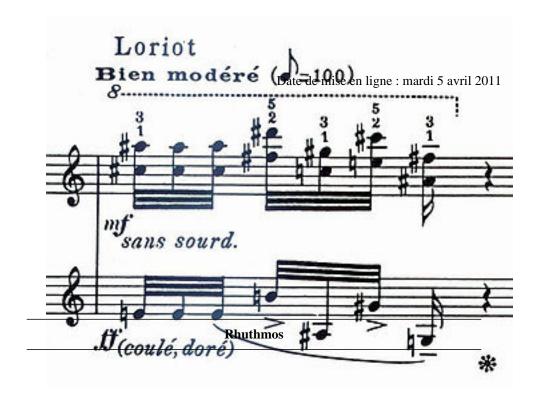
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Morton Feldman - Turfan Fragments

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Morton Feldman - Turfan Fragments

« The Turfan Fragments » (1980), based on ancient manuscripts found in that region of southwest China, is indeed composed of a series of short sections. The mood is somewhat more agitated than one normally encounters in late Feldman, strings lightly and rhythmically squawking in their upper registers, little sense of any underlying matrix out of which the sounds emerge, none of the « wooliness » of the preceding track. Its scattered nature makes for less luxuriant listening than one might expect, but its individual elements are often fascinating (occasionally with a surprising nod toward Minimalism), creating a kind of patchwork, as though Feldman thought there was some entirety to portray, but in all honesty could only limn it partially, in fragments, leaving its fullness for the listener to imagine.

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