Introduction

This document describes the user interface provided by the Control4 drivers for Linn DS series and Linn Kustom products. Installation instructions for the drivers are contained within the drivers themselves.

Installation Types

The drivers support two alternative usages of the products. A DS or Kustom output zone can either be linked directly to a Control4 room to supply its audio/video to that room (standalone room mode, or "room" for short), or it can be fed into A/V matrix switch and its output is then supplied to one or more rooms via that switch (matrix switch mode, or "matrix" for short). Control4 can manage the grouping of room mode zones via Songcast but not matrix mode zones. Note that these two usages cannot be mixed – a DS behind a matrix switch cannot also be used to directly play to a room due to grouping and audio synchronization issues. Where behaviour of the drivers differ based on the usage, this will be highlighted in the instructions.

Driver Operation

To initiate playback on a Linn device, using a Navigator, select a room to control and choose the **Listen** option. The inputs available for the room (the device's streaming services plus any other devices connected to any external inputs it has) will be displayed. Choose the desired input.

Figure 1: Sources Screen

Note that for DS or Kustom devices behind a matrix, only the root "network stream" service will be shown; selecting that will bring up a browse menu containing the available services.

Choosing an external input will bring up the appropriate Control4 user interface for that device. Choosing a local service (Tidal, Qobuz, My Playlists etc.) will bring up a browse screen appropriate to that service.
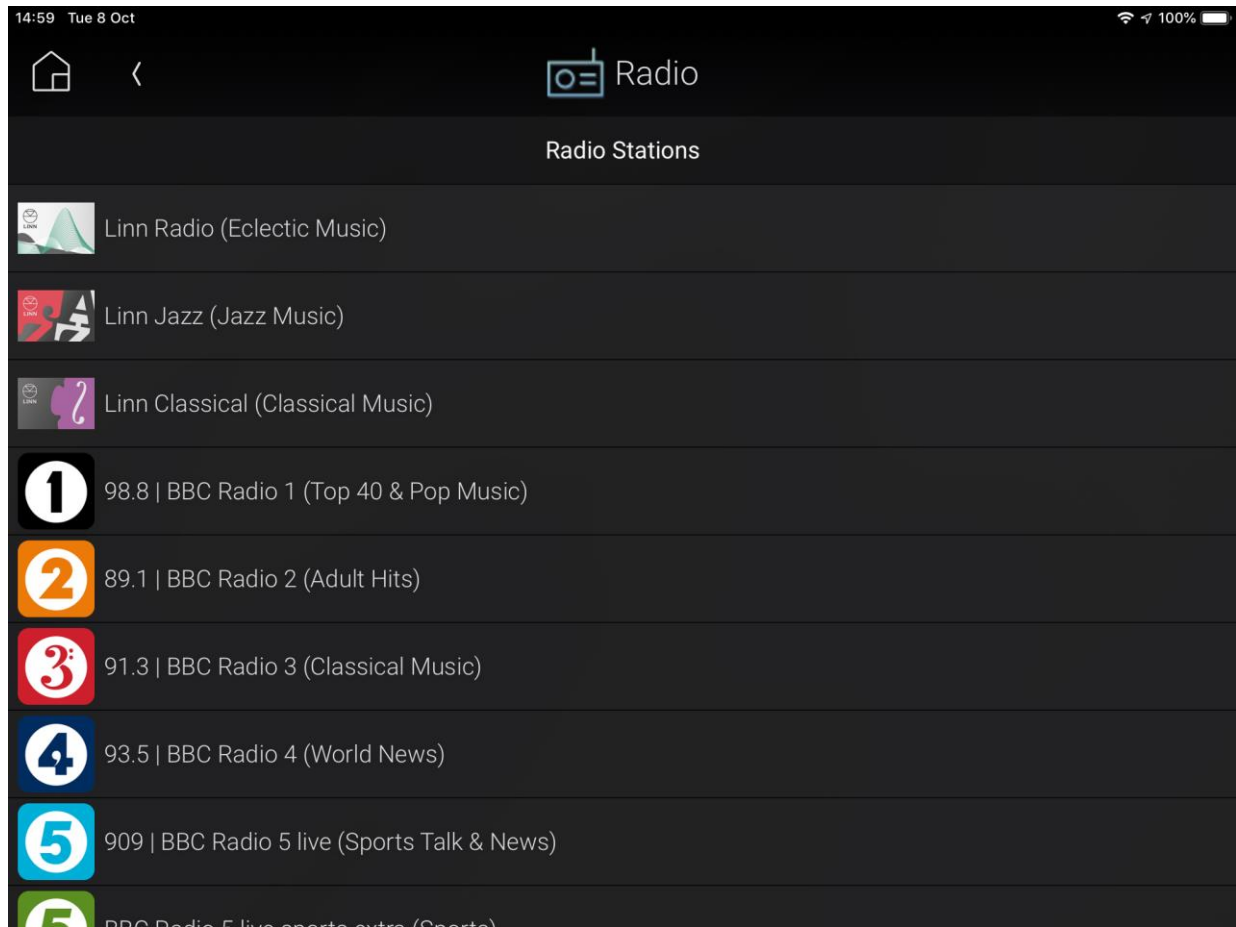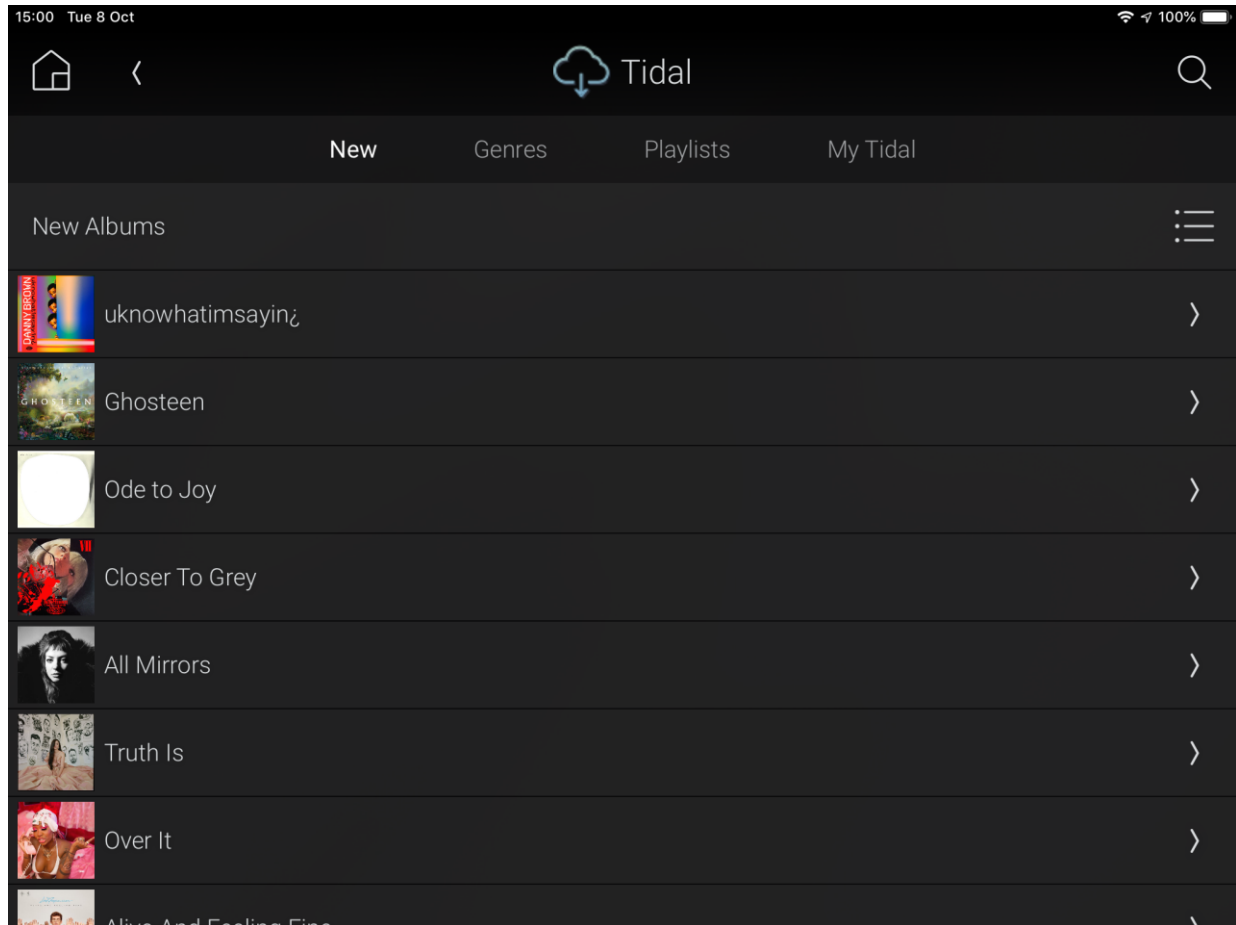

