

A View on Access – The Audio Described performance and touch tour of Instructions for Correct Assembly at the Royal Court that took place on Saturday the 28th of April at 2.30 PM – Touch tour 1pm.

Click [here](#) for the audio of this review.

The Royal Court is a lovely venue in the heart of Chelsea in Sloane Square, London that offers a unique array of diverse plays throughout the year often attracting some of the top actors and actresses. They have a passion for making all of their productions accessible and inclusive for all and their team are helpful and supportive every step of the way.

Instructions for correct assembly by Thomas Eccleshare is a very quirky unconventional play with underlying moments of comedy throughout set sometime in the future, focussing on a couple recovering from the loss of their grown up son, they embark on a whole new journey when they purchase a build your own kit online and what follows is a series of escapades and flashbacks that shock and surprise in equal measure in order to tell the story.

The Touch tour began at 1pm and was led by describers – Veronika Hicks and Kerry Elkins for Vocal eyes and was an elaborate affair as a group of around 10 were escorted onto the stand where they were met by stage crew and many of the cast that included Jane Horrocks who played Max, Jason Barnett, playing Paul and Mark Bonnar playing Harry. Due to the futuristic and technical nature of the play there were a lot of synthetic android parts like artificial limbs with wires and circuits coming out of it on set to touch and feel that everyone did with different reactions as some with a bit squashy and moist like silicone implants.

The set was innovative and complex with many layers to it, with 2 conveyer belts that simulated the generation game that would bring on characters and props throughout the play. The stage was the size of an average garage with a metal frame around it, with a grey panel in front that lifts away to reveal it behind, Veronika and Kerry gave a brief overview and introduced cast members who each gave a description of their character and what they would sound like everyone was then allowed to explore the set, chat with the cast and crew and ask any questions they may have.

This was an exciting and invaluable experience for all that provided a wealth of inside and understanding into what would take place later on stage painting pictures in the mind of all the visual and physical aspects.

There was no Interval so Veronika handled the describing duties of both the introduction and the play and Kerry was on hand if anyone had any technical issues or needed any support throughout.

Veronika's description was confident and carefully delivered throughout, offering a detailed account for the introduction discussing all the important information needed to be able to grasp what was happening as the play

Throughout she was like a soothing guide in your ear with a clear confident voice punctuating all the action unfolding on stage and coming in at all the quieter moments with no dialogue effortlessly illustrating in words all the drama acting out before us.

Providing an exceptional service making the play totally inclusive for those blind and visually impaired

Instructions for Correct assembly may not be your traditional drama as it plays around with many ideals, themes and attitudes and the subject of parenthood and hoe decisions impact on the life of others but it was different and thought provoking on many levels and thoroughly enjoyable and it makes me very happy indeed that an audio description and touch tour was made available for those who needed it.

The royal court has a detailed access page on their website - <https://royalcourttheatre.com/your-visit/access/>

You can also contact the Box Office directly on [020 7565 5000](tel:02075655000) to book tickets. Touch tours are usually 90 mins before the play

The next audio described performances are:

Pity by Rory Mullarkey, Sat 4 Aug 2.30pm

The Woods by Robert Alan Evans, Sat 13 Oct 3pm

Still No Idea by Lisa Hammond and Rachael Spence, Sat 10 Nov 7:45pm

Ear for Eye by Debbie tucker green, Sat 17 Nov 2.30pm