



**Undefeated Featherweight World Champion Leo Santa Cruz  
Defends Against Undefeated Irish Star Carl Frampton on  
Saturday, July 30 Live on SHOWTIME® in an Event Presented by  
Premier Boxing Champions From Barclays Center in Brooklyn**

**SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING® Telecast Begins at  
9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT**

**Tickets on Sale Tomorrow, June 15 at 10 a.m.!**

**BROOKLYN** (July 7, 2016) – Undefeated featherweight world champion **Leo “El Terremoto” Santa Cruz** (32-0-1, 18 KOs) and fellow unbeaten Irish star **Carl “The Jackal” Frampton** (22-0, 14 KOs) will meet with a world title and two perfect records at stake on Saturday, July 30 in the main event of a **Premier Boxing Champions** event from Barclays Center in Brooklyn. The **SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING®** telecast begins live on **SHOWTIME®** at 9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT.

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by DiBella Entertainment in association with Cyclone Promotions, start at \$38 and go on sale tomorrow, June 15 at 10 a.m. Tickets can be purchased online by visiting [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), [www.barclayscenter.com](http://www.barclayscenter.com) or by calling [1-800-745-3000](tel:1-800-745-3000). Tickets are also available at the American Express Box Office at Barclays Center. Group discounts are available by calling 844-BKLYN-GP.

Santa Cruz and Frampton collide in a battle of world champions who mix dizzying speed with incredible output that produces exciting fight after exciting fight. This fight will be the fifth featherweight world title fight presented by SHOWTIME in 2016. Frampton, a unified world champion at 122 pounds, a weight class Santa Cruz previously held a title at, will move up a notch in weight and challenge at 126 pounds.

"I've never been to New York before and I'm looking forward to this big opportunity to put on a show for new fans in a new city," said Santa Cruz. "I always fight for the fans and I'm excited to be able to do that somewhere I haven't been before. Frampton is a good fighter. He has power and skills and he moves when he has to, but he has a weak chin. When he gets caught with a good punch, he goes down. He doesn't like pressure and I have that. I'm looking forward to putting on an exciting show at Barclays Center and I hope I leave with lots of new fans."

"I am in terrific shape, I feel fantastic in the gym and I am ready for the biggest fight of my career," said Frampton. "On July 30 I will become a two weight world champion. I respect Leo

Santa Cruz, he is a great fighter and person, but I am preparing meticulously to overcome any challenge he brings on July 30. I cannot wait to hear the crowd at Barclays Center. It is my first time boxing in New York, where some of the greatest fights have taken place. I know there will be a large number of fans traveling from the UK and Ireland but there is also a huge Irish-American audience and I am eager to show them all what I can do. Get your tickets now, it's going to be a great fight!"

"Santa Cruz vs. Frampton is not only the best fight that can be made in the featherweight division, it truly is one of the most anticipated fights in all of boxing," said Lou DiBella, President of DiBella Entertainment. "Boxing fans can expect nonstop action in this can't-miss matchup of aggressive styles. There's no better way for Santa Cruz and Frampton to make their New York debuts than at Barclays Center, in Brooklyn, against each other."

"The competitive matchup of Santa Cruz vs. Frampton shines an international spotlight on BROOKLYN BOXING at Barclays Center," said Brett Yormark, CEO of Brooklyn Sports & Entertainment. "We're especially excited to host two of the best featherweight boxers in the sport today as they fight in New York for the first time."

The popular Mexican-American Santa Cruz fights out of Los Angeles and won the 126-pound title in a "Fight of the Year" candidate against former three-division champ **Abner Mares** last August at STAPLES Center in Los Angeles. It was just the third fight in the featherweight division for Santa Cruz, who has won belts at 118 and 122 pounds while earning a reputation as one of boxing's most active and exciting fighters. The 27-year-old also holds victories over **Cristian Mijares** and **Eric Morel**. He has competed in world title bouts in 11 of his last 13 fights since 2012. After stopping former world champion **Kiko Martinez** in the fifth round last Feb. 27, Santa Cruz makes his second world title defense in his East Coast debut.

