

BREWOTAKU ISSUE #001 - SPRING 2024

News & Reviews

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# BrewOtaku

THE GAMING MAGAZINE FOR NEW GAMES FOR OLD SYSTEMS

## Stories

C64 FOR DUMMIES  
SCORPION ENGINE

## Interview

ERIK HOGAN (EAROK)

## Classics Review

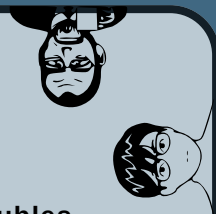
SUPER MARIO LAND (GAME BOY)


## Brew Reviews

EGBERT, BAUNSUDAUN, MIROH JR., THE PAZAAK BATTLES,  
RUNNING KNIGHT, SUPERCOOKED, CURSED CROWN,  
DEVOLUTION, CATVENTURE, PHENIX CORRUPTA, HUCK ON  
THE MISSISSIPPI, SKULL NIGHTMARE, TRAUMATARIUM II,  
SLIMELORD SIEGE, MAGE AND THE GRIMOIRE OF BEAST, ... AND MORE

# News-Corner (One of Twenty)

December 2023 - February 2024




 **Booty - The Remake**  
by salvaKantero

**Amstrad CPC 464/6128**



Screenshot: playonretro.itch.io

Jim, the cabin boy, wants to use his stay on the ship in Port Royal to realize his own plans for the future. As bold as he is, he is prepared to keep the 125 treasures distributed by the galleon camps and escape as far as possible. In addition, the cellars of the galleon from a labyrinth of doors and rooms in which it is easy to get lost or fall into the void.

 <https://playonretro.itch.io/booty-remake-amstrad-cpc>

 **Stuntman Seymour**  
by Codemasters


**Amiga OCS**




Screenshot: gamesthatwerent.com

Lost games are there to be found, aren't they? This is exactly what

happened here. While this side-game platform game is known from the C64, the Amiga version never made it, until now. Help Seymour to traverse four different film sets with various themes. Each level has multiple enemies, and if you collide with an enemy or their projectile, or fall into water, you will lose your life. The levels also contain score-giving items that you can collect. At the end of every level, you will face a giant boss who jumps around and throws bombs.

 <https://www.gamesthatwerent.com/2023/12/stuntman-seymour/>


 **Orbol Voon**  
by The Mojon Twins

**ZX Spectrum 48K**



Screenshot: mojontwins.itch.io

Help Cheril rescue inhabitants of a city who turned into zombies. Finest Mojon Twins jump and run action!

 <https://mojontwins.itch.io/orbol-voon>


 **Santa's Troubles**  
by LC-Games

**Commodore 64**



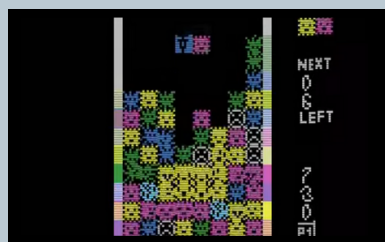
Screenshot: lowcarb.itch.io

Santa's Trouble for the Commodore is a neat Christmas game with a whopping sixteen levels, featuring different stages of difficulty. A bunch of thieves stole precious gifts, which were prepared for delivery. Help Santa get these back, while avoiding any contact with the thieves.

 <https://lowcarb.itch.io/santastroubles>


 **Kovi Kovi**  
by MarcoJ

**Atari VCS**



Screenshot: forums.atariage.com

Eliminate different strains of the Kovi virus in this puzzle game. Beware of viruses overrunning the game board.

 <https://forums.atariage.com/topic/349506-kovi-kovi-for-atari-2600/>



# C64 for Dummies



A trip down the lane into 80ies homecomputers

This wouldn't be a retro-tech-based magazine without some mind-boggling past inventions that keep everyone hooked, right? Let's take a trip down memory lane to appreciate one of the most significant inventions in history: the infamous Commodore 64. Now, if you don't already know this fantastic computer, please allow us to review every aspect of this piece of hardware. After reading this article, you can flex on your tech-enthusiast friends with your knowledge! Let's get started.



Picture: wikipedia.org / Dan Patrick

## WHAT EXACTLY IS THE C64?

What is the C64, and how is it relevant to retro gaming? In layman's terms, the C64 is a home-based computer system built on an 8-bit architecture that hit the markets of our world in August 1982, when the President of this invention's parent company (Commodore Business Machine, also known as 'CBM') Jack Tramiel gave his engineers a mere 6-week deadline to develop a 64 KB system for the 1982 CES (Consumer Electronics Show). Two days later, a basic prototype with the code name 'VIC-30' was presented to the president. Before long, the C64 became the star of the show at CES, equipped with the most potent hardware of the time and the only 64 KB system at the showcase, alongside being competitively priced at just \$595 (according to today's standards, around \$1800) while its competitors such as the Apple II and IBM PC were priced heavily despite having inferior specifications.

