



An Article by Frank Daniels
Album label styles to 1968
Album Listings Part 1

After distributing a volume of organ music from the Möller company, Sid Frey's Dauntless International launched its most successful label, Audio Fidelity.

Label Styles

Albums

Label 54

Gold label with black print; rim print reads "Produced by Kinor Records."
 Address on Spring Street
 Years: 1954 to summer 1955



Label 54a

Gold label with black print; rim print reads "Produced by Kinor Records."
 Address on 51st Street.
 Years: summer 1955 to 1956
 A few albums from 1957 have the Kinor Records text.



Label 54b

Gold label with black print; rim print reads "Audio Fidelity Inc."
 Address on 51st Street. The text at the top and bottom is boxed.
 Years: September 1956 to October 1957



Label 57

Gold label with black print; rim print reads "Audio Fidelity Inc."

The text at the top and bottom is unboxed.

Text above AF's parallelogram logo reads "Reg. Appl. For."

Years: October 1957 to late 1958



Label 57a

Gold label with black print; rim print reads "Audio Fidelity Inc."

The text at the top and bottom is unboxed.

The rim print shows the address on Eleventh Avenue.

A registered trademark symbol appears below AF's parallelogram logo. This ® appears to have been stamped in afterward by a different machine. [Copies from 1964-5 prepared by RCA Victor have the ® to the right of the logo instead of directly underneath it.]

Another ® symbol appears beneath the "Y" in "Fidelity."

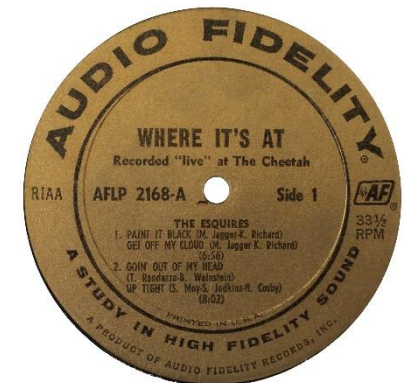
Years: late 1958 to October 1965



Label 65

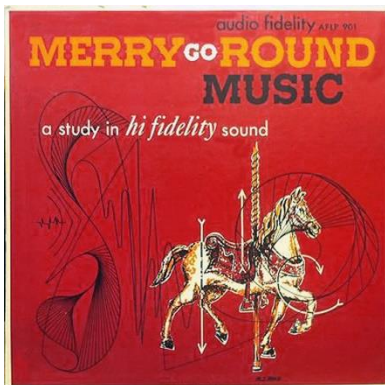
Gold label with black print; rim print reads "A Product of Audio Fidelity Inc.," with no address.

Years: October 1965 to April 1968



Labels for Stereo albums were silver from 1957 to 1968, following otherwise the same pattern as the above. After the demise of mono, stereo albums had blue labels through 1969 – at which point the labels styles changed entirely. Those later issues are beyond the scope of these articles.





AFLP-901 No Artist *Merry-Go-Round Music*

Approximate Release Date: November 1954

The selections were recorded by a carousel located at Nunley's Happyland in Bethpage, NY. RCA Custom matrix numbers: E4OL-7043/4.

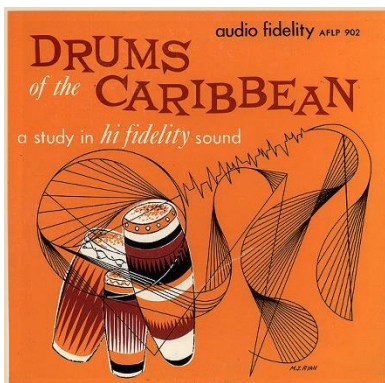
Ten-Inch Series (900)

STILL GROWING

3 New Rides Make 33 for Nunley Parks

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—The Nunley kiddie ride interests, with 30 rides going in five locations, are still expanding.

Happyland in Bethpage is adding a fifth outdoor ride, a Herschell Tank Ride. Added to the five kiddie units and large Carousel which operate the year around in the spot's shed-like building, this will give Happyland 11 rides.



