



Grapes - 3D Audio Control User Guide

v1.4.0

This guide will be updated regularly as the software is improved and developed further. Be sure to check for updates and additional information at

<https://www.grapes3d.com/>

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Analyzer.....

1. Introduction

Grapes is a universal tool designed for effortless mixing, performing and operating 3D audio across music, film, theater, AR/VR, games and arts.

Grapes is available as VST3 and standalone versions. It talks OSC natively to leading immersive audio processors such as: SAD, IEM PlugIn Suite, L-ISA, d&b soundscapes, Spat Gris, Auralite, ADM and many more.

Grapes does not do any audio processing but sends your choreographies of movements to the 3D audio engine of your choice.

2. System requirements

| | |
|---------|----------------------|
| Windows | 10 and later, 64 bit |
| Mac OS | 12 and later, 64 bit |

3. “Installation”

Get the latest Grapes - 3D Audio Control Version from www.grapes3d.com

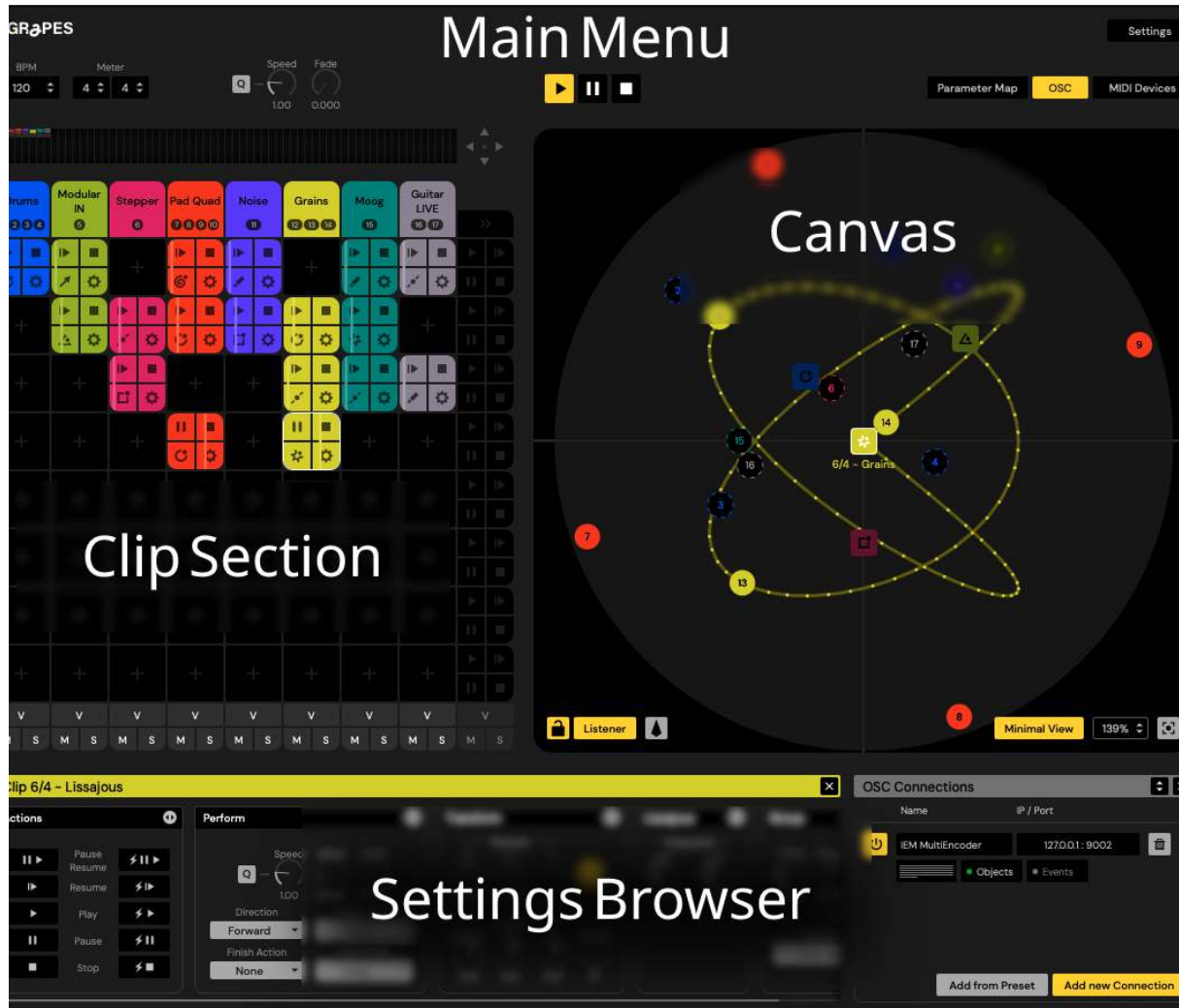
Windows

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Standalone + VST3 | <p>Double-click the Grapes 3D Audio Control installer. Follow the setup assistant's instructions to complete the installation process.</p> <p>Directory VST3: C:\Program Files\Steinberg\VST3\Grapes.vst3</p> <p>Directory Standalone: C:\Program Files\Grapes 3D</p> |
|-------------------|---|

Mac OS

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Standalone + VST3 | <p>Double-click the Grapes 3D Audio Control installer. Follow the setup assistant's instructions to complete the installation process.</p> <p>Directory VST3: /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3/Grapes.vst3</p> <p>Directory Standalone: /Application/Grapes.app</p> |
|-------------------|---|

4. GUI Overview



5. Clip Section

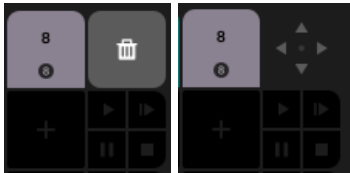
The Clip Section is a Clip based Sequencer for movements and trajectories and displays a matrix of 8x8 clips. In total 64 (horizontal “Tracks”) x 32 (vertical “Rows”) clip fields are available.

Here you can start choreographing your sound objects in space.

To navigate through the full clip field you can either use the navigation arrows or the mini map on top of the Clip Section.



Interactions in the Clip Section

| Interaction | Description | |
|-------------|---|--|
| create | click + symbol on empty field and select a movement | |
| move | drag&drop | |
| duplicate | alt + drag&drop | |
| delete | drag&drop clip onto the navigation arrows which will transform into a trash can |  |

