



**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**GYM EVENT CASINO DE MONTRÉAL ON MARCH 25**  
**Heavyweight Showdown**  
**ALEXIS BARRIÈRE VS. ROBERT SIMMS**  
**Mazlum AKDENIS and Mostafa SALEHIZADEH also in action**

**Montreal, Quebec, Canada – February 11, 2026** — Quebec heavyweight **Alexis Barrière** (12-1-0, 10KOs) is back in Montreal for the first time since October 2023. In a 10-round fight, he faces the American **Robert Simms** from Michigan (12-5-1, 3KO) in the main event of **Groupe Yvon Michel's** first boxing gala of the year on **Wednesday, March 25** at the chic **Cabaret du Casino de Montréal**.

In a special attraction, the **Samurai MMA** heavyweight champion **Mostafa Salehizadeh** "The Persian Warrior" (5-0-0) will defend his crown for the first time against the Frenchman **Ryan Chaieb** (3-4-0) in 5 rounds of 5 minutes.

In the semifinals, popular undefeated welterweight **Mazlum Akdeniz** (22-0-0, 9KOs) will try to continue his quest to the top against **Stuart McLellan** (31-5-3, 15KOs) of William Lake, British Columbia in a 10-round show down.

**Alexis Barrière** is looking forward to this moment: "You can't imagine how much I can't wait to see my audience again on March 25th. I'm told that Simms is tough and that he's never lost before the limit so I can't wait to see if he'll be able to resist because since I'm fighting an American, I intend to be very aggressive. »

We know that the resident of Saint-Jean-sur Richelieu lost his last fight in Philadelphia last October against Guido Vianello and there is a rematch in his plans before the end of the year!

A total of **8 fights** is scheduled for March 25, **seven boxing and one MMA**. This gala is presented by **Mise-O-Jeu**.

Montreal's gifted **Omar Alieh** (3-0-0, 3KOs) will be involved in a 6-round battle for the first time in his career against Calgary's **Michael Parker** (5-2-0, 2KOs) at welterweight.

Sherbrooke's charismatic **Loïck Lahaie** (3-0-0, 1KO), impressive at the Saint Denis on the MVP event last September, continues his apprenticeship against Chilean **Rodrigo Sepulveda** (3-2-1, 0KO) in the super welterweight division in 6 rounds.

**Junior Petanqui**, 7-time Canadian amateur champion, member of the Canadian National Team for the last 4 years, makes his pro debut against **Juan Andrade** (2-3-0, 0KO) of Chonchi, Chile.

On the women's side, also a member of our national team, **Alessia Mansueto** made her debut against **Genovena Candia** (1-3-2, 1KOs) and the excellent young **Kirill Bazhenov** (3-0-0, 1KOs) who came from Ukraine to settle in Canada and make a career in Quebec will face **Johan Guzman** (2-2-0, 0KOs) from Temuco.

Tickets for the event are available and on sale at [Ticketmaster.ca](http://Ticketmaster.ca) starting at 3:00 p.m. this afternoon.

You can also contact GYM directly at [info@groupeyvonmichel.ca](mailto:info@groupeyvonmichel.ca)

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#### **About Groupe Yvon Michel (GYM)**

Groupe Yvon Michel is a professional boxing promotion organization, founded in 2004 by Yvon Michel, Alexandra Croft and Bernard Barré, who are still active in the most prolific company in the history of professional boxing in Canada. Since its founding, GYM has organized 179 galas in Quebec, all televised in Quebec on RDS, TVA Sports or Radio-Canada, and participated in 37 international galas outside Quebec. Eight boxers became world champions, Joachim Alcine, Jean Pascal, Adonis Stevenson, Artur Beterbiev, Eleider Alvarez, Marie-Eve Dicaire (2 times), Oscar Rivas and Kim Clavel. 19 boxers from the organization have fought 57 world championship fights, maintaining an excellent record of 30 wins, 25 losses and 2 draws. During this period, the major American television networks were more active than ever in coming to Quebec to televise the organization's most important events.

**Source:** Groupe Yvon Michel - GYM

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