AFLP-902 Choco and Chimi *Drums of the Caribbean*

Approximate Release Date: November 1954

"Choco" is Antonio Díaz Mena; Chimi is short for Chiminea. Recorded in Mexico. RCA Custom matrix numbers: E4OL-7045/6.

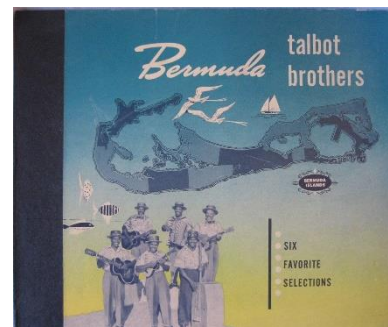


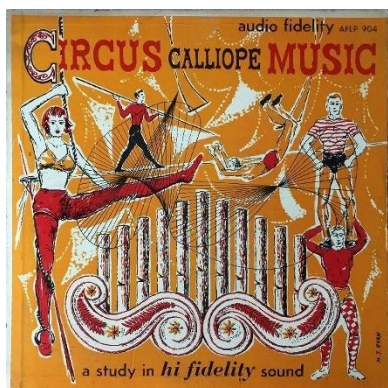
AFLP-903 The Talbot Brothers *Calypso*

Approximate Release Date: April 1955

The album reads "Vol. 2," treating *Six Favorite Selections* on the Bermuda label as the first volume. RCA Custom matrix numbers: E4OL-7076/7.

AUDIO FIDELITY RECORDS
presents
STUDIES IN HIGH FIDELITY SOUND
MERRY GO ROUND MUSIC
High, medium and low frequency on a crazy carousel.
AUDIO FIDELITY LP 901 10 in. \$4.00
DRUMS OF THE CARIBBEAN
Mambos, Rhumbas, Voodoo. Vibrant presence.
AUDIO FIDELITY LP 902 10 in. \$4.00
TALBOT BROS. CALYPSO
Bermuda's Greatest.
AUDIO FIDELITY LP 903 10 in. \$4.00
CIRCUS CALLOPE MUSIC
Vibrant, Spooking, Gay.
AUDIO FIDELITY LP 904 10 in. \$4.00
distributed by
DAUNTLESS INTERNATIONAL
225 Lafayette St. New York 12, N. Y.





AFLP-904 James A. Sexton *Circus Calliope Music*

Approximate Release Date: April 1955

RCA Custom matrix numbers: F9OL-2006/7.



REVIEW

New Calliope Disk Good for Outdoor Bally

NEW YORK, May 7.—A new long-playing, high fidelity record, Circus Calliope Music, has been released under the Audio Fidelity label. The disk was produced by Kinor Records, New York.

James A. Sexton is soloist, playing an air calliope restored by Ellsworth (Slim) W. Somers. The instrument dates from about 1904.

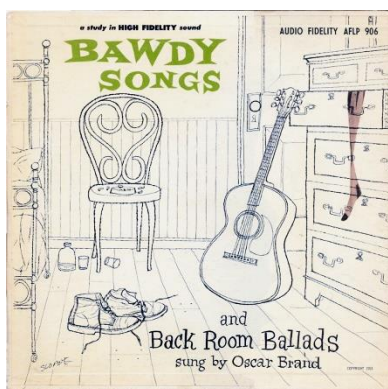
Apart from the technical achievement in accurately capturing the unique tones of the air calliope, the nine-tune, two-sided record is an ideal ballyhoo adjunct for almost any outdoor amusement operation equipped with a player that will handle a long-playing disk.



AFLP-905 Ricardo Rico *Meringues*

Approximate Release Date: October 1955

Covers to 901, 902, 904, and 905 feature art by MJ Ryan. RCA Custom matrix numbers: F9OL-4620/1.



AFLP-906 Oscar Brand *Bawdy Songs and Backroom Ballads*

Approximate Release Date: October 1955

RCA Custom matrix numbers: F9OL-4622/3.