5.1. Clips

Create a Clip by clicking into an empty field and choose a Movement or Behavior preset from the dropdown menu. Each preset provides a basic geometric shape or concept on how to move your object or groups of objects. Once a Clip is created you can customize and manipulate the movement or behavior in the [Clip settings](#).

Each Clip defines the movement or behavior of a single object or a group. Objects or groups are assigned to Tracks (see also [Track Settings](#)).

5.1.1. Movement and Behavior presets

To create all kinds of movements for single objects or groups you can choose a movement or behavior from the preset list and create a clip in the clip grid or remove and copy/paste clips.



Drag

Use the Drag behavior to move your object by simply dragging and dropping it on the canvas. When the Drag Movement is applied to a group, you can adjust the position slots of each object on the canvas via the 'Edit Slots' button in the clip settings.

Follow

With the Follow behavior you can make one object or a group follow another one. Choose the leader and use flip x / y to generate synchronized, mirrored movements

Line, Triangle, Square, Circle, Spiral

Create trajectories of the respective geometric shape with these presets

Random

Make your object or group move randomly and tweak the power, speed or area within your object will wander around

Lissajous

Lissajous figures are curve graphs created by superimposing two harmonic oscillations of different frequencies at right angles to each other. Create all kinds of Lissajous curves as a trajectory for your objects

Waveshaper

With the waveshaper you can create sine, cosine, triangle, saw and rectangular curve graphs as trajectories for your object or group

Swarm

By applying swarm behavior to a group of objects, you can create a wide range of decentralized, self-organizing collective behaviors, inspired by naturally or artificially occurring swarm dynamics.

Draw

Draw your own trajectories directly on the canvas. Your self-drawn path can be scaled and edited within the Clip Settings as well.

Read

Use the read behavior to read your recorded midi automation from the DAW. [How to write the parameter automation see here: Write, Solo Mute, Show.](#)

5.1.2. Clip Buttons



Play / Pause combi button

Triggers play / pause for Clip (+ctrl: forces play / pause regardless of any clip trigger mode settings)

Stop button

Triggers stop for Clip (+ctrl: force stop regardless of any clip trigger mode settings)

