



Tigers in  
a Bamboo Grove by  
Kano Tan'yū

## STATE OF THE ART

Japanese art wows in Philadelphia.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE United States, an exhibition of paintings showcasing the history of Japan's most enduring and influential artistic dynasty will be on display, Feb. 16 to May 10 at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

"Ink and Gold: Art of the Kano" features more than 120 works produced by Kano painters, who for nearly 500 years beginning in the 15th century reigned as the artistic darlings of the shoguns and ruling class. Employing illustrious gold leaf to convey the power and majesty of

their patrons, painters were celebrated for producing large-scale ethereal screens of twisting pines, pouncing tigers and farm life based on Confucian ideas that prosperous agriculture results from good government. Featuring rare and culturally significant works never seen outside Tokyo, the exhibition, on display only in Philadelphia, represents a once-in-a-lifetime chance to see some of Japan's greatest artistic achievements. [www.philamuseum.org/exhibitions/812.html](http://www.philamuseum.org/exhibitions/812.html) —KATHLEEN PARRISH



## Sing Your Heart Out

When it comes to romance, singer-songwriter **Joshua Radin** raises the bar — and ends on a high note.

He flew to Sweden to woo her. Each day, singer-songwriter Joshua Radin sat on the bed in his Stockholm hotel room and wrote songs to win the heart of a Swedish woman he'd befriended six years previously.

"I set about trying to use whatever powers I have — and that's music — to convince her that I was serious," Radin says. "I wasn't really writing for anyone but her, but when I had all these songs, I figured it's a body of work and I might as well put it out."



The result is Radin's recently released sixth album, *Onward and Sideways* (Glass Bead, \$9). Its chirpy lead single, "Beautiful Day," features Sheryl Crow. On "My Baby,"

Radin plucks his guitar strings while his tender voice plucks one's heartstrings. The guitars on the ebullient soft rocker "Let Our Sun Shine Down," rev like race-car engines.

"I wanted that particular sound because that's how I felt," Radin explains. "When I was recording the song was one of the first times she had told me she loved me."

Romance tip, guys: Thirteen songs always trump a dozen roses.

"She moved to Los Angeles," Radin says, "and everything is working out great."

—STEPHEN HUMPHRIES