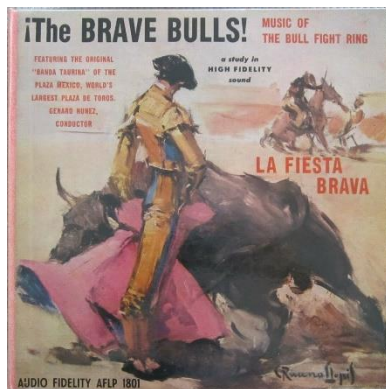


AUDIO FIDELITY RECORDS

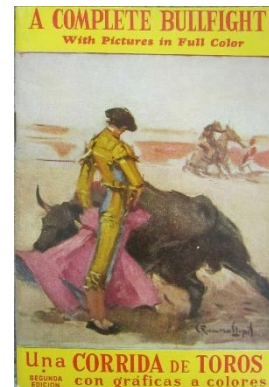
presents

STUDIES IN HIGH FIDELITY SOUND

- MERRY GO ROUND MUSIC. High, medium and low frequency on a crazy carousel. Audio Fidelity LP 901 10" \$4.00
- DRUMS of the CARIBBEAN. Mambos, Rhumbas, Voodoo. Vibrant presence. Audio Fidelity LP 902 10" \$4.00
- TALBOT BROS. CALYPSO. Bermuda's Greatest. Audio Fidelity LP 903 10" \$4.00
- CIRCUS CALLIOPE MUSIC. Vibrant, Sparkling, Gay. Audio Fidelity LP 904 10" \$4.00
- MERINGUES. A New Rhythmic Dance Craze from Haiti and Dominica. Audio Fidelity LP 905 10" \$4.00
- BAWDY SONGS and BACKROOM BALLADS. Oscar Brand, noted folksinger sings for people with lusty appetites and strong musical tastes. A collector's item. Audio Fidelity LP 906 10" \$4.00



Main Twelve-Inch Series (1800)



THE BRAVE BULLS! Music of the Bull Fight Ring

Banda Taurina of the Plaza Mexico. Genaro Nunez, cond.
AUDIO FIDELITY AFLP 1801. 12-in. \$5.95.

La Virgen de la Macarena; Cielo Andaluz; El Relicario; Toque Cuadrillas; Espartero; Gato Montez; Toque Banderillas; En Er Mundo; España Cañi; Corazon Hispano; Novillero; Ecos Españoles; Toque de Muerte; Carlos Arruza; Toque al Corral.

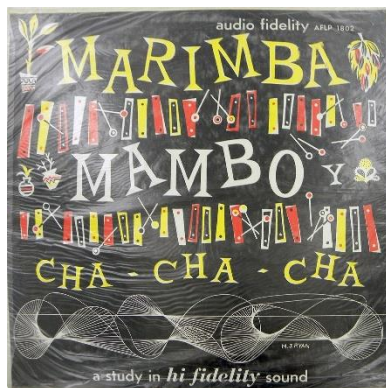
Clearly the best of the recent spate of bullfight records. The *Banda Taurina* may lack the polish and suaveness of Spanish bands featured on other releases, but the Mexicans — abetted by brilliant engineering — marvelously convey the true stridor and brassiness of bull ring music. This album also makes an intelligent stab at placing individual selections in their proper sequence within the framework of an afternoon at the Plaza.

The opulent presentation includes instructive notes on (1) the music, and (2) tauromachy. Also included is a booklet of garish full-color reproductions of bull fight posters complete with bi-lingual captions. If nothing else, the booklet definitively proves that, in the *corrida*, all art ends inside the *barrera*.

AFLP-1801 Genaro Nuñez *The Brave Bulls!*

Approximate Release Date: November 1955

Deluxe packaging with booklet. In 1957, AF made a stereo master. Copies of this LP made after that time use the stereo master and have the new matrix number on the label.



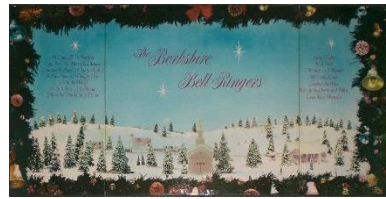
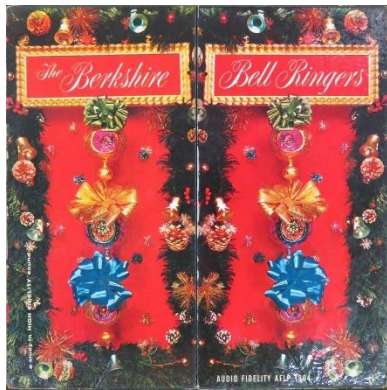
AFLP-1802 Orchestra Marimba Chiapas *Marimba Mambo y Cha Cha Cha*