Select button

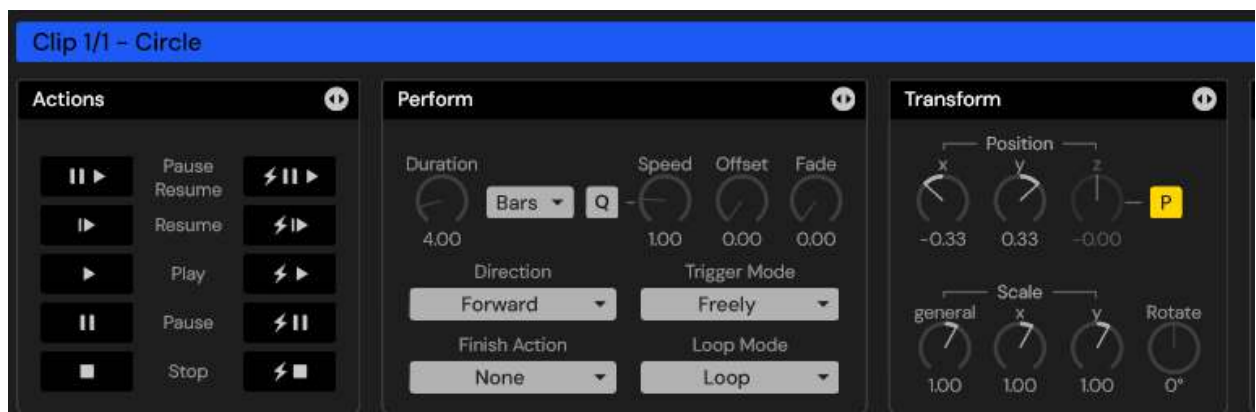
Change trajectory / behavior preset of clip

Settings button

Opens Clip Settings Browser -> 4.1.3

5.1.3. Clip Settings

The Clip Settings Browser offers a range of parameters for each clip, allowing for customization and adjustments, such as the speed, direction and scale of movements and behaviors.



5.1.3.1. Actions

The Actions-Tab in the Clip Settings is an expansion of the play, pause and stop buttons on the Clip itself. Here you can also control, map and send “pause resume” and “resume”. Each Action Button also has a thunderbolt variant, which stands for “instantly”. With these you’re able to interrupt any queues from Trigger Modes. So, instead of waiting on the Beat or Bar to finish, it starts directly.

5.1.3.2. Parameter Sections

All parameters are categorized in sections and organized in tabs, which can be collapsed or expanded.

Perform and Transform are the common parameter sections which provide common parameters (same for each clip).

Additionally, there are parameters specific to the selected movement / behavior, and group settings.

5.1.3.3. Perform

| Parameter | Description |
|-----------------|---|
| speed | controls the speed of the movement / behavior |
| speed 'Q' | toggle on/off quantisation of speed to the bpm (either internal bpm or external, when sync mode set to DAW) |
| offset | set the starting point for your object / group on the trajectory |
| fade | set the fade to control hardness / smoothness of the fade between clips fade 0 = hard cut fade 5 = longest transition between clips |
| direction | choose between forward, backward and two alternating options |
| trigger mode | choose between free, bar and beat freely: clip is played immediately when triggered bar: clip is scheduled when triggered and plays on next bar beat: clip is scheduled when triggered and plays on next beat |
| finished action | choose which clip triggers, when its trajectory is finished: next previous first last plays last available clip random (any) including current clip random (other) excluding current clip jump jump to specific clip |
| loop mode | |

| | | |
|--|----------|---|
| | one shot | plays ones, then triggers finished action |
| | loop | plays continuously - as long as there is no finished action |
| | repeat | repeats a set amount of times |

5.1.3.4. Transform

| Parameter | Description |
|----------------|---|
| position x | set the position of the center handle of the trajectory on the x-axis |
| position y | set the position of the center handle of the trajectory on the y-axis |
| position z | set the position of the center handle of the trajectory on the z-axis (Note: Currently, adjusting the z-axis does not provide visual feedback.) |
| position z [P] | P stands for "projected". When activated, the z-axis is locked and projected onto a dome surface. When deactivated, you can adjust the z-axis freely. |
| scale general | scale the trajectory in general |
| scale x | scale the trajectory in the x-axis |
| scale y | scale the trajectory in the y-axis |
| rotate | rotate the trajectory around the center handle |

5.1.3.5. Movement / behavior specific parameters

| Movement / Behavior | Parameter | Description |
|------------------------|------------|---|
| drag | friction | adds inertia to the reaction of the object / group to your drag&drop movement |
| follow | delay | sets a time delay on the following object |
| | leader | select the leading object |
| | flip x / y | mirror x / y |
| line, triangle, square | easing | adjust the density of points along the trajectory, thereby altering the speed rate. |
| circle | easing # | adjust the number of easing spots areas where the point density increases based on the |

