

# ROLI Dashboard

Creator Manual

October, 2015  
Version 1

ROLI

## Introduction

Hello creator, and welcome to the Creator Manual about ROLI Dashboard, the application that comes with your Seaboard RISE. We think of the people who buy and use ROLI's products as creators rather than customers. Our products are designed to expand the bandwidth of creative expression and thereby empower people as the creators they are. Everyone who buys and uses a Seaboard RISE is investing in this vision of creativity and therefore is also a co-creator of ROLI.

You may already be exploring Dashboard and discovering all that it can do. This comprehensive Creator Manual explains all of the details about Dashboard to ensure that you get the most out of it.

ROLI Dashboard for RISE is a standalone application that lets you modify and customise the settings of your Seaboard RISE. It works on both OS X and Windows platforms. It is designed for convenience, so that you can quickly find and modulate the sound parameters most important to your music.

On the next page we have included a short list of terms specific to Seaboard instruments and ROLI Dashboard. We will refer to these terms throughout the Creator Manual.

Please note that this is a digital manual updated regularly to reflect software updates and other improvements. Be sure to check for updates on My ROLI. This Manual is current up to **Equator** v1.2.0, **ROLI Dashboard** v3.1.0, and **RISE** Firmware v1.0.4.

### Support and Feedback

We want you to have the best experience possible with your Seaboard, and our Support team is here to help you. If you have any questions, are experiencing any problems, or have any feedback to give us about our products, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our team.

You can contact us through our Support page at [www.rolicom/support](http://www.rolicom/support) or by writing us directly at [support@rolicom](mailto:support@rolicom). We will respond as soon as possible. The resources on the Support page should also help answer many questions.

# Table of Contents

Selected ROLI Dashboard terms	4
1. Getting Started	6
1.1 System Requirements	6
1.2 The Seaboard RISE Software Bundle	6
1.3 Register on My ROLI	6
1.4 Login and Download Seaboard RISE Software Bundle	6
1.5 Installation: Mac & Windows	6
1.6 Connecting ROLI Dashboard to your Seaboard RISE	7
2. Features and Settings	8
2.1 Overview	8
2.2 The Visualiser	9
2.3 Expression Settings Panel	9
2.4 MIDI Settings Panel	11
2.5 Bluetooth Settings	14
3. The Dashboard Menu	15
4. ROLI Support	16
4.1 My ROLI and ROLI Support	16
4.2 Contact our support team	16

## Selected ROLI Dashboard terms

<b>Keywave surface:</b>	The entire playing surface including all <b>keywaves</b> and ribbons. The <b>keywave surface</b> corresponds to a keyboard.
<b>Keywave:</b>	A wavelike element of the <b>keywave surface</b> that corresponds to a single key on a standard keyboard. Each of the <b>Five Dimensions of Touch</b> can be accessed on a single <b>keywave</b> .
<b>Equator:</b>	ROLI's custom-built, multidimensional software synthesiser and sound engine. <b>Equator</b> enables refined control of the expressive capabilities of the keywave surface. <b>Equator</b> and <b>Seaboard</b> instruments work together to provide a seamlessly integrated hardware-software experience.
<b>MPE:</b>	Multi-Dimensional Polyphonic Expression ( <b>MPE</b> ) is a protocol for using standard MIDI messages to communicate with and enable the operation of multidimensional instruments such as the <b>Seaboard RISE</b> .
<b>Expression Mode:</b>	A mode of playing the <b>Seaboard RISE</b> in which three <b>Touch Faders</b> control the dynamics of the <b>Glide</b> , <b>Slide</b> , and <b>Press</b> dimensions of touch. <b>Expression Mode</b> lets you modify the touch responsiveness of the <b>Seaboard RISE</b> to suit specific sounds and your individual playing style.
<b>Expression Curves:</b>	The graphical curves in <b>ROLI Dashboard</b> which represent the behaviour and sensitivity of the Five Dimensions of Touch.
<b>The Five Dimensions of Touch (5D Touch):</b>	The five fundamental elements of physical interaction between a finger and a surface: <b>Strike</b> , <b>Press</b> , <b>Glide</b> , <b>Slide</b> , and <b>Lift</b> .  <b>Strike:</b> The velocity and force with which a finger makes contact with a keywave.  <b>Press:</b> The pressure and continuous touch applied to the keywave after the initial <b>Strike</b> .  <b>Glide:</b> Horizontal movements fromside to side on a keywave or along the ribbons.  <b>Slide:</b> Vertical movements up and down a keywave.  <b>Lift:</b> The release velocity or speed of liftoff from a <b>keywave</b> .
<b>MIDI CC Mappings:</b>	Mappings that determine which MIDI Continuous Controller messages will be sent from the three <b>Touch Faders</b> and XY Touchpad.
<b>MIDI Mode:</b>	A mode of operation in which the <b>Touch Faders</b> can be assigned to any MIDI CCs for additional customisation of sound.
<b>ROLI Dashboard:</b>	An application for modifying and customising the internal settings of the <b>RISE</b> .

