

MeloBang documentation

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Website
<https://smaolab.org>

Overview

Melobang is a new innovating step sequencer for Ableton Live / MaxForLive.

It's creative

- **Powerfull Step Sequencer** (16 steps, note, velocity & duration can be edited easily),
- **Repeat** mode to create new rythmic/melody glitches,
- **Chords** mode (7thMajor, Major and Minor) to create .. essentiel and efficient chords easily,
- Time signature can be set to **binary** or **ternary** mode,
- **Random** mode to produce surprising step sequences & melodies. You can choose also the **range** of the "random" notes,
- You can save up to 8 different sequences.

It's instinctive

- Step sequence & melodies can be played forward or reverse,
- **Transposition** mode is available,
- **Mute** mode has been added to mute randomly certain notes,
- **Alive mode** that **humanize** velocity for each step (terrific on HitHats for instance),
- A **Swing** mode has been added (we improved Roger's algorithm :)).

It's chaotic

- Radar mode, you can **re-instanciate all steps notes order** without destroying the original sequence !
- BigBang, **let's the computer re-order the notes for you** :)
- Factory Patterns, we selected **32 euclidean** notes order **pattern** that **rocks** !
- Link, you can **play the whole 8 sequences** at the same time (terrific on drums& surprising on synths!),
- **Slice mode**, you can in few seconds **re-order any audio loop**. For instance, put MeloBang before any Simpler instrument, slice your audio loop & play ...

MeloBang is a **creative tool made for creating new melodies in playfull way**, it also can be used in **live act to add improvisation into your music**.

Creative, instinctive, chaotic.

We hope you will enjoy !

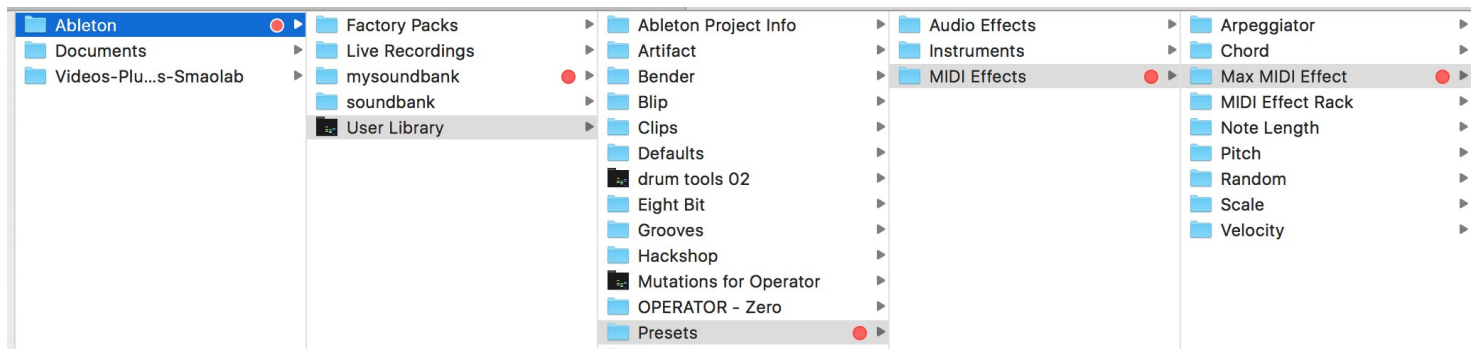
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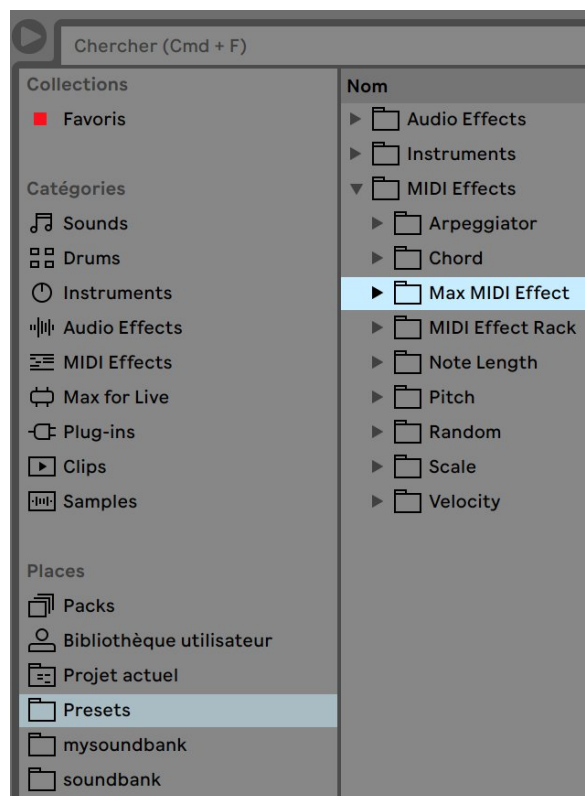
Installation