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|---|
| | | easing depth |
| | easing depth | adjust the density of points along the trajectory, thereby altering the speed rate. |
| spiral | rotations | adjust the amount of rotations for the spiral |
| random | vivid | adjust how vibrant and lively your object behaves |
| | pull | attracts objects to the center |
| lissajous | frequency x | modulate lissajous figures in x-axis |
| | frequency y | modulate lissajous figures in y-axis |
| waveshaper | wave mode | choose between the following waveshapes: Sinus (Sin), Cosinus (Cos), Rectangular (Rect), Triangle (Tri) or Sawtooth (Saw) |
| | frequency | adjust the frequency for the selected waveshape |
| | phase | adjust the phase |
| swarm (for groups) | force min / max | set the range of force by defining the minimum and maximum values |
| | speed min / max | set the range of speed by defining the minimum and maximum values |
| | perception | defines the range or scope in which an individual in the swarm senses and interacts with other members |
| | separation | specifies the degree of separation between the objects |
| | strength | controls the intensity of interactions between individuals in the swarm |
| | alignment | controls how individuals adjust their direction to match the average direction of their neighbors, leading to more cohesive group movements |
| | desire | indicates how strongly an individual is motivated to move towards a target or goal |
| | cohesion | refers to the tendency of individuals to move towards the average position of their neighbors, leading to group unity and reducing dispersion |
| | leader | define a leader source that the swarm will follow |
| draw | draw new path | press the button to clear the existing path and draw a new one |

5.1.3.6. Group Parameters

Group parameters are accessible for clips on tracks that contain more than one object (a group).

| Parameter | Description |
|--------------|---|
| offset | sort or rearrange objects to alter their order along the trajectory |
| spread | spread the objects along the trajectory based on the Spread Mode |
| spread modes | one sided |
| | two sided |
| | alternate |
| scatter | small, rapid variations of the spread |

5.2. Tracks

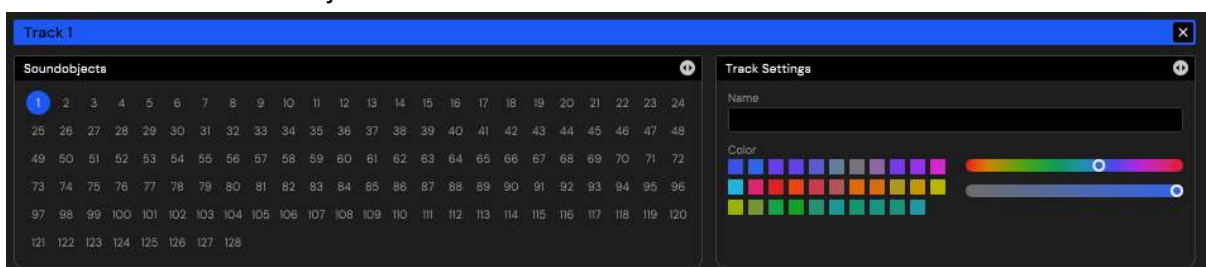
A single vertical column is called a "Track," which can have up to 128 assigned objects. Each Clip within the Track always refers to the object or group of objects assigned to that Track.

5.2.1. Track Header

Displays the assigned sound objects controlled by clips in this track, along with the track name and the track color. Click on the clip header to access the Track Settings Browser.

5.2.2. Track Settings

Assign one or multiple objects to the Track with the Soundobject Selector. Edit the track color and name in the Adjustments Section.



5.2.3. Track Footer: View, Write, Mute, Solo

Each track features View, Write, Mute and Solo buttons in the track footer.



| Button | Description |
|--------|---|
| view | select to only show active Clips Trajectories and handles of selected Track(s) |
| write | arm / disarm parameter writing to the DAW (note: the DAW track must be armed or set to write/latch mode). This feature is not available in the Standalone version. To read an automation, add a read movement clip to your track and play it. |
| mute | send the mute command to your 3D audio engine, to mute the object or group of objects assigned to the track |
| solo | send the solo command to your 3D audio engine, to solo listen to the object or group of objects assigned to the track |

To arm/unarm all View, Write, Mute, and Solo functions; Use the row buttons on the right side.

5.3. Rows

A row is a horizontal line of clips. All clips in a row (up to 64 clips) can play simultaneously with the row play-buttons. There are 32 rows available.

Row Buttons



Play button

Triggers all clips in a row from the beginning

All clips in a row are triggered sequentially from left to right. As a result, objects assigned to multiple tracks may be "stolen", with the most recently triggered clip taking control of the object(s).

