

## Miguel Cotto: At Peace in Life and Silently Ready For War



*Photo credit to cboxinginfo.com*

Writing about Miguel Cotto has been demanding. He is quiet, respectful, and peaceful outside of the ring. You are challenged trying to capture the essence of his persona. At times, you want to yell, Speak up Miguel! Say Something bad about your opponent Miguel! Then again, you may want to just sing “Kumbaya” with him. He is at peace in life.

He steps into the ring and transforms into a deceitful person. While he doesn’t look at the cameras and spout poetry or talk bad about his opponents, he is deceitful in his fluid movements, athletic ability, and his hand speed. Cotto is a great athlete, but he is labeled as a banger with a great left hook. He is more, but he prefers to silently prepare for war.

The lasting impression most boxing fans have of Miguel Cotto is his 11<sup>th</sup> round submission in his 2008 fight with Antonio Margarito. Cotto took a knee and shook his head to say no more. You almost wanted to cry for him. Many of his Puerto Rican fans did.



*Photo Credit Guardian UK*

In 3 years, Cotto has quietly avenged the loss, and won the WBA Light Middleweight Title. Yet, you ask the casual boxing fan, and they can't remember that he actually faced Manny Pacquiao in 2009 and brutally stopped Margarito in their December 2011 re-match.

Miguel Cotto should be undefeated, or (at the very least) have an asterisk next to each of his losses. Margarito might have beaten him with loaded gloves and Pacquiao forced him to defend his Welterweight title under the maximum limit of 147 pounds. This was a big deal, because Cotto was having a hard time making the Jr Welterweight limit of 140 pounds and moved up to 147 to be stronger. Through all of this, you will never hear Miguel Cotto complain or look for excuses. He is at peace with life and ready to do battle.

On May 5, at the MGM Grand Arena in Las Vegas, NV, Miguel Cotto will defend his title against pound for pound great Floyd Mayweather Jr, and this time, the world will know and remember the outcome.

After enjoying a meteoric rise to boxing stardom, the Caguas, Puerto Rico native has been knighted as the island's next great champ, the heir apparent to the Great Felix "Tito" Trinidad. Cotto's deliberate boxing style and his giant heart have endured him not only to Puerto Rican fans, but boxing fans all over the world love his heart and determination. His quiet, family oriented demeanor outside of the ring truly makes him the champion for the common man.

In the ring, Cotto has been sensational and was considered one of the top pound for pound fighters. He was on top of the world racking up 32 straight wins. 24 were by KO. He rose from the canvas in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round to brutally defeat Ricardo Torres and somehow he overcame a vicious right hook early in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of his fight with DeMarcus Corley. He KO'd Corley in 5. That was who Miguel Cotto was. He was a warrior willing to die on his shield, but he would always find a way to win.

Outside of the ring, Cotto has overcome adversity. He had a highly publicized fight with his uncle and he lost his best friend and father Miguel Cotto Sr. *"My father passed away January 3, 2010. He will always be with me. Anything I am right now is because of him. I owe him everything. My dad is always on my mind. He lives with me and in everything I do. He taught me how to go forward and do my thing."*



Photo credit to cboxinginfo.com

Cotto is the ultimate family man. His pre-fight ritual usually includes a walk through the arena with his son. It is a study of a father and son enjoying life and not being swallowed by the magnitude of the moment.

While adversity has severely tested Cotto, you will never hear him complain. He has surrounded himself with a strong team to insure nothing will stray him from his goals in the ring and in life. *"I have a great team. Every member is a special person for me. Every member helped me in everything-my family, my mom, my dad, Pedro, Phil, Bryan. I believe everybody, all of them, helped me a lot to be in the position I am in right now. I'm a better person right now... When you find peace in life, when your family brings you peace, when the people around you bring you peace, you live in a peaceful atmosphere. That's where I am right now. I have peace in my heart and in my life. Everything I'm going to do in my life, I do it with peace and that's made me work better, comfortable, and much, much concentrate in my work."*

Miguel Cotto has prepared himself for his May 5<sup>th</sup> challenge both physically and mentally. He will take trainer Dr. Pedro Diaz's strategy and tough physical and mental preparation into the ring against a foe that is his polar opposite. Cotto will also be armed with the support of his family and the comfort of knowing no matter the outcome Team Cotto has his back! **"Ring Kings: Mayweather vs. Cotto," a 12-round fight for Cotto's WBA Super Welterweight World Championship and the vacant WBC Super Welterweight Diamond Belt is promoted by Mayweather Promotions, Golden Boy Promotions and Miguel Cotto Promotions. Also featured will be Canelo Alvarez vs. Sugar Shane Mosley, a 12-round fight for Canelo's WBC Super Welterweight World Championship which is presented in association with Canelo Promotions and Sugar Shane Mosley Promotions and a 10-round welterweight fight between undefeated rising star Jessie Vargas and perennial contender Alfonso Gomez. Opening the pay-per-view broadcast will be a 10-round bout between super welterweight contender DeAndre Latimore and former World Champion Carlos Quintana which is presented in association with DiBella Entertainment. The mega event is sponsored by Corona, Hatfields & McCoys on HISTORY™, DeWalt Tools, AT&T, O'Reilly Auto Parts and Puebla - Cinco De Mayo and will take place Saturday, May 5 at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas and will be produced and distributed live by HBO Pay-Per-View® beginning at 9:00 p.m. ET/6:00 p.m. PT.**

Limited tickets for "Ring Kings: Mayweather vs. Cotto" are still available, with a total ticket limit of ten (10) per person. To charge by phone with a major credit card, call Ticketmaster at (800) 745-3000. Tickets also are available for purchase at [www.mgmgrand.com](http://www.mgmgrand.com) or [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

Three Las Vegas MGM Resorts, Mandalay Bay, Monte Carlo and The Mirage, will host live closed circuit telecasts of "Ring Kings: Mayweather vs. Cotto." Advanced purchased tickets for the closed circuit telecasts are priced at \$75, not including handling fees. All seats are general admission and are on sale now at each individual property's box office outlets or by phone with a major credit card at (866) 799-7711.

Episodes two and three of HBO's all-access reality series 24/7 MAYWEATHER/COTTO debut on Saturday, April 21 (10:00 p.m. ET/PT) and Saturday, April 28 (9:45 p.m. ET/PT) respectively, with the finale debuting Friday, May 4 (8:00 p.m. ET/PT), the night before the high-stakes super welterweight title bout. All four episodes will have multiple replay dates on HBO, and the series will also be available on HBO On Demand® and HBO GO®.

NCM Fathom will broadcast "Ring Kings: Mayweather vs. Cotto" in high definition LIVE to more than 440 movie theaters nationwide. Tickets to see the fight on the big screen are available at participating theater box offices and online at [www.FathomEvents.com](http://www.FathomEvents.com)

By The Chris Williams [www.cboxinginfo.com](http://www.cboxinginfo.com)

Follow me on twitter @cboxinginfo