

Written by Rian Scalia

Sunday, 12 February 2012 18:18 - Last Updated Sunday, 12 February 2012 19:09



SuperKombat's first event of 2011 is just under two weeks away on February 25, and headlining the card is Frank Munoz, who takes on the hometown Montenegrin fighter, Goran Radonjic. Frank is originally from Spain and now lives and trains out of the Netherlands at the Chakuriki Gym. He's one of the best -95kg kickboxers in the world but can also fight with the big boys at Heavyweight too. We talked with Frank about a number of subjects, including his upcoming fight, his career and what it's like being a kickboxer. Click "Read More" to check out the interview.

LiverKick: How is the preparation for your fight on February 25 against Goran Radonjic going?

Frank Munoz: The preparation is going really well. Under leadership of Sensai Thom Harinck we created for this fight a good training camp with some new guys around Holland that are preparing also for their upcoming fights, so we all worked hard and are motivated.

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LiverKick: Do you watch fights of your opponent?

Frank Munoz: Yes I do.

LiverKick: What do you think of Goran Radonjic as a fighter?

Frank Munoz: He is a good fighter. I already knew him from some time ago, when he was also training in Holland. He is a very complete fighter and will be a tough fight, but that is for what I am preparing now. He fights as a local in front of his home crowd, but I will go there to beat him. I will have no mercy.

LiverKick: You are from Spain, but now you fight out of the Chakuriki Gym in Holland. How did you come to be at Chakuriki?

Frank Munoz: Yes I'm Spanish and started my career in Barcelona, but since 4 years ago I moved to Holland to improve as a fighter and fight against the best. I started in Vos Gym in B class, I stayed there about two years but even I had there a very good trainer like Ivan Hippolyte, or teammates like Remy Bonjasky or Mirko Crocop, I did not receive enough support, and also I did not get too much fights. So then I decided to move to Chakuriki-Pankration, to train under Sensai Thom Harinck, and I can tell you, that is the best thing I could do. Since 2 years ago, I jumped into the world class level ,fighting with the best around the world, and getting the recognition from kickboxing community as a world class fighter.

LiverKick: How much has training at Chakuriki with the likes of Peter Aerts and Hesdy Gerges for the past few years affected your career and made you a better fighter?

Frank Munoz: Yes for sure, I am already 2 years training with them, and I improved so much. Everyday I do learn something, and also most part of my improvement as a fighter, is my coach Sensai Thom Harinck who gave me the power and confidence I needed to step up, compete and beat the best fighters.

LiverKick: How was your experience of fighting at SuperKombat in October?

Frank Munoz: Superkombat Romania with Eduard Irimia as CEO is possibly the number 1

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promotion with most viewers around the world right now because every gala is broadcasted live in more than 120 countries. So when I fought and won against Redouan Cairo it was an awesome atmosphere inside the arena. There in Romania even the taxi drivers recognized me. They have created a really big fanbase making events every month, so I expect it's coming also to West Europe and the rest of the world.

LiverKick: You can fight at -95kg or Heavyweight but there are many more opportunities to fight at Heavyweight. Which weight do you prefer fighting at? Is it ever hard to find fights at -95kg?

Frank Munoz: I explain to you, I am possibly a top 5 best fighter in the 95 kg division of the world. It's where I feel really strong and I know I can beat anybody, but there is not too many fights in this category, so I fight normally bigger opponents. That makes me have a little disadvantage with the kilos, but lately I put some weight on me and I am ready to fight and beat the super heavyweights.

LiverKick: For a fighter like yourself, do you have to have another job aside from fighting to make enough money?

Frank Munoz: Sadly it's very difficult to live only from the fights, and I must work also as a personal trainer part time, because of instability of income from fights. It's needed to have a stable income.

LiverKick: You've fought all over the world for the likes of SuperKombat, It's Showtime and Enfusion. Is there any place or organization that you would like to fight at? Maybe K-1 whenever it comes back?

Frank Munoz: I feel very comfortable fighting for Superkombat, but I am willing always to fight in the best promotions and best opponents of the moment. I am a fighter so I want fight, so right now I will like to fight of course in K-1 if it comes back, but also we have others good promotions like Thai Fight, Fight Code, Krush in Japan, and many others that are bringing great shows and it always would be nice to fight in any one of those promotions.

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