Resume play button

Triggers play for all clips not yet playing in a row. Already playing clips keep on playing (+ctrl: forces play regardless of any clip trigger mode settings)

Pause

Triggers pause for all clips in a row (+ctrl: forces pause regardless of any clip trigger mode settings)

Stop button

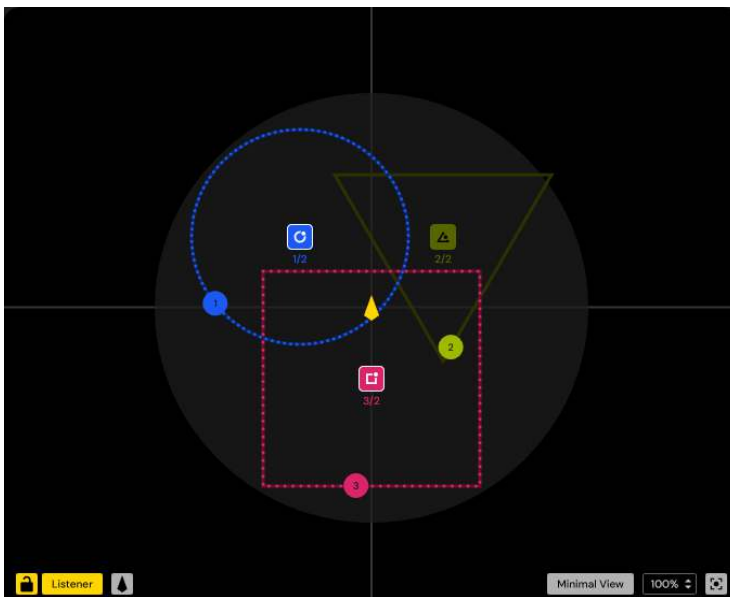
Triggers stop for all clips in a row (+ctrl: force stop regardless of any clip trigger mode settings)

Thunderbolt variant

All Action-Buttons are available as an “instant” variant.

With these you can interrupt Trigger Modes like “on Beat” or “on Bar” bypassing their queues.

6. Canvas



The canvas displays all objects, trajectories, and handles for all active clips. A clip is active when it's either playing or its settings browser is opened. With quick edit options for clip settings and the [draw](#) mode, the canvas allows for fast interaction and a clear overview of your entire arrangement and choreography of objects.

6.1. Trajectories and Quick Edits

Once a trajectory is created for a single object or group within a clip, it is displayed as a dotted line on the canvas. Each trajectory includes a central point, called the 'handle,' which can be grabbed and moved with the mouse.

Quick edits on the canvas allow for basic adjustments to clip settings using mouse modifiers on the handle:

| Clip Settings | Modifying mouse action on handle |
|---|----------------------------------|
| scale general | ctrl + mousewheel |
| position x / position y | drag&drop |
| rotate | shift + mousewheel |
| open clip settings | click on handle |
| trigger play / pause | doubleclick on handle |
| display trajectory (in Minimal View only) | mouse over |

6.2. Minimal View



For a better overview you can enable Minimal View. In this mode, only the trajectory of the clip with an open Clip Settings Browser is shown, along with the handles and objects of all other playing clips. Hovering over a handle will display the trajectories of the respective clip.

Another possibility to completely solo the view for one object or group and the active clips trajectory is the solo view option in the [track footer](#).

6.3. Zoom



To zoom in or out on the canvas, enter the desired percentage in the zoom field or click the arrows and move the mouse up or down. Alternatively, you can zoom directly on the canvas using the mouse wheel.

6.4. Navigation

To navigate the canvas, click&drag the mouse in the desired direction.

6.5. Center View



Press the Center View button to recenter the Canvas view.

7. Listener

The listener defines the point and direction of view and has a scalable listening area that determines the scale of the entire scene or room. Use the Listener Button to show or hide the listener area on the canvas, and the Listener Settings Button to access further options.

