



**fc**p music cue sheet

# User Manual

## 1. Overview

FCP Music Cue Sheet is a macOS application designed to analyze Final Cut Pro XML files and automatically detect, analyze, and organize music usage data from timeline structures, generating structured reports suitable for cue sheet preparation.

It is important to note that FCP Music Cue Sheet is not a fully standardized cue sheet generator.

Cue sheet formats vary across countries, broadcasters, and rights management organizations, often requiring specific proprietary structures.

The application focuses on automating the most time-consuming part of the process: detecting tracks, calculating usage durations, and organizing data into a clean, structured format.

The exported CSV or PDF should be considered a reliable foundation for compiling official cue sheets.

Internally, the application extracts all music-related clips, organizes them by audio roles, and computes accurate timecode information. The resulting data can be reviewed, refined, and exported in professional formats suitable for production, broadcast, and reporting workflows.

### Positioning

FCP Music Cue Sheet is designed as a workflow acceleration tool for editors and post-production professionals.

It replaces manual timeline logging and duration calculation, providing a fast and reliable way to extract music usage data from Final Cut Pro projects, eliminating the need for manual time calculation and track logging.

### What the App Does

- Parses FCPXML files and reconstructs timeline structure
- Detects music clips across roles and subroles
- Calculates frame-accurate timecodes (In, Out, Duration)
- Allows per-occurrence usage assignment

- Generates structured music reports in PDF or CSV format for cue sheet preparation

## Typical Use Cases

- Preparing data for cue sheet compilation for broadcasters or collecting societies
- Extracting music metadata from complex timelines
- Auditing audio usage in post-production
- Generating reports for internal or legal documentation

## 2. Supported Files & Requirements

### • Supported Input Formats

- .fcpxml (Final Cut Pro XML)
- .fcpxmld (Final Cut Pro Library package)
- .mcsheet (FCP Music Cue Sheet project file)

You can import files by dragging and dropping them into the app window or by using **File → Open**.

Previously saved .mcsheet project files can also be opened to restore your work, including metadata, usage assignments, and project settings.

### System Requirements

- macOS with support for SwiftUI applications
- Final Cut Pro XML export workflow
- Local file access (sandboxed environment)

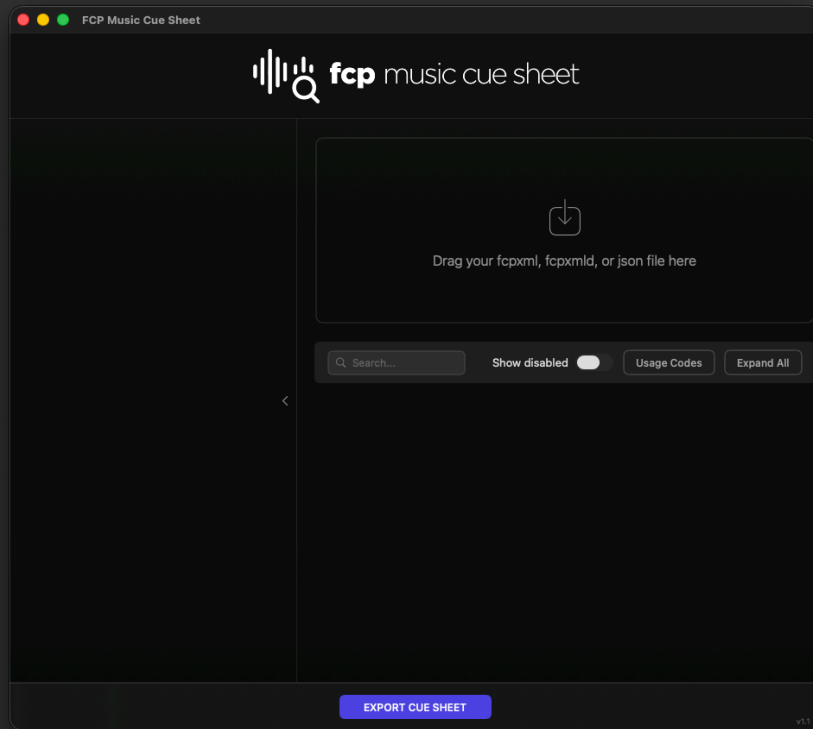
## 3. Interface Overview

The application interface is structured into three primary areas:

### Drop Zone

Used to import FCPXML files via drag and drop.