Approximate Release Date: November 1955

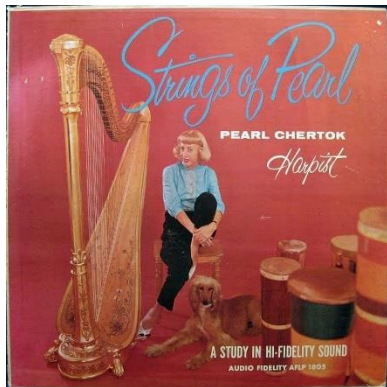


AFLP-1803 Katherine Dunham *Drum Rhythms of Haiti, Cuba, Brazil: the Singing Gods*

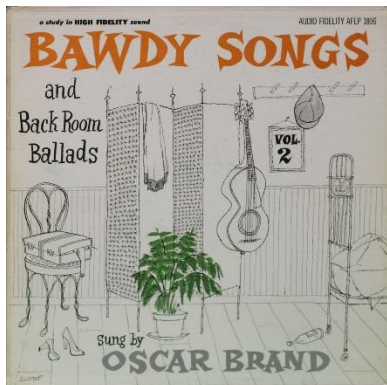
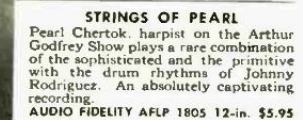
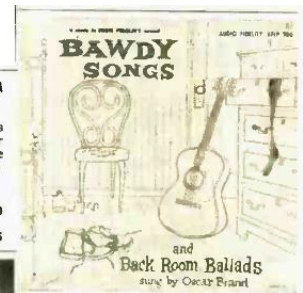
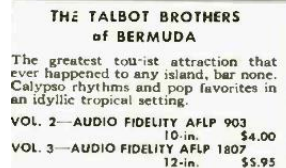
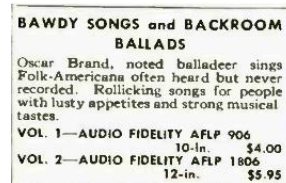
Approximate Release Date: November 1955



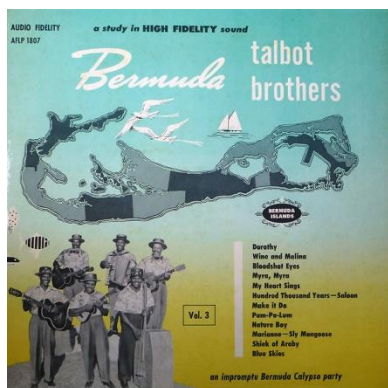
AFLP-1804 The Berkshire Bell Ringers *The Berkshire Bell Ringers*
 Approximate Release Date: December 1955
 Rereleased every December for Christmas; the cover folds open in the middle.



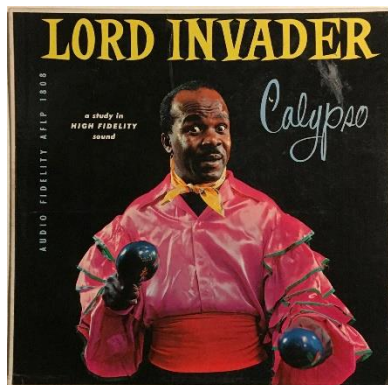
AFLP-1805 Pearl Chertok *Strings of Pearl*
 Approximate Release Date: March 1956



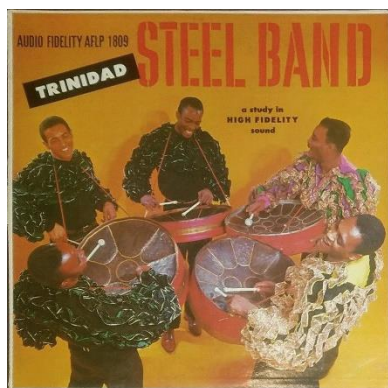
AFLP-1806 Oscar Brand *Bawdy Songs, Vol. 2*
 Approximate Release Date: March 1956



