Generating Cue Sheets with Foobar2000

Foobar2000 can be used to convert multiple music tracks into single wave files with accompanying cuesheets.

A cue sheet is simply a text file which contains information on the album (title, genre, date...) and the list of the album's tracks. Refer to this page for more details:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cue sheet (computing)

The UPLPlayer will display these single wave files with the corresponding track details and allow playing them individually (and gaplessly).

The use of single-track wav files have the following limitations:

- A single track cannot be larger than 4 Gigabytes (FAT32 limitation)
- A single track cannot have a duration of more than 9999 seconds (UPL limitation) which corresponds roughly to 2 hours and 45 minutes

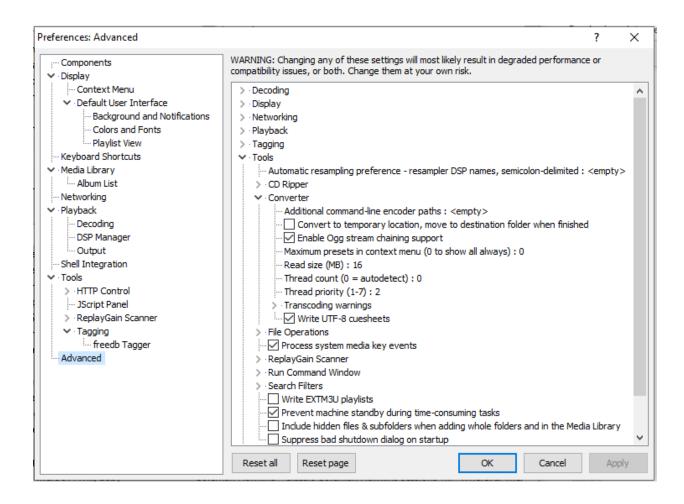
As a result, large multi-disk albums will need to be split into several "cue sheets" and wav files – this can be automated in Foobar2000 based on album tags or folder structure.

Foobar2000 can be downloaded from their web site: https://www.foobar2000.org/

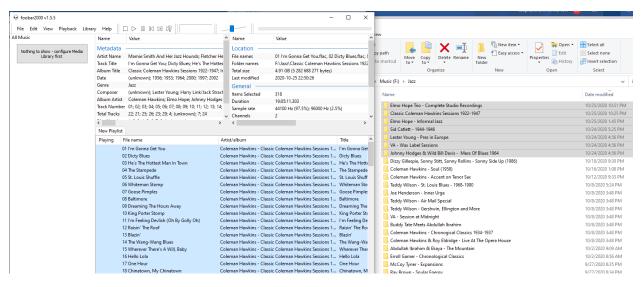
No additional components are needed to convert tracks to wave files and generate cue-sheets.

Foobar Settings

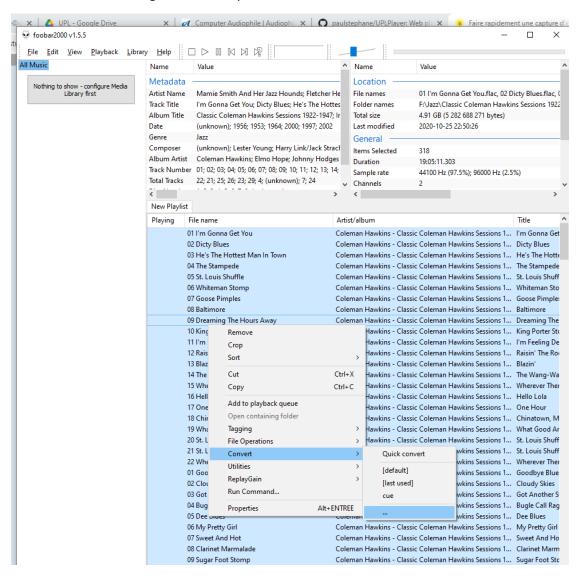
Open Foobar2000's settings with the menu File > Preferences. Select the "Advanced" settings on the left-hand side panel, then open up Tools > Converter on the right-hand side panel and check the option "Write UTF-8 cuesheets".



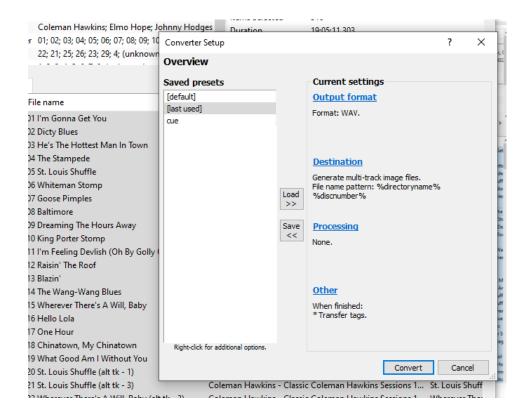
Open Foobar2000, create a new empty playlist, and drag some album folders from Windows Explorer into the new playlist:



Select all tracks, then right-click on any track and select the menu Convert > ...



