



## WINTER/SPRING 2024 K-12 TOUR CURRICULUM

### Gold Soundz

#### Rob Matre

Feb 1- April 20, 2024 | Haley Gallery

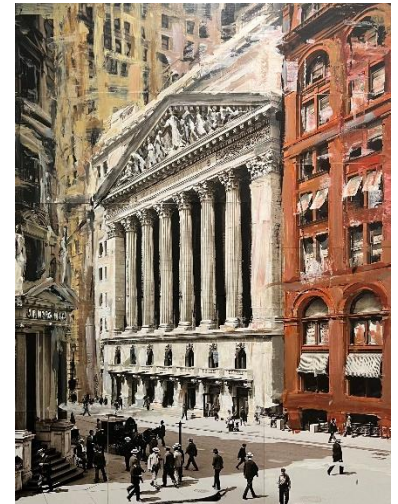
Albany native Rob Matre returns to the Albany Museum of Art with *Gold Soundz*, an exhibition of mixed-media paintings and photographs. The exhibition will serve as a retrospective covering the last 10 years of his *Plaid Columns* series, paintings often made in collaboration with artist Evan Jones, whose work was featured at the museum in a solo exhibition in 2014.

A selection of photographs made over the last 20 years will be on view, along with some new paintings made for this exhibition. Matre's photography exhibition *Recent History* was on view at the AMA in 2013, and his painting *Third Avenue Oaks* is on long-term loan at the museum. He also has worked with the Albany Area Chamber of Commerce on various art projects to enhance that organization's promotion of the city.

In his paintings and photographs, themes of place and memory run through Matre's work. Scenes of Albany and South Georgia are recurring subjects, along with other images from the State of Georgia and beyond. Matre's love of sports also informs his work, with a focus on the game of golf. Since 2003, he has documented professional golf tournaments and golf courses around the world, including many of the great links courses of Scotland and Ireland.

Albany serves as a launching point for Matre's creativity. His lifelong interest in art started with his passion for music, specifically with the album art that was his first source of inspiration. The title of this exhibition comes from the opening line of a song by Pavement, one of his favorite bands, which beckons to the listener: "Go back to those gold soundz." That line kept returning to him in preparation for this exhibition. The words played upon the notion of "going home," as this exhibition can certainly be considered a homecoming of sorts.

Embarking on a journey through Rob Matre's *Gold Soundz* exhibition at the Albany Museum of Art holds immense value for students, not only as a captivating artistic experience but also as a catalyst for intellectual and cultural growth. Delving into Matre's mixed-media paintings and photographs offers a unique lens through which students can enhance their critical thinking skills. The retrospective nature of the exhibition becomes a rich tapestry that weaves together themes of place and memory, providing a tangible link to Georgia's history, geography, and culture. This immersive encounter serves as an educational bridge, fostering a deeper understanding of the local and regional context within which the artist draws inspiration. By connecting with Matre's portrayal of scenes from Albany, South Georgia, and the broader State of Georgia, students will not only appreciate artistic expression, but also gain insights into the cultural fabric that shapes their own surroundings. This holistic experience lays the foundation for a well-rounded education, nurturing critical thinking while fostering an appreciation for the interconnectedness of art, history, and culture.



**GADOE  
STANDARDS  
TO BE MET THROUGH THIS  
EXHIBITIONS**

The relationship of this exhibitions to Social Studies, English/Language Arts, and Visual Arts, are presented in Georgia's Standards of Excellence. This exhibition gives students the opportunity to grow an appreciation and understanding of various painting and drawing styles, explore how art, human connection and language merge together, gain critical thinking skills, and visual critique and literacy. A full list of standards addressed though this exhibition for your specific class are available upon request.

- **Visual Arts Education:** The exhibition features mixed-media paintings and photographs, providing students with a diverse range of artistic expressions. Students can learn about different art forms, techniques, and the creative process behind Matre's work.
- **Critical Thinking Skills:** Matre's artwork, particularly the retrospective nature of the Plaid Columns series, encourages students to think critically about themes of place and memory. Analyzing the artworks can stimulate discussions and prompt students to interpret and articulate their thoughts on the meaning and significance of the pieces.
- **Cultural and Historical Connection:** The exhibition serves as a visual narrative of Albany, South Georgia, and the State of Georgia. Exploring Matre's portrayal of scenes from these regions provides students with a tangible link to their local history, geography, and culture. This connection fosters a sense of pride and understanding of their community.
- **Interdisciplinary Learning:** This exhibition provides an opportunity for interdisciplinary learning, where students can explore connections between art and other subjects such as sports, geography, social studies, and music.
- **Art as Inspiration:** Matre's journey into art began with his passion for music, specifically album art. The exhibition's title, inspired by a Pavement song, highlights the interconnectedness of different forms of artistic expression. This can inspire students to explore their own creativity and recognize the various influences that contribute to artistic endeavors.
- **Homecoming Theme:** The concept of "going home" associated with the exhibition can resonate with students, prompting discussions about their own sense of home and belonging. It provides an opportunity for personal reflection and expression.
- **Collaborative Artwork:** Matre's collaboration with artist Evan Jones is mentioned in the description. This aspect of the exhibition introduces students to the concept of collaborative art, emphasizing teamwork and shared creative processes.

In summary, a field trip to *Gold Soundz* not only exposes students to the world of art but also promotes critical thinking, cultural awareness, and interdisciplinary connections. It serves as a dynamic educational experience that goes beyond the traditional classroom setting.

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## FIELD TRIP ACTIVITIES

- Students will be introduced to the role of museums in our community and why they are so important to us.
- They will then be shown works from *Gold Soundz* in the Haley Gallery, as well as works in additional galleries. While examining these works, we will discuss concepts of self-identity, cultural identity, Georgia cultures, and Georgia geography. Students will be encouraged to speak as a group, read wall labels aloud, and engage in analytical conversation with educators and peers.
- The guide will help the students with visual thinking strategies so that they may understand what the works are and why they were created.
- Students will create a multi-media work of art in the AMA classroom in response to the works in the galleries.