After defeating rival **Scott Quigg** in their 122-pound unification bout last Feb. 27, Frampton will attempt to capture a world title in a second weight class. Fighting out of Belfast, Northern Ireland, the Irish national amateur champion in 2005 and 2009 expects to bring some of his rabid fans stateside come July 30. The 29-year-old became a world champion in 2014 when he defeated **Kiko Martinez** to earn a super bantamweight title. He made his U.S. debut in July 2015 when he defeated **Alejandro "Cobrita" Gonzalez Jr.** in Texas before unifying the title against Quigg.

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Barclays Center's BROOKLYN BOXING™ programming platform is presented by AARP. For more information visit [www.SHO.com/Sports](http://www.SHO.com/Sports) follow on Twitter @SHOSports, @LeoSantaCruz2, @RealCFrampton, @BarclaysCenter, and @Swanson\_Comm or become a fan on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/SHOSports](http://www.Facebook.com/SHOSports), [www.Facebook.com/DiBellaEntertainment](http://www.Facebook.com/DiBellaEntertainment), [www.Facebook.com/barclayscenter](http://www.Facebook.com/barclayscenter). PBC is sponsored by Corona, La Cerveza Mas Fina.



**MIKEY GARCIA RETURNS ON SATURDAY, JULY 30 FOR STACKED NIGHT OF BOXING ON SHOWTIME® AND SHOWTIME EXTREME® FROM BARCLAYS CENTER PRESENTED BY PREMIER BOXING CHAMPIONS**

**SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING® – 9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT**

**Leo Santa Cruz Defends WBA Featherweight Championship vs. Carl Frampton  
Two-Division Champ Mikey Garcia Returns Against Former Champion Elio Rojas  
Tony Harrison and Sergey Rabchenko Meet in IBF 154-Pound Eliminator**

**SHOWTIME BOXING ON SHOWTIME EXTREME® – 7 p.m. ET/PT**

**Brooklyn Welterweights Paulie Malignaggi and Gabriel Bracero Square Off  
Ivan Redkach Faces Tevin Farmer in Lightweight Bout**

**Tickets On Sale Now**

**BROOKLYN** (July 7, 2016)—Undefeated former two-division world champion **Mikey Garcia** will return to the ring after a two-and-a-half-year layoff on **Saturday, July 30** on an exciting night of boxing on **SHOWTIME** and **SHOWTIME EXTREME** that is one of the strongest cards ever assembled at **Barclays Center** in Brooklyn.

Garcia, who won world titles at featherweight and super featherweight, will fight former world champion **Elio Rojas** in a 10-round bout in the **SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING** co-feature of the **Leo Santa Cruz vs. Carl Frampton** event presented by Premier Boxing Champions (PBC).

In the opening bout of the **SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING** telecast that begins at 9 p.m. ET/6 p.m. PT, once-beaten 154-pound contenders **Tony Harrison** and **Sergey Rabchenko** will meet in a 12-round IBF Junior Middleweight Eliminator. Harrison and Rabchenko will square off for the No. 2 mandatory challenger spot to IBF titlist **Jermall Charlo**, who successfully defended his crown on May 21, and undefeated contender **Julian Williams**, who earned the No. 1 mandatory position on March 5, both on SHOWTIME. Harrison vs. Rabchenko is the sixth matchup in 2016 between top 154-pound fighters, a lineup showcasing three world title fights and three title elimination matches in one of boxing's deepest divisions.

The combined record of the six fighters on the SHOWTIME telecast is an impressive 162-4-1 with 113 knockouts.

An all-Brooklyn showdown between welterweight technicians **Paulie “Magic Man” Malignaggi** and **Gabriel “Tito” Bracero** highlights the undercard action on SHOWTIME BOXING on SHOWTIME EXTREME. The 10-round bout is a matchup between a former two-division world champion, Malignaggi, and a fellow Brooklyn native, Bracero, coming off the biggest win of his career when he knocked out **Danny O’Connor** last October.

A 10-round clash between once-beaten lightweight **Ivan Redkach** and streaking **Tevin Farmer**, a winner of 14 straight, will open the SHOWTIME EXTREME telecast live at 7 p.m. ET/PT.