Figure 2: Browse Screen

The browse screen will show the available items for that service, which may be a flat list (e.g. radio presets or playlists) or a browseable hierarchy (e.g. TuneIn, Tidal). For more complex services, there may also be tabs available to provide direct access to features of the service (e.g. for Tidal: New, Genres, Playlists, My Tidal):

Figure 3: Browse New Albums

If you choose to search for an item, a keyboard pop-up will appear allowing you to enter a text string to search for and a set of buttons allows choice of the type of search if different sorts are available:
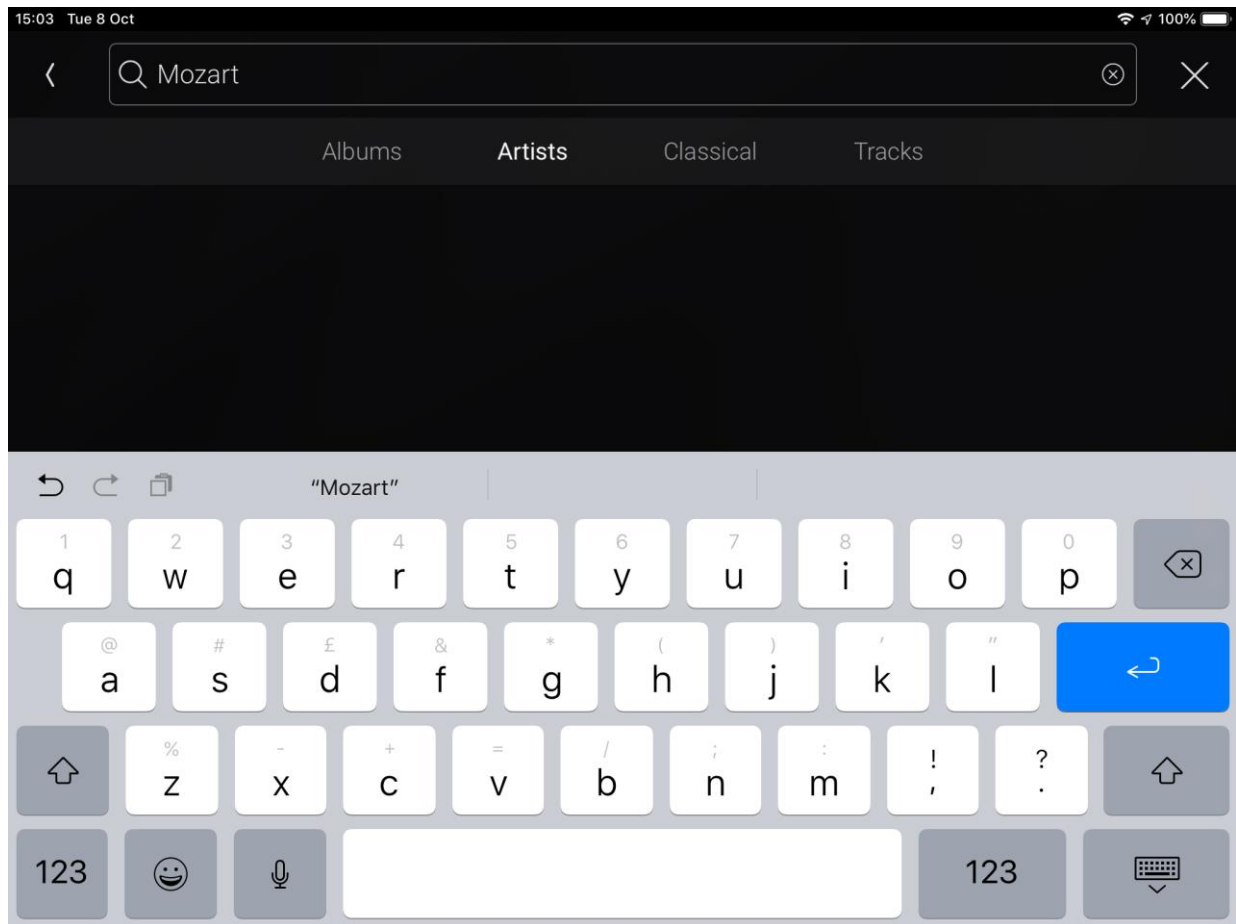