**Touch Fader:** A control for adjusting the sensitivity of the **keywave surface** to dimensions of touch.

**Visualiser:** A real-time graphical representation of the keywave surface of the **Seaboard RISE**. It responds to the five dimensions of touch: **Strike, Press, Glide, Slide,** and **Lift**.

# 1. Getting Started

## 1.1 System Requirements

### OS X

- Mac OS 10.8+
- Minimum RAM: 4GB
- Recommended RAM: 8GB
- Processor: 2.5GHz i5 or faster
- Bluetooth connectivity: OS 10.10+

### Windows

- Windows 7, 8, or 10
- Minimum RAM: 4GB
- Recommended RAM: 8GB
- Recommended Processor: i5 and equivalent or above

## 1.2 The Seaboard RISE Software Bundle

Before making music on your **Seaboard RISE** with **ROLI Dashboard**, you need to download the **Seaboard RISE** Software Bundle. This software bundle is available on My ROLI. Please follow the instructions below. **If you have already installed the Seaboard RISE Software Bundle you can skip to 1.5 “Connecting the RISE to ROLI Dashboard.”**

*\*The install requires approximately 2 GB of disk space.*

## 1.3 Register on My ROLI

Visit [my.rolli.com](http://my.rolli.com) and sign up with a username and password of your choice. When you have signed up and logged in, the website will ask you to register your product. Use your Product Registration Code. The code is printed on the Registration Card. This card is in the box marked *Make Music Now*, which comes in the package with your **RISE**.(see Figure 1).

## 1.4 Login and Download Seaboard RISE Software Bundle

Now that you’ve created an account on My ROLI, you can log in and download **ROLI Dashboard** and **Equator** for **RISE**, the two applications included in the software bundle. Click either “Download Software Bundle for Mac” or “Download Software Bundle for Windows” depending on which operating system you use.

## 1.5 Installation: Mac & Windows

When the download is complete, open the Downloads folder on your computer and double click the installer file(s). Follow the on-screen instructions and choose the location or disk where you want to install the software. The install will require approximately 2 GB of disk space.

**Mac:** After double-clicking the installer, you may see a message that says the installer is from an “unidentified developer.” Don’t worry. The software is safe to install. You can bypass this



