



DARKFIELD

SÉANCE ACCESS PACK
FOR AUDIENCE MEMBERS

SÉANCE

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ABOUT THIS PACK

DARKFIELD shows are immersive experiences in shipping containers and require a different approach to accessibility than traditional theatre shows. This pack aims to guide audiences on what to expect from **SÉANCE**.



ABOUT

DARKFIELD create immersive audio experiences, including **location-based** shipping container installations, and **digital** experiences. Audience members are at the centre of intense, evolving narratives using **360 degree binaural sound, striking set design, pitch darkness, and other sensory effects**. We work with partners to present experiences individually or as a collection, and to transmit digital experiences via our platform: **DARKFIELD RADIO**.

SÉANCE transforms a shipping container into a Victorian séance room. It explores the psychology of a group of people, and asks that they believe in what might be conjured up into the room with them.

Using complete darkness and binaural 360 degree sound, over 20 minutes audiences go on a journey with the medium that will make you *'question not just your senses but what you actually believe'* (Lyn Gardner, The Guardian').



WHAT TO EXPECT?

Before the show: Outside the container

When you arrive, you will see a white shipping container with 'SÉANCE' written on its side. The door can be found at the end of the container with a mannequin.

A staff member will check your tickets and ask you to wait until the start of the show. All of the audience members will then be briefed on health and safety and what to expect during the show.

The audience will then be invited in together.

Please note: Our experiences are location-based. **We do ask you arrive at least 5 minutes before showtime**, but please remember that we can't guarantee seating spaces while you wait - this is dependent on the venue.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

Before the show: Entering the container

After the audience briefing, you will be admitted into the container. There is a 28cm high step at the entrance, but we can provide a ramp.

Upon entering the container, the audience will be asked to start sitting from the back. If you need to sit closer to the entrance, please let our staff know.

You will be able to hear some sounds coming from the container. They are a part of the experience and will become louder when the doors are open.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

Before the show: Inside the container

When you enter the container, you will see a long table in the center with seats on either side.

Each seat is 45cm wide.

The doorway is 81cm wide and the corridor leading to it is 92cm wide.

Before the show, you will be reminded to turn off all light-emitting devices. Our staff member will then exit the container. The door will remain closed during the show.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

During and after the show

WARNING: Spoilers ahead

When the show starts, it will become pitch black in the container and you should remain seated for everyone's safety.

SÉANCE is an auditory show with the use of other sensory effects. It will sound like an actor is present in the space with you, interacting with audience members. This is part of the illusion and no actor is present in the container: but we do want audiences to feel like they may be interacted with at any moment.

If you find the sound overwhelming, taking your headphones off will take away the intensity of the experience for you without disturbing the rest of the audience.

When the show is finished, the lights come back on and the doors will be opened. After leaving the container, you will be able to collect your belongings from the front-of-house box.

FAQS

Is SÉANCE suitable for those who suffer from claustrophobia or experience hallucinations?

DARKFIELD experiences take place in blackout conditions inside a shipping container and may not be suitable for those with claustrophobia. SÉANCE is not recommended for people who experience hallucinations due to the subject of the show and its immersive nature.

Can I leave the container once the experience has started?

Please note that SÉANCE audiences are asked to remain seated unless there is an emergency.

This is to preserve the lighting and immersive environment for audience enjoyment, and to ensure everyone's safety. **If you wish, you may remove your headphones at any time.**

Some background sounds may still be audible and some sensory effects might still be present.

Is there an age rating for DARKFIELD experiences?

DARKFIELD experiences are rated 14+.

FAQS

Is DARKFIELD suitable for those who are pregnant or have heart conditions / high blood pressure?

DARKFIELD experiences are in the dark, quite loud, intense, and can be claustrophobic. They also involve some movement and/or vibration effects. We let audience members decide whether this would be suitable for them. Please note that our staff are not medical professionals. They can provide you with information about the show, but if you have any concerns about its suitability for you, you should speak to your medical team.

Is DARKFIELD scary?

Our shows explore anxiety and fear but also muse on philosophical themes. We would describe them as intense or unnerving, akin to *The Twilight Zone*. We avoid describing them as scary or terrifying, as that is not the aim of the work. Different audiences have different reactions; some find our shows scary, but others do not find them scary at all.

FAQS

Can I attend a DARKFIELD show if I have access requirements?

We have an access space (wheelchair accessible space) in every show. Its location varies depending on the show. In SÉANCE, it is the first seat on the right side. Our staff are always able to meet access patrons ahead of showtime to allow sufficient time to transfer from a wheelchair and for patrons with mobility issues to take a seat. **Please let the venue know ahead of time, or book an access ticket** so we can prepare the space and install an entry ramp for the container (if required). **If you have specific access needs, let us know in advance** and we can advise how the experience can be adjusted for you. We can accommodate both transferring to a house seat and using patron's own wheelchair.

Due to the nature of our shows, they are unfortunately not accessible to d/Deaf audiences. Our shows rely on sound and sensory effects; we are working on solutions that would allow d/Deaf and hard of hearing audiences to participate in our shows.

We care about making our shows accessible. If you have any questions or feedback that you would like to share, please get in touch with us at info@darkfield.org.