- 1- Uncompress the file you downloaded from the SMAOLAB website.
- 2- Copy the file `MeloBang.v1.0.amxd` into your MAXFORLIVE preset folder.

Here is an exemple

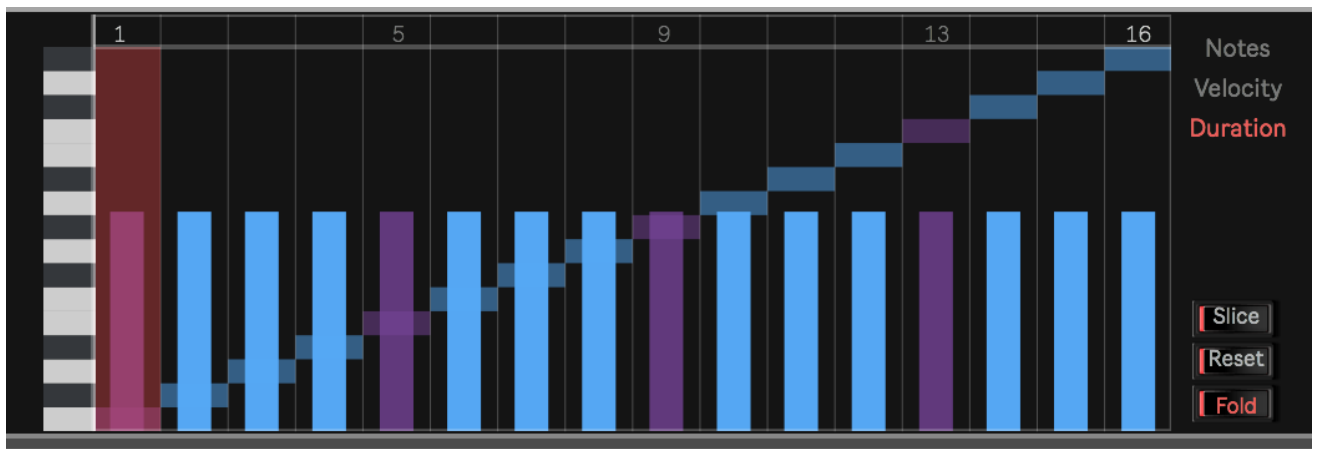
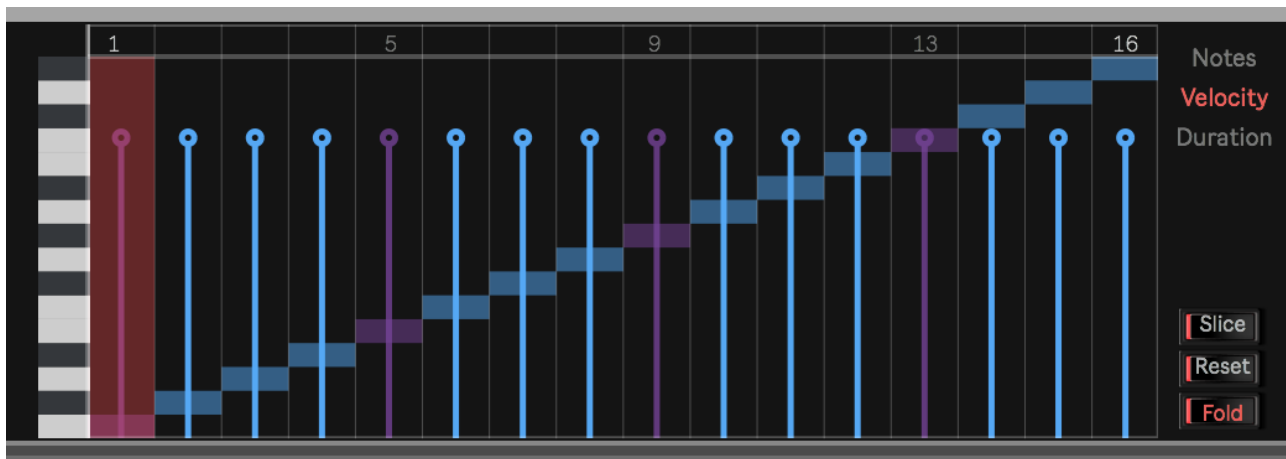
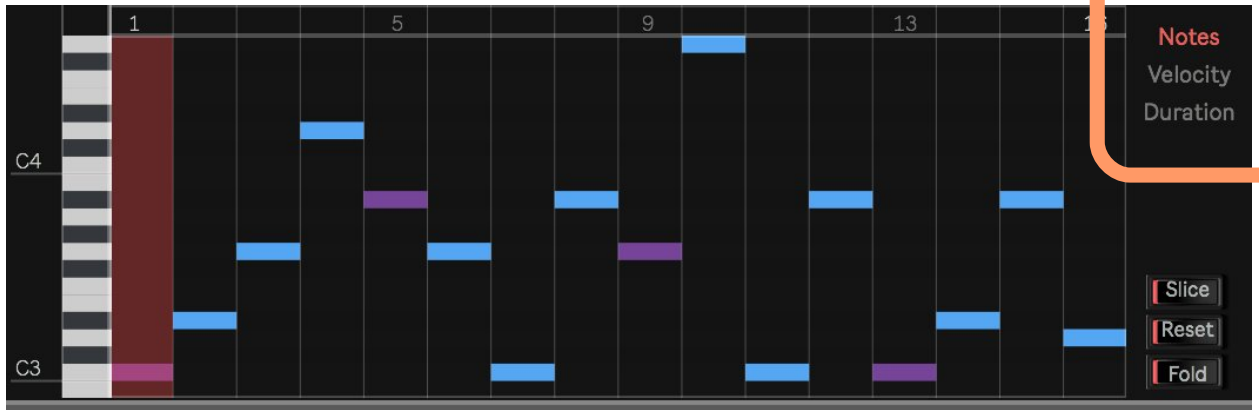


