

Devon Alexander-Kell Brook Set For Feb. 23 on Sho

Written by The Sweet Science
Wednesday, 30 January 2013 17:43



DEVON ALEXANDER VS. KELL BROOK WORLD TITLE FIGHT SET FOR FEBRUARY 23 AT THE MASONIC TEMPLE THEATRE IN DETROIT, MICHIGAN & LIVE ON SHOWTIME®

CO-MAIN EVENT TO FEATURE IBF JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP FIGHT BETWEEN DETROIT'S CORNELIUS "K9" BUNDRAGE & TOP CONTENDER ISHE SMITH

PLUS HOT DETROIT PROSPECT J'LEON LOVE TAKES ON FORMER WORLD CHAMPION BRONCO MCKART

Tickets On Sale Now!

DETROIT, MI, January 30 - On Saturday, February 23, world championship boxing returns to the Motor City when Golden Boy Promotions and Mayweather Promotions present an evening of world championship action at **The Masonic Temple Theatre** which will feature Three-Time and Two-Division World Champion

Devon Alexander "The Great"

defending his IBF Welterweight World Championship against British star and number one rated IBF welterweight contender

Kell Brook

in a fight that will be televised live on

SHOWTIME

(9 p.m. ET/PT, delayed on the west coast).

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The co-main event of the February 23 **SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING®** doubleheader will see Detroit's own

Cornelius "K9" Bundrage

defending his IBF Junior Middleweight World Championship against Las Vegas'

Ishe "Sugar Shay" Smith

Also featured will be an all-Michigan battle as unbeaten Detroit prospect **J'Leon Love** takes on former World Champion

Bronco McKart

of Monroe in a 10-round middleweight bout which will be televised live on

SHOWTIME EXTREME

®

(7 p.m. ET/PT, delayed on the west coast).

"2013 is going to be a big year for my career and I'm going to get it started right in an exciting fashion against Kell Brook," said Alexander. "I worked extremely hard to win my title and I'm not giving it away to anyone. This will be a statement-making fight for me."

"This is the biggest night of my life," said Brook. "When I turned up at the Wincobank Gym in Sheffield as a nine year old, this was what I dreamed about - boxing for a world title and on February 23, I'll turn that dream into a reality. I'm in the best physical shape of my life and the best ever Kell Brook will be in the ring in Detroit and there's no way that I am coming home without that world title. This is my destiny, it's just meant to be and there's nothing Devon Alexander can do to stop me."

"I thank my Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ for blessing me to be able to defend my title right here in Detroit, in front of all of my family and friends," said Bundrage. "It's an honor to be able to bring world championship boxing back to the city of Detroit. I always train hard and am prepared for what my opponent might show me in the ring. No man can close doors that GOD has opened. Nothing will be different this time and it will be a special night of boxing for everyone. I will be victorious February 23 in Jesus' name."

"I want to thank Floyd Mayweather and Mayweather Promotions for believing in me and my boxing talents and helping make this dream to fight K9 [Bundrage] for his title a reality," said Smith. "I know he'll have the hometown advantage, but I'm not worried about that. I'm preparing

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for the fight of my life and I feel confident that I'll beat him and become the new champion."

"It feels great to be able to fight in Detroit, my hometown and the place where I learned how to fight," said Love. "I'm excited to show everyone that I'm on the road to a championship and nothing will stop me from achieving my lifelong dream. Training and working with Floyd Mayweather and Mayweather Promotions in Las Vegas has given me another level of appreciation for hard work and determination."

"I am grateful for the opportunity to fight in Detroit one more time," said McKart. "I've had a long and great career and still feel comfortable fighting for pride and glory. J'Leon Love is a young and exciting fighter from this area too, but I feel that my experience will be too much for him to handle and that I'll be victorious on February 23. I hope everyone in and around Detroit will come out and support this great night of boxing."

"Devon Alexander and Kell Brook have been waiting to take care of business in the ring and we're going to the fighting city of Detroit for them to settle the score in one of the biggest fights of early 2013," said President of Golden Boy Promotions Oscar De La Hoya. "Plus, Detroit's own 'K9' Bundrage is back in his hometown to take on longtime contender Ishe Smith in an important showdown for both men. We also have 'The Battle for Michigan' when J'Leon Love takes on his toughest test to date in Bronco McKart. It's a can't miss night for Detroit sports fans"

"This is an exciting opportunity for Mayweather Promotions and everyone knows Floyd Mayweather is from the great state of Michigan too," said CEO of Mayweather Promotions, Leonard Ellerbe. "Detroit is tremendously important to boxing and we are excited to add to its history on February 23. In addition we feel extremely confident that our fighters, Ishe Smith and J'Leon Love, another Michigan man, will come away with victories, setting them both up for much bigger things in the near future."

"Boxing fans are in for a real treat when Devon and Kell meet as they are two of the best 147 pounders in the business," said Eddie Hearn Managing Director of Matchroom Boxing. "Kell Brook is a special talent and has dreamt about this moment since he first laced up those gloves. He has trained like a man possessed and he is coming to America to make a huge statement and bring that title back to Britain."

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“We are looking forward to another great night of SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING featuring two world title fights in the boxing-rich city of Detroit,” said Stephen Espinoza, Executive Vice President and General Manager, SHOWTIME Sports. “The event will showcase one of the most talented 147-pound fighters in the world, Devon Alexander, and the U.S. television debut of U.K. star Kell Brook as well as exciting undercard action.”

This exciting evening of world championship boxing is presented by Golden Boy Promotions and Mayweather Promotions in association with Matchroom Boxing and is sponsored by Corona, AT&T and MGM Grand Detroit. The SHOWTIME CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING telecast begins at 9:00 p.m. ET/PT (delayed on the West Coast) with preliminary fights to air live on SHOWTIME Extreme at 7:00 p.m. ET/PT (delayed on the West Coast).

Tickets priced at \$200, \$125, \$100, \$75, \$50 and \$25, plus applicable taxes, fees and services charges are on sale now and are available for purchase at the Masonic Temple box office, online at www.ticketmaster.com , all Ticketmaster locations or by calling [800-745-3000](tel:800-745-3000) .

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