Listener Settings

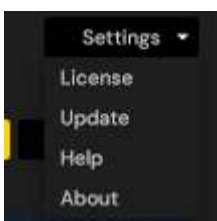
| Parameter | Description |
|------------|--|
| position x | move the listener and the listener area along the x axis |
| position y | move the listener and the listener area along the y axis |
| scale | scale the listener area |
| rotate | rotate the listener's point of view |

8. Main Menu



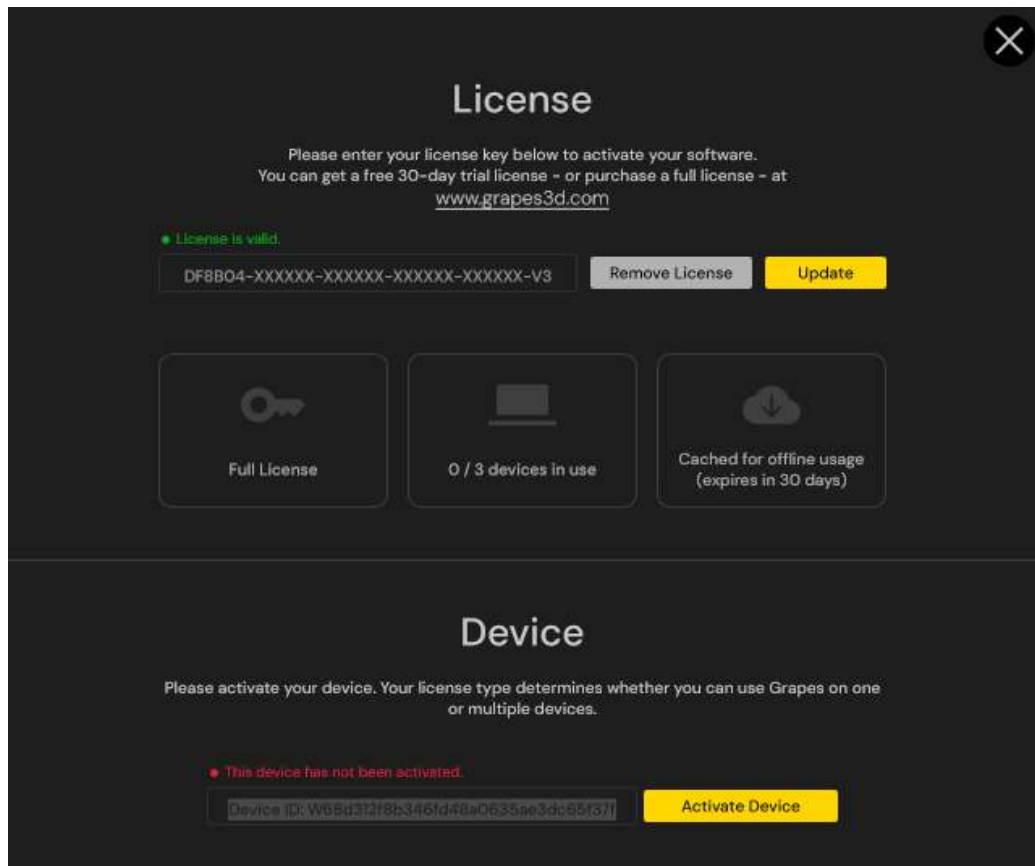
The main menu bar provides global settings, the global transports, access to browsers for Parameter Mappings, OSC and Midi Devices and to global controls such as speed, fade, BPM, sync modes and meters.

8.1. Settings



Here you can manage your license, check for updates, access Help resources, and view About information.

To activate Grapes enter your licence and activate your machine afterwards under Device



8.2. Project import / export (VST3 only)

To transfer Grapes 3D Audio Control projects between standalone version and VST3, proceed as following:

- In the **Standalone Version**, save and open projects as usual via **File > Save Project** or **File > Open Project**.
- In **VST3**, import and export projects using the **Project Import/Export** function.



⚠ **Note:** When transferring a project from VST3 to the standalone version, **Read Clips** and **GP Mappings** will be lost, as these features are not available in the standalone version.

8.3. BPM

The BPM field displays the internal speed in Beats per Minute (BPM). To adjust the BPM doubleclick into the field to type exact numbers or click&drag up/down. Alternatively you can set Grapes to sync modes.

8.4. Sync Modes

Grapes can run in the following sync modes:

- none: Grapes uses internal set BPM
- DAW: synchronizes Grapes to your DAW and receives transport commands play and pause (when DAW is paused or stopped)
- Ableton: Ableton sync mode is coming soon to sync Grapes and Ableton Clip transports such as play, pause, stop, clip length etc.

8.5. Meter

The meter displays the global time signature for all Clips.

8.6. Global Speed

Set the speed for all Clips globally in relation to their individual Clip speed. The individual Clip speed settings remain. Press 'Q' to quantify.