### Sidebar (Roles Panel)



Displays detected audio roles and subroles in a hierarchical structure. Allows selection, filtering, and bulk operations.

## Main Panel (Clip List)

Displays all parsed clips based on selected roles. Includes metadata, timecodes, and usage assignments.

## Controls Bar

Contains:

- Search field
- Export options
- Metadata editor access
- Toggle controls (e.g., disabled clips)

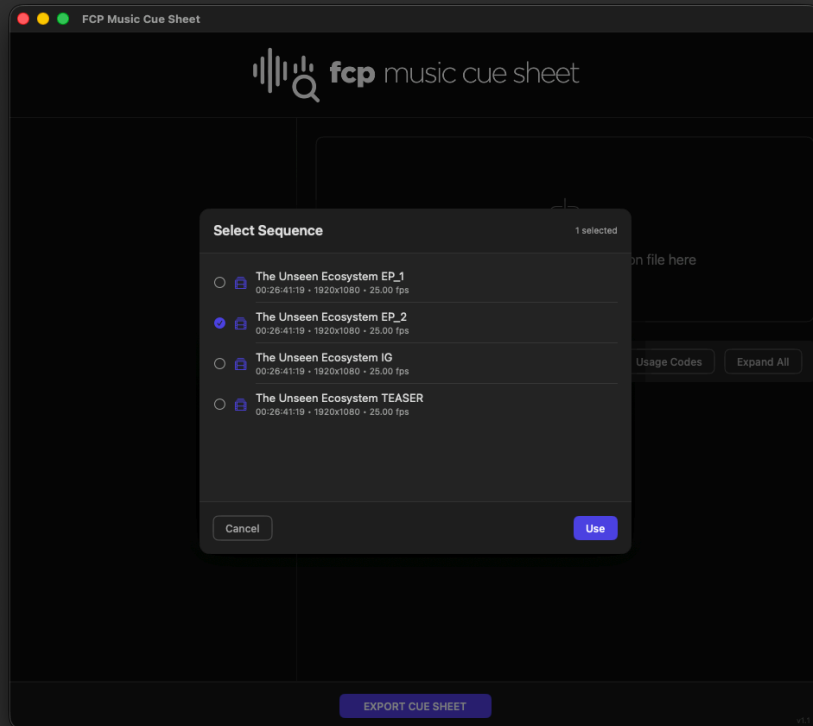
# 4. Getting Started

## Step 1 — Import an FCPXML File

Drag and drop a .fcpxml or .fcpxmlid file into the app window.

## Step 2 — Select a Sequence (if needed)

If multiple sequences are detected, choose the one to analyze.



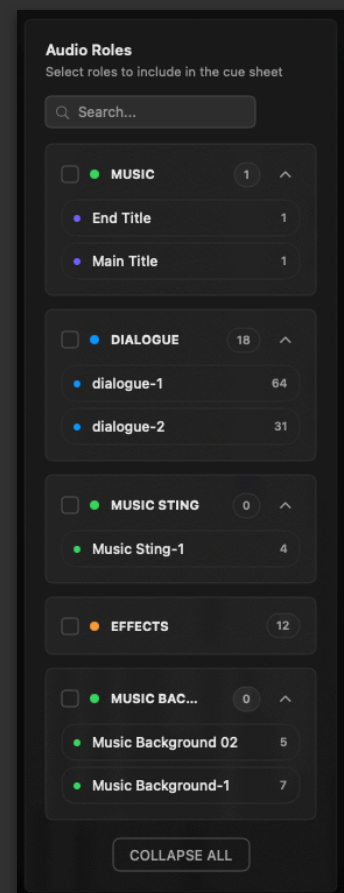
### Step 3 — Review Parsed Data

The app automatically:

- Detects roles and subroles
- Extracts clips
- Calculates timecodes

### Step 4 — Select Roles

Use the sidebar to include or exclude specific roles or subroles.

