

# "Baby Marie" Osborne

Titles: 16    Sources: 2    Stills: 1

Born: US; 1911



Source: indeterminate website

The Silents Majority website note:

"Baby Marie" Osborne (b. 1911), considered the most important child star of the 1910s, was a favourite of World War I audiences. Beginning in films in 1915, her first starring role was "**LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE**" (Balboa Feature Film Co., 1916) - the film that launched her career. By 1918, there were two production companies established for her, "Diando" and "Lasalida" (pre-dating Jackie Coogan's production company by four years). After her child stardom passed (by 1920), Marie stayed in the film industry, working as an extra and costumer." - Diane MacIntyre

Excerpt from **The Moving Picture Boy** entry on Ernie "Sunshine Sammy" Morrison:

"...His father, a brilliant cook, was lured from his post with a wealthy New Orleans family by a yet better offer in Los Angeles. He fell in with film studio people, and on hearing that a little black boy was needed for a short featuring the Pathé moppet [*sic*] Baby Marie Osborne, took along the next-door-neighbour's son. The latter proved hopeless, so next day Mr Morrison took along his own Ernie.

Morrison Junior leapt wholeheartedly into the spirit of the thing and smiled like an angel. From 1917-19 he partnered Marie Osborne dozens of times, and seems to have been the

first American negro child to be credited by  
name - not that this saved him from being

called, variously, "little Sambo", "Rastus", "Snowball", "the diminutive Nubian", "the frolicsome pickaninny", etcetera. (There was not a lot of Black Power around in those days.) In France he was known simply as "l'Afrique"..."

## FILMOGRAPHY

<i>Year</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Role</i>
16	5	LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE	in title role
17	6	BABY'S DIPLOMACY	
17		THE LITTLE PATRIOT	
17		TOLD AT TWILIGHT	
18	7	CUPID BY PROXY	
18		DADDY'S GIRL	
18		A DAUGHTER OF THE WEST	
18		DOLLY DOES HER BIT	
18		DOLLY'S VACATION	
18		MILADY O' THE BEANSTALK	
18		PEGGY DOES HER DANDIEST	
18		THE SAWDUST DOLL	
18		THE SHERIFF	
18		THE VOICE OF DESTINY	
18		WINNING GRANDMA	
19	8	BABY MARIE'S ROUND-UP	

[ **NB:** All these titles except for the first are merely extracted from the filmography of Ernie Morrison, and may not all be "Baby Marie" shorts. In 1919 he also made many shorts with Snub Pollard, for instance, and it's not possible to guess which of his other 1919 titles were made with her.]