Scene Setlist Monitor Manual

[SceneSetlistMonitor]

Third Song ® S ◁	2 Second Song
Clip Cm7/Gm7/Bb(F) - Change to section 3 BREAK IN BAR 10	3 Third Song
Outro	4 Fourth Song
Intro	5 Fifth Song
Verse	6 Sixth Song
Chorus	7 Seventh Song
	8 Eights Song
	9 Ninths Song

Please check the video tutorials and more infos for this device here:

https://blog.abletondrummer.com/scene-setlist-monitor-for-ableton-live

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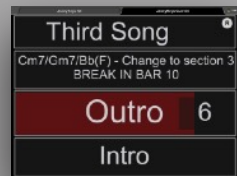
Scene Setlist Monitor iPad

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Scene Setlist Monitor

Intro

Same as Ableton Live the "Scene Setlist Monitor" can be used in very different contexts. Playback operations for bands, live-electro performances, art installations - you name it. The Scene Setlist Monitor might give you new ideas on how to set things up and enjoy making and perform music with Ableton Live even more.

Special shout outs to Anton Kleinheins who came up with the initial request for a scene monitoring device and invested some time in giving me feedback for the development.

This device was tested on various Macs and Window machines running Ableton Live 11 and Ableton Live 10 with different OS and screen sizes. A 15" laptop will display the "L"/large window size perfectly - everything smaller might need to be set to "M"/medium size as the biggest display option.

16" - large ("L") display

24" - large ("L") display

14" - medium ("M") display

15" - medium ("M") display

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Scene Setlist Monitor

Idea + general concept

The Scene Setlist Monitor device can display names and colors from scenes, clip notes and a selection of scenes which you set as starting scenes for songs. This will be shown in pop-up window which can be resized and positioned to your needs. You can customise the display of scenes, notes, colors and the opacity for this window.

You can also monitor the remaining playtime of the currently playing scene, meaning how many bars are left until the scene has played to its end.

The Scene Setlist Monitor device needs to be placed on a MIDI track. Every scene on this MIDI track needs to have a MIDI clip so that the device is able to detect which scene is playing. Those clips need to be set to the right 'scene-length' bar time to be able to monitor it.
The MIDI clips can be re-named with the text you want to have displayed as "Clip Notes".

There is an iPad version of this device available as well which is able to display scene names, song starting scenes (a "Setlist"), clip notes and more on an iPad. For this you would need an app called MIRA (please check if your iPad is compatible for this app). As this is a second device you would be able to have different "Clip Notes" set up and displayed e.g. this way another musician you play with could get different notes.

The scenes displayed via the devices windows will switch its view between the selected scene and the playing scene according to the transport status:
-Playing Mode: When Ableton Live's transport is playing the currently playing scene will determine all the selection of scenes being monitored
-Selection Mode: When the transport is not playing the currently selected scene will determine all the selection of scenes being monitored

This way the Scene Setlist Monitor is always updated to show you 'where you are' in your Ableton Live Set. The crucial idea of this device to offer a stable and customisable monitoring option and to be able to quickly navigate through scenes/songs. Starting/stopping scenes should be controlled via Ableton Lives native supported features e.g. via an external MIDI controller and/or via the scene follow function.

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Apply to your Ableton Live Set

Place the device on a MIDI track and <u>create a MIDI clip for every scene on this track</u> e.g. via double clicking on an empty clip slot. (For monitoring the scenes/ clips length please read the chapter BAR COUNT + BAR LINE. If you want to use the "Clip Notes" function please read the chapter CLIP NOTES.)

You are now ready to monitor which scene is playing/selected. Just open the pop-up window by clicking on the MONITOR toggle and if needed change the size via the SIZE TAB.

If you want to reposition the pop-up window just click and hold on its top bar and move it to the desired position. To set the window to a new position click on "S" (="save") in the pop-up window or "SAVE POSITION" on the main device.