The July 30 event at Barclays Center comes on the heels of last Saturday’s potential Fight of the Year thriller between **Keith Thurman** and **Shawn Porter**, a back-and-forth slugfest that generated the top grossing live gate and second-highest attended boxing event in venue history.

“This is the strongest card from top to bottom that I have promoted at Barclays Center,” said DiBella Entertainment President **Lou DiBella**. “Every single fight is significant and competitive, and this is a great follow up from the tremendous success that boxing had with Thurman-Porter this past weekend.”

“This will be our 19<sup>th</sup> boxing event, but from top to bottom it’s arguably our best card yet,” said Brooklyn Sports & Entertainment CEO **Brett Yormark**. “We are excited to welcome undefeated Santa Cruz and Frampton to Brooklyn for the first time, a fight that could rival Barclays Center’s epic Thurman-Porter bout for Fight of the Year. It’s also a pleasure to welcome Brooklyn’s own Paulie Malignaggi back to Barclays Center for the fifth time and to host the return of Mikey Garcia after a two and a half year hiatus. July 30 is going to be another big night for BROOKLYN BOXING.”

“We are excited to be part of Mikey Garcia’s return to the ring. Before the layoff, he was a two-division world champion and considered one of the top boxers in the world. We know he is determined to reclaim his place among the elite,” said **Stephen Espinoza**, Executive Vice President & General Manager, SHOWTIME Sports. “SHOWTIME has distinguished itself by delivering the most compelling matchups and the most important events in boxing all year long. There is no other network as committed to the sport, and the July 30 event, from top-to-bottom, is a prime example.”

### **MIKEY GARCIA vs. ELIO ROJAS**

“I expect to pick up right where I left off,” Garcia told SHOWTIME Sports reporter **Jim Gray** last Saturday on CBS. “I was a world champion, I was undefeated, and I still am. I didn’t leave because I was injured. I think I’ll come back even better. I’m hungrier now than I was before.

“I just have to get one fight in. This first fight with Elio (Rojas) will be somewhere between 135 and 140 pounds, but I want to fight at 135 and win a title there. I want to win a title there and keep going after champion after champion. Now that all that (uncertainty) is behind me I look forward to the next stage of my career. This next stage of my career will be what people remember me for.”

“Mikey Garcia is a great fighter,” Rojas said. “I want to thank him for this opportunity. We are both former WBC World Champions and I expect a great fight. However, all of the talk surrounding this fight has been about Mikey’s comeback and his future plans. I am no tune-up. This is also about me coming back and fighting again. He may be looking past me, but I am

fully focused on him and securing the victory. I will do whatever I have to do to win, so I can move on and regain my world championship.”

Garcia (34-0, 28 KOs), of Ventura, Calif., is 28-years-old and in the prime of his career. Once considered one of the top young boxers pound-for-pound in the world, he will make his first ring appearance since he retained the WBO 130-pound title with a 12-round unanimous decision over **Juan Carlos Burgos** on Jan. 25, 2014. Garcia, the brother of renowned trainer **Robert Garcia**, has been victorious by knockout in 10 of his last 12 fights and holds impressive victories over **Roman “Rocky” Martinez, Juan Manuel Lopez, Orlando Salido** and **Bernabe Concepcion**.

Rojas (24-2, 14 KOs), of San Francisco de Macoris, Dominican Republic, won the WBC featherweight world championship in 2009 with a 12-round unanimous decision over defending titleholder **Takahiro Ao** in Japan. The 33-year-old successfully defended the title against **Guty Espadas Jr.** in 2010, before losing the belt via unanimous decision to **Jhonny Gonzalez** in April 2012. Since the loss to Gonzalez, Rojas moved up to lightweight, where he defeated **Robert Osiobe** in August 2014.

#### **TONY HARRISON vs. SERGEY RABCHENKO:**

“I’m thrilled to return to the ring on this big stage for my first fight in Brooklyn, and I’m ready to put on a show,” said Harrison. “Fighting for a world title is my dream and I know that I have a challenge in front of me. I’m working hard in camp to get another knockout and to make my mark on the division.”