## THE REVOLUTIONARY STEPPING STONE

The C64 was the revolutionary stepping stone into modern computing and arguably the most software-friendly platform at the time, which is apparent considering it beat the Guinness World Record of being the most sold computer of all time. Moreover, the early 1980s was when freeware and shareware were pioneered. They were gaining attention from tech freaks worldwide tired of draining their pockets for new software. The C64 allowed users to easily program software according to their liking. Unlike most hardware at the time, it booted up to a primary Operating System and waited to get instructions. And, if writing their program was a daunting task for someone, they had the choice to insert a floppy disk or another cartridge to just 'plug and play.' In other words, the software is loaded off of the tape, floppy disk or the cartridge for the user to start working as they please. This eventually became the concept that numerous plug-and-play devices followed along in the future, including the infamous Nintendo consoles, PlayStations, and Xboxes.

## A DIVE INTO THE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

The brains of a machine dictate its ability to compute and impress audiences, and the same was the case with C64. The C64's powering heart was the ultimate 6510 Central Processor, which, for the time, was one of the most powerful chips for home-based computer systems. This microchip, successfully engineered by MOS Technologies, rocked a base frequency of 9875 MHz, with the ability to



# Phenix Corrupta (2023/2024) 🎁

a FREEWARE game by Casper Croes for the MSX2



Screenshot: caspercroes.itch.io/phenix-corrupta

Humans falling in the depth of hell with just one goal: surviving among demons, is a popular choice of story for many creators out there. How well they pull it off is well, a different story. Phenix Corrupta is indeed one of those which managed to pull it off surprisingly well.

## "WHERE THE F\* AM I?!"

Diving into the mastermind behind this creation's world, we see a wonderful couple called Casper Croes who develop games for fun. An interesting fact about their releases is that all of their games, whether it be Alisa or Phenix Corrupta, they're based off of female protagonists. Now, we don't know for sure if they want to repeat this pattern of producing female-oriented games. But it was nice to see a different approach being taken towards retro games, which are stereotypically associated with a mostly male-dominant audience.

You are "Caroline Phenix" on Earth, but "Phenix Corrupta" in hell. The reason you're thrown down to the depths of this fiery dungeon to live with demonic slaves? We really do not know!



However, what we do know is that Caroline must escape hell, fighting all the demonic slaves she finds, even if it means turning into one herself! With more than one hundred screens, help Caroline fight all enemies to secure her way out. Be on the lookout for any exclusive unlockables!



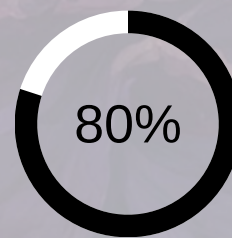
Screenshot: caspercroes.itch.io/phenix-corrupta

The graphics are visually appealing and small details, such as different positions for the character like ducking, shows us a lot about the work that was put in!

## CONCLUSION

Amazing storyline, amazing graphics, and passable audio. This is a recommendation for sure! If you want to see the three endings, it will take you a bit!

## BREWScore



## LINK



<https://www.msxdev.org/2023/10/16/msxdev23-27-phenix-corrupta/>

# Kommando Urbex [2024]

a FREEWARE game by Altanerus Dog for the Amstrad CPC



Screenshot: altanerus-dog.itch.io

Kommando Urbex are Laura, Albert, and Pau. Their great passion is visiting abandoned places. One day they have received news about strange events happening in an old agricultural complex from the 17th century.

## "WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?"

Added to this is the disappearance of two other Urbexers at 'The Dehesa'. Kommando Urbex decided to head out to that soulless place, exploring the wilderness of that 17th century complex, all on their own, but the areal has been occupied by gang members and cartels. In this entire menace, Albert and Pau have been captured and are nowhere to be seen.

It is up to Laura, the only female in the group, to explore the circumstances. Things get interesting since Albert and Pau, surprisingly, made certain arrangements that Laura has to make use of in order to find them. It seems they were able to leave behind a couple of hints, which is great. In the action that caught them, Albert did leave behind food boxes at certain points, that Laura must make use of in order to survive. Similarly, Pau has established hideouts across the map.

In case the cartel spots Laura, she is determined to hide somewhere until they go away. Using the map Pau provided, you must explore all the places to find your fellow adventurers. Remember to dodge any horseflies you come across, as they are not a pleasant experience.



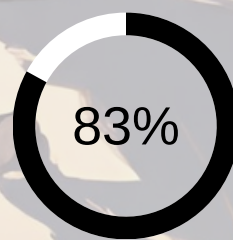
Screenshot: altanerus-dog.itch.io

Talk to the vital characters, responsible for certain acts. Get enough clues to succeed your mission. The game's story lasts for three days, in one stretch, meaning Laura will have to manage two nights as well!

## CONCLUSION

An astonishing explorer game that runs primarily on clues and hints. If you're someone who enjoys true old-fashioned adventures, and want to unleash your inner Sherlock, this one is for you!

BREWScore



LINK



<https://altanerus-dog.itch.io/kommando-urbex-1>