinco De Mayo."

"I've been training my ass off. I'm sparring, I'm on weight," Martirosyan recently told the *Los Angeles Times*. "When they asked me if I'd take this fight, I said yes. I didn't ask about money at all. It's a good show for L.A. Cinco De Mayo. Armenians will pack the place. I have a lot of Mexican fans. I do believe in my heart I'm going to beat (Golovkin) because he's never fought someone with my style."

Golovkin, the 36-year-old wrecking ball who has reigned over the middleweight division as world champion since 2010, was a dominant amateur standout and Olympic Silver Medalist before turning professional in 2006. Since then, Golovkin has been on an historic trajectory, knocking out one opponent after another to unify the WBC, WBA, IBF and IBO World Middleweight Titles. During this run, Golovkin maintained an unblemished record that included a 23-fight knockout streak, which ended with a unanimous decision victory against then-undefeated world champion Danny Jacobs in March 2017. In September of the same year, Golovkin went the distance in a historic and controversial split draw against Alvarez, which most scored as a victory for Golovkin. The hotly-anticipated rematch, which had been scheduled for Cinco De Mayo, was canceled when Alvarez withdrew from the fight. Golovkin has sold out the most iconic arenas of the world, including T-Mobile Arena, Madison Square Garden, O2 Arena, The Fabulous Forum and StubHub Center.

Martirosyan, 31, is a two-time world title challenger and a former amateur standout who represented the U.S. in the 2004 U.S. Olympics, the same Summer Games where Golovkin won the silver medal. A native of Abovyan, Armenia, who fights out of Glendale, Calif., Martirosyan's resume boasts NABF, NABO, WBO Inter-Continental, WBA International and WBC Silver championship victories against the likes of former world champions Ishe Smith and Kassim Ouma, as well as a draw against Erislandy Lara. Martirosyan's only professional blemishes have been decision losses in world title fights against Demetrius Andrade, where Martirosyan scored a knockdown, and a rematch with Lara, as well as a controversial 10-round loss to WBC super welterweight champion Jermell Charlo. Standing at six-feet tall, Martirosyan will enter

the ring as the taller and the younger gladiator. He is currently the WBC's No. 1 world-rated super welterweight contender.

For more information, [www.hbo.com/boxing](http://www.hbo.com/boxing); follow on Twitter @gggboxing, @hboboxing, @VanesBoxing, and @TomLoeffler1; become a fan on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/gggboxing](http://www.facebook.com/gggboxing), and [www.facebook.com/HBOBoxing](http://www.facebook.com/HBOBoxing); follow on Instagram @gggboxing, @vanesboxing, and @HBOboxing.

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#### **MEDIA CREDENTIALS**

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#### **STUBHUB CENTER**

Box Office: 310-630-2020. (Hours: Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.)