AFLP-1807 The Talbot Brothers *Calypso Party (Vol. 3)*
Approximate Release Date: February 1956

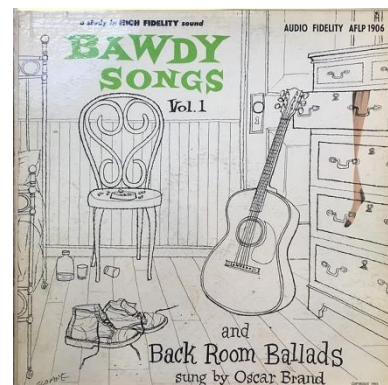


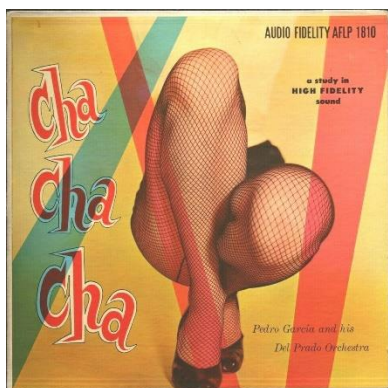
AFLP-1808 Lord Invader (Rupert Grant) *Calypso*
Approximate Release Date: March 1956



AFLP-1809 Trinidad Steel Band *Trinidad Steel Band*
Approximate Release Date: March 1956

In September 1956, AFLP-906 was reissued in twelve-inch size as AFLP-1906. At that time, it was retitled as Volume 1.





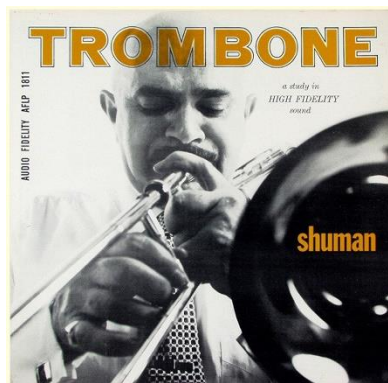
CHA CHA CHA72

Pedro Garcia and his Del Prado Ork
(1-12")

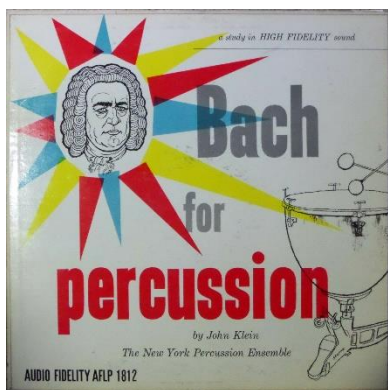
Audio Fidelity AFLP 1810

A startling cover-photo of a disembodied pair of gams (fem. of course,) make this LP (priced at \$5.95) a sock display item. Pedro Garcia and his Del Prado orchestra paint some vivid, highly rhythmic terp patterns in hip-swinging cha cha cha tempo. Cut with a claimed total frequency rage of 16 CPS to 25,000 CPS, the album carries strong appeal for hi-fi fans.

AFLP-1810 Pedro Garcia *Cha Cha Cha*
Approximate Release Date: September 1956



AFLP-1811 (Davis) Shuman *Trombone*
Approximate Release Date: October 1956

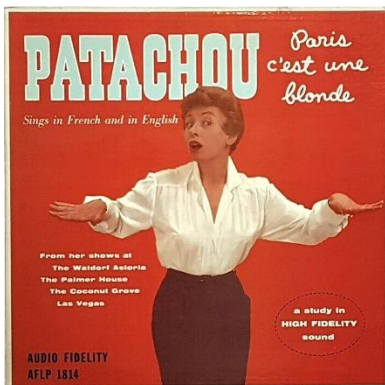


AFLP-1812 John Klein *Bach for Percussion*
Approximate Release Date: November 1956
With the New York Percussion Ensemble

From this point on, Audio Fidelity was no longer using RCA Custom to prepare their records.