<u>The pop-up window will be closed and its position will be reset on every re-load of an Ableton Live set.</u>

It might seem inconvenient for some users to have to re-position+save the pop-up window once on opening an Ableton Live Set, but this setting needed to be made to add stability and will prevent unwanted scenarios e.g. its position was saved on a second screen which isn't currently connected. All other settings (size, color etc.) of the device are being saved.
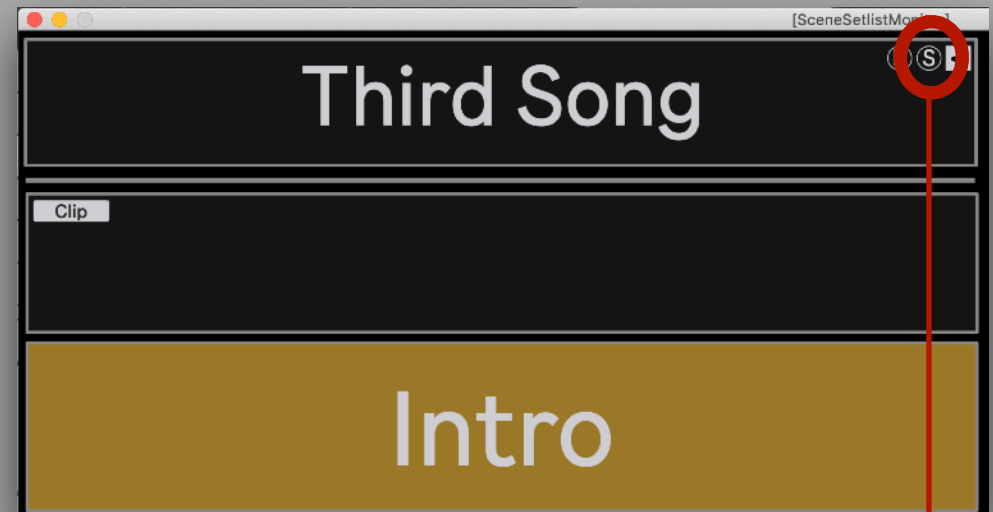
Click here to open/close the monitor pop-up window.

Change size of pop-up window here.

Click here to save a changed position for the pop-up window.

Scene Setlist Monitor

Pop-Up Window Overview

FOLDING SETLIST

SETLIST MENU

FORMER SCENE / CLIP NOTES

CURRENT SCENE

NEXT SCENE 1

NEXT SCENE 2

NEXT SCENE 3

[SceneSetlistMonitor]

