

## A WAKE

David Medalla

"The Ghost of Isaac Newton in another vacant space" 2011

David Medalla presents a video impromptu~

"Einstein is walking on the road of Biesentalerstrasse Berlin when he sees the ghost of Isaac Newton, eating an apple, addressing an empty room in another vacant space. A dialogue ensues...."

### **David Medalla Bio:**

David Medalla is constantly shifting his strategies and media; when one thinks one has him pinned down as a situationist, a surrealist, or a conceptualist, one is stumped as he continues to endlessly conceive other fantastic, often unrealisable schemes. Fairly unknown to the forefront, he is an icon of an artist who has made no clear distinction between his art and his life. David Medalla's work stretches back to the sixties when he co-founded Signals Gallery in London and presented international kinetic art, among other art forms. He initiated the "Exploding Galaxies" which mediated relationships between international artists and was a pioneer in participatory art, his work highly resonated with (was highly influential in) the works of Conceptual artists from Brazil (Tropicália/Tropicalismo movement with Lygia Clark and Hélio Oiticica) the Exploding Galaxies. Aside from his deeply rooted underground core work on the avant-garde scene of London, he became increasingly known for a series of works he did entitled, "Cloud Canyons": thick bubbles that slowly come from a central machine which produces random shapes that glisten like rainbows when perceived by light. His work was included in Harald Szeemann's exhibition 'Weiss auf Weiss' (1966) and 'Live in Your Head: When Attitudes Become Form' (1969) and in the DOCUMENTA 5 exhibition in 1972 in Kassel. Marcel Duchamp honoured him with a 'medallic' object, as a tribute to his name. In 1997, he was a DAAD artist in Berlin. Very recently, he has exhibited at the New Museum in New York where the curator hailed his "Cloud Canyons No. 14" as an iconic sculpture in Contemporary Art. David Medalla and Adam Nankervis founded The Mondrian Fan Club in New York in 1992 and continue their impromptus and performances globally.