Figure 4: Search

Search results are displayed as a list that, if appropriate, can be browsed further.
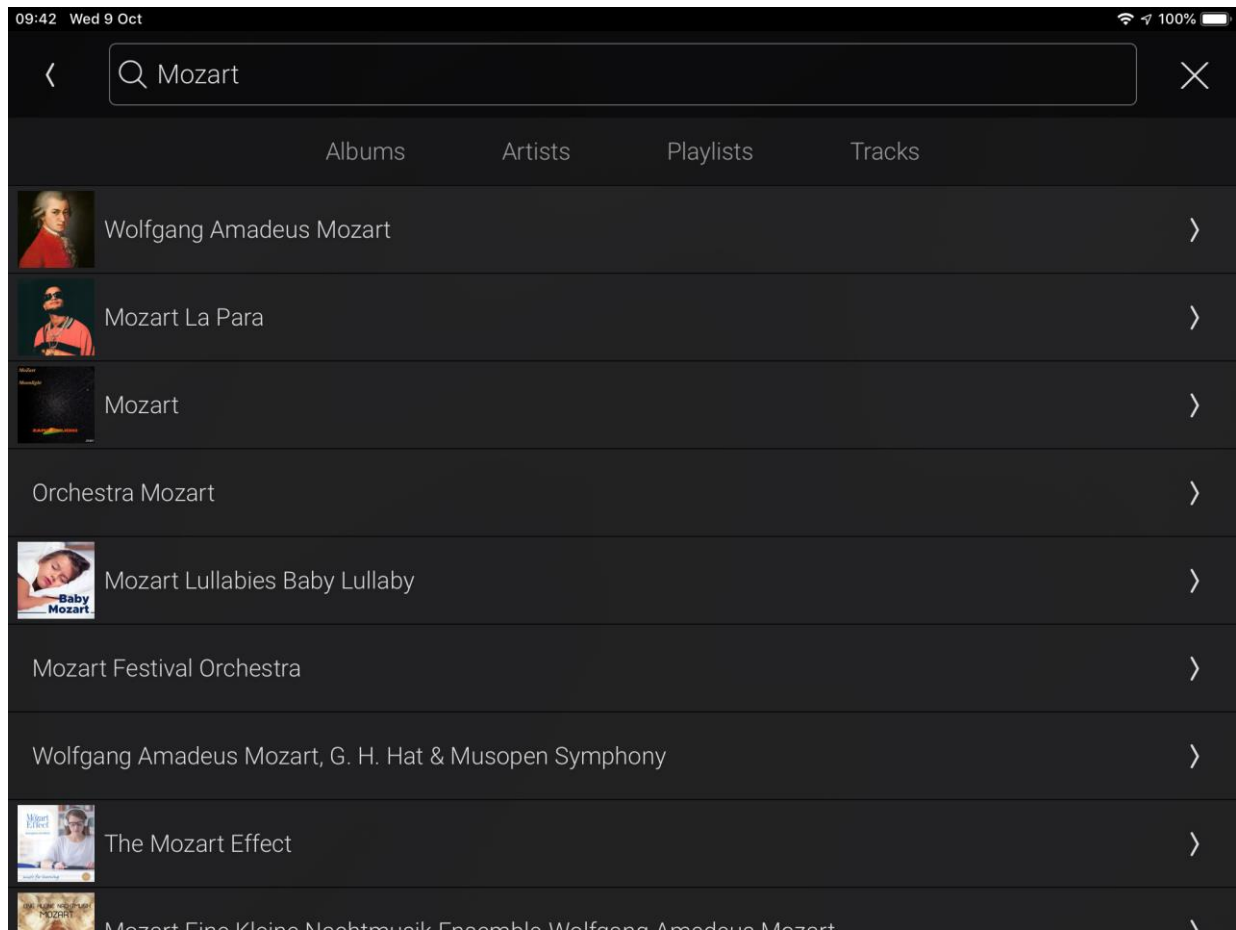

