

JHONNY GONZALEZ VS. GARY RUSSELL JR. MARCH 28 UNDERCARD FEATURES TOP CONTENDERS AND FUTURE STARS

LAS VEGAS (March 26, 2015) - The excellent night of fights featuring WBC Featherweight World Champion Jhonny Gonzalez (57-8, 48 KOs)defending his title against highly regarded contender Gary Russell Jr. (25-1, 14 KOs) and top 154-pound contenders Jermell Charlo (25-0, 11 KOs) and Vanes Martirosyan (35-1-1, 21 KOs) squaring off will be supplemented by a full night of undercard fights featuring first class fighters in tough matchups.

Get there early and don't miss a minute of the action as doors at The Pearl at The Pearl at Palms Casino Resort open at 2 p.m. PT with the first fight start just minutes later.

Tickets for the live event are priced at \$200, \$100, \$75, \$50, and \$25, plus applicable fees are on sale now. Tickets may be purchased by calling Ticketmaster at (800) 745-3000 or by clicking <u>HERE</u>. Tickets are also available online at www.ticketmaster.com.

Gonzalez vs. Russell and Charlo vs. Martirosyan airs live on SHOWTIME® at 10 p.m. ET/7 p.m. PT.

The exciting undercard features Jermell's brother, **Jermall Charlo** (20-0, 16 KOs),looking to keep his undefeated record intact against the powerful **Michael Finney** (12-2-1, 10 KOs) in a 10-round super welterweight bout.

Also in action is **J'Leon Love** (18-1, 10 KOs), who returns to the ring after suffering his first loss and will look to get back in the win column against exciting veteran **Scott Sigmon** (24-6-1, 13 KOs) in 10 rounds of super middleweight action.

Another exciting undefeated fighter, **Ronald Gavril** (11-0, 9 KOs), will compete in an 8-round super middleweight bout.

Former world-title challenger **Cesar Seda** (26-2, 17 KOs)makes his 2015 debut when he squares off against the young and rugged **Cesar Juarez** (15-3, 13 KOs) in a bantamweight bout scheduled for 8 rounds.

In more undercard action, undefeated prospect **Thomas Hill** (2-0) will look to keep his perfect professional record against **Jeremiah Page** (2-1, 2 KOs) in a 4-round super welterweight bout.

Rounding out the night is a battle of experienced super lightweights between **Levan Ghvamichava** (13-1-1, 10 KOs) and **Derrick Findley** (21-14-1, 13 KOs) competing in a 6-round bout.

Highly regarded and undefeated, the 24-year-old Jermall **Charlo** is primed for a world title opportunity along with his brother. He remained undefeated in 2014 with dominant victories over Hector Munoz, Norberto Gonzalez and Lenny Bottai. The Houston-native will take on the 23-year-old **Finney** out of Opelka, Alabama, looking to impress once again.

A top contender who was on the brink of a world title fight before suffering his first defeat, the 27-year-old **Love** is eager to get back in the ring and back in the win column on March 28. Before his defeat, Love put on an impressive boxing display on his way to a unanimous decision over Marco Antonio Periban in May 2014. He takes on a 28-year-old battle-tested brawler in Bedford, Virginia's **Sigmon** who has been in with top fighters including Kelly Pavlik throughout his career.

Another fighter born outside the U.S. but now fighting out of Las Vegas, Romanian-born **Gavril** is a knockout artist with an undefeated record to match. The 28-year-old will try for his fifth straight knockout in a row.

A longtime contender fighting out of Puerto Rico, **Seda** finally got his first world title shot in Dec. 2013 but lost a unanimous decision to Leo Santa Cruz. He bounced back with a victory over Alex Rangel in 2014 and now the 29-year-old takes on a young brawler in the 23-year-old **Juarez** out of Mexico City.

An undefeated prospect who made his pro debut in Aug. 2014, the 20-year-old **Hill** will look to continue running through opponents on March 28. The Milwaukee-native faces the 21-year-old **Page** out of Wichita, Kansas.

The first fight of the night is sure to bring fireworks as two experienced fighters battle it out in the super lightweight division. Originally out of Poti, Georgia but now fighting out of Hayward, Calif., **Ghvamichava** is looking to get his third victory in a row. The 29-year-old will have a battle-tested fighter standing in his way in the 30-year-old **Findley** out of Chicago.

Gonzalez vs. Russell takes place at The Pearl at Palms Casino Resort in Las Vegas and will air on SHOWTIME (10 p.m. ET/7 p.m. PT). In the co-main event, Jermell Charlo takes on Vanes Martirosyan in super welterweight action. The SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING telecast will also be available in Spanish via secondary audio programming (SAP).

For more information, visit <u>www.sports.sho.com</u>, follow on Twitter at @SHOSports, @jhonnygbox, @mrgaryrusselljr, @TwinCharlo, @LouDiBella and @PearlAtPalms, follow the conversation using #GonzalezRussell, become a fan on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/SHOBoxing</u> or visit the SHOWTIME Boxing Blog at <u>http://theboxingblog.sho.com</u>.

CONTACTS:

Kelly Swanson/Lisa Milner, Swanson Communications: (202) 783-5500 Chris DeBlasio, Showtime Networks Inc.: (212) 708-1633 Matt Donovan, Showtime Networks Inc.: (212) 708-1663 Flo Jocou, Showtime Networks Inc.: (212) 708-7319 John Beyrooty/Jared Kaufer, BZA/Showtime: (562) 233-7477/(818) 621-1111 Kevin Rooney Jr., DiBella Entertainment: (212) 947-2577 Alissa Kelly, PR Plus/The Pearl: (702) 696-1999 Alex Acuna, Palms Casino Resort: (702) 942-7777 Credentials: www.magnamedia.com