“This is the start of realizing my dream,” Rabchenko said. “America is the Mecca of boxing so it is a huge privilege for me to be asked to fight there. American fans like to see knockouts and I like to knock people out so I think they will like what they see. I think I can build a fan base there. I am hungrier than ever. I have not seen much of Harrison, but I am ready for anyone. People say he is a very good fighter with good power. I’m not worried. I have good power as well and I think I will have too much for him.”

At just 25-years-old, Harrison (23-1, 19 KOs) has showed tremendous promise. He manufactured a 10-fight knockout streak from 2013 to 2015 and proved he could recover from a loss when he dominated **Cecil McCalla** for 10 rounds in October 2015 and stopped **Fernando Guerrero** in impressive fashion in March.

Fighting out of Belarous, Rabchenko (27-1, 20 KOs) is looking to put himself squarely into world title contention when he makes his U.S. debut on July 30. The 30-year-old is coming off stoppage victories over **Walter Calvo** in May 2015 and Miguel Aguilar in February.

#### **SHOWTIME EXTREME:**

##### **PAULIE MALIGNAGGI vs. GABRIEL BRACERO:**

“I feel truly blessed to have yet another opportunity to fight in Brooklyn,” Malignaggi said. “I have known Tito a long time and I know he always comes to fight. We will give the Brooklyn fans a great appetizer before the terrific main event later that night in Barclays Center.”

“I’m looking to make a statement by winning this fight,” said Bracero. “Paulie and I have been friends since the amateurs and I’m thankful to have this opportunity, but he’s had his run. Now it’s time for me to have mine. This fight is going to change my life.”

A former world champion at 140 and 147-pounds, the 35-year-old Malignaggi (35-7, 7 KOs) will return to the ring to fight at Barclays Center for the fifth time. He has faced a slew of big names throughout his career and has been victorious over the likes of **Zab Judah**, **Vyacheslav Senchenko** and **Pablo Cesar Cano**. Born and raised in the Bensonhurst neighborhood of Brooklyn, "The Magic Man" was victorious twice fighting in his birth country of Italy last year after unsuccessfully challenging unbeaten **Danny Garcia** in August.

Another Brooklyn-native, Bracero (24-2, 5 KOs) comes off of a sensational one-punch knockout of rival **Danny O'Connor** in their rematch last October. The 35-year-old owns victories over **Dmitry Salita** and **Pavel Miranda** in addition to his first triumph over the previously unbeaten O'Connor in 2011.

#### **IVAN REDKACH vs. TEVIN FARMER:**

"I am extremely happy to be back in the ring on a big show in New York," Redkach said. "There are so many Ukrainian fans in New York and I am thrilled to have their support and will put on a great show for them. I want to thank Leo Santa Cruz and his team for having me in their camp as we both prepare ourselves to put on tremendous performances come July 30."

"I couldn't be more excited about this fight," Farmer said. "This is my Barclays Center debut and it is going to be a spectacular performance. I have called out anyone and everyone in the 130-pound division to no avail, so now I'm moving up to 135 to take on Redkach, one of the most feared punchers in the division. Redkach is an aggressive guy and I know he is coming to fight, but there is no way I leave that ring without my hand being raised. This is a fight where I can and I will make a major statement. I'm willing to fight whoever they put in front of me to inch closer to a world title opportunity and July 30 is another step in that direction. I tip my hat off to Redkach for giving me this fight, but this is my time to shine."

Born in Ukraine but fighting out of Los Angeles, Redkach (19-1-1, 15 KOs) began boxing at the age of six and has put together an impressive career since turning pro in 2009. The 30-year-old owns victories over **Tony Luis**, **Sergey Gulyakevich** and **Yakubu Amidu**. Most recently, Redkach knocked out **Erick Daniel Martinez** in October 2015 and fought to a draw with **Luis Cruz** in April.