Fifth Song

Clip Cm7/Gm7/Bb(F) - Change to section 3
BREAK IN BAR 10

Outro   16

Intro

Verse

Chorus

1 First Song

2 Second Song

3 Third Song

4 Fourth Song

5 Fifth Song

6 Sixth Song

7 Seventh Song

8 Eights Song

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Folding Setlist open/close

The folding setlist can be opened/closed via two buttons. One is placed on the top right in the monitor pop-up window and one is placed on the main device.
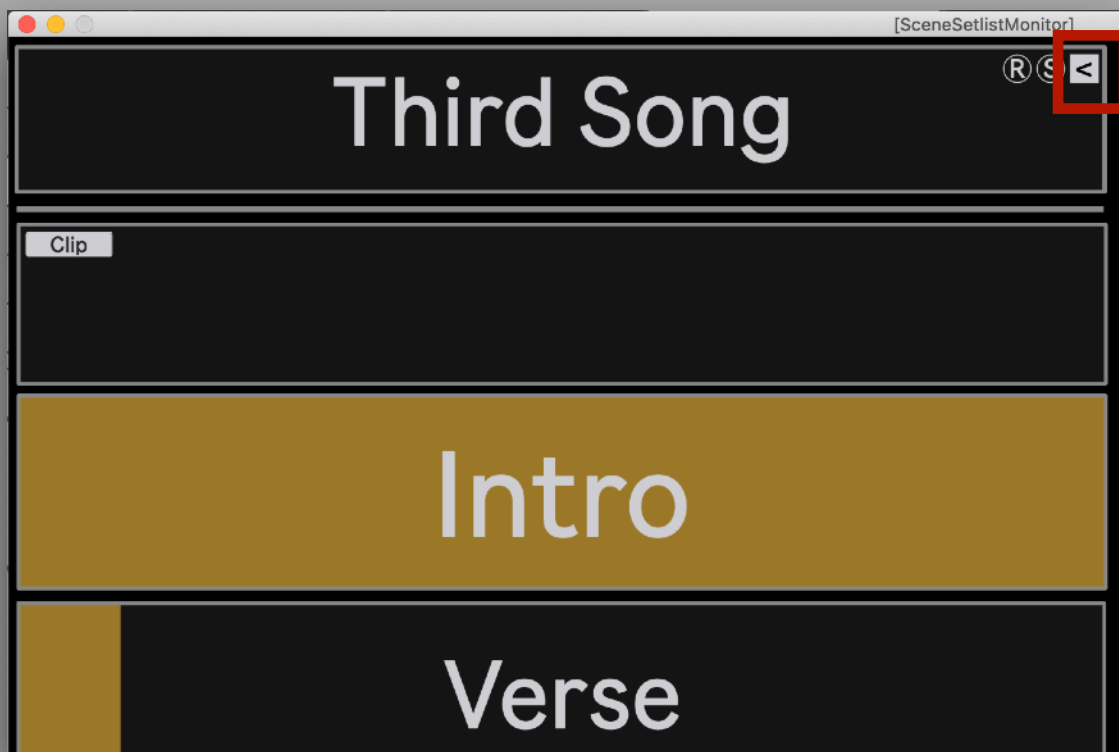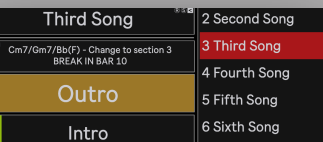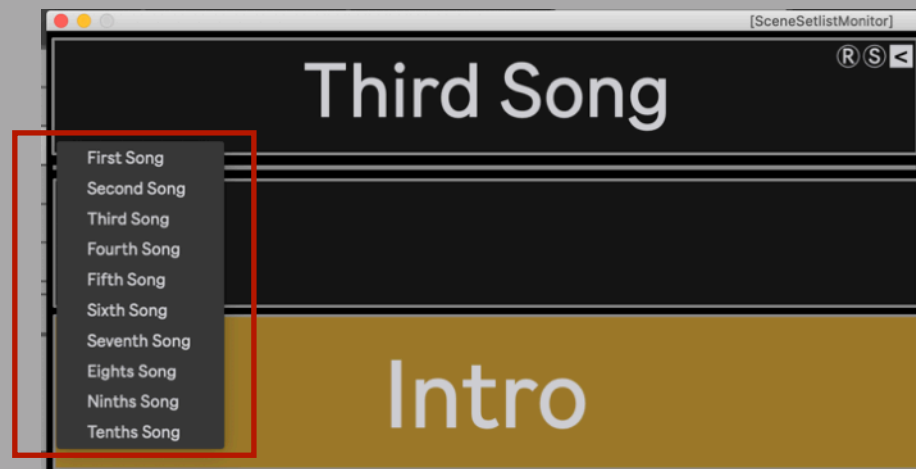
Scene Setlist Monitor

Setlist menus

The main use case kept in mind when developing this device was a backing tracks set-up where each song part is assigned to one scene. When having 20 Songs x 5-8 parts in your set this will lead to over 100 scenes which makes monitoring and navigating between scenes difficult. For this use case the Scene Setlist Monitoring device is a great solution. You are able to mark starting scenes of each song with an asterisk sign + space ("* ") to add those to the set-list menus to be able to navigate through those quick.
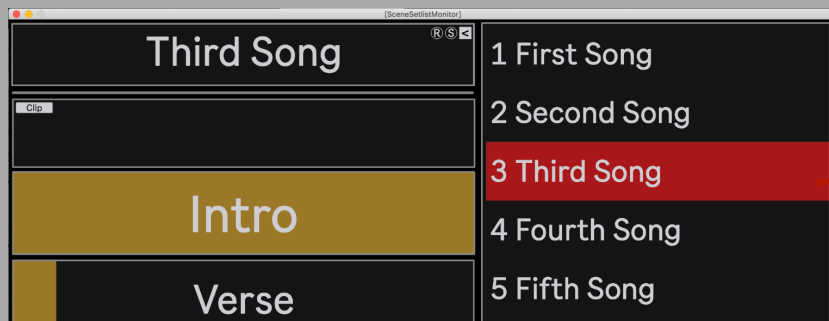
Besides the option to use the folding setlist you can also click on the top field which shows the current song name. When clicked on this field it will display a menu of all songs (= "* " marked scenes) and lets you select those via this menu as well.

The selection in both setlist menus will change dynamically depending on the scene playing/being selected.

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Setting up a setlist

Scenes which should be added to the setlist menus just need to be marked with an asterisk sign plus one space before its name.
When you change 'song names' or the order of starting scenes - you will need to click on "Refresh"/"R" to have those changes to be applied in the setlist menus. (This applies as well if you change the order or number of all other scenes as well.)