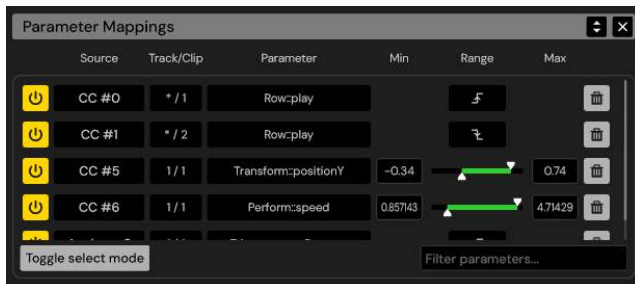
8.7. Global Transition

Set the global fade to control hardness / smoothness of the fade between clips
 fade 0 = hard transition
 fade 5 = longest transition between clips

8.8. Global Transports

| Transport | Description |
|-----------|---|
| play | triggers all clips in its current states global play is triggered automatically, when first clip is played |
| pause | pauses all clips |
| stop | stops all clips |

8.9. Parameter Mappings

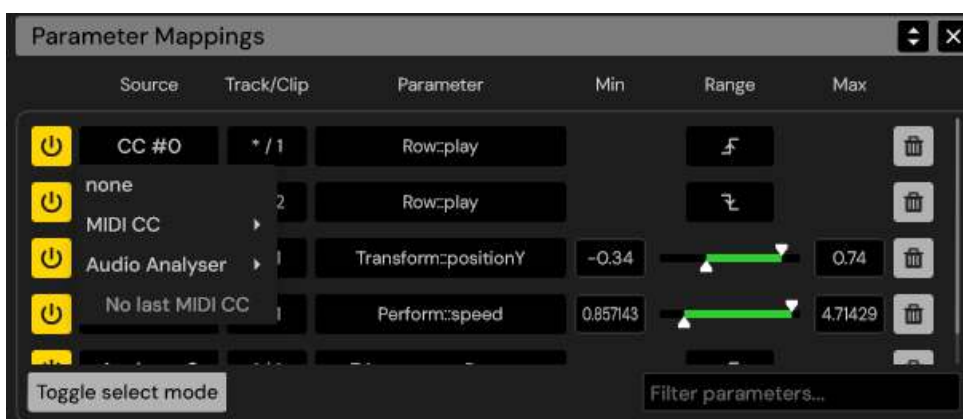


In the Parameter Mappings Browser, you can map parameters to MIDI inputs and General Purpose Parameters (VST3 only). Grapes VST3 provides 128 General Purpose (GP) Parameters, which can be freely assigned and are available in the DAW for automation

To open the Parameter Mapping Browser, click the **Parameter Map** button in the main menu bar. Then, press the **Select Mode** button. You can either manually choose a source from the dropdown or select the last incoming MIDI CC from your controller. Next, add the parameters you want to map— all available mappings will be highlighted. If you want to automatically assign parameters to the next MIDI CC or GP value, enable **Auto-Increment**.



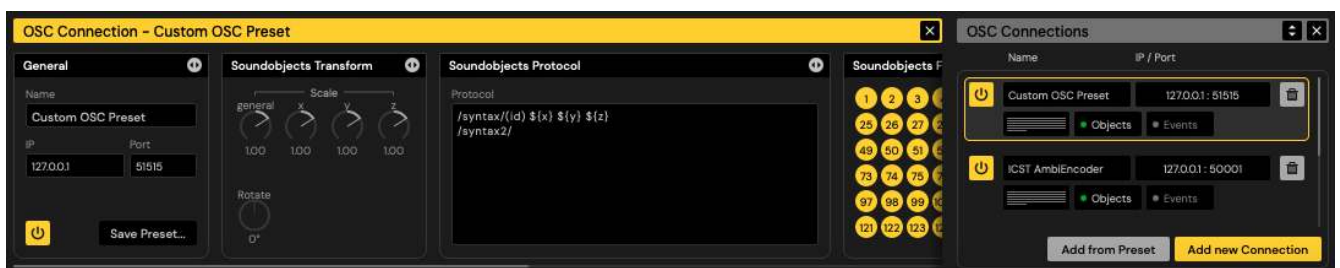
Once you have finished mapping, exit **Select Mode** by pressing the **Toggle Select Mode** button again. All mapped parameters will appear in the **Parameter Mapping List**, showing their **Parameter Name**, **Track/Clip**, and **Source** information. Here, you can modify the source assignment, adjust the range, deactivate (yellow power button), or delete mappings as needed.





