



# DARKFIELD

COMA ACCESS PACK  
FOR AUDIENCE MEMBERS

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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 **COMA**.

# 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**.

*Imagine the moment of waking up is actually the moment when your dream begins.*

*In light of this new and strange reality, how can we save you from the unspeakable horrors which lurk in the dark recesses of your mind?*

*The only cure we offer is a placebo and a promise.*

*Please remember when you leave to take your body with you.*

COMA invites the audience to take part in a mass experiment taking place over 30 minutes, where lay down together and slip into a collective dream.

# WHAT TO EXPECT?

## *Before the show: Outside the container*

When you arrive, you will see a white shipping container with COMA written on its side. You should head to the end of it where you can see an open door.

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. You will be asked to leave big bags and coats in the box provided. Our staff will be looking after your belongings during the show.

**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 enter the container. You can do so using either a **step that is 20cm high** or a **ramp that is approximately 72cm wide**.

The entrance hall is approximately 140cm wide and 174 cm long.

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

# WHAT TO EXPECT?

## *Before the show: Inside the container*

Upon entering the container, you will see a coffee machine in front of you, along with two rows of bunk beds: one on the left, one on the right.

There are three levels of beds. **Beds on the right side are longer:** 191cm long, 60cm wide. Beds on the left side are 181cm long, 60cm wide.

There are 23.5cm between the bottom of the floor and the top of the mattress on the lowest bed.



## WHAT TO EXPECT?

### *Before the show: Inside the container*

To access the middle and top bed, you need to use the ladder on your right.

There are approximately 25cm gaps between each step.

The one exception are the top steps on each level - these are approximately 15cm from the beds.

The aisle between the beds is 68cm wide.



## WHAT TO EXPECT?

### *During the show: WARNING Spoilers ahead*

When the show starts, the lights will slowly fade out. If for any reason you are anxious or find yourself overwhelmed, this is your chance to leave the container.

You can leave the same way you entered. If you think you might wish to leave and need more time to exit, please let our staff know before the start of the show. They will make sure to provide enough time for you to leave if you choose to do so and can ensure your seat is near the entrance.

Due to health and safety reasons, after the lights are turned off again, you need to stay in your bed. You will experience a complete blackout during the show; attempts to move around can cause you to hurt yourself or others. If you are overwhelmed, you can take your headphones off - this will end the audio experience for you. Please note that some sounds might still be audible and you will experience other effects.

**Please note that the show involves the emission of fragrances.** You will also be given the option to consume a pill, though it is alright if you decide not to do so. The tablet does not contain medicine.



# FAQs

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

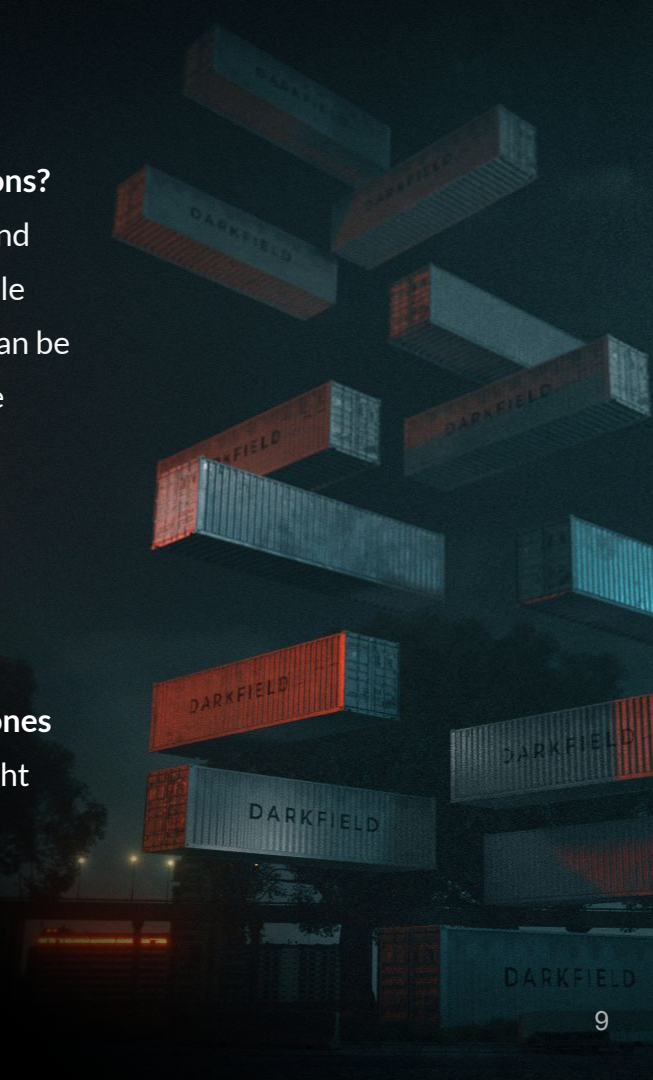
**DARKFIELD** experiences take place in blackout conditions inside a shipping container and may not be suitable for those with claustrophobia. COMA is not recommended for people suffering with claustrophobia, because audiences are laying down in bunk beds, which can be a trigger. It is also not recommended for those 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 **COMA** 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. **Please note that in COMA audiences lay down in bunk beds.**

**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 FLIGHT, it is the first row you see upon entry. 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.

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](mailto:info@darkfield.org)