- 3- In Ableton live, the M4L plug-in will appear in your personal PRESET folder : `PLACES / USER LIBRARY/ MIDI EFFECT/ MAX FOR LIVE/`



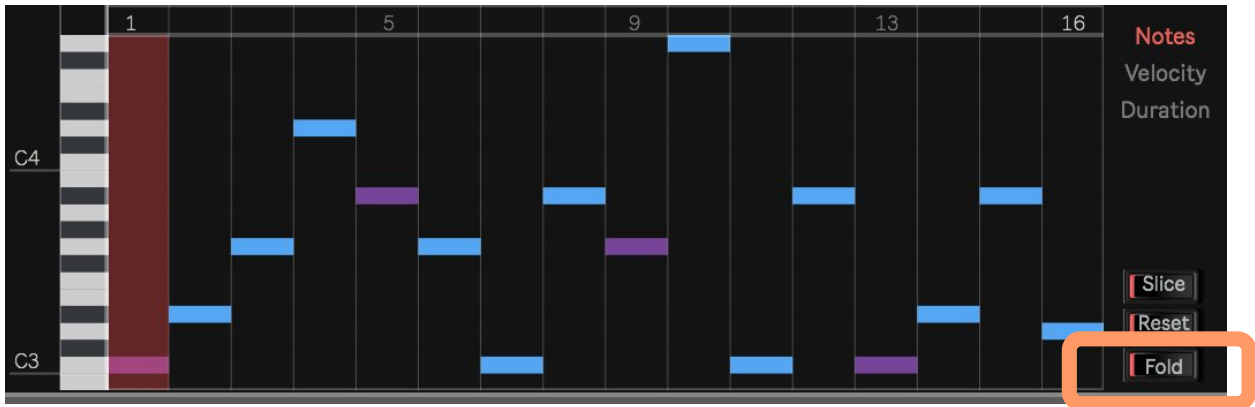
Edit Notes, Velocity & Duration

- Just click on the **Notes**, **Velocity** or **Duration** button ...



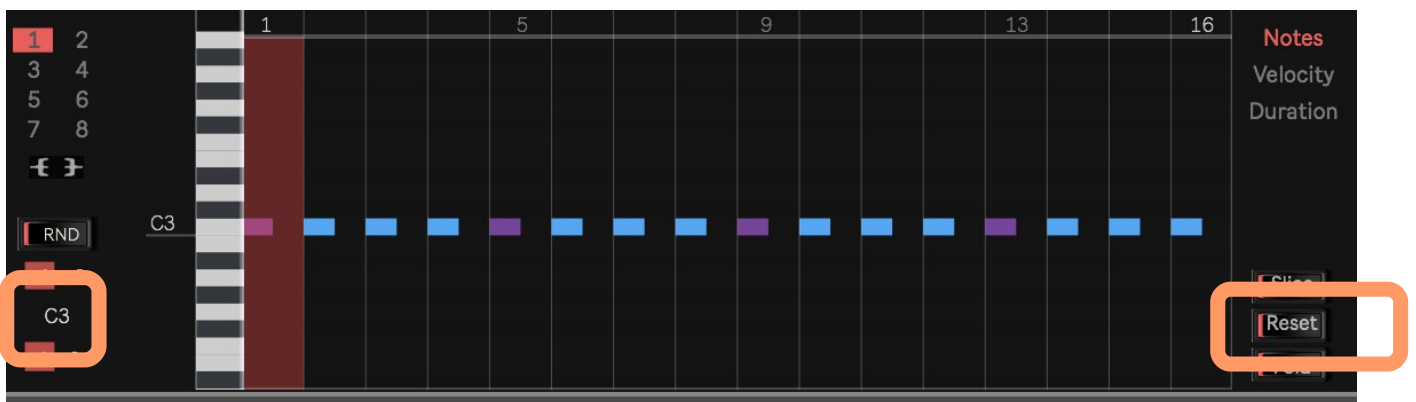
Fold Notes

- You can group all the different notes into a single view, just click on **FOLD ...**



Reset Notes

- Click on **RESET** to re-initialise the sequence,
- Note that **RESET** function takes the **ROOT** notes to re-initialise the melody. If your **ROOT** Note is set to E#3 then all the notes will be re-initialise to E#3.



Random Notes

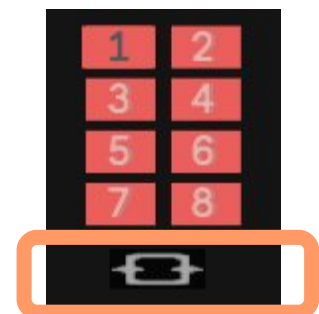
You can randomise the notes that compose your sequence :

- Choose the **ROOT** note,
- Choose the **RANGE** (from 2 octaves above to -1 octave below the ROOT note),
- Click on **RND** button to randomize accordingly your notes & create a new melody.



Link sequences

We added a **Link mode** : you can **play the whole 8 sequences** at the same time.



