

**K**roll Family Trust exists to promote cultural activities and publications; thus it gives us great pleasure to extend our support to Geraldine Norman for her new book *Dynastic Rule*, which examines the remarkable lives of Boris and Mikhail Piotrovsky and their influence on the Hermitage Museum.

Geraldine and I retain close links to the Hermitage Museum; she through her directorship of Hermitage Foundation UK and I through my directorship of Hermitage Museum Foundation Israel. We have both therefore had the opportunity to work closely with Mikhail Piotrovsky and see at first hand how his enlightened direction has allowed the Hermitage Museum not only to prosper but to grow to new heights of international cultural significance and influence.

We consider Geraldine the ideal person to write *Dynastic Rule*. From a background of art correspondence for *The Times* and other media, in 1997 she wrote *The Hermitage: The Biography of a Great Museum*. In 2000 she set up the Hermitage Rooms at Somerset House and in 2003 launched *Hermitage Magazine*. More recently she has been a leading light in Hermitage Foundation UK.

Kroll Family Trust is proud to be associated with this publication, spreading as it will a greater understanding around the world of the work of the Hermitage Museum in general and the Piotrovsky family in particular.

Daniel Kroll  
President, Kroll Family Trust

