each will appear or not appear (2011)

James Saunders
programme note

each will appear or not appear (2011) is scored for two bowed strings and voice. Each player chooses to play a pitch or remain silent, set within a repeating structure. The sounds are held on the edge of silence, and are unstable as a result. The title is taken from the text for Robert Smithson and Mel Bochner’s *The Domain of the Great Bear* (1966). The piece is part of the series divisions that could be autonomous but that comprise the whole (2009-) and was written for Sara Stowe, Matthew Spring, and Jon Banks.

performance information

voice  open vowel sound, consistent throughout the piece
always on the edge of sounding, and the sound may occasionally break up

bowed strings  any bowed strings may be used (violin, viola, cello, double bass, bowed guitar/piano/harp, hurdy gurdy etc.)
maintain a minimal bow speed so that each note is always on the edge of sounding, and may occasionally break up

öff ppm (---)  on the edge of silence; sound will stop and start uncontrollably

times refer to durations of sounds and silences (no action marked) within a 40" window

in each 40" window, each player independently selects one of the three pages to play, or remains silent (for the full 40")
each player must play each of their three pages and maintain a silence at least twice

use a stopwatch

duration: at least 5’20"

*each will appear or not appear* (2011) was written for Sara Stowe, Matthew Spring, and Jon Banks.
bowed string

11"　　 12"　　 17"

[40°]
bowed string (1)

26"

12"

2"
bowed string (2)

14"

12"

14"
bone, string (2)

[40°]