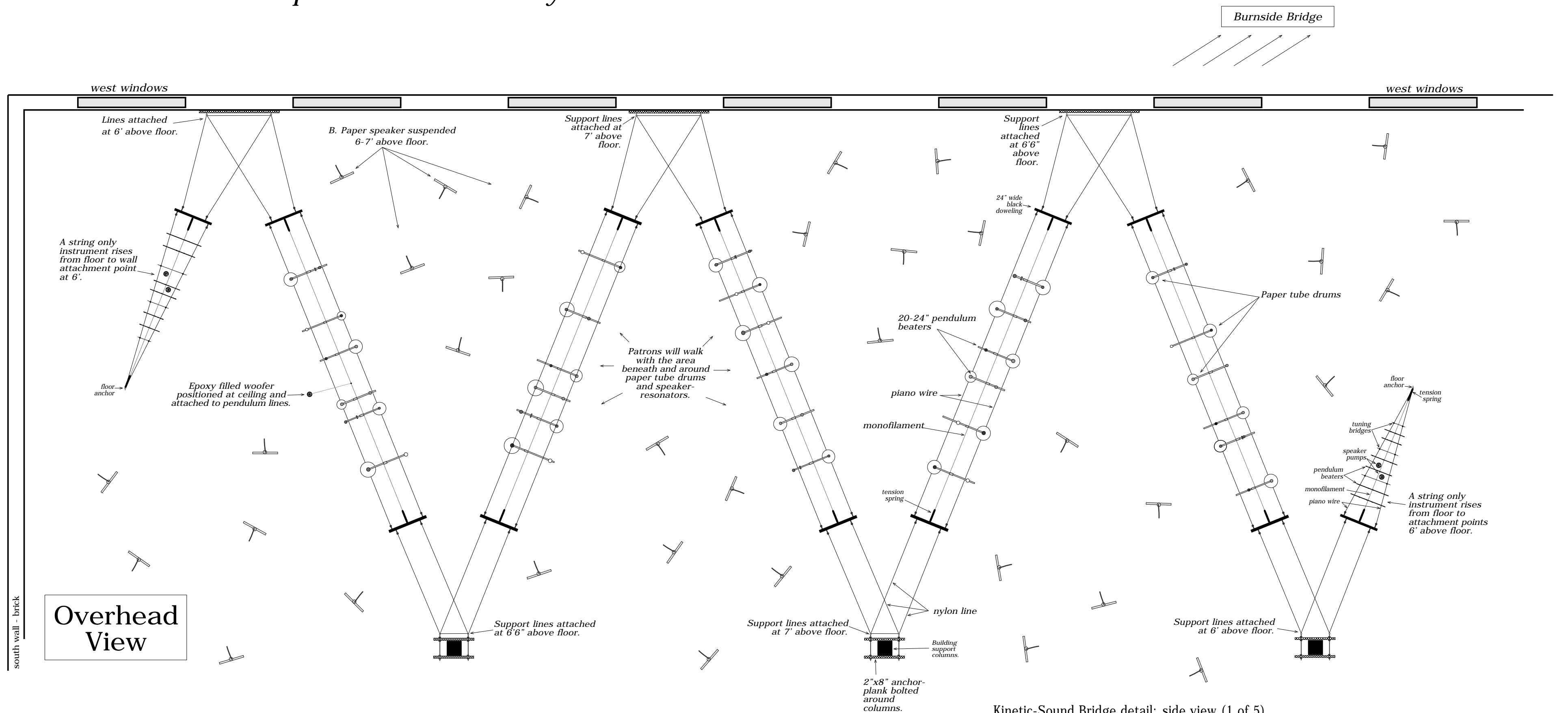


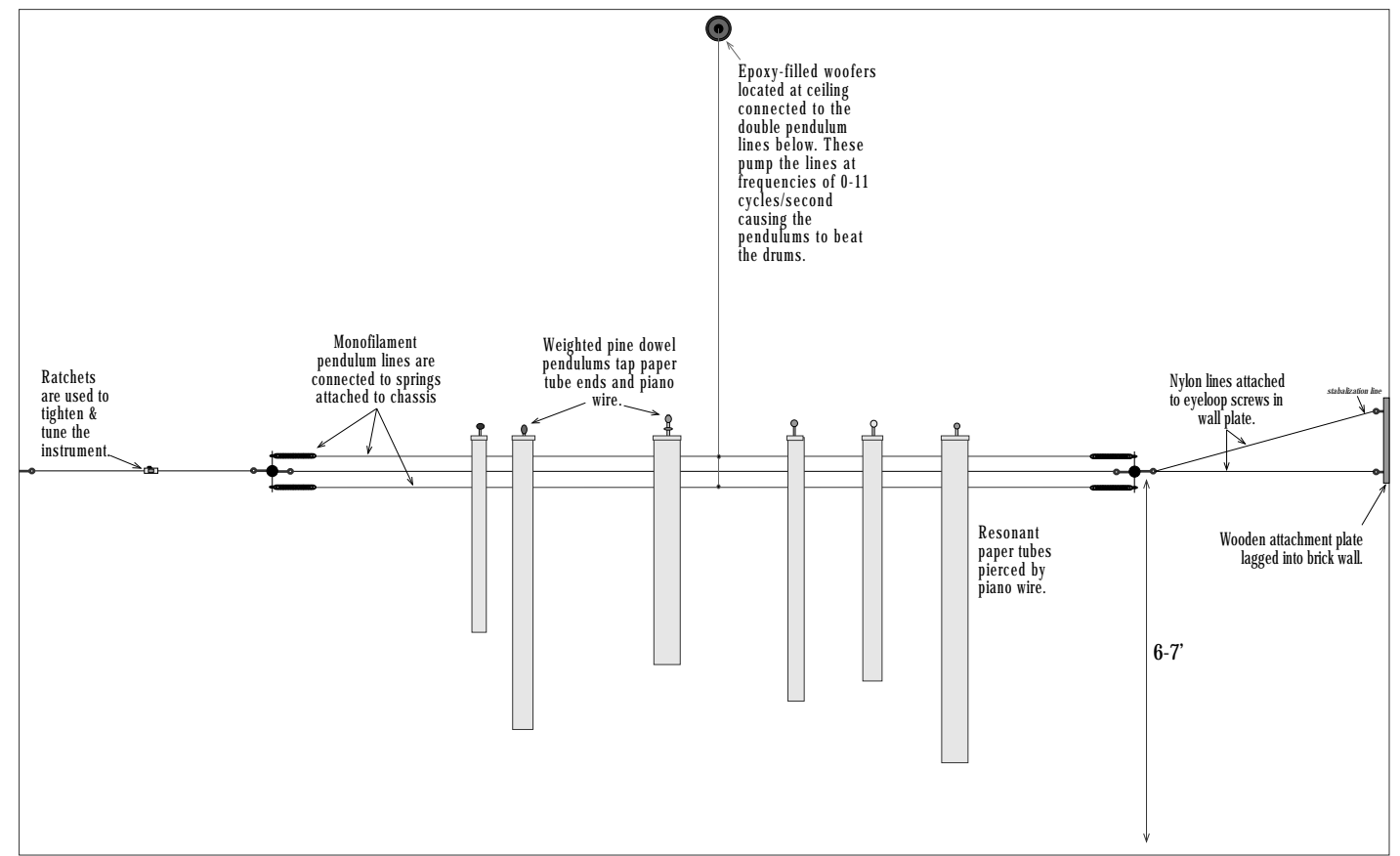
# Bridge Drumming and Other Voices

*A kinetic sound sculpture installation by Dan Senn*



**Overhead View**

Kinetic-Sound Bridge detail: side view (1 of 5)



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The installation consists of two main elements: 1) a kinetic-sound bridge rising from anchored positions on opposite ends to a height of 7 feet, and, 2) thirty-six paper speakers, that is, suspended strips of resonant paper used to transmit the voices (recordings) of patrons who use the nearby Burnside Bridge.

All sound and kinetic elements are controlled by a musical score consisting of subaudio frequencies and pre-recorded texts which are stored digitally, methods invented by the artist.

Access to the installation by patrons will be along its eastern and northern borders, of course, but also beneath most of the kinetic-sound bridge and paper speaker strips. Wind currents caused by patron movement will cause the paper strips to drift.

The overall sound of the installation will not be overpowering. The drumming of the paper tube drums will arrive in intermittent clusters and move across the installation bridge in waves. This will be surrounded by a low density chattering of voices heard from the paper speakers.

A. The kinetic-sound bridge is in 7 sections and consists of thirty tuned paper drums suspended along piano wire and held taut within a wooden dowel frame. It is stretched\* between the west wall and the ceiling support columns. Sound is initiated when woofers, filled with epoxy and attached to the pendulum lines, begin to oscillate in the sub-audio range. This causes the weighted pendulums to rock back and forth and to strike the drum heads.

B. Thirty-six paper speakers, each consisting of lengths of slightly curled hard paper (1'-1.5'), are suspended and clipped to thin speaker wires with piezo transducers attached. A special circuit is used to drive the sound of human voices through the piezo and into the paper which acts as a diaphragm. Spoken and sung texts are used and taken from interviews with bridge users, including kids who use the protected area beneath the bridge for skate boarding. The paper speakers will contain the text of what is broadcast over a particular speaker, or, perhaps, a photo of the interviewee.

\*The pressure here, while relatively light, is enough to keep the paper drums level and piano wire tuned.