

WHO IS JJ?

The unofficial OS. The anonymous name.
Twenty years of MPC history.



MORE MPC IN YOUR MPC.

JJOS is a family of alternative operating systems for the Akai MPC1000 and MPC2500.

Install different software. Get different editing, sequencing and performance possibilities from the machine you already own.

The mod is software.

24 JULY 2006

BETA 17 BUGS

An MPC-Forums thread is already collecting bugs in Beta 17: folder-name crashes, recording offsets and audio-track behavior.

Public testing was underway by this date. This is evidence of activity, not a verified launch day.

BY NOVEMBER, IT WAS IN THE REVIEWS.

On November 22, 2006, AMAZONA reviewed JJOS v4.02: a paid release following free betas, with user bug reports feeding development.

So the public JJOS story reaches back to 2006, despite later accounts dating its beginning to 2007.

JAPANESE JENIUS.

Stan Steez's community manual credits MPC-Forums member Nym with coining the nickname.

The same manual describes the developer's identity as unknown. A memorable name traveled much further than a verified biography.

A nickname from the community.

DID JJ WORK AT AKAI?

A statement attributed to HAYASHI, reposted in 2013, says his software company contracted with Akai Japan and that JJ was his assistant.

That describes a claimed contractor connection. It does not independently verify direct employment at Akai.

Reported account / unverified provenance

A SUPPORT NAME ISN'T A BIOGRAPHY.

In 2015, a forum user shared a reply signed Murai saying their question had been sent to the programmer.

That suggests separate support and programming roles in that exchange. It does not tell us who wrote every version of JJOS.

THE REVENGE STORY REMAINS UNPROVEN.

Old threads contain accusations about stolen code. The attributed HAYASHI account disputes that story and describes a payment dispute.

The sources reviewed here do not settle code ownership, employment history or motive. Repetition is not corroboration.

THE FORUM HELPED BUILD THE EXPERIENCE.

Users tested betas, compared bugs and asked for changes. Stan Steez assembled a manual, with cover design credited to Defect and proofreading to Don.

The community translated evolving software into something more people could actually learn.

YES, THERE WAS PONG.

896 KB

A March 30 forum post reproduces a developer notice: writable OS space had hit a limit, and GAME was deleted.

Users called it Pong. Some thought major development was over. The next nineteen years tell a different story.

DECEMBER 2008: OS2XL ARRIVES.

A December 23 Sequencer.de post reports availability from the previous day and preserves the change list.

- + CHORD mode + arpeggiator
- + Timing-correction strength
- + More control over editing and loops

It also lists removals and restrictions.
An upgrade could involve tradeoffs.

[12] SOURCES IN COMPANION

SAME SAMPLE. MORE POSSIBILITIES.

OS2XL documents up to 32 start/end regions in one sample for non-destructive chopping. Its INST programs map samples across pitched note ranges.

Rework the chop. Play the sample as an instrument.

Examples from OS2XL / features vary by OS

THERE ISN'T JUST ONE JJOS.

FREE

the free branch

OS1 + OS2

earlier paid families

OS2XL + OS3

different workflows

OS128XL

for the larger display

These names cover different feature sets and hardware requirements. A higher number does not mean every earlier feature survives.

IT WASN'T MAGIC.

JJOS had bugs and compromises. Akai's own earlier updates had already added major sampling functions.

The history is more interesting when we track what changed, which version changed it, and what musicians did with it.

Software development, in public.

THE MUSIC KEPT GOING.

In 2009, one owner explained why they were keeping a JJOS-equipped MPC2500 despite its age.

In 2011, Nym described making Warm Blooded Lizard on an MPC1000 with JJOS, after beta testing since mid-2006.

The software was becoming part of people's practice.

2026. STILL FIXING A SINGLE PIXEL.

May 12: OS2XL v3.87 corrects a beat line displaced by one pixel in MIDI Grid.

May 21: v3.88 changes minimum note-duration values.

Two decades after the early betas, the release notes still record refinements.

AN MPC'S LIFE DOESN'T END AT THE FACTORY.

JJOS shows how much an instrument can keep becoming through software, patient users and shared knowledge.

The missing biography is compelling. The work people made possible is the lasting story.

**More MPC stories at
custommpc.com**

RECEIPTS, NOT JUST LORE.

[03] MPC-Forums / Beta 17 / 24 Jul 2006

[04] AMAZONA / v4.02 review / 22 Nov 2006

[06] Stan Steez / JJOS manual / rev. 3.5

[07] HAYASHI account / repost / Jan 2013

[12] Sequencer.de / OS2XL / 23 Dec 2008

[20] Official bug log / updates through May 2026

Keep digging at custommpc.com. The companion includes full links and archive-access notes. Identity claims remain attributed and unverified.