The first word(s) will be taken for the entry in the setlist menus. The last word will be taken for the scene monitoring fields. If you want more then one word for the represented scene monitoring field you can set those in quotation marks (e.g.: THIRD SONG "First Intro")

The Scene Setlist Monitor device is always automatically 'refreshing' when an Ableton Live set with an instance of the device is opened. The same will apply when the device is placed into an existing Ableton Live set. The device is limited to a maximum of 2000 scenes.
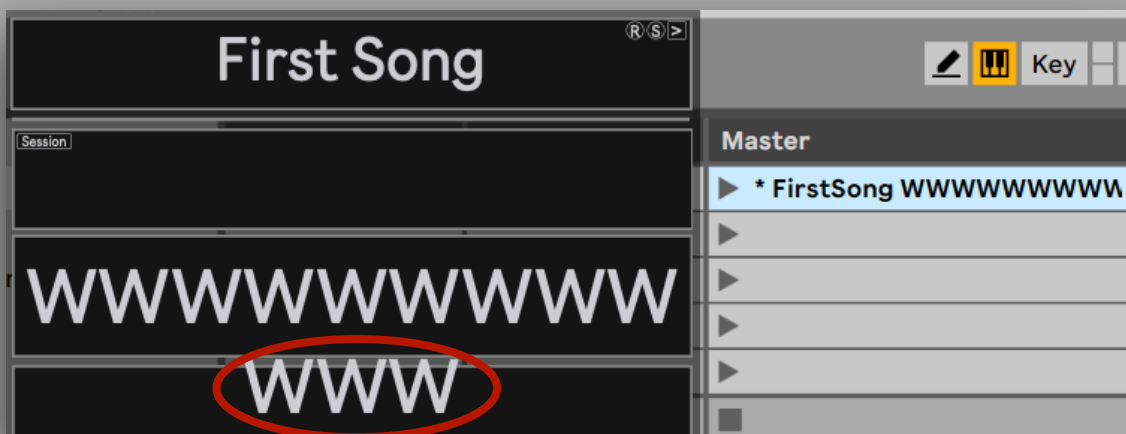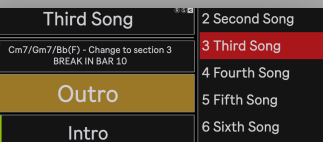
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Part names length

Part names will be display to up to 12 characters. All characters exceeding this number will be 'cut out'.
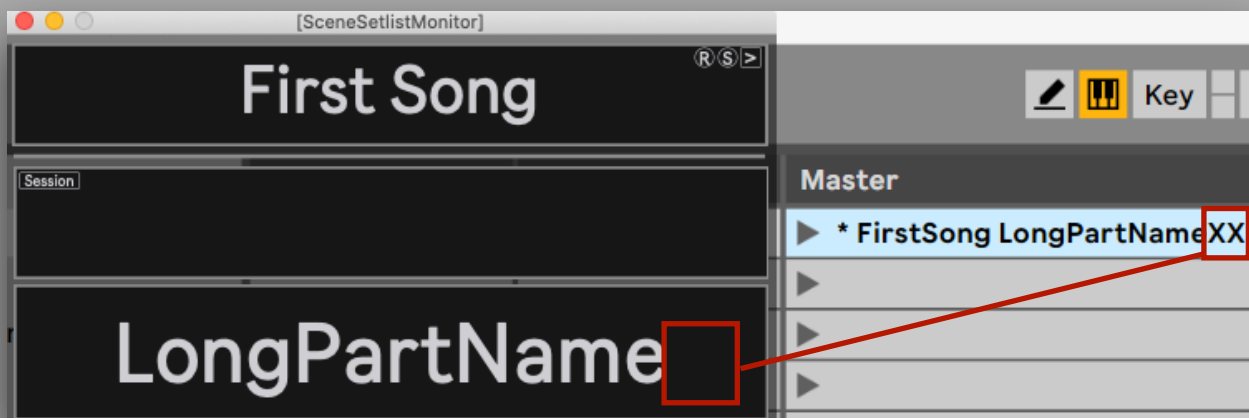
If a lot of wider characters (e.g. like upper case "W") are used, the display will not function correctly as it exceeds the space for one row. Make sure to use short and concise names here.

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Navigate through the Setlist Menu via external MIDI controller

As mentioned before you are able to navigate through the setlist with your mouse cursor. You can also set-up a dial/fader from an external MIDI controller for navigating through the bigger fold-up Setlist Menu.