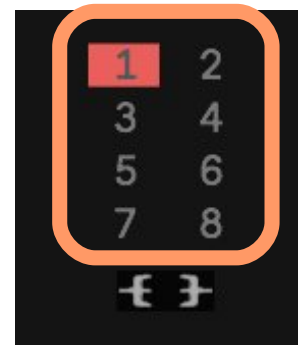
Use case

Imagine a **drum rack with 8 PADS** filled with **percussion sounds**

- For each 8 sequences, create a melody,
- Then click on **Link**,
- Click on the Ableton Live **Play** Button (to start the song),
- MeloBang will play the whole 8 sequences at the same time,
- **MeloBang becomes a DrumBox.**

Edit/Save the 8 sequences

All the sequences are automatically saved as well as your step repeats & chords mode :)



Time Signature

Time signature can be set to **binary** or **ternary** mode (1/4, 1/8, 1/8T, 1/16, 1/16T),

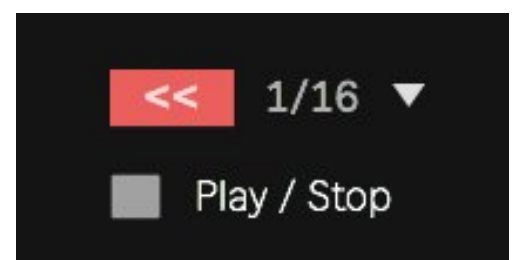


Play/Stop/Forward/Backward

You can play/stop the sequencer independently from the Ableton Live program ...

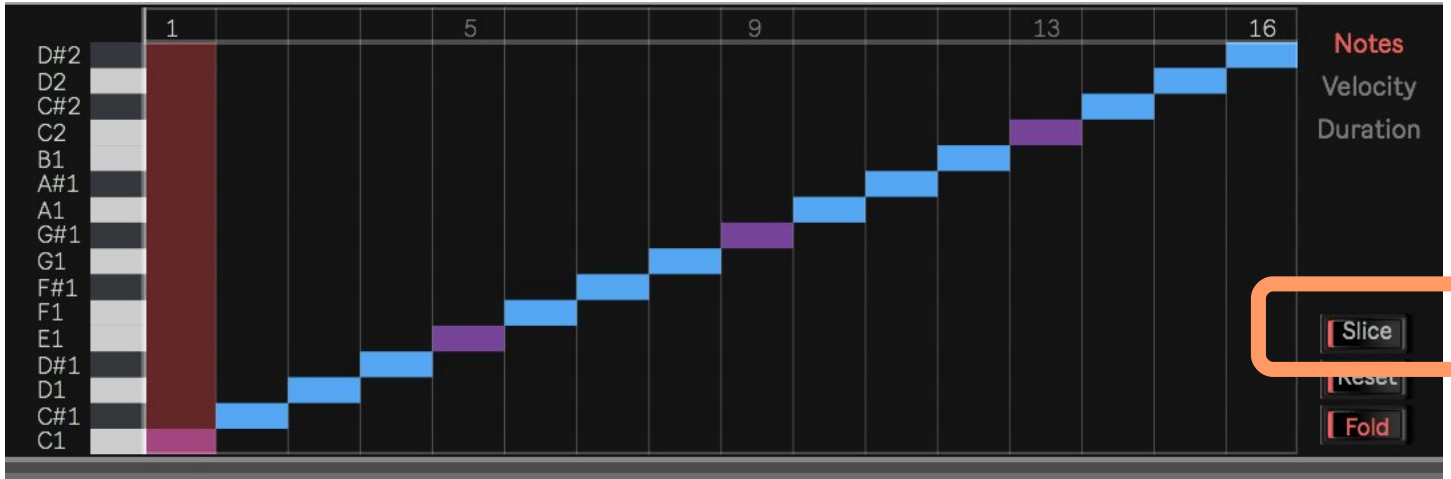
You can also play the sequence :

- **>>** Steps Forward : Steps goes from 1 to 16
- Steps Reverse **<<** : Steps goes from 16 to 1