**Figure 1**

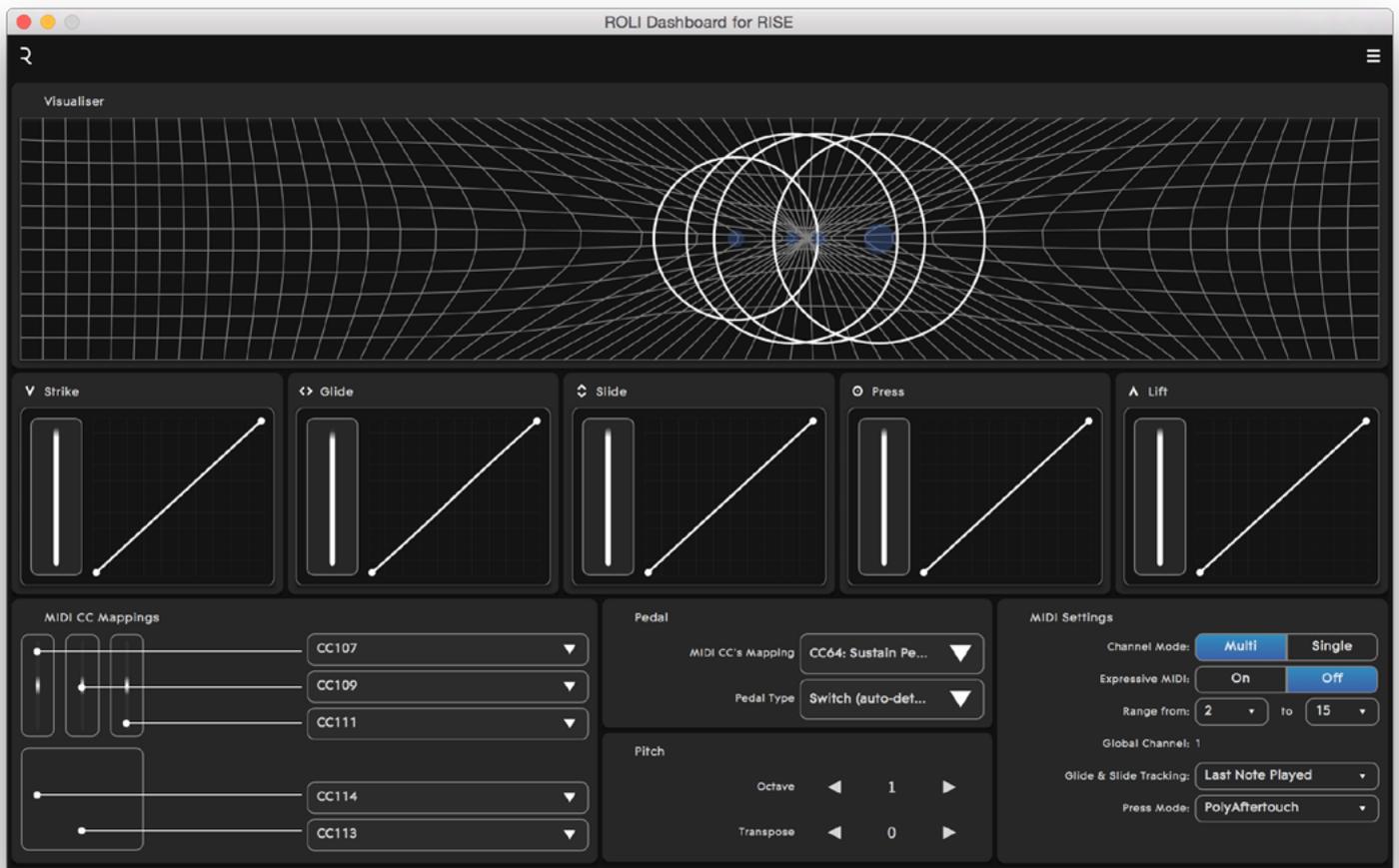
Pick up your Registration Card and find your registration code. Visit this web page to sign up for My ROLI, your portal for software downloads and product support, with a username and password of your choice. Then register using your registration code.

message by right-clicking the installer from a Finder window and selecting Open.

**Windows:** After double-clicking the installer, you may see a message that says Windows has protected your PC by stopping an “unrecognised application” from opening. Don’t worry. The software is safe to install. You can bypass this message by clicking “more info” on the message, then clicking the “run anyway” button.

## 1.6 Connecting ROLI Dashboard to your Seaboard RISE

The **Seaboard RISE** must be connected to a computer via USB or Bluetooth in order to connect with **ROLI Dashboard**. Once connected, the **RISE** will remember and retain any changes made in **ROLI Dashboard**, even after it is powered off.