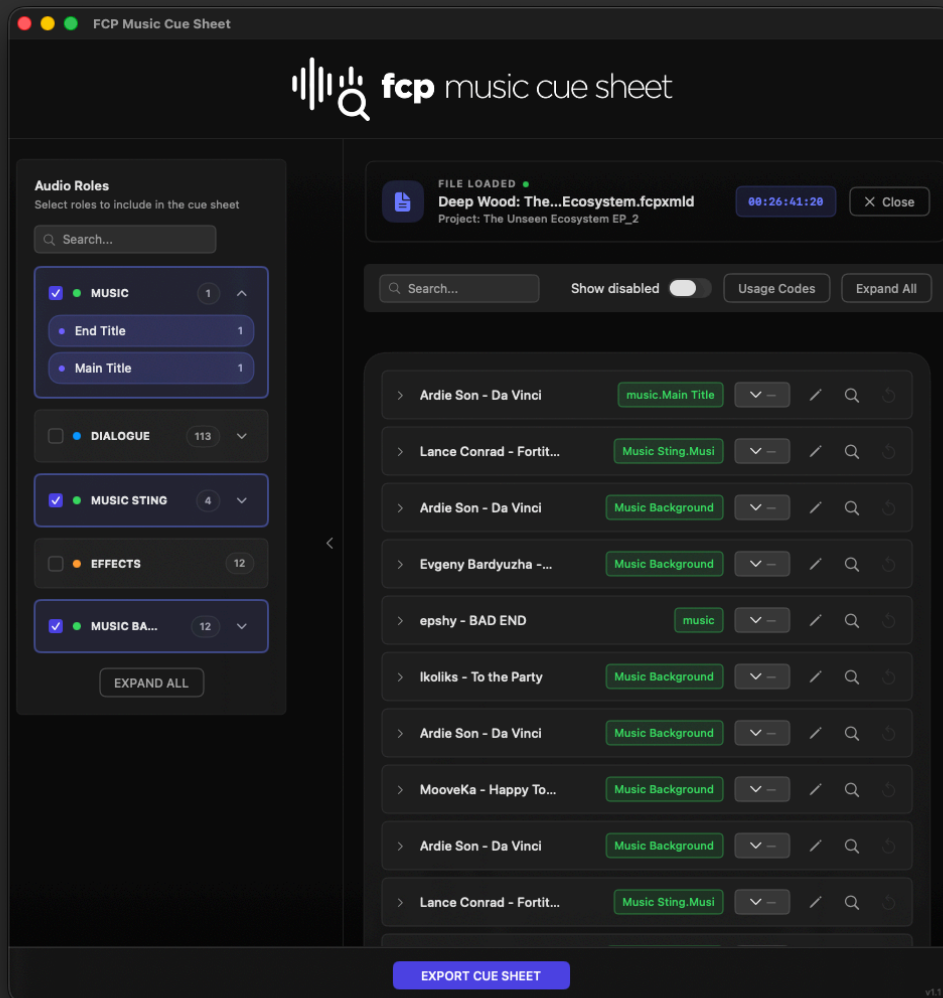


## 5. Working with Roles and Clips

### Roles and Subroles

Roles are dynamically extracted from the FCPXML file. Subroles appear nested under their parent role.

### Selection Behavior



- Selecting a role includes all its subroles
- Partial selection displays an intermediate state
- Selection affects both display and export

## Clip List

Each row represents a single occurrence of a clip in the timeline.

