

Solid State of Mind

*An adaptation of Billy Joel's "I'm in a New York State of Mind"
written and performed by Lynda Williams for the IEEE conference
on Compound Semiconductors, 1997.*

Some folks like astronomy and study galaxies in the local group.
Some like quantum gravity, pulling super strings from the cosmic soup.
I'm pointing my laser, at an earthly crystalline.
I'm in a Solid State of Mind.

I've heard all the theories on the Higgs Boson and Supersymmetry.
I've been around the cyclotrons and down the beam lines of high energy.
I can build what I'm needing - I don't need to wait for time.
I'm in a Solid State of Mind.

I really dig crystallography and the
symmetries of lattices and point groups.
Is it orthohombic, hexagonal or face centered cubed?
X-ray diffraction is a great way to spend my time.
I'm in a Solid State of Mind.

It is so easy to get work today.
If Solid State is the physics you do.
Hard drives, cell phones, computers, hearing aides.
The Solid State, pays.

Semiconductors have changed the way that we live today.
Junction Transistors gave birth to the computer age.
Electronic switching - getting faster all the time.
I'm in a Solid State of Mind.

It is so easy to get work today.
If Solid State is the physics you do.
MOSFETS, IC's, LEDs and wafer substrates
The Solid State, is here to stay.

Superconductivity at Hi Tc is super cool
Superfluidity of He3 is super smooth
So many super mysteries
We'll solve them one phase at a time.
I'm in a Solid State of Mind.

I'm building a quantum dot laser out of Indium Arsenide.
I'm in a solid, or amorphous, State of Mind.