## 2. Features and Settings

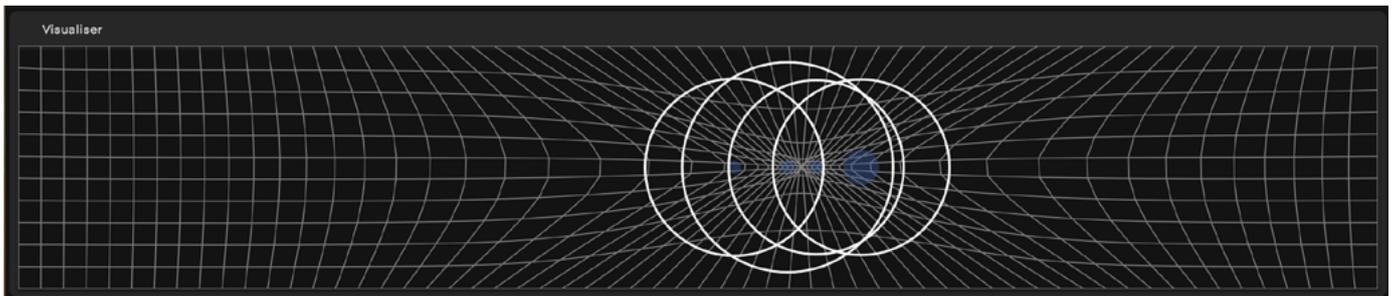
### 2.1 Overview

ROLI Dashboard is an application that lets you modify and customise the settings on the **Seaboard RISE** (see Figure 2). The settings that can be edited from ROLI Dashboard are:

- **The Five Dimensions of Touch:**  
Strike  
Press  
Glide  
Slide  
Lift
- MIDI CC mappings for Touch Faders
- MIDI CC mappings for XY Touchpad
- Pedal MIDI CC mapping
- Pedal type
- Octave and Transpose
- MIDI Settings

Figure 2

Above, the main view of ROLI Dashboard.

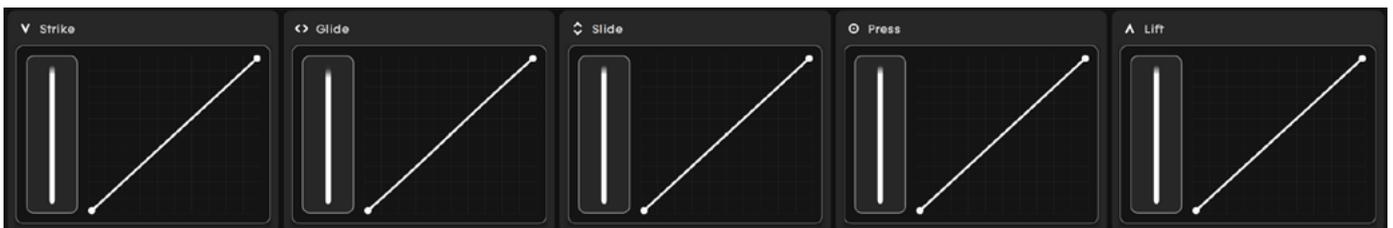


## 2.2 The Visualiser

The **Visualiser** is a real-time graphical representation of the keywave surface of the **RISE** (see Figure 3). As you play on the keywave surface, the **Visualiser** responds to the Five Dimensions of Touch: **Strike**, **Press**, **Glide**, **Slide**, and **Lift**. Experiment with the **Visualiser** by making any gesture on the keywave surface.

Figure 3

Above, the **Visualiser** in **ROLI Dashboard**.



## 2.3 Expression Settings Panel

The Expression Settings Panel is in the middle of the main **ROLI Dashboard** screen (see Figure 4). You can use this panel to adjust the dynamic response of **Strike**, **Glide**, **Slide**, **Press** and **Lift** — and thereby change the expressiveness of the **RISE** to match your work and your playing style. Edit the expression curves by adjusting the illumination levels of the virtual **Touch Faders** (which correspond to the physical **Touch Faders** on the **RISE** Control Panel) to the left of the curves. You can control the **Glide**, **Slide**, and **Press** dimensions of touch either from this screen in **ROLI Dashboard** or by physically adjusting the three touch-sensitive **Touch Faders** on the **RISE** Control Panel.