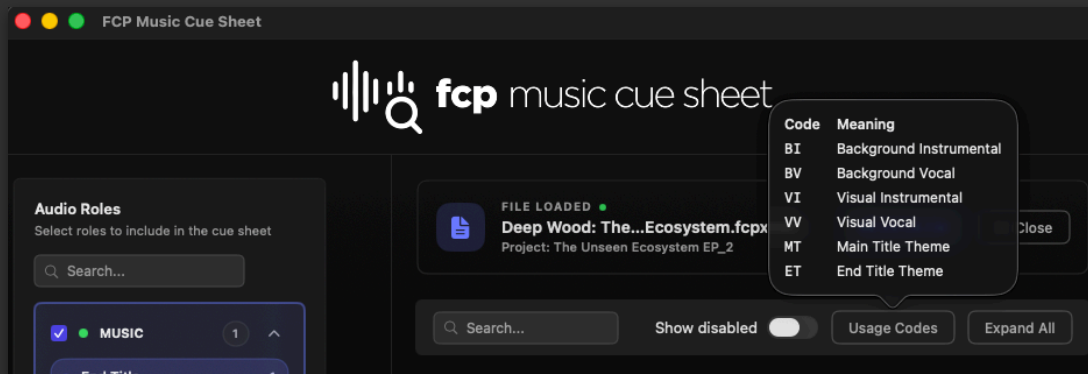
Displayed information includes:

- Title
- Timecode In / Out
- Duration
- Author / metadata

- Usage code

## 6. Usage Codes

Each clip occurrence can be assigned a **Usage Type**, representing how the music is used.



### Available Codes

- **BI** — Background Instrumental
- **BV** — Background Vocal
- **VI** — Visual Instrumental
- **VV** — Visual Vocal
- **MT** — Main Title
- **ET** — End Title

### Assignment Methods

#### Per Clip

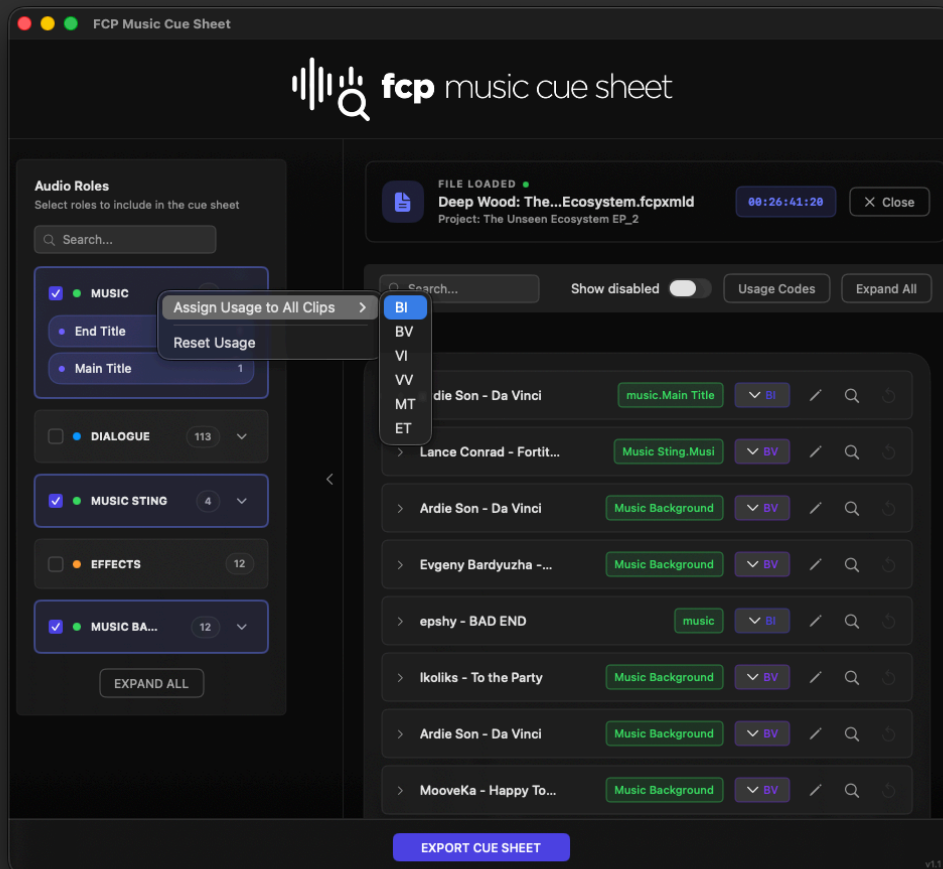
Use the usage selector directly on each row.

