

## Polina Lavrova

Born in Saint-Petersburg, lives in Kyiev. Founder and head of the publishing house «Laurus». The primary mission of the publishing house is to promote humanitarian values, human rights and establish crosscultural and inter-institutional cooperation.

The publishing house Laurus publishes art, historical, educational and fiction by Ukrainian and foreign authors. Laurus' mission is to form ideas about modern society in the contemporary world, adequate to scientific and cultural knowledge. It was Laurus that published for the first time in Ukraine a translation of children's stories by Umberto Eco, Codex Seraphinianus, a collection of stories by Teffy from the Kyiv period of her life. In addition to publishing activities, Laurus is an active participant in cultural events and projects. The publishing house is a permanent information partner of the concert seasons of the Academic Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine, an organizer of literary evenings and a coorganizer of various projects:

- Exhibition "Kyiv during the First World War" in the Museum of History;
- Festival of contemporary art Kyiv Art Week;
- Festival "Anna of Kyiv";
- "Propaganda Art: Posters and Poems" (Kyiv History Museum);
- All-Ukrainian art action "My Shevchenko";
- The performance "3 by 30" is an artistic act of creating a painting for museum visitors and much more.

One of our major goals is to create a public environment that—in times of war — still places a human being and a responsible citizen as a center of the existence and perceives social cohesion based on human dignity as the basis for social development.

As a publisher, we promote the works of Ukrainian and foreing scholars, writers, and poets that prepare the ground for democratic rebirth, peace and reconciliation in our region. Laurus is not just a company. It is a space for intellectual meetings, discussions, and the formation of a public environment aimed to develop civic education and enlightenment. Polina Lavrova is included in the top 100 most influential people of culture according to the Novoye Vremya magazine (2015). She is a laureate of more than a dozen Ukrainian cultural awards. Such as: Personal award of the President of the Forum of Publishers 2016 Oleksandra Koval (Linden tree. Theory of architecture, mysticism and war); Personal award of the executive director of the Forum of Publishers 2017 Kateryna Shevchenko (Lindgren. Wartime diaries 1939-1945); State Diploma TV Committee and radio broadcasting for participation in the 11th Kyiv International Book Fair and many others.