Clara Kimbell Young
(September 6, 1890 – October 15, 1960)

Born Clarisa Kimball born in Chicago, Illinois, Young’s parents, Edward M. Kimball and Pauline Maddern, were traveling stock actors. She made her stage debut at the age of three, and throughout her early childhood travelled with her parents and acted with their theater company. After attending St. Francis...
Xavier's Academy in Chicago, she resumed her stage career in a stock company, traveling extensively through the United States and playing various small town theaters.

Early in her career, she met and married a fellow stock company, and known Broadway, actor named James Young. His previous wife had been the songwriter/lyricist Rida Johnson Young. After sending a photograph to Vitagraph Studios, Clara Kimball Young, as she was then known, and her husband were both offered yearly contracts in 1912.

In the new medium of motion pictures, and without much screen competition, Young's star at Vitagraph rose quickly. Young was predominantly cast in one and two reel roles as the virtuous heroine. By 1913, she had become one of the most popular leading ladies at Vitagraph and placed at number seventeen in a public popularity poll. Unfortunately, many of Young's films from her early period with Vitagraph are now lost.

In 1914, Vitagraph released the drama *My Official Wife* which starred Young as a Russian revolutionary and was directed by her husband James Young and co-starred the popular leading man Earle Williams. The film, which is now lost, was an enormous
success and launched Young and Earle Williams into first place in the popularity polls and she was immediately signed to a contract with legendary pioneering Hollywood mogul Lewis J. Selznick.

After a string of successful roles, Young was firmly established as one of the chief attractions of World Film Corporation and her husband James was now a much sought after director. By 1915, her popularity was rivaling that of other early luminary actresses of the era: Mary Pickford, Dorothy and Lillian Gish, Pearl White, Edna Purviance, and Mabel Normand.

Young became involved in a much publicized affair with Selznick, culminating in a 1916 divorce suit brought about by James Young, charging her with alienation of affection. James Young finally obtained a final decree on April 8, 1919 on grounds of desertion.

Selznick quickly formed the Clara Kimball Young Film Corporation, installing himself as president, and formed Selznick Productions to distribute her films and those of some other independent producers. After only four films with Selznick however, the personal and business relationship began to sour. Young struggled to extricate herself from all business arrangements with Selznick, accusing him of defrauding her of her profits through a
series of dummy corporations and by electing himself president of her company while not permitting her any input in her business affairs.

In 1917, Young became involved in an affair with Harry Garson, with whom she then teamed up with in a business venture. Garson had little experience in the motion picture business, and as a result Young's career began to sputter. Although she remained a popular actress into the early 1920s, Young suffered at the inexperience and alleged mismanagement and apathy of Garson.
Young also began suffering a series of press attacks for her business dealings and personal relationship with Garson. By 1925, her stardom began to fade and she made her last silent film *Lying Wives*. She spent the remainder of the 1920s performing in vaudeville, and, in 1928, quietly married Dr. Arthur Fauman.

The advent of sound briefly revived her career, and she appeared in several featured talkie roles for RKO Radio Pictures and Tiffany Studios with only modest success. Young appeared only in bit parts, including a Three Stooges short and roles as an extra in lower budget pictures. One of her bigger roles at this time was in the murder mystery *The Rogues Tavern* (1936), where she plays a sweet but fussy motherly woman who is hiding a very big secret.

She quietly retired from her acting career in 1941. Clara Kimball Young died of a stroke at the Motion Picture House on October 15, 1960 in Woodland Hills, California and was interred at the Grand View Memorial Park Cemetery in Glendale, California.
For her contribution to the motion picture industry, Clara Kimball Young was given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame at 6513 Hollywood Blvd., in Hollywood, California.

