

Matt Lesch

Matt Lesch is a 2016 Northwest graduate. Born in 1997 in St. Louis Missouri, Matt “The Rattlesnake” Lesch started playing guitar at the age of 11. By the age of 12, he took a serious interest in blues and started studying the masters such as Albert King, B.B. King, Freddie King, Buddy Guy, Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters and Howlin’ Wolf. At the age of 16 he was taken in and mentored by local blues legend Big George Brock and quickly became Big George’s lead guitar player while still attending high school at Northwest High School. At school, he would frequently bring his guitar into his classes to play for his classmates and would even play at school events and assemblies with his band, making other students interested in blues music. After performing at many national blues festivals across the country with Big George, Matt quickly became a seasoned veteran at an early age. Matt has had his own band since the age of 16 playing all the local blues clubs and festivals in St Louis and places like the famous Ground Zero Blues Club in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

At the age of 18, Matt started attending Webster University as a Jazz Performance major where he quickly fell in love with jazz. As he studied jazz, the music started to integrate into his blues playing making him the unique and dangerous player he is today.

In October of 2018, Matt released his debut album Furious Strike at the age of 20. Furious Strike brings a modern, contemporary style to the blues genre that includes his original music and modern playing style. Now 28, he has played all over the U.S.A and internationally in France, Denmark and more. His most recent album release "Blues Cut Like Glass" consist of all original music and has been nominated for 2 Blues Blast Awards, best Rock Blues Album, and the Sean Costello Rising Star Award. He won the 2025 Sean Costello Rising Star Award.