#### Bulk Assignment

Right-click on a role or subrole and choose:

- Assign Usage
- Reset Usage

Usage is applied per occurrence and does not propagate globally.



## 7. Metadata Editing

### Enhanced Metadata

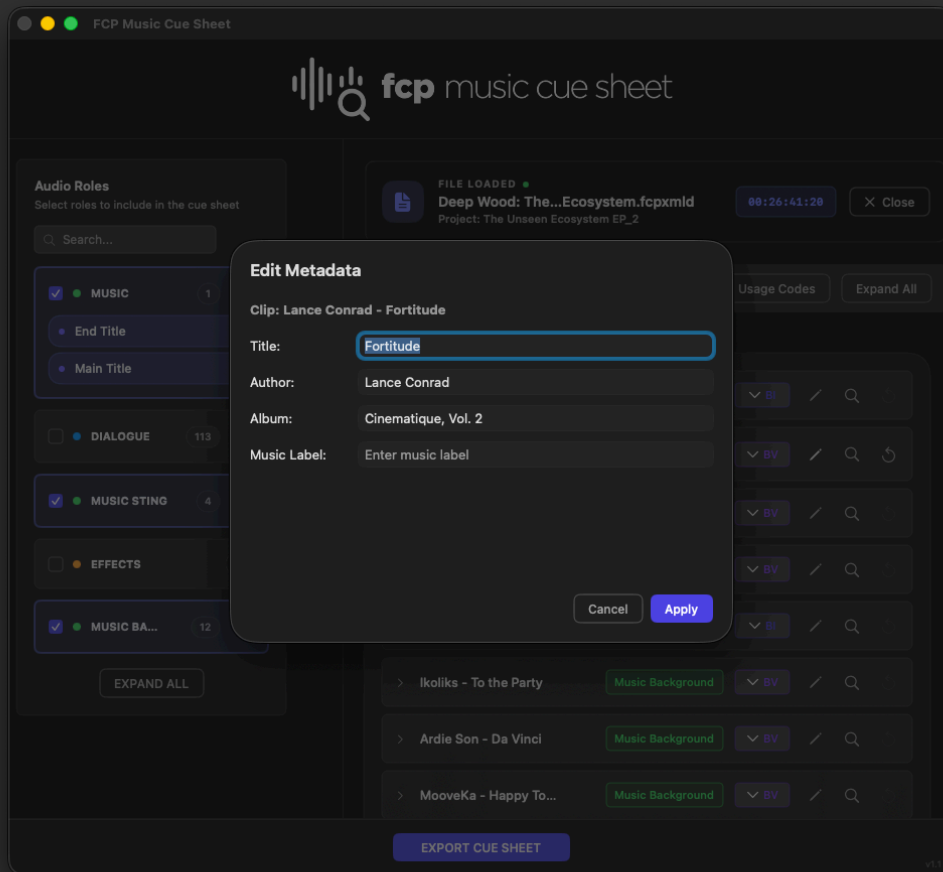
You can manually edit or enrich:

- Title
- Author
- Album
- Label

### Reverting Changes

At any time, metadata can be restored to original FCPXML values.

### Manual Overrides



Edited clips are tracked and preserved within the project file.

## 8. Search and Filtering

The search field filters clips in real time based on:

- Clip name
- Title
- Author

Clearing the search restores the full list.

