

# First Program to Run on a Computer



David Wei  
[david.wei@stonybrook.edu](mailto:david.wei@stonybrook.edu)

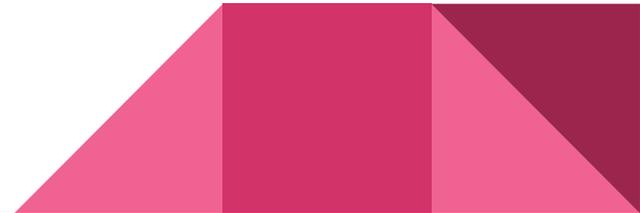
Christian Munguia  
[christian.munguia@stonybrook.edu](mailto:christian.munguia@stonybrook.edu)

Anthony Tellier  
[anthony.tellier@stonybrook.edu](mailto:anthony.tellier@stonybrook.edu)

Ahmed Hassan Hafeez  
[ahmedhassan.hafeez@stonybrook.edu](mailto:ahmedhassan.hafeez@stonybrook.edu)

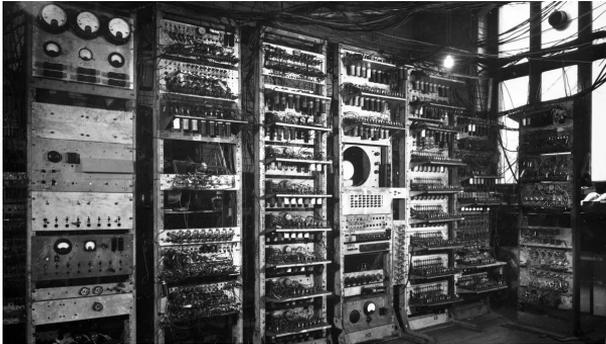
# Historical Context

Researchers Frederic Williams, Tom Kilburn, and Geoff Tootill from the University of Manchester created the Small-Scale Experimental Machine (SSEM), commonly referred to as the Manchester "Baby." This device was designed to trial a novel memory technology devised by Williams and Kilburn, later known as the Williams Tube. On June 21st, 1948, the Baby successfully executed its inaugural program, which Kilburn had crafted with seventeen instructions. This marked the first occasion that a program ran on a digital, electronic, stored-program computer.



# What is the Manchester Baby?

The Manchester Baby was the actual computer, formally known as the Small-Scale Experimental Machine. It was developed at the University of Manchester and is notable for being one of the earliest computers to successfully demonstrate the stored-program concept. This meant that both the data and the program were stored in the machine's memory.



# What is the Williams Tube

It was the technology used for the memory system in the Manchester Baby. Officially known as the Williams-Kilburn Tube after its inventors, Frederic Williams and Tom Kilburn, it was the first practical implementation of random access electronic memory. The tube was capable of storing data as dots on the screen of a cathode ray tube and was a pioneering technology that allowed for the retrieval of data at high speeds.





# Production Process of Manchester Baby

Before



After

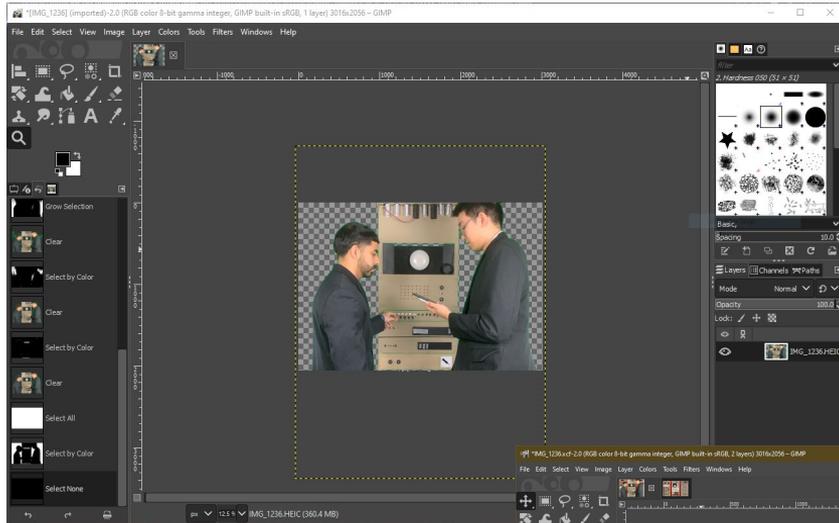


# Production Process of Reenactment

Getting the right angles, poses, and lighting



# Editing



# Original vs Reenactment



# References

Manchester Baby

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/bringing-up-baby-how-1948-14819127>

<https://blog.scienceandindustrymuseum.org.uk/why-emulate-baby/>

Williams Tube

<https://www.computerhistory.org/collections/catalog/102621797>

First Program

<https://curation.cs.manchester.ac.uk/digital60/www.digital60.org/birth/program/firstprog.html>