**Filmography**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title (Role)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>A Midsummer Night's Dream (short) (Penelope)</td>
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<td>1909</td>
<td>Washington Under the American Flag (short) (unknown)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>The Last of the Saxons (short) (unknown)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>Ransomed; or, A Prisoner of War (short) (unknown)</td>
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<td>1910</td>
<td>The Sepoy's Wife (short) (The Sepoy's Wife)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>Uncle Tom's Cabin (short) (unknown)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td>Richelieu; or: The Conspiracy (short) (unknown)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>Lady Godiva (short) (unknown)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>The Eavesdropper (short) (Alice)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>In the Flat Above (short) (Priscilla Putnam, a Music Teacher)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>Lord Browning and Cinderella (short) (Cinderella)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Poet and Peasant (short) (Toinette Savard, the Daughter)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>A Mistake in Spelling (short) (Mabel Moore, Fred's Fiancée)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>Mrs. Lirriper's Lodgers (short) (Mrs. Edson)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>The Irony of Fate (short) (unknown)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>A Vitagraph Romance (short) (Caroline, the Senator's Daughter)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>Popular Betty (short) (Betty Wilson)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>Wanted, a Sister (short) (The Girl)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>Rock of Ages (short) (unknown)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>A Lively Affair (short) (The Maid)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>The Troublesome Step-Daughters (short) (An Assistant in the Toy Shop)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>Lincoln's Gettysburg Address (short) (unknown)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>When Roses Wither (short) (Howard's Wife)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>Lulu's Doctor (short) (Aunt Madge Marion)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>Half a Hero (Mabel Kemp)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>Mockery (short) (Princess Dolorosa)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>The Picture Idol (short) (Beth Ward, A Passionate Fan of Howard Hanson)</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>Professor Optimo (short) (Clara)</td>
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1912 - Dr. LaFleur's Theory (short) (The Criminal's Moll)
1912 - The Old Kent Road (short) (Sue Simmonds, Their Daughter)
1912 - The Pipe (short) (Dingley's Wife)
1912 - The Jocular Winds of Fate (short) (Alice De Voe)
1912 - The Haunted Rocker (short) (Madge Boggs, the Daughter)
1912 - Cardinal Wolsey (short) (Anne Boleyn)
1913 - The Money Kings (short) (unknown)
1913 - Up in a Balloon (short) (unknown)
1913 - Love's Sunset (short) (Nita Travers)
1913 - Beauty Unadorned (short) (Helenh Preston)
1913 - A Lesson in Jealousy (short) (The Wife)
1913 - Betty in the Lions' Den (short) (Betty)
1913 - Fellow Voyagers (short) (unknown)
1913 - Jerry's Mother-in-Law (short) (Jerry's Wife)
1913 - On Their Wedding Eve (short) (Edna)
1913 - The Pirates (short) (Helen Merwin)
1913 - The Test (short) (Eleanor Anstruther)
1913 - Extremities (short) (unknown)
1913 - John Tobin's Sweetheart (short) (Cameo Appearance)
1913 - The Hindoo Charm (short) (unknown)
1913 - Cupid Versus Women's Rights (short)
1913 - When Women Go on the Warpath; or, Why Jonesville Went Dry (short) (Cameo Appearance)
1913 - The Lonely Princess (short) (The Princess, Prince Raffaello's Daughter)
1913 - A Maid of Mandalay (short) (Ma May)
1913 - A Faithful Servant (short) (Nina, Count Gullio's Sweetheart)
1913 - The Taming of Betty (short) (Betty)
1913 - The Spirit of the Orient (short) (unknown)
1913 - Jack's Chrysanthemum (short) (Kichimatsu, a Japanese Maiden)
1913 - Delayed Proposals (short) (Marion Van Sicklen)
1913 - The White Slave; or, The Octoroon (short) (Zoe, the Octoroon)
1913 - The Wrath of Osaka (short) (Miro)
1913 - The Mystery of the Stolen Jewels (short) (First Thief)