Figure 4

Above, the Expression Settings in **ROLI Dashboard**.

### Dynamics of the Touch Faders and Expression Curves

**Strike:** This **Touch Fader** and Expression Curve controls the dynamics of **Strike**, or the velocity and force with which a finger makes contact with a keywave. When the **Strike Touch Fader** is at its maximum setting you can access the full dynamic range of velocities from MIDI velocity 0 to 127. As you reduce the value of the **Touch Fader** you reach the maximum velocity of 127 with softer **Strikes**. When the **Strike Touch Fader** is at its minimum setting you will reach MIDI velocity 127 regardless of how firmly or softly you **Strike**.

**Glide:** This **Touch Fader** and Expression Curve controls the dynamics of **Glide**, or sideways movements of the finger on the keywaves or along the ribbons. When the **Glide Touch Fader** is at its minimum setting, sideways movements will not bend pitch. The instrument is in Piano Mode, and it will respond like a standard keyboard. When the **Touch Fader** is at its maximum setting, the keywave surface is maximally sensitive to sideways movements, and even minute movements will bend pitch like vibrato on a string instrument. A medium setting allows for pitch bend, but the instrument will correct pitch to a greater or lesser degree. While usually assigned to pitch, the **Glide Touch Fader** can also be assigned to other sound parameters.

**Slide:** This **Touch Fader** and Expression Curve controls the dynamics of **Slide**, or vertical movements up and down a keywave. When the **Touch Fader** is at a lower setting, the spectrum of sound available for modulation along the Y axis of a keywave is narrower. This means that you can reach the maximum end of the range of modulation with a shorter movement up or down the keywave. When the **Touch Fader** is at a higher setting, the spectrum of sound available along the Y axis is wider. This means that your finger must travel a greater distance to reach the maximum end of the range of modulation, and you can access a wider range of intermediate sounds along the vertical path of travel.

**Press:** This **Touch Fader** and Expression Curve controls the dynamics of **Press**, or the response of the keywave surface to continuous pressure applied after **Strike**. When the **Press Touch Fader** is at a lower setting, the spectrum of sound available to modulate through pressure is narrower. This means that you can reach the maximum end of the range of modulation through lighter pressure on the keywave surface. When the **Press Touch Fader** is at a higher setting, the spectrum of sound available through pressure is wider. This means that you will press more firmly to reach the maximum end of the range of modulation, and you will be able to access a wider range of intermediate sounds as you vary pressure on the keywave surface.

**Lift:** This **Touch Fader** and Expression Curve controls the dynamics of **Lift**, which describes the release velocity or speed of liftoff from a keywave. When the **Lift Touch Fader** is at its maximum setting you can access the full dynamic range of release velocities. As you reduce the value of the **Touch Fader** you reduce the range of release velocities.



## 2.4 MIDI Settings Panel

A range of MIDI settings are available on the MIDI Settings Panel, which is at the bottom of the **ROLI Dashboard** screen (see Figure 5). You can assign MIDI CCs to three **Touch Faders** (**Glide**, **Slide**, and **Press**) and the XY Touchpad. You can also edit the pedal and select custom channel ranges and behaviour to optimise the **RISE** with third-party hardware and software synths.

Figure 5

Above, the MIDI settings in **ROLI Dashboard**.

