



## TEACHER RESOURCES

# BUDDY GUY



To apply for tickets for your school or community group to attend this *Share the Music* event, please visit [mhrth.com/sharethemusic](http://mhrth.com/sharethemusic)

## LIVING BLUES LEGEND

George “Buddy” Guy is a blues guitarist and singer from Lettsworth, Louisiana. He is famous for his sound that is inspired by both the traditions of classic Chicago blues as well as elements of rock and roll. He has influenced numerous artists, such as Eric Clapton, Stevie Ray Vaughan, and John Mayer. It is said that Buddy Guy first learned to play on a homemade instrument with two strings made from wire and tin cans. His first commercial breakthrough was with *Damn Right, I’ve Got the Blues* in 1991, and since then his name has been a major one in contemporary blues. He won the American Blues Foundation’s W.C. Handy Award 23 times, has six Grammy awards (most recently for his album *Living Proof* in 2011), and received the National Medal of the Arts in 2003. Buddy Guy was introduced into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2005 and Louisiana Music hall of Fame in 2008, and has also been honoured at the Kennedy Center Honors (2012), an annual celebration of performing artists with lifetime contributions to American culture.

*“Guitar legends do not come any better than Buddy Guy. He is feted by his peers and loved by his fans for his ability to make the guitar both talk and cry the blues... Such is Buddy’s mastery of the guitar that there is virtually no guitarist that he cannot imitate.”*

**- BILL WYMAN, THE ROLLING STONES**





## DID YOU KNOW?

IN MUSIC MAGAZINE *ROLLING STONE*, BUDDY GUY WAS RANKED 23RD IN A LIST OF THE “100 GREATEST GUITARISTS OF ALL TIME” (2015). HIS SONG “STONE CRAZY” ALSO RANKED 78<sup>TH</sup> IN A LIST OF THE “100 GREATEST GUITAR SONGS OF ALL TIME” BY THE SAME MAGAZINE (2008).



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ◆ What is blues music, and what are some key features of the blues? Who are some well-known blues musicians? What is the historical significance of the blues?
- ◆ Listening to a chosen Buddy Guy song, can you identify the mood of the work? What does the musician do to achieve this mood?
- ◆ What is rock and roll music, and what are its roots? Who are some important musicians associated with rock and roll?



## FURTHER RESOURCES

**OFFICIAL WEBSITE:** <https://www.buddyguy.net>

**ALLMUSIC - BIOGRAPHY:** <https://www.allmusic.com/artist/buddy-guy-mn0000942529/biography>

**ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA:**  
<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Buddy-Guy>

### TO LEARN

*When I Left Home: My Story*  
(Da Capo Press; Reprint Edition, 2013)

### TO LISTEN

Buddy Guy - *The Blues is Alive and Well* ([Spotify](#))

### TO WATCH

“Lightning in a Bottle” (2004)  
([YouTube](#))

## SHARE THE MUSIC:

*Share the Music*, presented by the Corporation of Massey Hall and Roy Thomson Hall, aims to enhance and broaden students’ musical horizons by providing tickets to world-class performances and educational pre-concert workshops. Schools and community groups are invited to apply for complimentary *Share the Music* tickets to Buddy Guy and other notable performances. For more information, please visit [mhrth.com/sharethemusic](http://mhrth.com/sharethemusic)

## CONTACT EDUCATION & OUTREACH TEAM:

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