

Also great with Logic.

Sascha575, 17.01.2014

Looking for a way out of a DAW software - in my case Apple Logic - to control my LED floodlights, I came across the DMXIS. It was not my intention, e.g. Call or switch pre-programmed scenes via MIDI, but to fully automate each DMX channel in detail. Both requirements (simple MIDI control, as well as full automation) are easily met by DMXIS. The control software is available as a stand-alone version, but also as a plug-in for common DAWs (Logic, Cubase, Ableton, etc.). Within the control software, heaps of scenes can be saved as presets. These can then be accessed from a DAW via a simple MIDI track via a note-on command. As far as the simplest and probably the most widespread use case.

The clou, however, is the following (I can only speak for Apple Logic, but I think there are similar possibilities in other DAWs as well):

About the automation tracks in Logic all 512 channels of the DMXIS are available. That An automation curve can be created and designed for each individual controller of each individual DMX channel. Of course, in this way also creates enormous effort in the creation of a light show. I control a total of only 4 devices - 2 Eurolite 18x8 RGBW floodlights, and 2 Stairville xBrick 16x3 RGB. The Eurolites run in the 15-channel Stairvilles in 13-channel mode, i. With these 4 devices I already have 46 channels to manage and create the automation curves for it. But I can also tune the movement of each DMX channel controller exactly to the corresponding piece of music. If you want to switch the lighting just in the right timing, rather the simple control via MIDI notes is recommended. However, if you want to develop a detailed light choreography, all possibilities are open to you via automation.

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Notices for using DMXIS on Apple devices

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In general, there are some minor issues to consider when using DMXIS on Apple machines.

Apple has introduced a new USB driver with OS X 10.9 and the control software no longer recognizes the DMXIS hardware. However, Enttec has provided a small tool for free, which fixes this problem.

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Nevertheless one should generally - if one uses the DMXIS - with the appearance of a new OS X-Version blindlinks not update. Also under OS X 10.11 (El Capitan) DMXIS was NOT LOADED. At the end of October, a new version (1.5.2) was released, which also works with El Capitan. This made then also no USB additional tool (see previous paragraph) unnecessary.

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Problem: "DMXIS software asks for the unlock key every time you start."

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The software must be registered online and unlocked. At first I had the problem that I had to enter the key to unlock every time the program started. Enttec recommended fixing the access rights of the system drive (in the Disk Utility), this did not get me to the destination. Then I realized that the included CD contained an outdated version of the DMXIS software. After installing a recent version, the problem was gone.

Short info about the hardware and software configuration under which I tested DMXIS:
27 "iMac Quadcore (2009) with OS X 10.9 and Logic Pro 9, and Logic Pro X
13 "MacBook (2006) with OS X 10.7 and Logic Pro 9

In both cases I first tested the stable DMXIS version 1.3 (32Bit).

In the meantime, I was also able to successfully test the 64 bit version (from v 1.4) on a 2014 MacBook Pro with OS X 10.10 with Logic Pro X. I personally had no restrictions or crashes.

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Works perfectly with Reaper

Danilo, 18.02.2014

I bought this DMX interface as it is (apparently) the only one on the market a trouble-free integration into a DAW by means of VST or AU allowed. I use Reaper in the studio and live and especially with the latter, I do not always want to and can not hope for capable light people.

That's why I simply connect our music with the appropriate light atmosphere.

With the DMXIS I can now, for example, in the verses my MovingHead can be circulated nicely, while in the chorus it really gets going with Strobo and Prisma.

The integration in Reaper works perfectly, install the plugin in the correct folder and then set DMXIS in the track as FX. Now open the Envelopes in the track and select DMXIS Channels you need for your devices.

Then draw the envelopes. It should be noted that Reaper does not display the digits 0 -255 as for DMX, but other values. It only helps to try out or display the DMXIS interface at the same time in order to be able to read the values from it.