Change the input polarity in the range column and control, whether an action is triggered on a HIGH or LOW

8.10. OSC Connections



The **OSC Connections Browser** is a core feature of Grapes, allowing you to connect to your OSC receiver(s) and transmit all positioning data for your sound object choreography.

To open the OSC Connections Browser click on the OSC Button in the main menu bar.

To add an OSC Connection, you can either:

- Select a preset from the list with “Add from Preset” to include an OSC module with predefined syntax, or
- Create a custom OSC connection by pressing “Add New Connection” to add an empty OSC module where you can enter your own syntax.

OSC modules can be activated, deleted or stored as user presets.

Each OSC module has further configuration options that **only** apply to that specific module:

Soundobjects Transform scales your OSC Output, which won't be shown on the canvas. You can apply scaling to individual axes and uniformly to all axes. The scaling is always relative to the scene displayed on the canvas. In addition, you can rotate the entire scene.

Within the Soundobjects Filter, you can choose which objects are sent and which are not.

Use Events to transmit play-commands to the receiving software.

| | |
|--------|---|
| global | /global/play /global/pause /global/stop |
|--------|---|

| | |
|------|---|
| row | /row/play (id) /row/play/instantly (id) also: resume, pause and stop |
| clip | /clip/started 1 1 0. /clip/stopped 1 1 0. 1 1 0. → corresponding to the first clip in the first row The last digit tells on which time frame the event occurred in relation to the clip length. (0.5 = halfway done) |

8.11. OSC Input

8.11.1. clip, row and global events

Clip, row and global transports, such as play, pause, and stop, can be triggered via incoming OSC messages. The messages should be sent in the following format to **Port: 54103**

| | |
|--|---|
| /Grapes/track/<index>/clip/<index>/<command> | resume forceresume |
| /Grapes/row/<index>/<command> | play forceplay stop forcestop pause forcepause |
| /Grapes/global/<command> | play pause stop |

8.11.2. ADM OSC Input

The positioning of individual objects can be controlled by other softwares with the commands below:

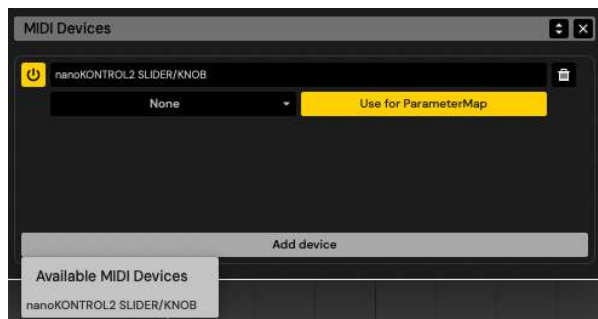
```
/adm/obj/<n>/x  
/adm/obj/<n>/y  
/adm/obj/<n>/z  
/adm/obj/<n>/xy  
/adm/obj/<n>/xyz
```

example: /adm/obj/1/1. 1. 0.

Note: When positioning data is received while Grapes is playing, Grapes will take priority in resolving the conflict.

8.12. Midi Devices

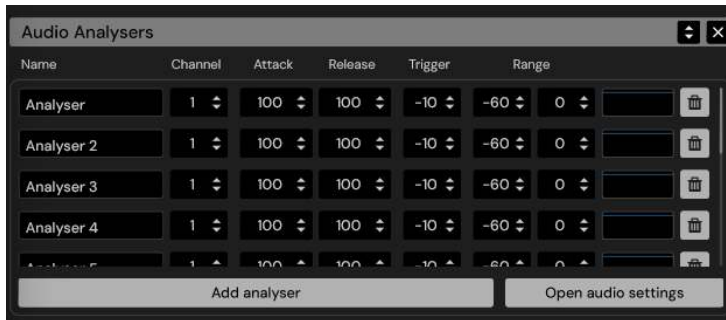
The MIDI Devices Browser allows you to manage all connected MIDI devices and displays a list of added devices. Once a connected device is added to the list, you can set it to be used for parameter mappings, select a control surface (currently only a preset configuration for Launchpad Mini, with more options coming soon), and activate, deactivate, or delete devices from the list.



8.13. Audio Analyzers L

Used to create audio responsive control over Grapes 3D.

You can add any number of analyzers and link them in the parameter mapping browser.



Choose a name, the input channels and how your sound is processed:

Attack, Release and Trigger are parameters to select the sensitivity of the audio input.

Range correlates to the later mapping.

On the right is a visual aid to see when your input triggers.



Choose your audio device in the audio settings:

The number of input channels are determined by your Audio Device.