Figure 5: Search Results

Once an item is selected for playback, a pop-up will offer the available play options.
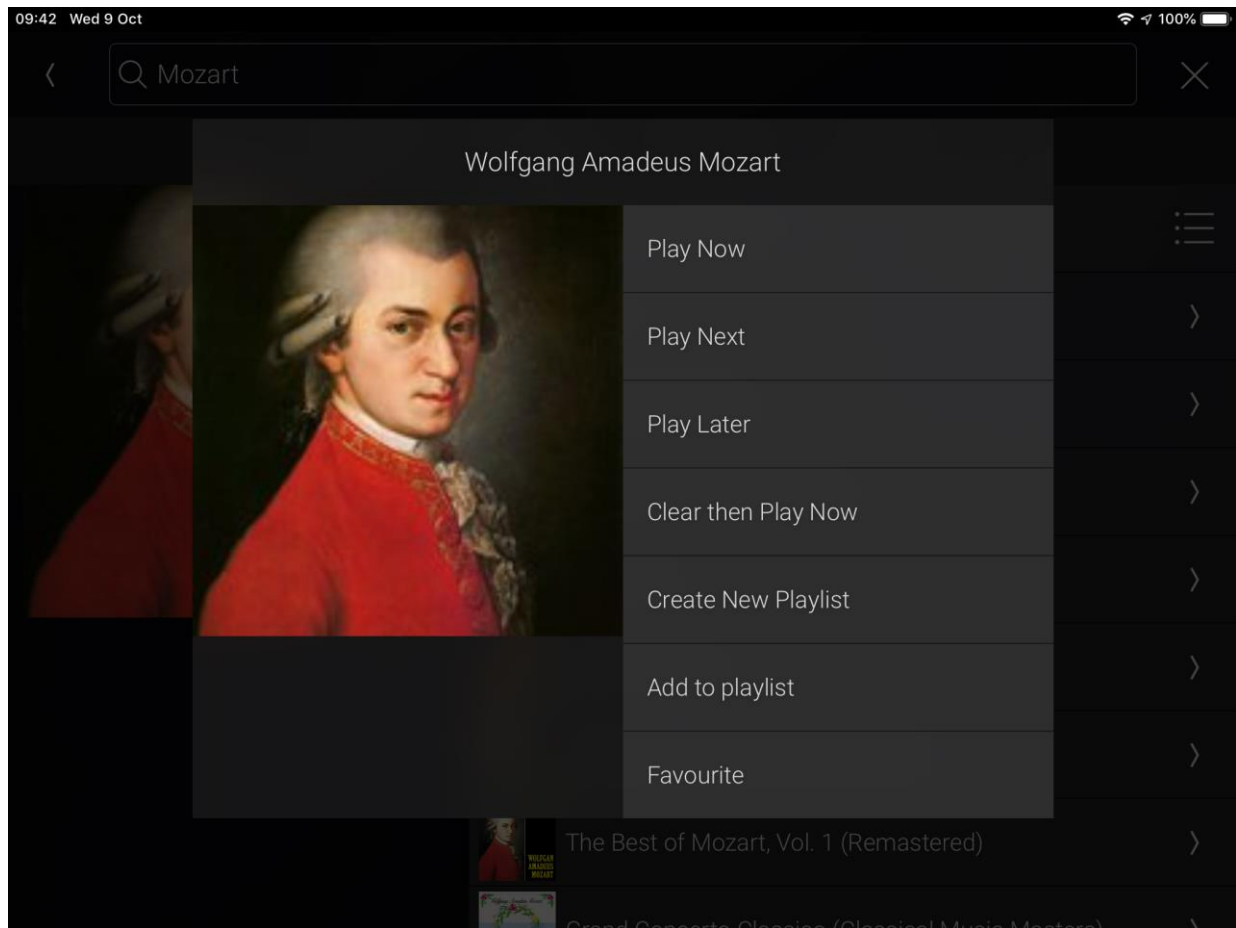

