Now My Dear Companions

arrangement of a Shaker Song

for the Downtown Ensemble
(voices, flute/piccolo, clarinet, trombone, percussion/marimba, electric guitar)

Larry Polansky
Now My Dear Companions is an arrangement of a 3-part Shaker song of the same title. It was originally written for the DownTown Ensemble, and premiered by them as part of a set of five Shaker song arrangements (the other four were Come Life Shaker Life, Compassion, Come Old and Young, and I'll Come Into the Valley) at the Greenwich Music House, NYC, April 17, 2000. The musicians were Margaret Lancaster (flute), Daniel Goode (clarinet), Joseph Kubera (piano), James Pugliese (percussion), LP (electric guitar), Peter Zummo (trombone), Mary Ann Haagen and Jody Diamond (voice).

LP
6/6/01
Lebanon, NH
Now My Dear Companions
arr. Larry Polansky

Now my dear companions, is the time to start anew, a new, a new, for the kingdom at heaven.

faith and zeal and cover's strong we will ever be marching on struggling on for a perfect heaven with heaven.

Interlude
Improvis, make your own bass lines more or less with these changes.
(Sticking, bending, rubato ad lib.)

ad lib., C, F, G, low notes...
'til ensemble cue from one player.

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to Picc.

some low drums (or hand drums), 1-3 different sounds

drone d. (———)

ad lib. C, G, F, use volume pedal or knob.

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III B

solo

III A'

drum, as before

(Tacet)
V B'

We will not be hindered while we walk the narrow way, narrow way, narrow way, with our gospel kin-dred. kin-dred. But

VI B, B'

ev'ry foe that comes in view, in our-selves we will subdue. And be true to pursue the way that leads to glory. But glory.

VI A

We will not be hindered while we walk the narrow way, narrow way, narrow way, with our gospel kin-dred. kin-dred, with
VIII A'

All instruments, for each 8 measures (A', A, B', B), pick a vocal part and play (most of it), any octave, with the singer, or sing, or lay out.

VIII B, B'

faith and zeal and courage strong we will ever be marching on toiling on, struggling on for a perfect heaven with heaven.

LP
(Aptos, Berkeley, Lebanon
March '01)