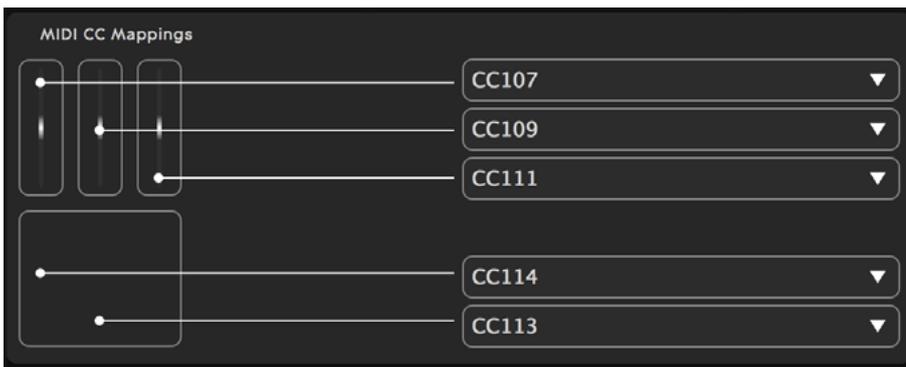


Figure 6

MIDI CC Mapping in **ROLI Dashboard**.

## MIDI CC Mappings

You can map MIDI CC messages to the **Glide**, **Slide**, and **Press Touch Faders** as well as the X and Y axes of the XY Touchpad (see Figure 6). Click the arrows to access a pull-down menu of possible MIDI CC mappings. The **RISE** will retain these mappings even after it is powered off.

## Pedal & Pitch

You can assign the pedal to a MIDI CC and pedal type (see Figure 7). The **RISE** automatically detects the pedal type when you connect a new switch pedal. However, you can also manually choose between Switch (open, close) or Continuous (type 1, type 2) pedals.

The pitch can be transposed over +/- four octaves and by semitone.

## MIDI Settings

You can select channel mode and customise behaviour of the **RISE** on the section of the MIDI Settings Panel called "MIDI Settings". You can use this section to optimise the **RISE** with third-party hardware and software synths. The selection of Channel Mode (Multi Channel or Single Channel) and the activation of **Expressive MIDI** (On or Off) is the primary function of this section. Other features such as channel range and **Glide** and **Slide** Tracking are detailed below.

### Multi Channel Mode — Expressive MIDI "On"

Selecting Multi Channel Mode and turning **Expressive MIDI** on optimises the **RISE** with multidimensional, **Expressive MIDI** hardware and software. This mode makes the **RISE** "plug and play" with any other hardware or software that support **Expressive MIDI** (see Figure 8).

When **Expressive MIDI** is on, the MIDI generated by the **Touch Faders**, XY Touchpad and the Pedal is assigned to Channel 1. Note, pitch bend, pressure, and **Slide** (MIDI CC 74) messages are transmitted on a note-per-channel basis.

### Channel range, Glide and Slide tracking, and Press tracking

If you use a channel range smaller than the maximum range of 15 channels, you can edit channel range, global channel, and note priority for **Glide & Slide Tracking** and **Press** (pressure) Tracking. The available values are:

**Glide & Slide tracking:** Highest Played Note, Lowest Played Note, Disabled.

**Press tracking:** Highest Played Note, Lowest Played Note, Hardest Played Note, Disabled.

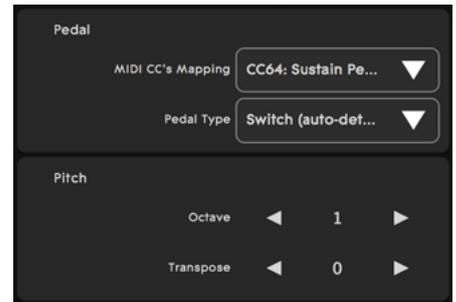


Figure 7

The Pedal & Pitch panel in **ROLI Dashboard**.

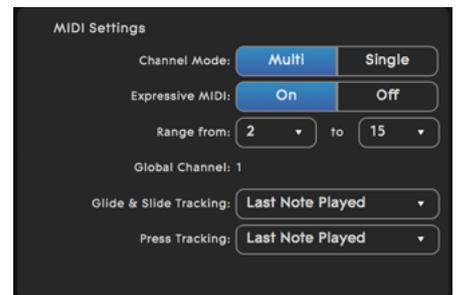


Figure 8

The MIDI settings panel in **ROLI Dashboard** showing Expressive MIDI "On".

### Multi Channel Mode — Expressive MIDI “Off”

If you use a multi-timbral synth that does not support **Expressive MIDI**, you can select Multi Channel Mode and turn **Expressive MIDI** off (see Figure 9).