Slices your audio loop

You can slice and re-arrange any audio loop with MeloBang



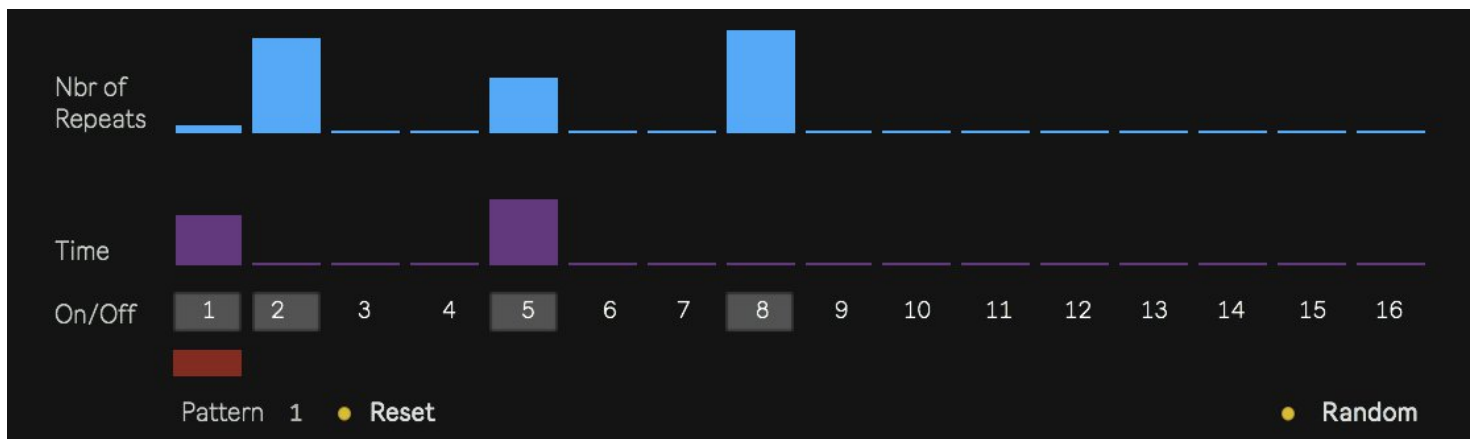
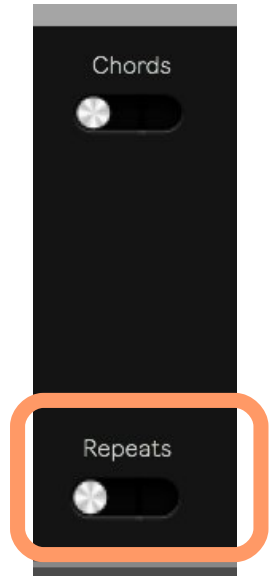
Use case

- In MeloBang, click on **Slice** button,
- Add an Ableton Live **Simpler** Instrument filled with an audio loop,
- In **Simpler**, click on 'Slice' too.
- Then play with MeloBang, and re-order the slices to create spicy new audio loops :)



Repeats steps

- Click on **Repeat** mode to access the panel,
- Click on the Steps you want to activate,
- Choose the **Number of repeat per steps** (2 to 16),
- Choose the **Time Length** (1/128, 1/64, 1/32 & 1/4, 1/8, 1/8T, 1/16, 1/16T).

