



INTERBOX

Lucian Bute back in the ring!
Eleider Alvarez and Oscar Rivas also in action

PRESS RELEASE

MONTREAL July 14, 2015—Groupe Yvon Michel (GYM), in collaboration with InterBox, is happy to announce the return to the ring of former IBF world super middleweight champion **Lucian Bute**, August 15 at the Bell Centre, as part of *Premier Boxing Champions* series, live on NBC Sports. His rival for the occasion will be the European super middleweight champion, Italian Andrea Di Luisa.

"I'm ready and looking forward to go back in the ring. I have not lost my passion and I train six days a week, twice a day", says Bute (31-2, 24 KOs), who will be in his first fight since meeting Jean Pascal in front of a sellout crowd, January 18, 2014 at the Bell Centre.

As for Di Luisa (17-2, 13 KOs), he defeated his compatriot Roberto Cocco by T.-K.-O. in the 11th round to get his hands on the EBU-EU European title, in his last bout. He also won his last four fights.

"We are delighted that Lucian can finally return to the ring. This fight is very important for the rest of his career", said InterBox president Jean Bedard.

"We are very proud to present the first event of the *Premier Boxing Champions* series in Montreal. This will also be the first time that NBC Sports will be in Montreal to broadcast a boxing event", adds GYM President Yvon Michel.

"I am also very happy to support the return of Lucian Bute and I thank InterBox for allowing us to participate", continues the president of GYM.

Serious test for Alvarez

In addition to Lucian Bute, fans will see in action unbeaten Colombian Olympians Eleider Alvarez and Oscar Rivas, who will both face the biggest challenge of their young career.

Alvarez (17-0, 10 KOs) will face an undefeated boxer, ranked 6th in the world by the WBO, in Paraguayan born slugger Isidro "El Guerrero" Prieto (24-0-3, 20 KOs).

The Argentina based boxer is trained by none other than the mentor and first coach of former world champion Sergio Martinez, Raul Paniagua.

"Prieto is a very serious opponent, undefeated and world-ranked. He beat everyone in South America, often by KO. He has a strong right hand, he is young and hungry. He will try to use Eleider as a step for the big leagues", analyzed coach Marc Ramsay.

As for Oscar Rivas (17-0, 12 KOs), he will lace gloves against an opponent yet to be determined.

Alvarez and Rivas have both impressed in their last outing in June, in the United States. They respectively knocked out Anatoliy Dudchenko and Jason Pettaway.

Other fighters on the card

Besides the three main fights, five other bouts will be presented.

They will feature Russian super bantamweight Vislan Dalkhaev (2-0, 0 KOs), Romanian heavyweight Bogdan Dinu (12-0, 8 KOs), Montreal super lightweight Yves Ulysse (8-0, 5 KOs), Sorel-Tracy super-lightweight David Theroux (6-1, 4 KOs) and Laval light heavyweight Erik Bazinyan (8-0, 5 KOs).

Dalkhaev, a friend of fellow boxer Artur Beterbiev, will attempt to add a third win in the pro ranks. In his last outing, the Chechen born pugilist defeated Frenchman Adel Hadjouis by unanimous decision on April 4, in Quebec City.

Dinu, a compatriot of Lucian Bute, will fight for the first time in 2015. His last encounter occurred December 6, 2014, where he stopped Frenchman Mickael Vieira in the first round.

As for Ulysse, a former member of the Canadian national amateur boxing team, he recorded the easiest win of his career on June 20 at the Bell Centre, when

Frenchman Renald Garrido was disqualified before the start of the confrontation. This time, Ulysse is likely to have a rival who really wants to fight.

Theroux, the pride of Sorel-Tracy, fought in a fierce battle against the Spanish former champion Ignacio Mendoza, on June 17 in Sorel-Tracy. If the result was not the one hoped, the young 21 year-old boxer is no quitter and he wants to redeem himself in front of his Montreal fans.

As for Armenian born Bazinyan, he is trained and managed by the Grant brothers. A young 20 year-old fighter, he will jump in the ring for the second time in 2015. On March 27 at Olympia Theatre, he stopped Frenchman Morgan Le Gal in the fifth round.

Tickets go on sale starting next Wednesday, July 15 at 10:00 am, at the counters of the Bell Centre, on www.evenko.ca, at GYM (514) 383-0666, at InterBox (450) 645-1077 or at Champion boxing club (514) 376-0980. Ticket prices range from 25 \$ to 250 \$ on the floor.

About Groupe Yvon Michel Inc .:

Groupe Yvon Michel (GYM) was founded in 2004. The organization's mission is the development of high level boxers by a coaching support and especially by competitive management. To achieve its objectives, GYM is active in recruiting talent and organizing events. Since its founding, in less than 11 years, GYM produced 120 boxing events, some of them have made history in terms of ticket sales and PPV, including Pascal vs. Hopkins I and II. GYM has produced over 300 hours of television on Canal Indigo, Bell TV, Shaw TV, TVA Sports, VOX, TVA, CBC, RDS and V in Canada, as well as CBS, HBO, Showtime and ESPN in the USA. A total of 7 different GYM boxers participated in 23 world title fights. Under the tutelage of GYM, Joachim Alcine captured the WBA super welterweight title in 2007 and Jean Pascal, in 2009, won the WBC Light Heavyweight belt. Since June 2013, Adonis "Superman" Stevenson holds the WBC, The Ring and linear light heavyweight titles. Finally, Adonis Stevenson was named boxer of the year in the world in 2013 by The Ring, Sports Illustrated and many publications.

About InterBox:

InterBox, founded in 1997 in Quebec, property of Groupe Sportscene since 2004, is a recognized and respected boxing organization in Quebec and around the world. Its objective is to promote, on the local and international scene, professional boxing with talented boxers, supervised by a team of high caliber coaches while having advanced technical support. InterBox produces and presents top quality events on a regular basis and can count on the support of important partners such as Videotron, the La Cage aux Sports restaurants, Coors Light and Mise-O-Jeu.