

DJ CARL COX C.C.

Cox was born in Manchester in 1962; parents are from Barbados (they later moved back, after he grew up). Cox began DJ-ing family get-togethers at the age of eight, selecting records from his parents' stack of soul 45s. He was buying his own records soon after, and owned his first pair of turntables at the age of 15. The rest of his teens were spent making spare money at any event he could. Cox studied electrical engineering in college, he quit after six months and began working various jobs until he could become a full-time DJ.

Cox had followed the musical trends from disco to rare-groove on to hip-hop during the late '70s and early '80s, but the introduction of house into Britain during the middle part of the decade convinced him that he had found his niche. After moving to Brighton in 1986, his reputation bloomed during the acid house explosion of 1988-89; Cox played the opening night at Shoom, one of the defining club nights of Britain's house revolution (as well as other legendary hot-spots like Land of Oz and Spectrum). In front of 15,000 at the 1989 open-air event Sunrise, he unveiled his use of three decks on the mix; that signature technique built him into one of the top DJs of the late '80s and early '90s. He is still mixing and his is the best DJ in the universe.