Representing the fighting city of Philadelphia, Farmer (24-1-1, 5 KOs) has won 14 bouts in a row since losing to unbeaten world champion **Jose Pedraza** in 2012. The 25-year-old has come on strong in recent years, upsetting previously unbeaten fighters such as **Emmanuel Gonzalez**, **Angel Luna** and **Camilo Perez**. Farmer dominated veteran **Gamaliel Diaz** in March and will make his Barclays Center debut on July 30.

Tickets for the live event, which is promoted by DiBella Entertainment in association with Cyclone Promotions, start at \$38 and can be purchased online by visiting [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), [www.barclayscenter.com](http://www.barclayscenter.com) or by calling [1-800-745-3000](tel:1-800-745-3000). Tickets are also available at the American Express Box Office at Barclays Center. Group discounts are available by calling 844-BKLYN-GP.

## **Leo Santa Cruz**

Nickname - Terremoto

Height – 5-7

Weight – 126 (Featherweight)

Date of Birth – August 10, 1988

Hometown – Los Angeles, CA

Pro Record – 32-0-1 (18 KOs)

27-year-old Leo “ El Terremoto” Santa Cruz reached the highest point of his young career on August 29, 2015 when he defeated fellow Mexican-American star Abner Mares in a thrilling scrap in front of a lively STAPLES Center crowd in Los Angeles.

The crushing puncher had sent 15 of his last 19 opponents down to knockout defeats prior to that fight. In his first world title defense at 126-pounds, he stopped former champion Kiko Martinez in the fifth-round in February of this year.

In March of 2011, Santa Cruz earned his first pro title when he knocked out 20-2 Stephane Jamoye with a body shot in the sixth round to win an interim youth world bantamweight crown, and on June 2, 2012, he became a world champion when he decisioned Vusi Malinga for the bantamweight world title, the first of two divisional crowns he has earned thus far.

The younger brother of former interim world lightweight champion Jose Armando Santa Cruz, “Terremoto” followed his sibling into the gym, and his talent was evident almost immediately. Add in his power and work ethic, and it was clear that Santa Cruz had the right stuff to make it big in the fight game.

Turning pro on October 13, 2006 with a second round knockout of Pedro Silva, Santa Cruz was extended to a draw in his second bout three months later against Rodrigo Hernandez, but since then, no one has come close to beating him.

Willing to test himself against the best available competition, Santa Cruz put together a string over wins over veterans like Jose Bernal and Juan Beltran, as well as fellow prospects Jonathan Velardez and James Owens. This on the job training put him in good stead when he faced Jamoye in Veracruz, Mexico, on March 26, 2011, as he fought like a seasoned pro in winning his first pro title.

But he was just getting started, as he knocked out longtime contender Jose Lopez in just five rounds three months later, and followed that defining victory up with stoppages of Everth Briceno (TKO 11), Jorge Romero (TKO 3), and Alejandro Hernandez (TKO 4). But one of his most impressive outings was yet to come, as he scored a near-shutout win over Malinga to earn his first world title.

On September 15, 2012, Santa Cruz was at his ferocious best against former world champion Eric Morel in Las Vegas, and he stopped the Puerto Rican star in five rounds, not just successfully defending his title, but handing Morel the first knockout loss of his career.

Santa Cruz returned to action on November 10 with another ultra-exciting outing, as he dropped courageous challenger Victor Zuleta three times before finishing him off in the ninth round. But the young champion’s year wasn’t over yet, as he won a 12 round unanimous decision over unbeaten Alberto Guevara in a December 15 bout televised on CBS network television.

The successful title defense, his third, would also be his last at 118 pounds, as Santa Cruz moved four pounds north to the super bantamweight class on May 4, 2013, stopping Alexander Munoz in five rounds at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

That impressive victory earned Santa Cruz a shot at a second divisional world title on August 24, 2013 at the StubHub Center in Carson, California and he took the super bantamweight championship with his third round knockout of Victor Terrazas.

He made the first defense of his title on December 14, 2013, winning a hard-fought 12 round unanimous decision over Puerto Rico's Cesar Seda, a performance he followed up on March 8, 2014 with a wide unanimous decision victory over veteran Cristian Mijares.