## 9. Disabled and Muted Clips

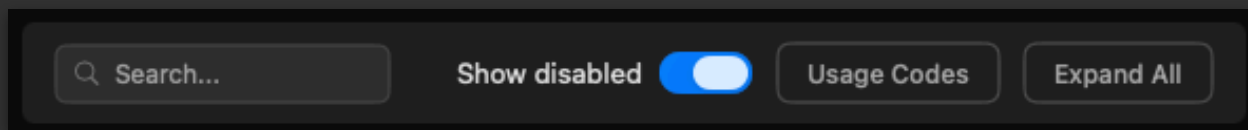
The application detects:

- Disabled clips
- Clips with zero volume

### Toggle Behavior

A dedicated control allows you to:

- Include them for inspection
- Exclude them from export



Only active clips are considered in final exports.

## 10. Timecode System

Timecodes are computed with frame-level precision.

### Supported Formats

- 25 fps
- 23.98 fps (1000/1001)
- 29.97 fps (Drop Frame and Non-Drop Frame)

### Output Format

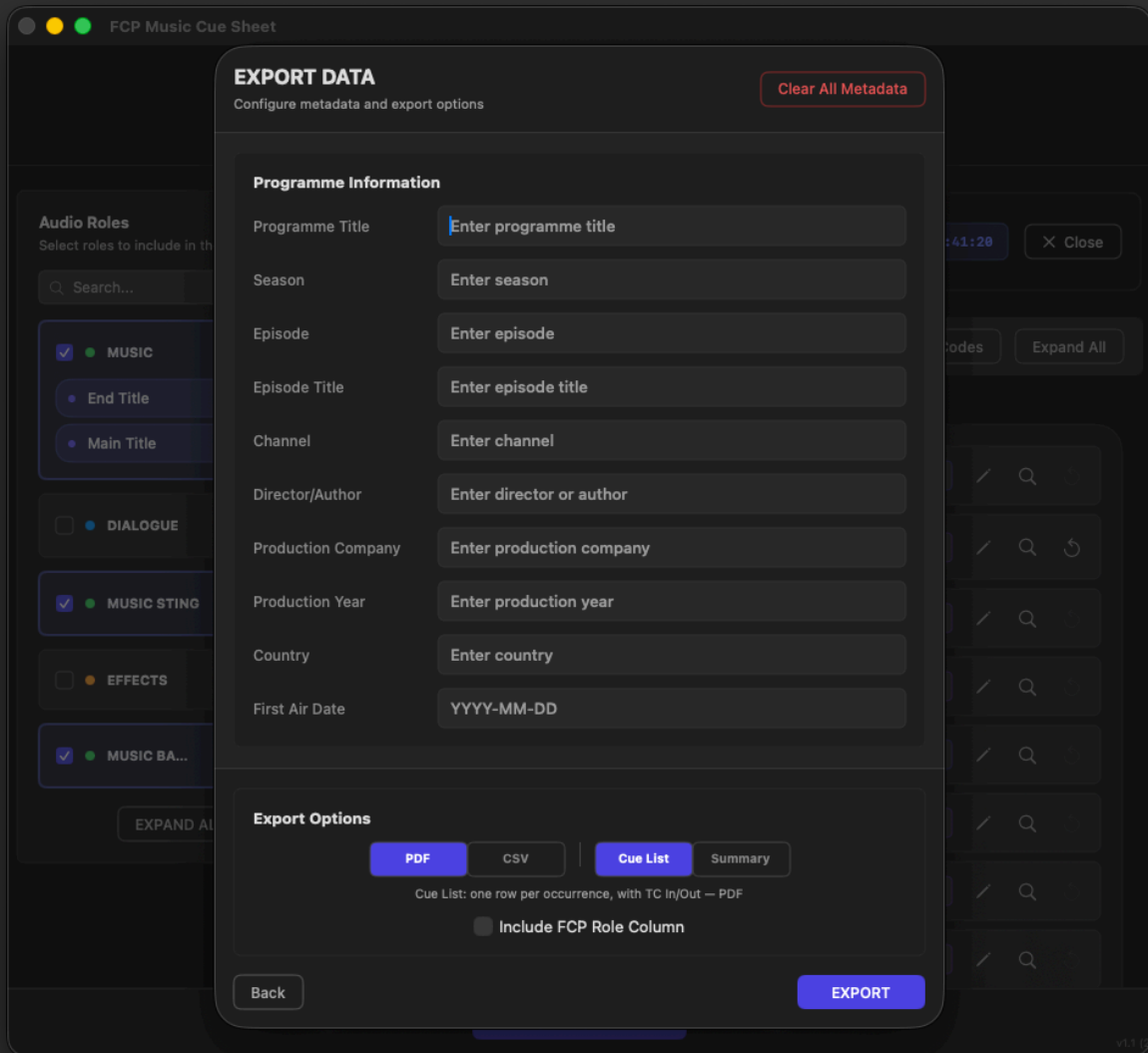
- Standard: HH:MM:SS:FF
- Drop Frame: HH:MM:SS;FF

