Introducing The Difference Engine: a pioneering new access system

We are really pleased you have chosen to use The Difference Engine to receive captions for The Encounter. The Difference Engine is a pioneering access system, developed by Talking Birds Theatre Company, to provide access to experimental, small scale and site-specific performances. It broadcasts captions (and potentially much more) to mobile devices: smartphones and tablets.

Please note that the Difference Engine is a prototype access system. It’s been used successfully on a number of shows, and we expect it to work well, BUT we just wanted to let you know that this is a trial, and is the first time that Complicite are using the system – so please bear with us if there are any glitches!

To view captions  (From half an hour before the show, at the venue)

- In your phone/tablet’s wifi settings, select the network ‘difference engine’
- When the network is active, you will see the wifi signal: 📡 (may take a few seconds)
- Go to your browser (e.g. Chrome, Firefox, Safari) and enter the following into the web address bar: 192.168.0.105
- This will open a homepage with a few options – click on: Subtitles
- You should see a welcome greeting. The system will be active from half an hour before the show – if you try to log on before then, you will not see anything! Captions will be broadcast when the show begins.

Tips

- We recommend holding your device sideways (in ‘landscape’ mode) as the best way to view the captions.
- Although... we have found that iPhones sometimes revert to having a white bar across the top and bottom of the screen in landscape mode, which can limit what you can see. This can usually be removed by turning your phone upright again, and then sideways again. If it continues, you may prefer to view it in ‘portrait’ position.
- If you lose captions, check you are still connected to the ‘difference engine’ network in your wifi settings.
- NB: when you are logged into the Difference Engine network, you will not have access to the internet, as this is a local network only.

MAKE SURE THAT YOUR DEVICE IS FULLY CHARGED BEFORE THE SHOW!

Please give us feedback

We would really appreciate any feedback you might have on The Difference Engine, and how it enhanced (or not!), your experience of the performance, as the plan is to go on developing it in response to users’ needs. You can do this after the show via your device, by going back to the same web address in your browser (192.168.0.105) and selecting Feedback. Or get in touch by email birdmail@talkingbirds.co.uk to tell us what you think.