1913 - Mr. Mintern's Misadventures (short) (Muriel Leach)
1913 - The Mystery of the Stolen Child (short) (The Nurse)
1913 - Getting Up a Practice (short) (Emily Irving, Dr. Lyons' Sweetheart)
1913 - The Way Out (short) (Emma Bindley, a Spinster)
1913 - Put Yourself in Their Place (short) (Mr. Kent's Daughter)
1913 - The Old Guard (short) (Melanie)
1913 - Beau Brummel (short) (Helen Ballarat)
1913 - When Mary Grew Up (short) (Mary)
1913 - The Volunteer Strike Breakers (short) (Harris' Fiancée)
1913 - What a Change of Clothes Did (short) (John Mason's Fiancée)
1913 - The Interrupted Honeymoon (short) (Mrs. Adele Young, the Wife)
1913 - The Little Minister (short) (Lady Babbie)
1913 - Love Hath Wrought a Miracle (short) (Rose)
1913 - United in Danger (short) (unknown)
1914 - Lola (Lola Barnhelun)
1914 - The Fates and Flora Fourflush (Flora Fourflush)
1914 - Taken by Storm (short) (The Wife)
1914 - David Garrick (short) (Ada)
1914 - My Official Wife (Helene Marie)
1914 - Happy-Go-Lucky (short) (Happy-Go-Lucky)
1914 - The Violin of M'sieur (short) (Yvonne, Gerome's Daughter)
1914 - The Awakening of Barbara Dare (short) (Dorothy)
1914 - The Silver Snuff Box (short) (unknown)
1914 - Her Husband (short) (Mrs. Tom Harcourt)
1914 - The Portrait (short) (unknown; unconfirmed)
1914 - Some Steamer Scooping (short)
1914 - Goodness Gracious (short) (Gwendoline)
1914 - The Perplexed Bridegroom (short) (The Bride)
1915 - Camille (Camille)
1915 - The Heart of the Blue Ridge (Plutina)
1915 - Trilby (Trilby O'Ferral)
1915 - Marrying Money (Mildred Niles)
1915 - Hearts in Exile (Hope Ivanovna)
1915 - The Deep Purple (Doris Moore)
1916 - The Rise of Susan (Susan)
1916 - The Common Law (Valerie West; producer)
1916 - The Foolish Virgin (Mary Adams)
1916 - The Dark Silence (Mildred White)
1916 - The Feast of Life (Aurora Fernandez)
1916 - The Yellow Passport (Sonia Sokoloff)
1916 - A Race for Life (short) (unknown)
1917 - Shirley Kaye (Shirley Kaye; producer)
1917 - Magda (Magda)
1917 - The Easiest Way (Laura Murdock; producer)
1918 - The Price She Paid (Mildred Gower; producer)
1918 - The Road Through the Dark (Gabrielle Jardee; producer)
1918 - The Savage Woman (Renee Benoit; producer)
1918 - The Claw (Mary Saurin; producer)
1918 - The Reason Why (Zara Zenova; producer)
1918 - The House of Glass (Margaret Case)
1918 - The Marionettes (Fernade de Monclars; producer)
1919 - Soldiers of Fortune (unknown; uncredited)
1919 - Eyes of Youth (Gina Ashling)
1919 - The Better Wife (Charmian Page; producer)
1919 - Cheating Cheaters (Ruth Brockton)
1920 - Mid-Channel (Zoe Blundell)
1920 - For the Soul of Rafael (Marta Raquel Estevan)
1920 - The Forbidden Woman (Diane Sorel)
1921 - What No Man Knows (Norma Harvey)
1921 - Charge It (Julia Lawrence)
1921 - Straight from Paris (Lucette Grenier)
1921 - Hush (Vera Stanford)
1922 - Enter Madame (Prima Donna Lisa Della Robia)
1922 - The Hands of Nara (Nara Alexieff)
1922 - The Worldly Madonna (Lucy Trevor, dancer/Janet Trevor, nun)
1923 - A Wife's Romance (Joyce Addisonn)
1923 - Cordelia the Magnificent (Cordelia Marlowe)
1923 - The Woman of Bronze (Vivian Hunt)
1925 - Lying Wives (Patricia Chase)
1931 - Women Go on Forever (Daisy Bowman)
1931 - Mother and Son (Faro Lil)
1931 - Kept Husbands (Mrs. Henrietta Post)
1932 - Probation (Mrs. Humphries)
1932 - Love Bound (Mrs. Jane Randolph)
1933 - File 113 (Mme. Fauvel)
1934 - The Return of Chandu (Dorothy Regent)
1934 - Romance in the Rain (Mlle. Fleurette Malevinsky)
1934 - I Can't Escape (short) (Mrs. Wilson)
1935 - The Fighting Coward (Mrs. Gordon)
1935 - Fighting Youth (Mrs. Stewart, House Mother)
1935 - His Night Out (Mrs. Davis)
1935 - She Married Her Boss (Parsons)
1935 - The Drunkard (Mrs. Karns)
1936 - The Black Coin (Donna Luise Navarro)
1936 - Oh, Susanna! (Aunt Peggy Lee)
1936 - The Rogues Tavern (Mrs. Jamison)
1936 - Three on the Trail (Rose Peters)
1936 - Love in September (short) (unknown)
1936 - Dangerous Waters (Kind Lady; uncredited)
1936 - Ants in the Pantry (short) (Mrs. Beulah Burlap)
1936 - The Mysterious Pilot [Chapters 3-5, 9, 14-15]
      Martha, Fritz's Wife)
1937 - Dangerously Yours (Mrs. Prentiss; uncredited)
1937 - Hills of Old Wyoming (Ma Hutchins)
1937 - New News (short) (Mrs. Van Gage)
1937 - They Wanted to Marry (Wedding Guest Talking To Mr. Hunter; uncredited)
1938 - The Frontiersmen (Amanda Peters)
1938 - The Wages of Sin (Fat Pearl, the Madam)
1938 - The Secret of Treasure Island [Chapter 10]
      (Maid at Cortez Hotel; uncredited)
1941 - Mr. Celebrity (Clara Kimball Young)
1941 - The Roundup (Mrs. Wilson)