Figure 6: Play Options

The **Now Playing** screen displays information about the currently playing selection, transport and volume controls and the play queue.
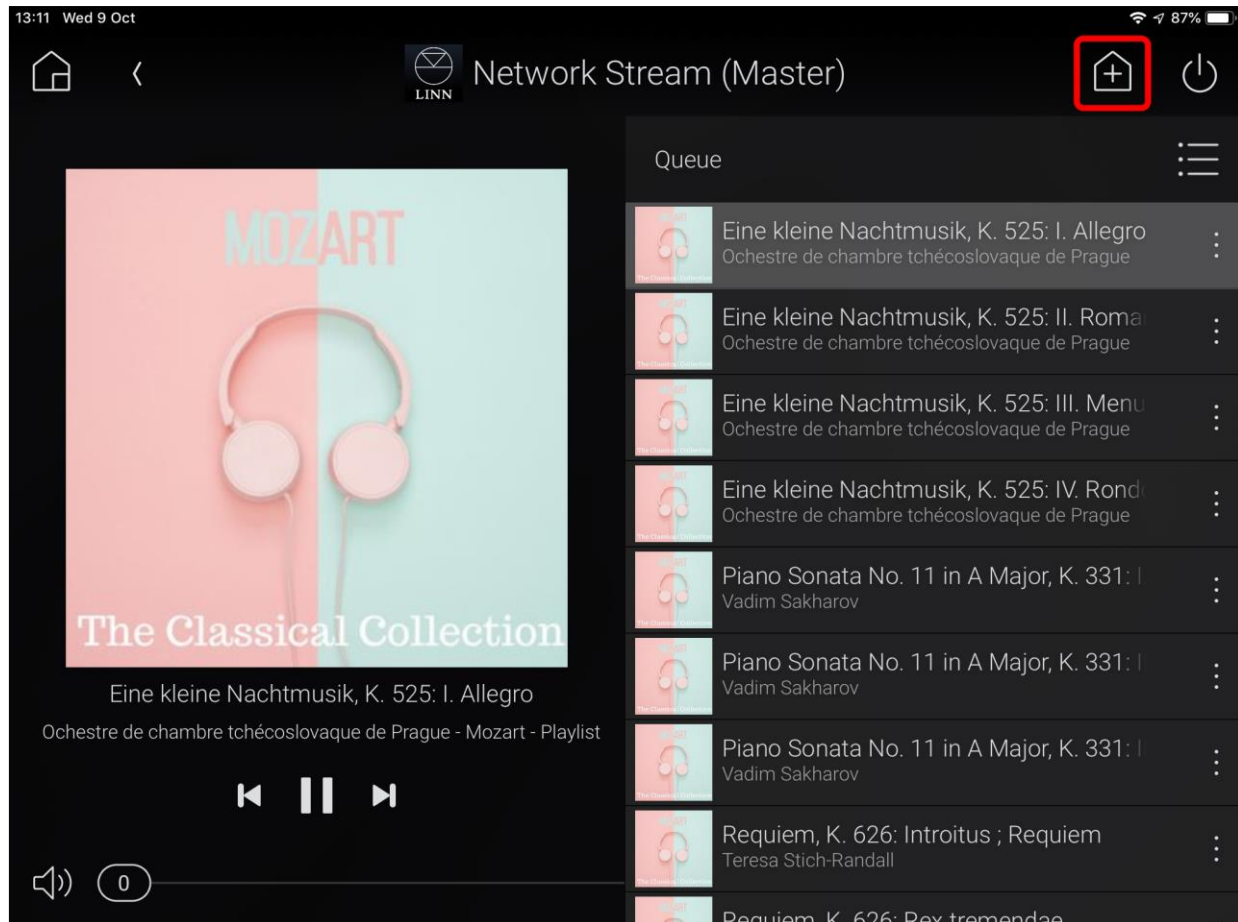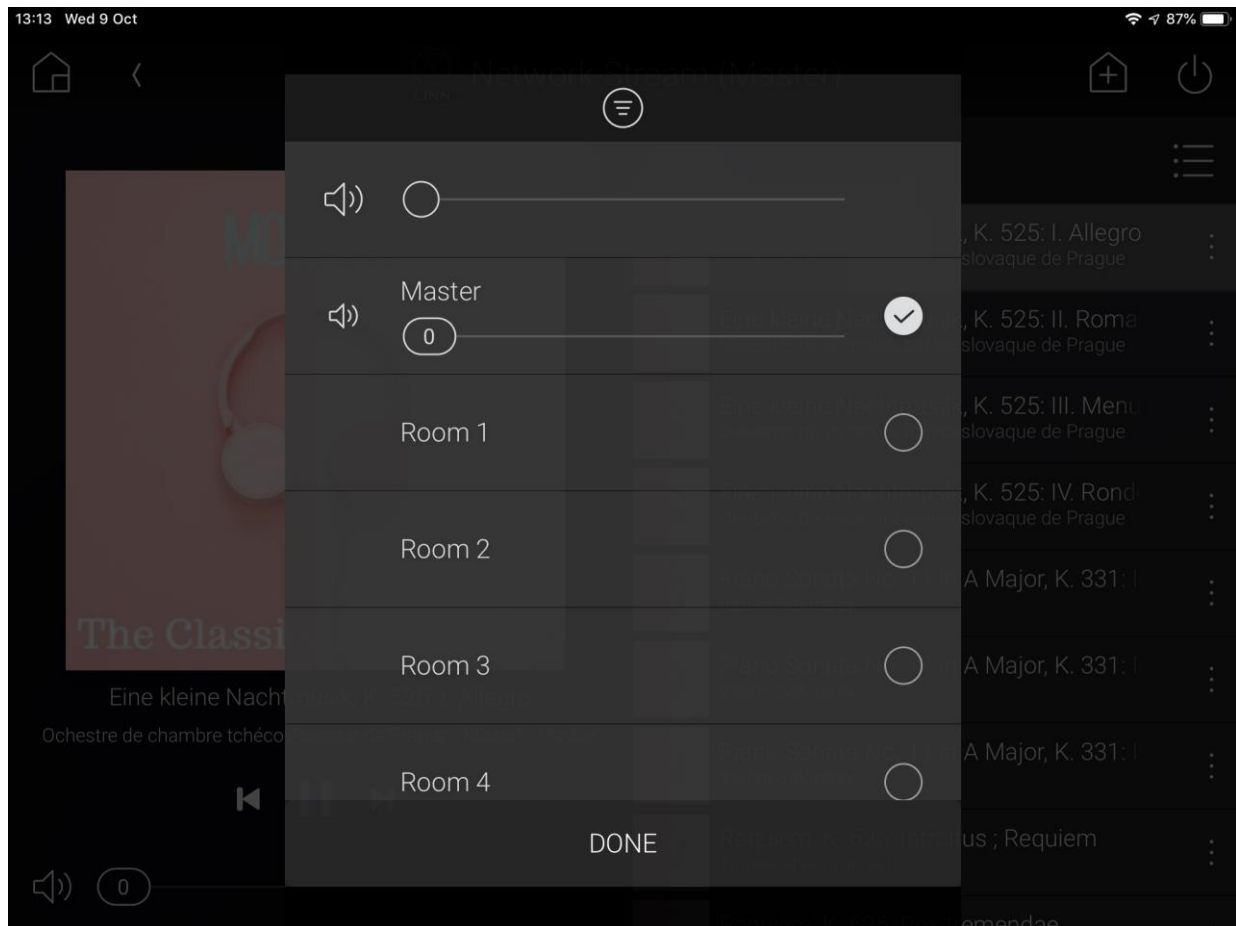

