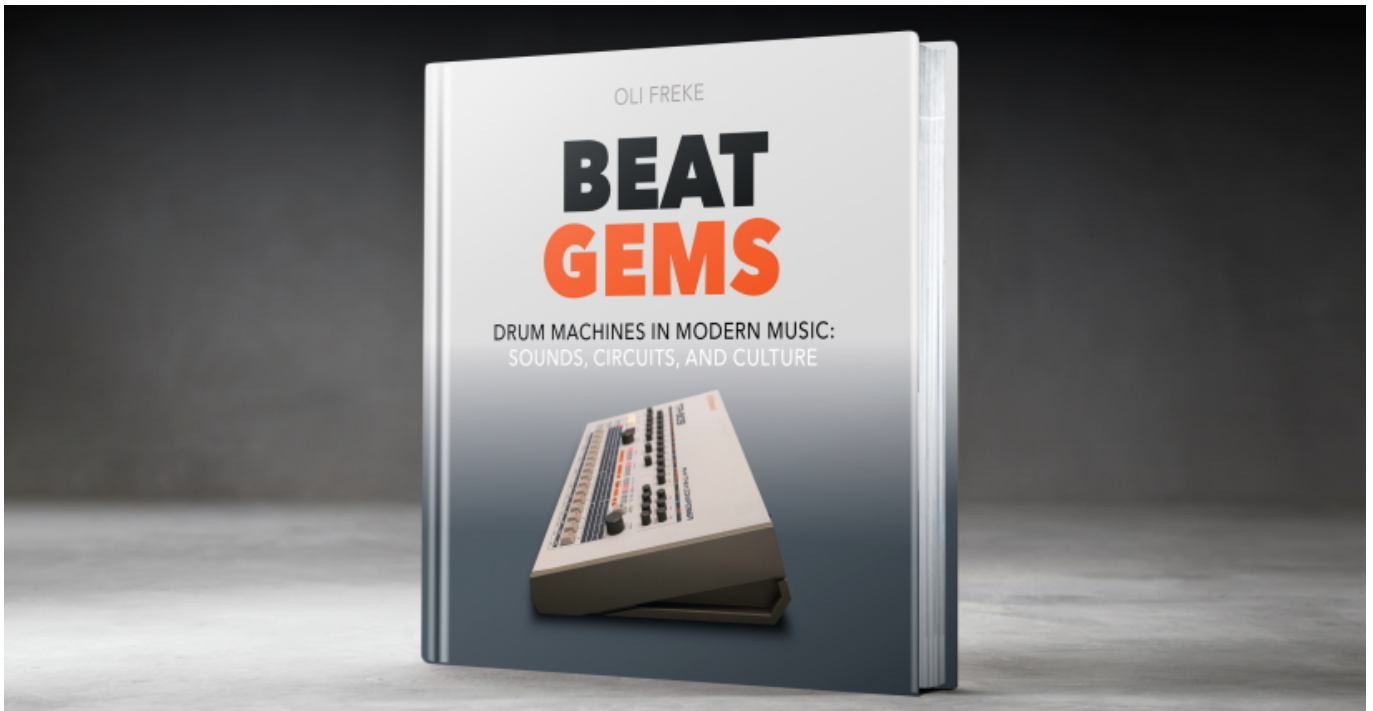


# Bjooks BEAT GEMS



Bjooks has announced BEAT GEMS, an upcoming book by Oli Freke that offers an in-depth exploration of the sounds, circuits, and culture of drum machines and their profound influence on modern music. The book will officially launch on Kickstarter during Superbooth, inviting the global music community to support and engage with the project from its debut.

BEAT GEMS is both a visual and narrative journey into the evolution of electronic rhythm. Spanning more than 60 iconic and lesser-known machines, the book examines the design, technology, and cultural context of the drum machines that helped shape genres ranging from early electronic pop to hip-hop, house, and techno. At its core, BEAT GEMS tells a broader story that connects the development of drum machines to humanity's enduring relationship with rhythm. From early preset rhythm boxes to programmable studio tools, these instruments not only mirrored technological progress but also actively redefined how music is created and experienced.

Each featured machine is presented through detailed photography and thoughtful commentary, highlighting its origins, interface design, and musical significance. The book includes legendary models such as the Roland TR-808, Linn LM-1, Oberheim DMX, and Akai MPC60, alongside overlooked and unconventional devices that reveal unexpected innovations and creative approaches.

Author Oli Freke brings decades of experience as a musician, illustrator, and historian of electronic instruments to the project. Known for his Synth Evolution series and contributions to publications such as Sound On Sound, Freke combines

technical insight with accessible storytelling, making BEAT GEMS engaging for seasoned enthusiasts and newcomers alike.

With its Kickstarter launch timed to coincide with Superbooth in Berlin, one of the world's leading gatherings for electronic music and instrument design, BEAT GEMS connects directly with the global community that continues to shape and celebrate electronic sound culture today.

Key Highlights of BEAT GEMS:

- Exploration of over 60 vintage drum machines, from iconic classics to rare discoveries
- High-resolution photography showcasing design, interface, and craftsmanship
- In-depth storytelling on the evolution of electronic rhythm and music technology
- Cultural context linking drum machines to genre creation and artistic innovation
- Accessible insights for both dedicated enthusiasts and curious newcomers

The Kickstarter campaign will offer early bird tiers, exclusive offers, and special rewards for backers, reinforcing Bjooks' commitment to creating beautifully crafted, community-driven publications that document the history and future of music technology. For more information and to follow the launch, visit Bjooks' official channels and sign up to get notified before the Kickstarter campaign goes live on the website below.

[www.bjooks.com](http://www.bjooks.com)