



EdFest

Visitors to the Edinburgh Festivals spend a lot of time finding their way around Edinburgh and planning activities. Maps, guidebooks and the Fringe brochure are the essential tourist accessories. Newspapers print daily event listings to help you plan your schedule. Event flyers are everywhere.

What about new technologies? Couldn't we replace all that paper with smart phones and PDAs? Why not simply access the Fringe web site via your mobile phone? Many projects have tried to do exactly that, but paper persists. Why? For one thing it doesn't require batteries and cables. It is cheap, light and fairly robust (as long as the Edinburgh wind and rain doesn't get to it). You can read it even in bright sunlight — and so can your friend at the same time. You can scribble notes on it. Everyone can use it — no training or installation required.

Instead of replacing paper, we link it to digital media and services. To test and demonstrate new technologies for interactive paper, we have developed an interactive paper brochure and map for visitors to the Fringe. A special digital pen and an earpiece allows you to interact with the brochure. Click on the icons in the brochure to find out more information about an event and its venue or whether tickets are available. Add your own rating and comments or listen to the comments and average rating of other tourists. Let the pen guide you to your location on the map or that of a venue. Point to locations on the map to find out about the nearest venue. You can also use a special paper bookmark to search for events of interest and also to book tickets. We also show how by visiting a kiosk you could print our your own personalised interactive daily event list.

EdFest Project

mobile tourist information system for visitors to Edinburgh Festival Fringe based on interactive brochure and map

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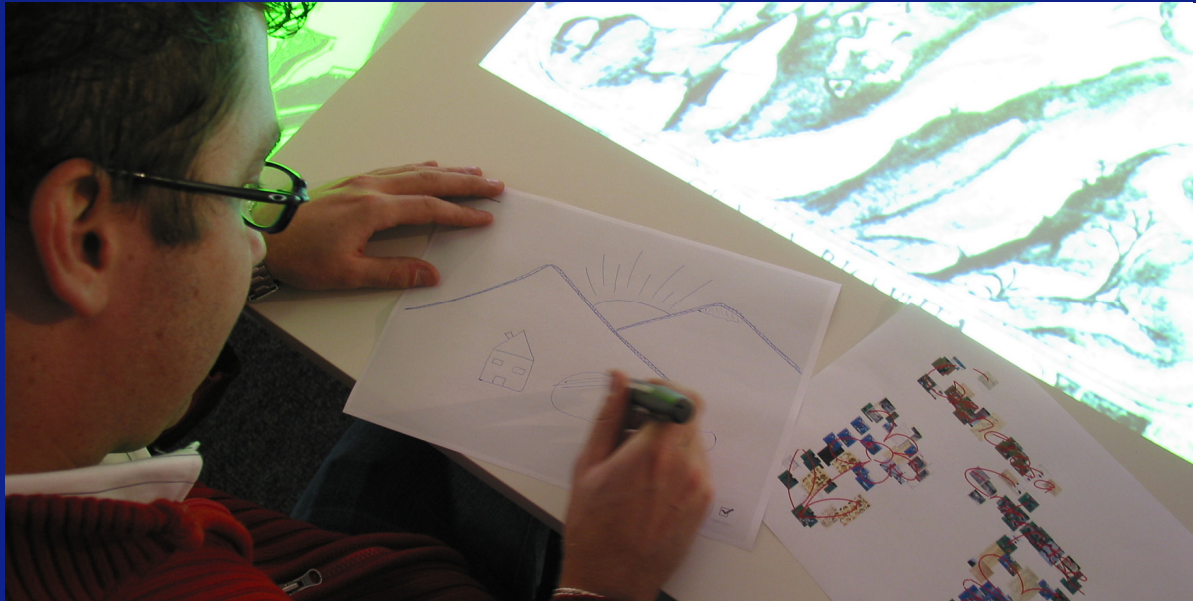
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Edinburgh Festival Fringe
www.edfringe.com

Base Map, The XYZ Digital Map Co
www.xyzmaps.com



Interactive Paper

Despite the emergence of digital technologies, paper persists as a fundamental resource for many human activities. Nowadays, documents tend to be created and distributed electronically, but paper continues to be a preferred medium for many reading and writing activities. Paper is cheap, light, mobile and easily annotated in various ways. It also supports forms of collaboration difficult to mimic in digital worlds.

We are involved in a number of projects investigating how new technologies can turn paper into an interactive medium. Users can select links on paper using a special pen and activate a range of digital services such as playing a video clip, displaying a web page or retrieving requested information which is then given to the user through generated speech. Interaction can be mixed with capture, enabling users' annotations and drawings to be converted to digital form and also linked back to their location within a paper document.

Our project partners are developing various innovative solutions for encoding position information on paper and then being able to track the movement of a pen-like device on paper for purposes of interaction or writing capture. Other partners are investigating how people work with paper and the potential uses of these new technologies.

ETH Zurich is developing the server software and tools that enable active areas to be defined on paper and linked to any kind of digital resource, including application services. So far we have used the technology to develop a range of applications including mobile tourist guides based on interactive paper maps and event brochures. We have also developed PaperPoint — a tool allowing PowerPoint® presentations to be controlled and annotated through printed slide overviews.

Global Information Systems

developing methods, tools and technologies for collaborative information environments

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PaperWorks Project

*European STREP
Interweaving Paper and Digital Documents*

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