Figure 7: Now Playing Screen

Note: The play controls automatically adjust so that only the relevant controls are shown, for example Play is only shown if playback is currently paused or stopped. However if using a remote control such as the SR-260, pressing Play when already playing will reset playback to the beginning of the track.

The button highlighted in the image above, is used to access the grouping pop-up. From here other rooms can be grouped with the current one so that the same source plays in all rooms within the group.

Figure 8: Grouping Pop-Up

To group rooms with the current room, click on the selection buttons. The source playing in the current room will now begin playing in all the other selected rooms.
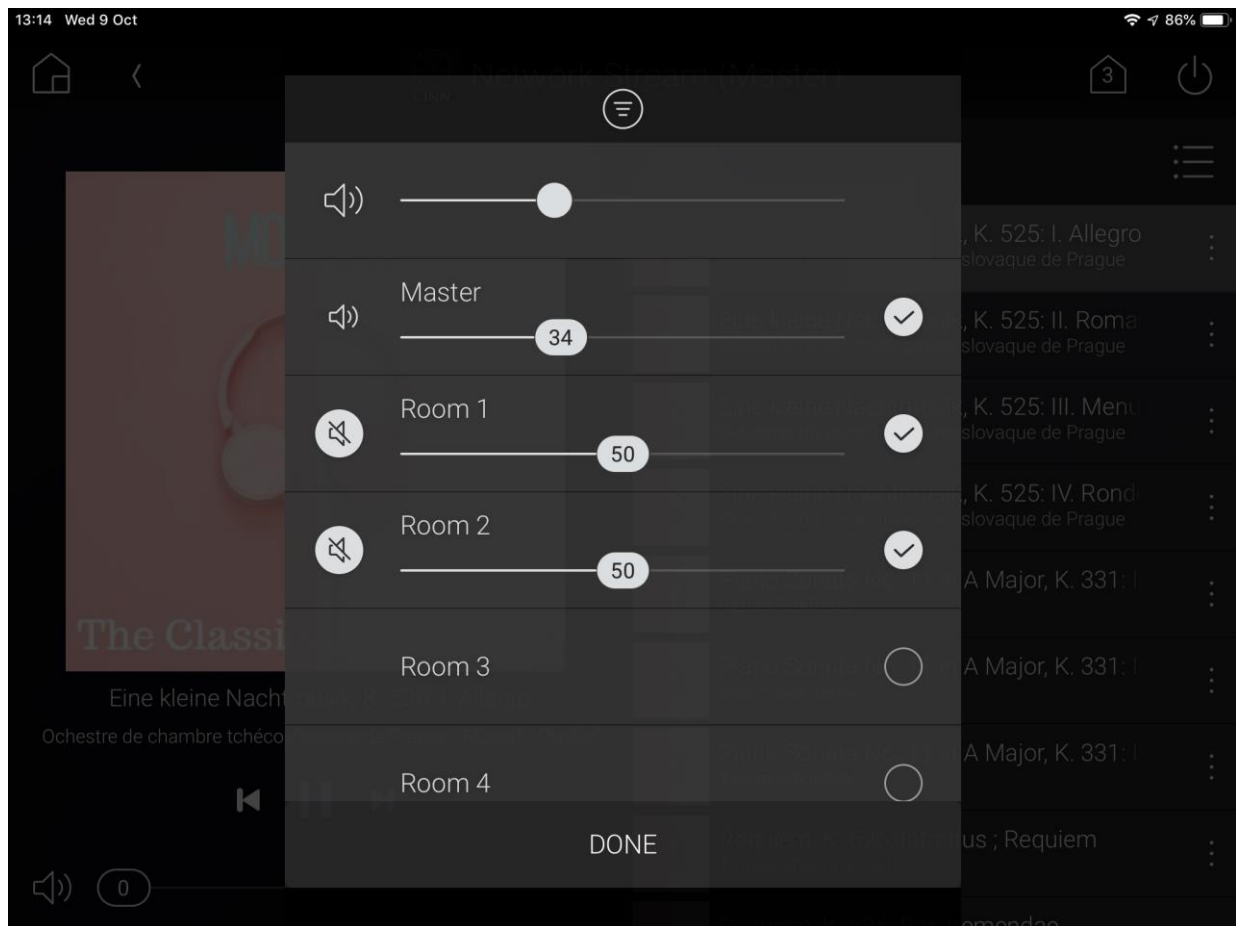
Figure 9: Grouping Pop-Up II

The pop-up now displays all rooms currently in the group, with a master volume control for the group, as well as independent volume controls for each room. The pop-up may also be used to remove rooms from a group. Note that when devices are removed from a group, they automatically power off.

Limitations

Pressing the Play button on a remote control while a track is playing will restart the playback of the track from the beginning.

If changes are made to the currently selected source, including grouping and ungrouping operations, by any means other than through Control4 (e.g. Linn Kazoo or buttons on the physical device) then these are not guaranteed to be reflected correctly in the Control4 UI. For the Control4 UI to remain consistent with the devices, all source selection and grouping must be done through Control4.

A corollary of this is that Control4 only thinks zones are powered on if a source for that zone was selected through the Control4 UI. So, even when the "all off" button on the top right of the Sessions screen is selected, "off" commands will only be sent to those zones that Control4 thinks are currently on.

When a DS player (but not a Kustom zone) bound to a Control4 room is used as the "master" to start a group, if the room is subsequently switched off individually (rather than powering off the whole group), the room will power off and leave the group correctly, however the source player will go into standby

too, stopping playback in all grouped rooms. If play is resumed by pressing play in another room, that will work however the original player's room will switch back on too but this will not be reflected in the Control4 UI. The discrepancy between the UI and reality can be corrected by re-adding the original room to the group.

The browse screens for third-party music servers have a search interface, however search will only return results if the server makes corresponding search features available to the Linn gateway through an appropriate UPnP interface.

Technical Support

For further technical support, please contact service@linn.co.uk.