

CLAUDE GOLDING

Acrobatic comedian, singer, dancer, endman. Claude Golding career began around the turn of the century and by 1907 was working for such managers as Ted Holland and Harry Clay. He later worked an act with Bert Corrie before teaming up Clara Keating. The couple spent some 9 years in the USA beginning 1911. Golding died in New York in 1919, possibly from the Spanish Flu.

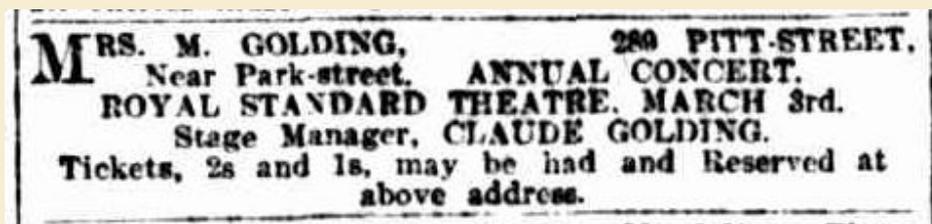
Once described as having "thunderstorm vocal powers," Claude Golding's career is believed to have begun around the turn of the century. He received much of his early training through his mother, who operating a college for piano, organ and voice in Pitt Street, Sydney.



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Percy Clark (sub.), E. M'Guire, E. Capel (Clay's).

Sydney Morning Herald 15 Aug. (1908), 3.

While no record of his name has yet been found prior to 1906, the fact that he was engaged as an endman by Ted Holland that year suggests that Golding had by then gained the experience necessary to appear in such a prominent role. He began his association with Harry Clay at the Royal Standard (Syd) early the following year and was soon afterwards booked as a character comedian by Alan Hamilton (Theatre Royal, Hobart).



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Sydney Morning Herald 24 Feb. (1909), 2.

By 1909 Golding had teamed up with another of his mother's students, Bert Corrie, and together the pair found success in Melbourne at the Tivoli circuit presenting a song and dance act. In 1910 Corrie and Golding were signed by Harry Clay to appear on the first half of his NSW/Queensland tour. The pair, along with another member of the company, Clara Keating then played a season in Brisbane for Ted Holland.

Golding and Keating decided to form their own act and by the end of the year were married. They travelled to America in 1911, spending much of the next 9 years touring the US variety circuits, with intermittent engagements in the UK. Golding died in New York in 1919 (possibly from the Spanish Flu). Following the death of her husband, Clara Keating teamed up with Harry Ross to perform a similar act.

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BERT CORRIE, Balladist.
Queensland Figaro and Punch 30 June (1910), 6.

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