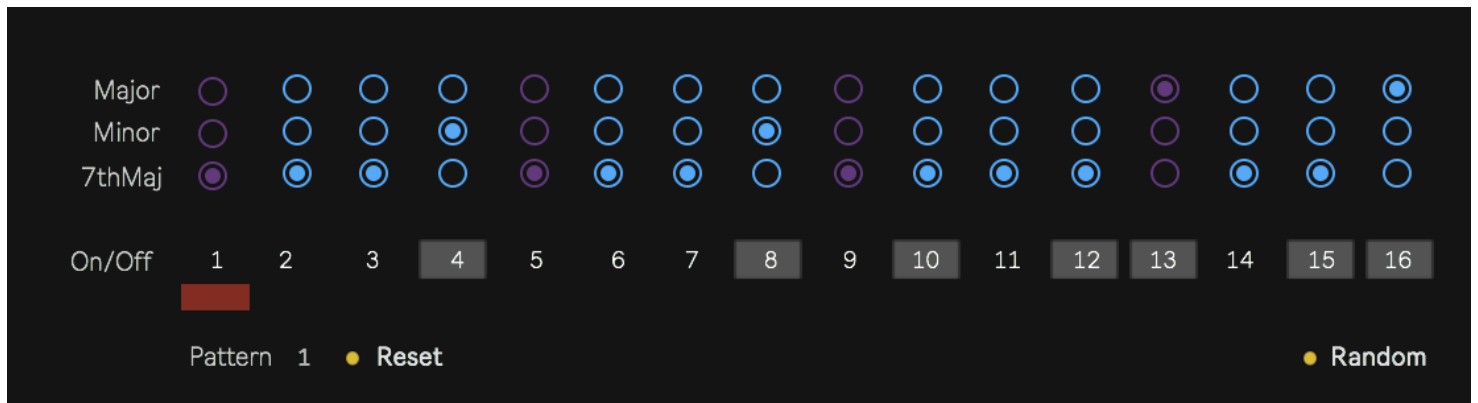
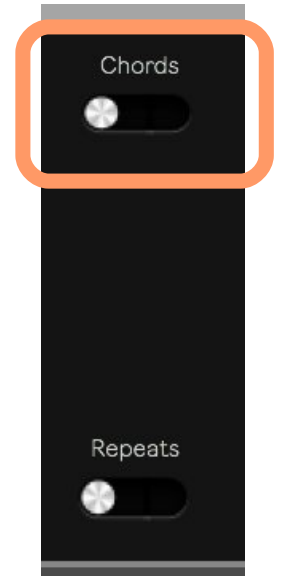


Reset : You can re-initialise the repeat sequence

Random : You can randomise your repeat sequence. *The random algorithm has been created to produces nice repeat sequences, no overloading.*

Chords mode

- Click on **Chords** mode to access the panel,
- Click on the Steps you want to activate,
- Choose the **Scale** per steps (Major, Minor, 7thMaj),



Reset : You can re-initialise the chord sequence

Random : You can randomise your chord sequence.

BigBang, Factory Pattern, Draw modes ?

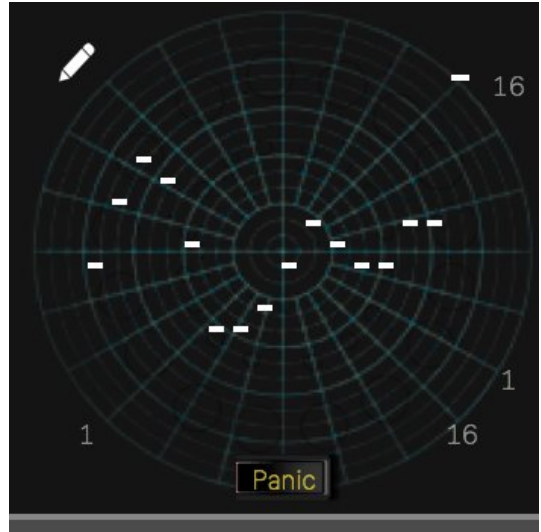
This plug in aims at proposing a new way of creating & sequencing melodies.

MeloBang proposes several functions to **re-order the note orders** without destroying the original composition:

- Normally a sequence are 16 step length,
- When you run a sequence, the step orders are : 1, 2, 3, 4 ... until step 16 (Ableton Live will play step 1 followed by step 2, step 3, etc.)
- Now, let's imagine that you could **re-arrange this order**. For instance, why not playing steps in the following order : 1,2, 5,6, 1,2, 5,6 ?