Just MIDI MAP the dial to the "Setlist Dial" parameter in the main device. The number of "Song Start Scenes" will be automatically distributed to the range of this dial. The dial range is limited to a maximum number of 128.
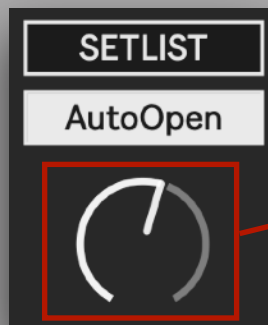
How to MIDI MAP:
Activate the MIDI MAP mode switch -> select the "Setlist Dial" -> move the dial on your MIDI controller -> de-activate MIDI MAP mode

Now you can move the dial on your MIDI controller to navigate through the setlist.
If you want the fold-up Setlist Menu only to appear when you move the dial you can activate the "AutoOpen" function. Now the setlist will open/close automatically when moving the dial.

The "AutoOpen" function can only be selected if the open/close "SETLIST" switch above is de-activated.

Scene Setlist Monitor

CLIP NOTES

You are able to set up custom notes via text input into MIDI clips e.g. chord charts or reminders to be shown in the FORMER field. (You can even set-up individual notes for other players using the SCENE SETLIST MONITOR iPad device device in conjunction with an iPad.)

To have clip notes being displayed activate "CLIP" (in the field or on the main device under "FORMER SHOW".)

Just rename the clip with the text you would like to be display.

Scene Setlist Monitor

BAR COUNT + BAR LINE

To monitor how long a certain scene will be playing, you can use the BAR COUNT + BAR LINE monitoring functions. This could become handy especially when you are using automated Scene Follow actions to make sure you won't miss part changes. Both functions can be activated individually via the main device.

Verse ▶ 5

"BAR-COUNT" - counts down the bars of the current scene/clip

"BAR-LINE" - display white boxes showing how many bars this clip/part/scene has and a red line which shows the position via sliding towards the end.

The number of bars is determined by the current playing MIDI clip of the track the device is placed on.
To work correctly:
- the MIDI clips need to be set to the same time signature which is currently playing in the main time signature selection for the Ableton Live set. This function works if the time signature denominator is set to 4, 8 and 16 counts
- The "Start Marker" needs to be set to the beginning ("1.1.1.") of the clip

If one of the two is not set correctly, warning messages will show up in the main device.
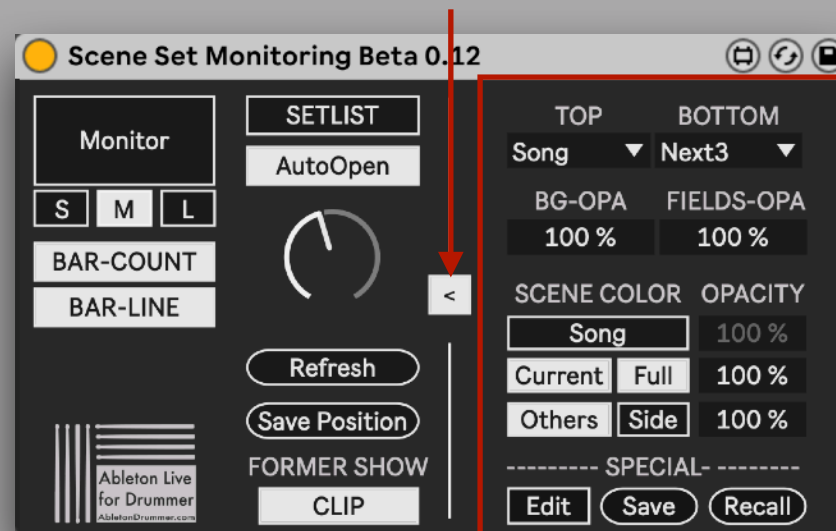
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Customise Section

You are able to highly customise the pop-up window to your needs:

- TOP will select what field on the top of the window will be shown. All upper fields then you select will be hidden.
- BOTTOM will select how many of the next scenes will be displayed
- BG-OPA will determine the background color opacity of the overall window
- FIELDS-OPA will determine the default black color opacity of the fields
- SCENE COLOR gives you the option to display the set scene colors and to set their opacity. There are 3 sections which can be set individually. SONG for the top field, CURRENT and OTHERS (Former + Next fields)
- SPECIAL is a section for "SPECIAL EDIT" e.g. for the particular use case where the pop-up window corners would make sense to be cropped manually. Those edits can be saved and recalled within an Ableton Live Set. Every change in size via the S/M/L tab or close/re-open of the Monitor window will reset the window to its 'normal' size. The "SPECIAL" position and cropped window size can be recalled via clicking the "Recall" button.

Open/Close Customise Section

Customise Section

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