The mapping class group \( \text{Mod}(S) \) of a surface \( S \) is the group of diffeomorphisms of \( S \), modulo isotopy. The Nielsen realization problem asks, “Can a given subgroup \( G < \text{Mod}(S) \) be lifted to the diffeomorphism group?” The answer is “yes” for finite \( G \) (by work of Kerckhoff) and “no” for \( G = \text{Mod}(S) \) (by work of Morita). For most infinite \( G < \text{Mod}(S) \), we don’t know. I will discuss a special case of this problem, where \( G \) is the braid group. This is joint work with Nick Salter. (Received September 25, 2017)