In this mode you can control channel range, **Glide & Slide** tracking, **Press** mode, and **Press** tracking. The available values are:

**Glide & Slide tracking:** Highest played note, Lowest played note, Disabled.

**Press mode:** Poly pressure, Channel pressure.

**Press tracking:** Highest played note, Lowest played note, Hardest played note, Disabled. (**Press** or pressure tracking becomes available when Channel pressure is selected in **Press** mode)

### Single Channel Mode

In Single Channel Mode the **RISE** transmits all MIDI data on a single MIDI channel only (see Figure 10). This makes it compatible with mono-timbral synths. Pitch bend, channel pressure, or **Slide** (MIDI CC 74) messages will apply to all notes held.

In this mode you can control the channel number, **Glide & Slide** tracking, **Press** mode, and **Press** tracking. The available values are:

**Glide & Slide tracking:** Highest played note, Lowest played note, Disabled.

**Press mode:** Poly Pressure and Channel Pressure.

**Press tracking:** Highest played note, Lowest played note, Hardest played note, or Disabled. (**Press** or pressure tracking becomes available when Channel pressure is selected for **Press** mode).

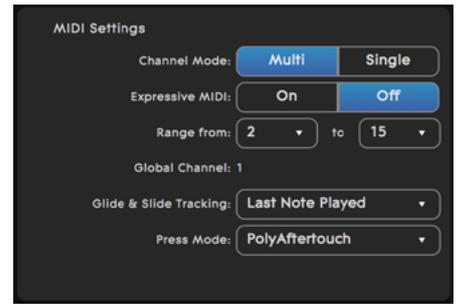


Figure 9

The MIDI settings panel in **ROLI Dashboard** showing Expressive MIDI “Off”.

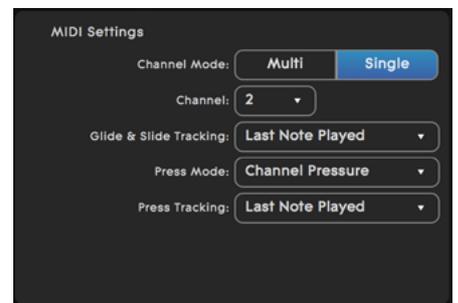


Figure 10

The MIDI settings panel in **ROLI Dashboard** showing Single Channel Mode.

## 2.5 Bluetooth Settings

The **RISE** transmits MIDI over Bluetooth to compatible devices. Currently only Macs that are Bluetooth LE compatible and running OS 10.10+ are compatible with MIDI over Bluetooth. We expect more devices to become compatible in the future. The device connected to the **RISE** largely determines the procedure for activating MIDI over Bluetooth. We will soon have detailed guides and videos for setting up each device on our website. Below is an outline of how to set up the **RISE** for Bluetooth over MIDI with a Mac. You can find a more detailed guide on [www.roli.com](http://www.roli.com).

### Initiating Bluetooth Over MIDI on the RISE

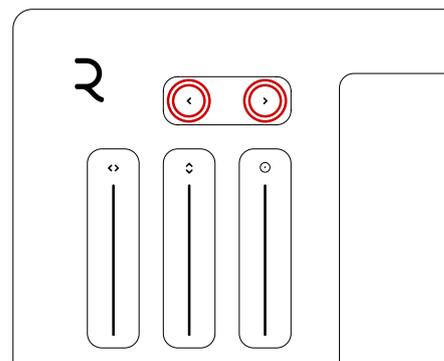
Jointly pressing and then releasing both Preset Switch buttons begins the Bluetooth pairing process (see Figure 11). The Power/Mode button blinks blue to indicate Bluetooth Pairing Mode (see Figure 12).

When the USB cable is unplugged the **RISE** automatically enters Bluetooth Pairing Mode. You must complete pairing the **RISE**, however, through the settings options on the device you wish to connect. This prevents accidental pairing to another device within range of the signal.

Press and release both Preset Switch buttons simultaneously to exit Bluetooth pairing mode. Disconnect Bluetooth through the device you are connecting to the **RISE**.