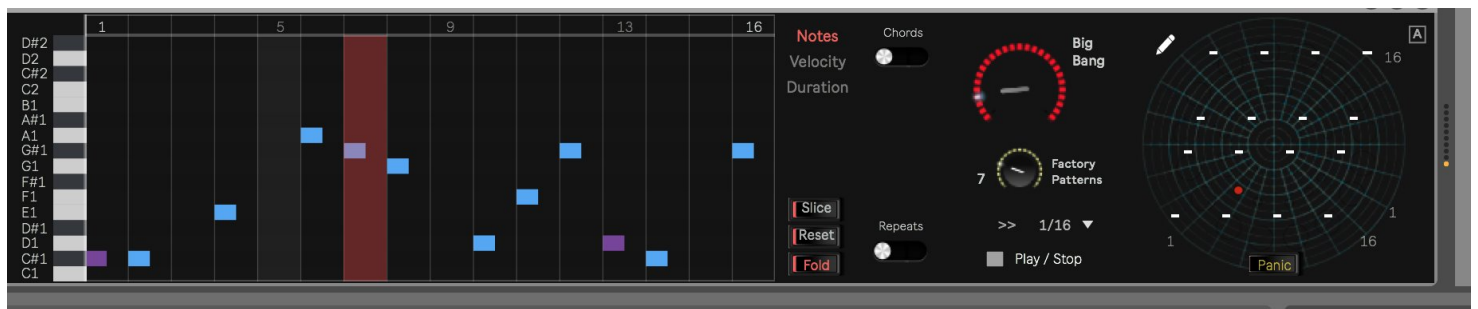
MeloBang lets you **re-arrange the order of the played sequence**. You can use 3 modes:

- **BigBang**: a Chaotic mode to re-arrange the way the notes are played,
- **Factory Patterns**: a set of pre-defined note order that **rocks** (based on Euclidean algorithm),
- **Draw mode** : you can draw you own order.



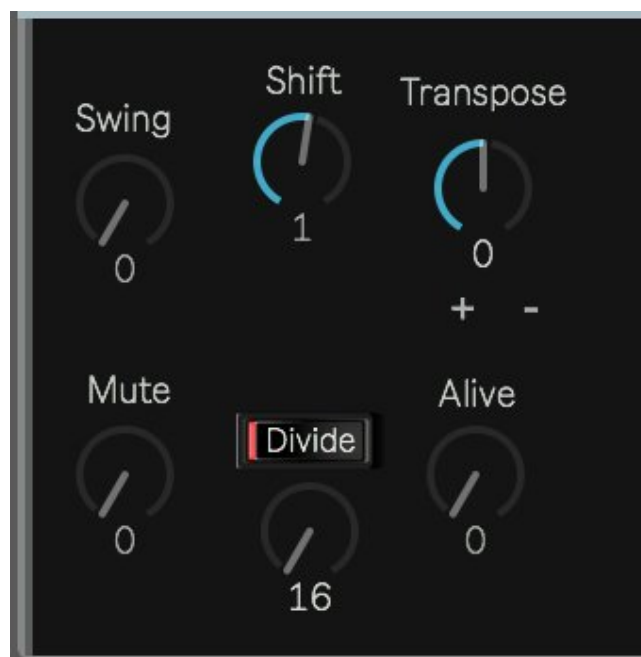
A **Panic** Button is available to re-initialise the step orders to the original sequence note order.

You will never destroy your original melody.



All other modes

- **A Swing mode** has been added & improved (Roger Linn ++). The swing is more sensitive. The best results are around 50-55-65 % (like on the Roger Linn original drum box), crazy results between 74 – 100 %.
- **Shift Notes**, to .. shift notes on the right or on the left,
- **Transposition** mode : Octave or semi-tones
- **Mute** mode to mute notes, 0 % - no muting, 50 % - half chance to mute a note, 100 % - all the notes are muted,
- **Alive** mode : **humanize** velocity for each step, (try on hithats ;-) ,
- **Loop/Divide** : you can **LOOP** the sequence :
 - Step 1 to 16
 - Step 1 to 8
 - Step 1 to 4
 - Step 1 to 2
 - Step 1 to 1



You can reset the effect by clicking on the **DIVIDE** button

This is the end
of this document.

Thanks.