AFLP-1813 Pedro Garcia *Cha Cha Cha*
Approximate Release Date: October 1956



AFLP-1814 Patachou *Paris C'est une Blonde*
Approximate Release Date: October 1956



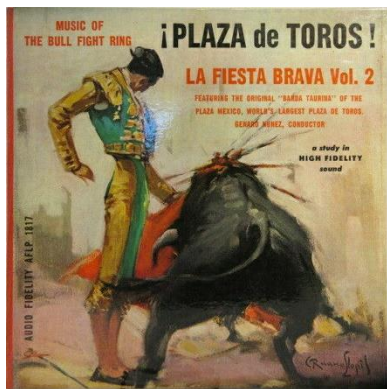
AFLP-1815 Jo Basile *Accordion de Paris*
Approximate Release Date: October 1956



AFLP-1816 Mariachi Miguel Dias *Fiesta en Mexico*

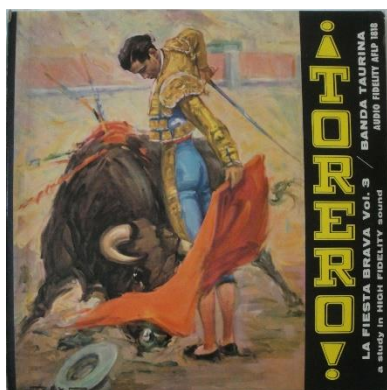
Approximate Release Date: October 1956

The label appears to give the title as *Fiesta en Mexico Mariachi*, and the artist as Miguel Dias.



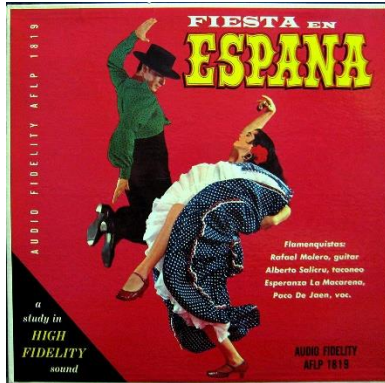
AFLP-1817 Genaro Nuñez *¡Plaza de Toros!*

Approximate Release Date: October 1956

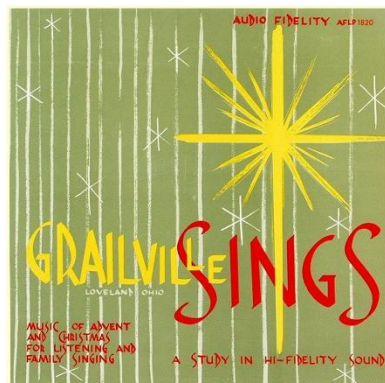


AFLP-1818 Genaro Nuñez *¡Torero!*

Approximate Release Date: October 1956

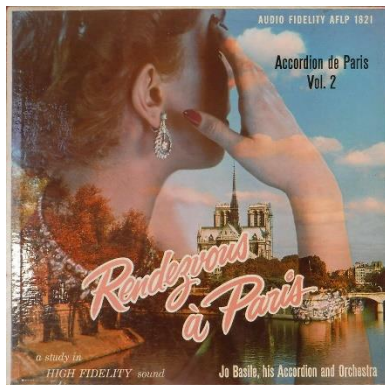


AFLP-1819 Flemenquistas *Fiesta en España*
 Approximate Release Date: October 1956



AFLP-1820 Grailville Community College Choir
 Approximate Release Date: October 1956

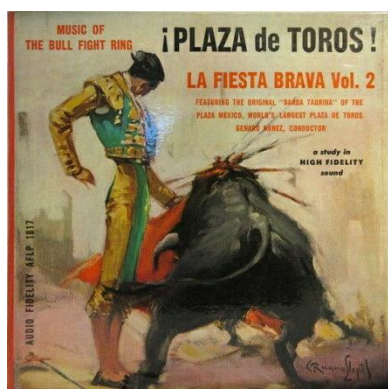
Grailville Sings Music of Advent and Christmas



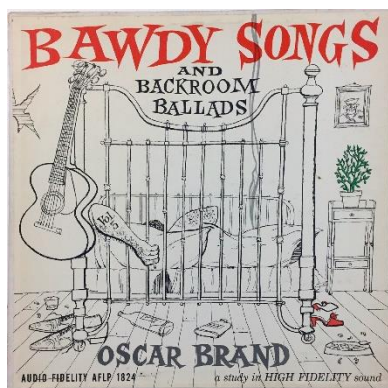
AFLP-1821 Jo Basile *Rendezvous à Paris*
 Approximate Release Date: October 1956