All calculations are derived directly from the FCPXML timeline.

## 11. Exporting

### Export Formats

- **PDF — formatted music report (cue sheet-ready)**
- **CSV — structured data for cue sheet workflows and spreadsheet integration**



## Export Modes

### Cue List

- One row per clip occurrence
- Includes full timecode data

### Summary

- Aggregated by track and usage
- Displays total durations

### PDF Output

Includes:

- Programme Information section

- Structured music report table
- Dynamic layout for long titles

## CSV Output

Contains two sections:

- Programme Information
- Structured Music Report

The delimiter adapts to system locale.

## 12. Programme Information

Before exporting, you can define:

- Programme Title
- Episode Title
- Episode Number
- Season
- Production Company
- Broadcaster
- Year
- Country
- First Air Date

Program Duration is calculated automatically.

## 13. Project Files (.mcsheet)

### Saving



Save your session as a .mcsheet file to preserve:

- Metadata edits
- Usage assignments
- Role selections
- Export settings

## Opening

- File → Open
- Double-click from Finder

Project files are JSON-based and portable.

## 14. Support Log

A diagnostic log can be exported for troubleshooting.

### Includes

- Parsing details
- Timeline structure
- Internal processing notes

Sensitive file paths are automatically filtered.

## 15. Recommended Workflow

1. Export FCPXML from Final Cut Pro
2. Import into the application
3. Select the correct sequence
4. Choose relevant roles
5. Assign usage codes
6. Review metadata
7. Fill Programme Information
8. Export PDF or CSV

9. Save project for revisions

## 16. Limitations

- Not a fully standardized or legally compliant cue sheet generator. Final formatting and compliance depend on broadcaster or regional requirements and must be handled manually.
- Metadata accuracy depends on source files
- Publisher and PRO fields are not included
- Some frame rates may be approximated
- Usage is assigned per occurrence, not per track

## 17. Glossary

### **FCPXML**

XML representation of a Final Cut Pro project.

### **Role / Subrole**

Audio categorization system used in Final Cut Pro.

### **Compound Clip**

Nested clip containing multiple elements.

### **Audition**

Set of alternative clips where only one is active.

## 18. Notes

The application generates a technically accurate and structured foundation for cue sheets.

Final editorial, legal, and compliance checks remain the responsibility of the user.

## 19. App Store & Privacy

### Sandboxing & Security

FCP Music Cue Sheet operates within the macOS sandbox environment to ensure maximum system security. The app only accesses video files explicitly opened or dropped by the user and does not collect or transmit any media content or extracted subtitle data.

### Licensing

Your purchase is tied to your Apple ID. You can restore or install FCP Music Cue Sheet on any Mac authorized with your account via the Mac App Store Purchased tab.

## 20. Customer Support

For technical support or to suggest new features for future updates, visit [marcobucci.eu](http://marcobucci.eu) or contact via the support link on the App Store page.

### About this Guide

This guide may be updated independently from the app version. When requesting support, include both the **Manual Version** and the **App Version (Build)**.

*FCP Music Cue Sheet is an independent tool and is not affiliated with or endorsed by Apple Inc.*