



## **Ilya and Emilia Kabakov**

### *The Twenty Ways to Get an Apple Listening to the Music of Mozart*

Ilya and Emilia Kabakov are from Russia but now live in the US. Ilya Kabakov studied graphics and illustration and became one of the leading unofficial artists in the former Soviet Union. These artists worked against the system of social realism and instead explored social and political issues through conceptual realities. His work developed into complex narrative installations in the early 1980's and eventually he began collaborating with his wife Emilia on these large projects. As such their work is known for its combination of words, images and objects located in often humorous yet political settings and installations. The various ways to get the apple in this installation include schemes that are philosophical, magical, psychological, linguistic or just plain fun. The work is considered a commentary on unfulfilled promises and the irony of human intellectual endeavours played out through the potential social gathering of the dinner party.