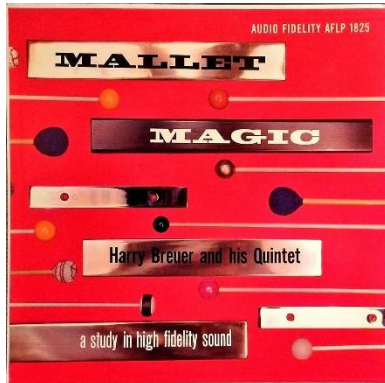
AFLP-1822 Jo Basile *Rome With Love*
 Approximate Release Date: October 1956



AFLP-1823 Genaro Nuñez *¡Plaza de Toros!*
 Approximate Release Date: October 1956
 On September 6, 1956, Kinor Records officially became Audio Fidelity, Inc..

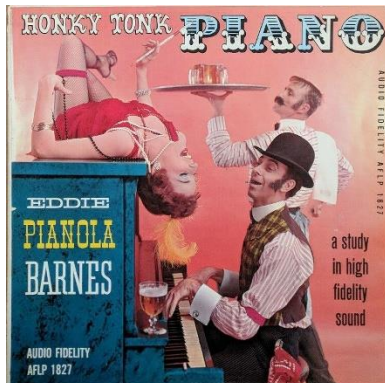


AFLP-1824 Oscar Brand *Bawdy Songs, Vol. 3*
 Approximate Release Date: September 1956

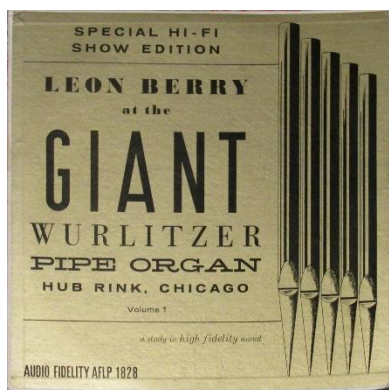


AFLP-1825 Harry Breuer *Mallet Magic*
 Approximate Release Date: July 1957

AFLP-1826 Unreleased (?)

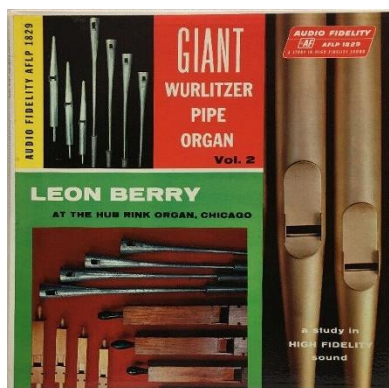


AFLP-1827 Eddie Pianola Barnes *Honky Tonk Piano*
 Approximate Release Date: February 1957



AFLP-1828 Leon Berry
Approximate Release Date:

At the Giant Wurlitzer Pipe Organ Volume 1
February 1957



AFLP-1829 Leon Berry
Approximate Release Date:

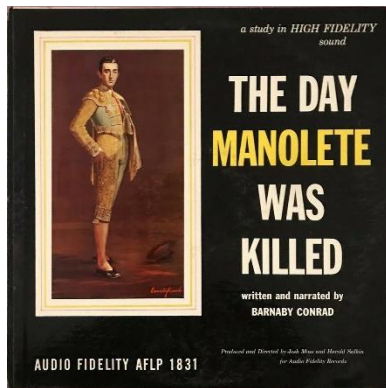
Giant Wurlitzer Pipe Organ Volume 2
October 1957



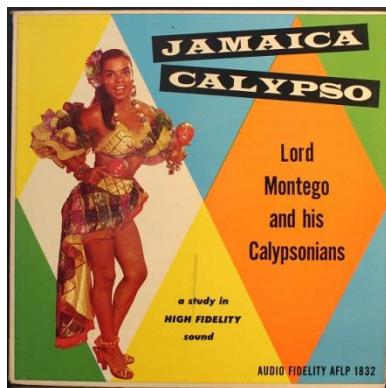
AFLP-1830 Johnny Puleo
Approximate Release Date:

And His Harmonica Gang
June 1957

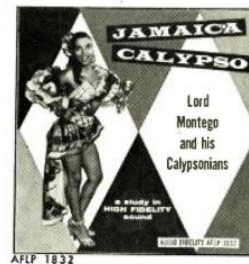
JOHNNY PULEO AND HIS HARMONICA GANG (1-12)"—Audio Fidelity AFLP 1830
Hi-fi fans are always on the search for new sonic thrills. Here's one they probably haven't heard—a full harmonica chorus. It must be admitted that there have been harmonica releases from time to time but few can boast the full sound-spectrum effects of this one. The program, incidentally, is a lively, foot-tapping type that adds to the value of the disk.



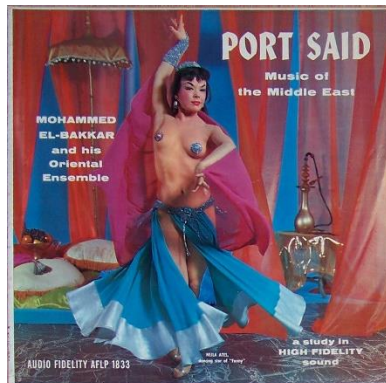
AFLP-1831 Barnaby Conrad *The Day Manolete Was Killed*
Approximate Release Date: July 1957



AFLP-1832 Lord Montego *Jamaica Calypso*
Approximate Release Date: July 1957



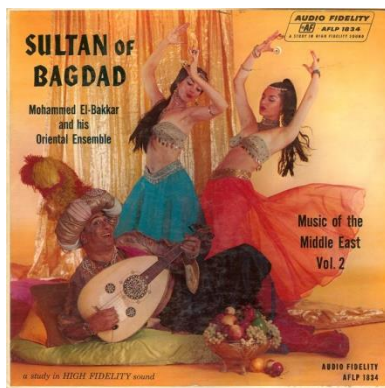
JAMAICA CALYPSO Plenty of Bongos . . . Plenty of Rhythms . . . Plenty of Clever Lyrics by Lord Montego and his Calypsonians. A Jamaican Treat!



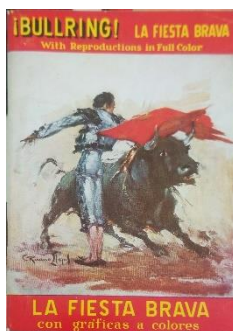
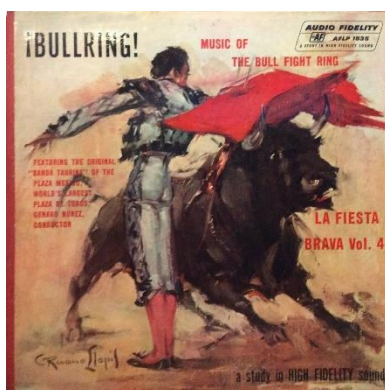
AFLP-1833 Mohammed El-Bakkar *Port Said*
Approximate Release Date: September 1957



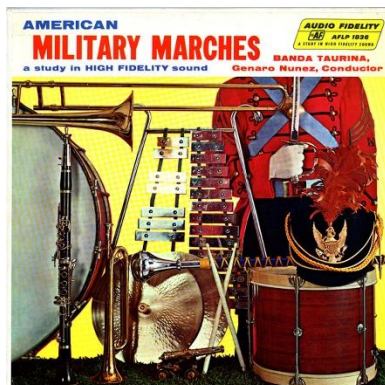
Exotic, tantalizing music from the romantic, mysterious and fascinating Middle East. A thrill in listening pleasure. AFLP 1833



AFLP-1834 Mohammed El-Bakkar *Sultan of Bagdad*
 Approximate Release Date: October 1957



AFLP-1835 Genaro Nuñez *Bullring!*
 Approximate Release Date: October 1957



AFLP-1836 Genaro Nuñez *American Military Marches*
 Approximate Release Date: October 1957

September/October 1957 saw the introduction of Audio Fidelity's classic "parallelogram" logo.