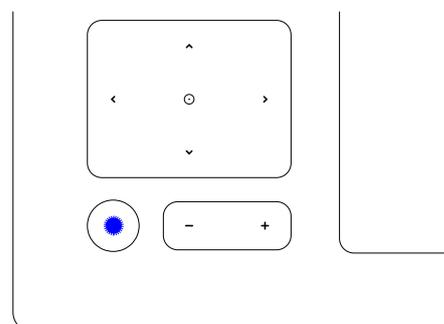
In Mac OSX 10.10

- Press and release both Preset Switch buttons simultaneously
- Open Audio MIDI Setup from the Utilities folder inside Applications.
- Click Window » Show MIDI Studio.
- Double-click the Bluetooth icon
- A new window will open and scan for nearby Bluetooth devices.
- When the **RISE** is detected, click connect.



**Figure 11**

Jointly pressing and then releasing both Preset Switch buttons begins the Bluetooth pairing process. Press both buttons simultaneously again to exit Bluetooth pairing mode.



**Figure 12**

The Power / Mode button blinks blue to indicate Bluetooth Pairing Mode.

### 3. The Dashboard Menu

The **Dashboard** Menu is located in the top right-hand corner of **ROLI Dashboard** (see Figure 13). This menu has the following functions:

**Rename RISE:** Here you can rename your **RISE** for Bluetooth pairing purposes. Connect your **RISE** to a device via USB, then type a name in the device field. The **RISE** will remember this name the next time you connect over Bluetooth.

**Battery Status:** Check the battery life of your **RISE**.

**Update firmware:** Check for available firmware and software updates, including new versions of **ROLI Dashboard**.

**About:** Shows the current version of ROLI Dashboard and allows you to update to a new version if there is one available.

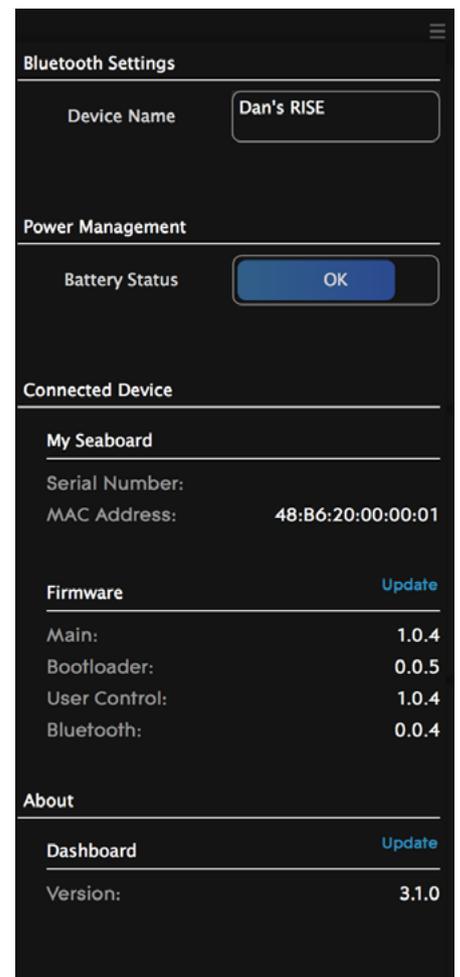


Figure 13

The **Dashboard** Menu.

## 4. ROLI Support

### 4.1 My ROLI and ROLI Support

The **Seaboard RISE** Creator Manual, the **Equator** for **RISE** Creator Manual, and other resources on My ROLI should help answer questions about your **Seaboard RISE**. Visit our Support page at [www.roli.com/support](http://www.roli.com/support) for a wider range of resources about the **RISE** and its software. The Support page includes frequently asked questions, tutorial videos, and guides for connecting the **RISE** with third-party plug-ins and DAWs.

### 4.2 Contact our support team

Contact the ROLI support team directly on [www.roli.com/support](http://www.roli.com/support) for any questions. We will respond as soon as possible. Our support team is here to help you.