More knockouts followed for Santa Cruz as he demolished Manuel Roman in the second round when "Terremoto" fought as the co-main event on the pay-per-view undercard for MAYHEM: Mayweather vs. Maidana 2. He followed that up by earning an eighth-round knockout over Jesus Ruiz in January 2015 and a victory over Jose Cayetano on the Mayweather vs. Pacquiao pay-per-view undercard in May.



## **Carl Frampton**

Nickname – The Jackal

Height – 5-5

Weight – 126 (Featherweight)

Date of Birth – February 21, 1987

Hometown – Belfast, Northern Ireland

Pro Record – 22-0, 14 KOs

Carl “The Jackal” Frampton has quickly and convincingly proven himself to be one of the premier boxers in the world from his days as an amateur champion to unifying the WBA and IBF junior featherweight titles as a professional with his victory over Scott Quigg on February 27 of this year.

The Belfast, Ireland native turned professional in 2009 after a stellar amateur campaign, and quickly climbed the ladder in the 122-pound division to capture the world title in 2014. The unbeaten Irish sensation has reeled off 22 consecutive wins, 14 by knockout. He now moves up in class to the Featherweight ranks to challenge world champion Leo Santa Cruz (32-0-1, 18 KOs) on Saturdaynight, July 30, at Barclays Center in Brooklyn, New York.

Frampton is managed by Boxing Hall of Famer and former featherweight world champion Barry McGuigan. That Frampton was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland where McGuigan’s most memorable fights took place at the Kings Hall, is vying for the championship in the same weight class in which McGuigan campaigned, and is trained by his son Shane, adds a twist of fate and irony to what has become a lethal triumvirate.

### ***BELFAST BEGINNINGS***

The Tiger’s Bay area of Belfast was built to house the working class who labored for the massive shipbuilder Harland & Wolff—builders of the Titanic. It’s from this unpretentious neighborhood that Carl Frampton comes, through the Midland Boxing Club where he started fighting in his youth.

It started Frampton on a road that would see him rack up 114 wins against only 11 losses as an amateur, culminating in Irish Amateur Boxing Association titles in two divisions and a silver medal in the 2007 European Union Amateur Boxing Championships.

During his amateur career, Frampton caught the eye of the legendary Irish champ Barry McGuigan, who would take over as Frampton’s manager in time to guide his charge to the professional ranks.

### ***EARLY SUCCESS IN THE UK***

Frampton made his pro debut in Liverpool, England, in June 2009, gaining a second-round technical knockout of Sandor Szinavel.

He was named Ireland’s Prospect of the Year at the Irish National Boxing Awards in January 2010, and later that year scored a third-round stoppage of Ukrainian veteran Yuri Voronin. From there he went on to capture his first title, stopping Scotsman Gavin Reid in two rounds to win the Celtic championship at 122 pounds in December 2010.

Less than a year later, Frampton would topple Mark Quon of Australia in four rounds to take the Commonwealth title, establishing himself as one of the top 122-pounders in boxing.

## ***BECOMING A WORLD CHAMPION***

"The Jackal" kept up his unbeaten pace into 2013 when he took on one of Europe's top 122-pounders, Spaniard Kiko Martinez.

It was a stone-cold war that February night in Belfast, as Martinez perforated Frampton's eardrum during the fight. Nonetheless, Frampton battled through and stopped Martinez in the ninth round.

That set up a rematch for September 2014, and Frampton again would come out on top—this time with his first world championship – winning a unanimous decision.

Frampton successfully defended his title in Belfast in February 2015 with a fifth-round TKO of Chris Avalos. That set the stage for Frampton to make his U.S. debut, traveling to El Paso, Texas, to win a unanimous decision over Alejandro Gonzalez, Jr. last July 7, 2015 to retain his title.

Then of course came his stirring IBF and WBA junior featherweight title unification score over Quigg at Manchester Arena in the United Kingdom in February, setting the stage for the move up to Featherweight.

Frampton's career has become a mirror image of McGuigan's, who reeled off 27 straight wins after an early loss en route to the WBA Featherweight title in rousing, knockout fashion.

**SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING®** will televise the highly-anticipated Frampton vs. Santa Cruz title tilt.

"This is the fight I wanted, and I'm 100 percent confident that the belt will be coming home to Belfast," said Frampton. "It's the [same WBA] belt that my manager, Barry McGuigan, held 30 years ago, and it's fitting that I will have the chance to recapture this title."

**Mikey Garcia**

Height – 5-7

Weight – 135 (Lightweight)

Date of Birth – December 15, 1987

Hometown – Ventura, California

Pro Record – 34-0, 28 KOs

Born into a boxing family, Mikey's father Eduardo was the trainer of famed fighter Fernando Vargas and he passed the sport on to his three sons. Mikey is trained by his brother, former Trainer of the Year Robert Garcia, while his other brother Daniel, is also a boxing trainer.

Garcia is bi-lingual and graduated from the Ventura County Police Academy in his hometown of Ventura, California. He began his amateur career at 14-years-old and took home National PAL and Junior Golden Gloves championships. His amateur career also saw him score a victory over unbeaten professional champion Danny Garcia.

He turned pro in 2006 and quickly began delivering knockouts and moved himself up the rankings. In 2011 he defeated previously unbeaten Matt Remillard and followed it up with impressive performances against Rafael Guzman and Jonathan Barros before his first world title opportunity came to fruition.

January 2013 saw Garcia battle Mexican legend Orlando Salido for the featherweight world championship. Garcia was dominant on his way to taking a technical decision victory while knocking Salido down four times.

Garcia sought out a world title at 130-pounds next and would face Puerto Rico's Roman Martinez in November 2013 to achieve that goal. He survived a second round knockdown to eventually knockout the reigning champion in the eighth round.

Now, ready to return to the ring, Garcia intends to campaign at 135-pounds in search of a world title in a third division. He will begin by taking on the former world champion, Elio Rojas, on July at Barclays Center in Brooklyn.

**Elio Rojas**

Height – 5-7

Weight – 135 (Lightweight)

Date of Birth – March 19, 1982

Hometown – San Francisco de Macoris, Dominican Republic

Pro Record – 24-2, 14 KOs

Born in San Francisco de Macoris, Rojas is now training at famed Gleason's Gym in Brooklyn as he prepares to return to the ring for the first time since 2014 on Saturday, July 30 when he battles former two-division world champion Mikey Garcia at Barclays Center.

Rojas established himself as an elite amateur in 2000 when he won four gold medals in international tournaments. From 2001-02 he won gold medals at the Independence Cup, Pan American Tournament and the Central American Championships. He would go on to earn a bronze medal at the World Championship tournament in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

He eventually turned pro in March 2004 and had success early on while fighting in the U.S. and the Dominican Republic. He was victorious in his first 19 outings, including a dominant decision over previously unbeaten Johnnie Edwards in March 2007.

After suffering a setback by way of a loss to Gamaliel Diaz, Rojas rebounded by defeating Hector Velazquez in 2008 to set up his 2009 world title showdown with then WBC Featherweight World Champion Takahiro Aoki.

Rojas traveled to Japan to face Aoki and was impressive, winning a unanimous decision on the road to become a world champion. He would defend his title successfully against Guty Espadas Jr. before dropping a decision to Mexican veteran Jhonny Gonzalez.

Now, Rojas steps back into the ring for the first time since earning a decision over Robert Osiope in August 2014.

## TONY HARRISON

### QUICK FACTS

- **Full Name** – Tony Harrison
- **Height** – 6-1
- **Weight** – 154 (Super Welterweight)
- **Date of Birth** – September 6, 1990
- **Hometown** – Detroit, Michigan
- **Record** – 23-1 (19 KOs)

### BACKGROUND

- Mentored and trained by the late Emanuel Steward, who also managed him after Harrison fought one of his fighters from Kronk gym
- Son of welterweight Ali Salaam and grandson of heavyweight Henry Hank
- Father didn't want him to box but was encouraged by Tony's mother to bring him to the gym

