

HATTON BACKS CROLLA TO MAKE HISTORY IN MANCHESTER

SAN DIEGO, CALIF.- September 22, 2016 – -Ricky Hatton has backed Anthony Crolla to become the first Englishman to win the Ring Magazine Lightweight title in his unification blockbuster with Jorge Linares at the Manchester Arena on Saturday , live at the Manchester Arena on Saturday September 24, live on AWE-A Wealth of Entertainment & www.klowdtv.com

The start time of the show will be 2:30 PM ET / 11:30 AM PT.

Fans who do not have AWE, can access the channel via www.klowdtv.com

www.klowdtv.com will be FREE for the month of September, so boxing fans can witness this can't miss fight on Saturday.

Hatton landed the Super-Welterweight strap in the same arena in April 2006 when he forced Kostya Tszyu to quit after 11 thrilling rounds.

The 'Hitman' will be ringside on Saturday night where Crolla aims to become Britain's 18th Ring magazine king and join Scottish legends Ken Buchanan and Jim Watt as winners of the prestigious strap in the 135lbs division.

Hatton's fighting days are as memorable for his fanatical supports as his achievements in the ring, and the Manchester legend is delighted to see Crolla's support growing as his remarkable story continues.

"Where Anthony has come from is a great example," said Hatton. "It's not where you start in boxing, it's where you finish. He lost a six rounder early in his career and to Derry Mathews later on, everyone wrote him off and to achieve what he has is test of his character. I'm very proud of him.

"Anthony is lovely kid, some say he is too nice to be a boxer but there is a mean streak there. He has developed in to a good all round fighter, he has a very exciting style and is brutal body puncher.

"I know he can do the business against Jorge Linares and I'll be beaming with pride to see him lift that Ring Magazine belt.

"My proudest achievement was my fan base in my career above everything. Anthony has an amazing following now and it's great to see a fellow Mancunian being such a big draw in our city

"I became the first Brit to win the Ring Magazine fighter of the year award. Which was a huge honour. I won the Ring Magazine belt 10 years ago and it is the accolade that proves you are the best in your weight division, it is the ultimate achievement. It looks like the belt from the Rocky movies and its very old school which adds to the glamour of it."

"There's only one Ricky Hatton and there will only ever be one," said Crolla. "If I can get a bit of the support and success that Ricky had I'll be over the moon. The crowds at the Perez and Barroso fights were unbelievable and I am sure it's going to be rocking on Saturday too.

"I'm just so proud that I've been able to pay the fans back for their incredible support I've received. I'm not the kind of fighter that will run his mouth at press conferences or call people out, but I will happily fight anyone. You can't want it more than me, no-one does. I'm still taken aback by it all really, I'm just a normal lad that trains hard, but things are going well and the harder you train, the luckier you get."

Crolla's clash Linares with is part of a huge night of action in Manchester as John Ryder defends his WBA International Middleweight title against Jack Arnfield.

Callum Johnson lands his first title action against

Willbeforce Shihepo for the Commonwealth Light-Heavyweight title, unbeaten Light-Heavyweight Hosea Burton will be in title action Conor Benn tastes his fifth night of action in the paid ranks.

Anthony Crolla vs. Jorge Linares is a 12-round fight for the WBA, WBC Diamond and the Ring Magazine Lightweight World Championships presented by Matchroom Boxing and Golden Boy Promotions in association with Akihiko Honda's Teiken Boxing Gym.

About AWE LIVE BOXING

AWE LIVE Boxing features live world title championship and elimination bouts showcasing today's most exciting fighters. Since the inception of AWE's live boxing events in 2011, and has featured over 50 world class title fight. AWE has earned multiple Boxing Writers Association of America nominations for "Fight of the Year" and has featured over thirty world class boxing events. In 2013, AWE showcased all live bouts featuring heavyweight David Price. AWE aired live the stunning upsets of Tony Thompson over David Price, along with Adonis Stevenson and Tony Bellew cards, who fought each other for the light Heavyweight championship; 2008 Olympic Gold Medal winner James DeGale. AWE brought boxing fans two of the most controversial bouts which saw Ricky Burns keep his Lightweight title against Ray Beltran. AWE fans have witnessed the explosive power of undefeated heavyweight Tyson Fury multiple times on the network, including Fury's victory over Kevin Johnson. In 2014, AWE televised the crowning of lightweight champion Terence Crawford with his win over Burns as well as the exciting rematches between Carl Frampton and Kiko Martinez along with Tony Bellew defeating Nathan Cleverly. In 2015, AWE brought boxing fans on of the most anticipated rematches of the year, Darleys Perez v. Anthony Crolla II for the WBA Lightweight World Title.

In 2016, AWE was the exclusive American boradcaster of Lucas

Browne's stunning knockout over Ruslan Chagaev to win the WBA Heavyweight title.

About AWE – A Wealth of Entertainment

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