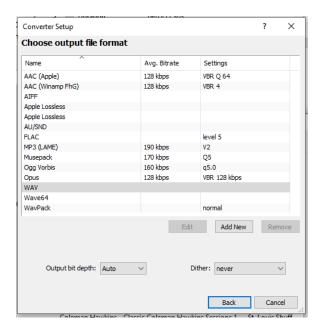
The converter window will be shown:



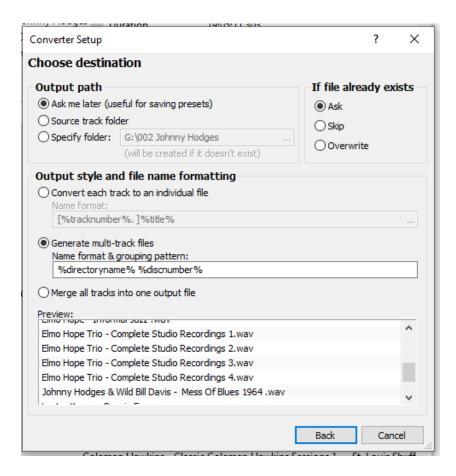
Four settings need to be defined on the right-hand side, then saved as a "preset".

1) Output format

Simply select WAV in the list, and click on the "Back" button



2) Destination



- Select "Ask me later" in the "Output Path" settings. When running the conversion, you will be prompted to select the folder where the converted files will be stored
- Select "Generate multi-track files" in the "Output style" settings. This will group multiple tracks in single-track wave files and generate cue-sheets. The "name format & grouping pattern" can be used to create different wav files according to track tags, or file and folder names.

Example:

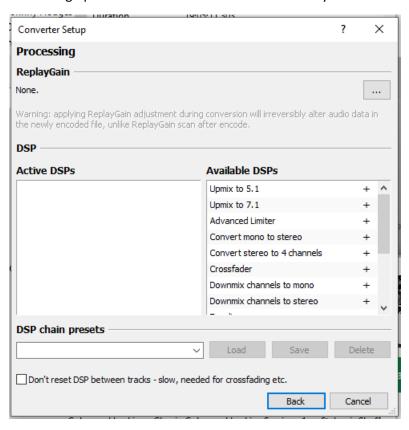
- When converting multiple albums, you can use the track tags %album artist% %album% to create one wav file per album
- You can add the tag %discnumber% or %disc% to further split albums by disc

Refer to this documentation for a full list of formatting references:

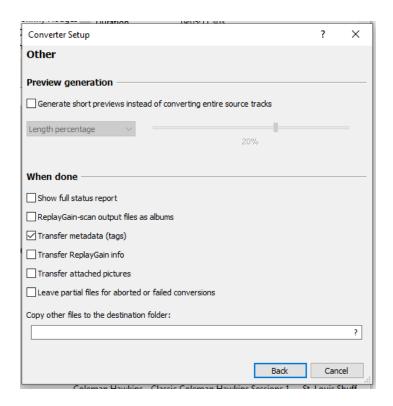
https://wiki.hydrogenaud.io/index.php?title=Foobar2000:Title_Formatting_Reference#.24select.28n.2Ca1.2C....2CaN.29

3) Processing Options

Processing options can be left blank. Use of DSPs may introduce some degradation in sound quality.



4) Other settings



Check the option "Transfer metadata (tags)" to write track tags into the cue-sheets.

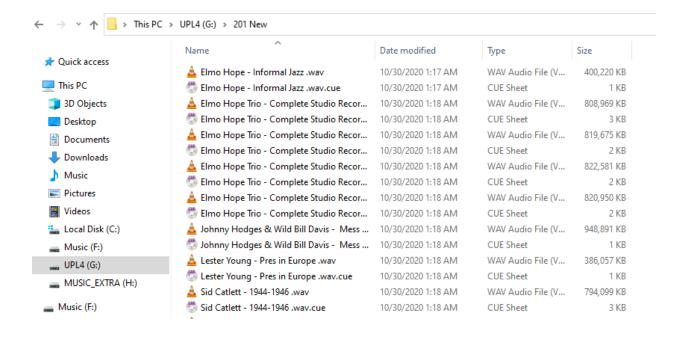
Standard tags written to the cue-sheets are:

- ALBUM and TRACK titles
- GENRE
- DATE (or YEAR)
- Album CATALOG reference (not widely used)
- Track ISRC reference (not widely used)

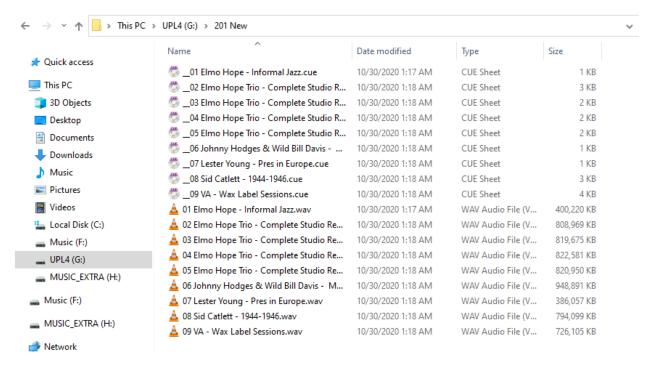
The UPLPlayer application reads all these tags but currently only the Album and Track titles and the album's Genre are displayed in the web page.

Once all settings are defined, they can be saved in a "preset", which can be used as a shortcut in the context menu of the playlist.

Wave files and Cue sheets will be created in the target folder and named according to the settings defined:



Assuming these files are now located in a folder numbered 001 to 999 on a USB drive, the **UPLScan** program will automatically rename them sequentially based on an alphabetic order:



The USB drive can be inserted in the UPL96ETL for playback!