

## Interrotron-inspired techniques

The *interrotron* technique is the method made popular by documentarian Errol Morris: a two-way mirror – e.g. one typically used in auto-cue set-ups - used to project a live feed of the interviewer ‘into the lens’ of the camera recording the interviewee. Thus, the subject maintains direct eye contact with a reacting human, rather than speaking into the impersonal black hole of camera hardware.

Once the concept is understood (see below for links for context and explanation), it offers the media producer many possibilities for use and adaptation within learning contexts – particularly when working with academics unused to presenting directly ‘through the lens’. The technique may also be extended to incorporate visual prompts or text overlays, or facilitate self-monitoring by reflecting a feed of the presenter back to themselves (via, e.g. ‘selfie mode’ on the tablet projecting the image back into the two-way mirror).

### ***The Thing Between Us*** - Zendesk

<https://medium.com/zendesk-creative-blog/the-thing-between-us-e5f982932965>

### ***Video tech we use to film incredibly natural interviews, for teaching*** – Fitzroy Academy

<https://medium.com/fitzroy-academy/see-one-person-interrotron-de0d2c0c5d36>

### ***How and Why we created a DIY interrotron*** – Slate Roof Films

<https://www.slaterooffilms.com/blog/how-and-why-we-created-a-diy-interrotron>

### **Errol Morris’ *Interrotron* setup** - Steve Hardie, Production Designer (collaborator with Errol Morris)

<https://www.whiterabbitdesigncompany.com/interrotron.html>

### ***It Could All Be Wrong*** - an unfinished interview with Errol Morris by Paul Cronin

<https://www.thestickingplace.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Errol-Morris.pdf>

### ***Chinwag* podcast: Errol Morris and the Interrotron** - Paul Giamatti and Stephen Asma

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LGIZJiDNWF0>

### **Errol Morris’ *First Person* Series**

[https://www.openculture.com/2020/08/errol-morris-makes-his-groundbreaking-series-first-person-free-to-watch-online.html#google\\_vignette](https://www.openculture.com/2020/08/errol-morris-makes-his-groundbreaking-series-first-person-free-to-watch-online.html#google_vignette)

### **‘Out of the box’ solutions**

- Vox Box Air  
<https://primelightdesign.co.uk/pages/vox-box-air>
- Portaprompt  
<https://www.portaprompt.co.uk/interrotrons/>
- Eye Direct  
<https://eyedirect.tv>

### **Online tutorials**

- *Remote Marcos Rocha*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwgstqGVuvo>
- *Meet the Gaffer*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y-BSpKAzr8I>

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*share your experiences with us!*