### PRO CAREER

- Turned pro in 2011 with a second round TKO over Uwe Tritschler
- Delivered eight straight knockouts to start his career
- Currently on 10 fight knockout streak
- Defeated experience contenders Grady Brewer, Bronco McKart and Tyrone Brunson in 2014
- Started out 2015 with knockouts against Antwone Smith and Pablo Munguia before being defeated by Willie Nelson
- Bounced back to defeat Cecil McCalla and Fernando Guerrero

### AMATEUR CAREER

- 75-12 record
- Michigan Golden Gloves champion
- National Golden Gloves semifinalist

### SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Twitter** - @IamBoxing
- **Instagram** – MadeInDetroit1990

## SERGEY RABCHENKO

### QUICK FACTS

- **Full Name** – Siarhei Rabchanka
- **Height** – 5-10
- **Weight** – 154 (Super Welterweight)
- **Date of Birth** – February 23, 1986
- **Hometown** – Minsk, Belarus
- **Record** – 27-1 (20 KOs)

### BACKGROUND

- Trained by former world champion Ricky Hatton

### PRO CAREER

- Turned pro in 2006 with a knockout victory over Andrei Matveeu
- Undefeated in his first 25 pro fights including an 11 fight knockout streak
- Became a European champion with a stoppage victory over Ryan Rhodes in 2012 & defended his title against Cedric Vitu and Adriano Nichi
- Has won back to back fights after a narrow split decision defeat to Anthony Mundine in 2014

### AMATEUR CAREER

- Owns over 200 amateur victories

# PAULIE MALIGNAGGI

## QUICK FACTS

- **Full Name** – Paul Malignaggi
- **Nickname** – The Magic Man
- **Height** – 5-8 ½
- **Weight** – 147 (Welterweight)
- **Date of Birth** – November 23, 1980
- **Hometown** – Brooklyn, NY
- **Record** – 35-7 (7 KOs)

## BACKGROUND

- Born in Brooklyn but moved to Sicily as an infant and lived there until he was six
- Started boxing at age 16
- Works as an analyst for PBC on CBS and SHOWTIME

## PRO CAREER

- Turned pro on July 7, 2001 with a first round TKO over Thadeus Parker
- Won his first 21 pro fights before dropping a decision to Miguel Cotto
- Beat Lovemore Ndou in June, 2006 to win his first world title
- Beat Vyacheslav Senchenko in April 2012 to win his second world title
- Defeated fellow Brooklyn-native and former world champion Zab Judah by unanimous decision in Dec. 2013
- Defeated by unbeaten Danny Garcia in August 2015 and won two fights in Europe leading to July 30 bout

## AMATEUR CAREER

- Won 1998 and 2001 New York Golden Gloves
- 2001 U.S. National Amateur Champion
- 2001 Everlast U.S Champion

## SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Twitter** - @PaulMalignaggi
- **Instagram** – Malignaggi
- **Facebook** – Facebook.com/PaulMalignaggi

## GABRIEL BRACERO

### QUICK FACTS

- **Full Name** – Gabriel Bracero
- **Height** – 5-7 ½
- **Weight** – 140 (Super Lightweight)
- **Date of Birth** – February 14, 1981
- **Hometown** – Brooklyn, New York
- **Record** – 24-2 (5 KOs)

### BACKGROUND

- Born in Brooklyn, Bracero began boxing at the age of 9
- Had a long layoff early in his career when he was sentenced to six years in prison on a weapons charge

### PRO CAREER

- Won his first five professional fights before serving a prison sentence
- Returned in 2009 with a victory over Melchor Guillen Jr. by unanimous decision
- In 2011, defeated previously unbeaten Danny O'Connor by unanimous decision in Texas
- Suffered his first lost in January 2012 by dropping a narrow unanimous decision to DeMarcus Corley
- Defeated fellow New Yorker and previously once-beaten Dmitriy Salita by unanimous decision before dropping a decision to Felix Diaz
- Most recently scored a sensational one punch knockout over Danny O'Connor in October

### AMATEUR EXPERIENCE

- Won the New York Golden Gloves twice
- Junior Olympics champion

### SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Twitter** - @TeamBracero
- **Instagram** – Team\_Bracero