

## ***"La Bamba"/"Donna"***

**Ritchie Valens**

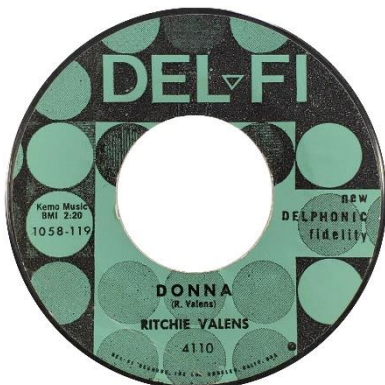
**Label 58**

Del-Fi


4110

Turquoise label with circles. Del-Fi is in thin print.

First appearance in trade magazines: November 15, 1958



"DONNA" (2:20) [Kemo BMI—Valens]  
"LA BAMBA" (2:05) [Kemo BMI—Valens]  
RITCHIE VALENS (Del-Fi 4110)



RITCHIE VALENS

● Ritchie Valens, the young lad

who clicked on Del-Fi with his debut pressing "Come On Let's Go", follows up with another tremendous coupling that should add many more fans to his admiration society. The versatile songster turns in a beautiful rock-a-ballad performance on "Donna", a lovely name tune. Sound and song are terrific. Watch this one closely. On the flip, "La Bamba", Ritchie belts out a thrilling cha cha number singing only in Spanish. Sensational dance merchandise. And foreign language is no barrier since the feeling is there.

### RITCHIE VALENS DONNA (Kemo, BMI) LA BAMBA (Kemo, BMI)

The cat, who is still scoring with "Come On, Let's Dance," could have a two-sided click with his latest effort. Top side is a ballad with heat that is warbled to good effect over listenable rock support. Flip is a Latin-tinged rocker that can also come in for a fair share of coin.

Del-Fi 4110



On the first pressings, a © symbol was added to the rim text, appearing in different locations on different copies. The words "new DELFONIC fidelity" appear at the right side. The author credit for "La Bamba" indicates that it was an adaptation by Ritchie Valens.

### Label 58g

Del-Fi

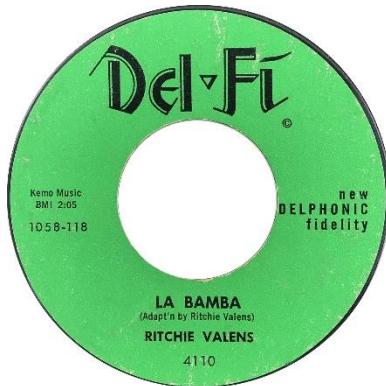
4110

Green label with Del-Fi at top and NO rim print.

A © has been added to the Del-Fi logo. That symbol did not appear on earlier labels.

These labels were used temporarily as stand-ins until more copies of Label 58 could be printed.

Issued in late 1958.



The author credit for “La Bamba” indicates that it was an adaptation by Ritchie Valens.

### Label 58t1

Del-Fi

4110

Turquoise label with Del-Fi at top and NO rim print.

A © has been added to the Del-Fi logo. That symbol did not appear on earlier labels.

These labels were used temporarily as stand-ins until more copies of Label 58 could be printed.

Issued in late 1958.



The author credit for “La Bamba” indicates that it was an adaptation by Ritchie Valens.

The single began to sell rapidly at the end of the year and was selling well when Valens died. Although “La Bamba” has the lower matrix number (indicating that Del-Fi probably preferred it as the hit side), both trade magazines and the public preferred “Donna.” In subsequent years, history has looked favorably upon “La Bamba.”

### Label 58t2

Del-Fi

4110

Turquoise label with Del-Fi at top and NO rim print.

A<sup>®</sup> has been added to the Del-Fi logo. That symbol did not appear on earlier labels.

These labels were used temporarily as stand-ins until more copies of Label 58 could be printed.

Issued in late 1958.



The author credit for "La Bamba" indicates that it was an adaptation by Ritchie Valens.

On these copies also, the typeface for the matrix number has been changed to be the same as the typeface for the lines above it. On one variation (a), there is a blank space above the matrix number. On another variation (b), there is no blank space.

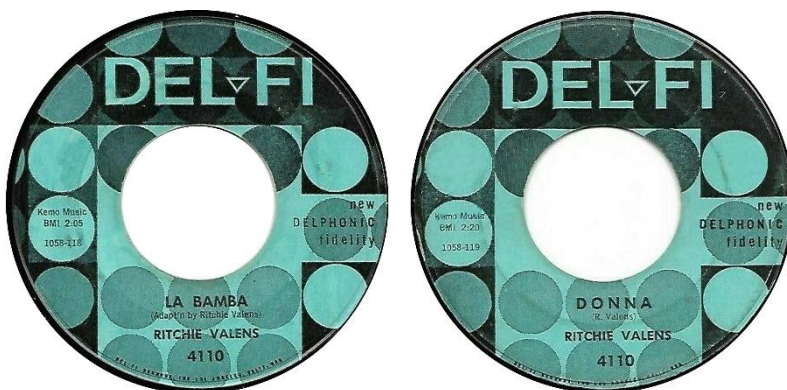
### Label 58 (again)

Del-Fi

4110

Turquoise label with circles. Del-Fi is in thin print.

c. January 1959.



These labels now use the typeface from Label 58t2a, accidentally omitting the © symbol that should appear in the matrix.



These labels correct the omission of the copyright symbol in the rim print, and they restore the matrix number to the usual typeface. In addition, nearly all releases from this point on show the author credit for “La Bamba” as “R. Valens” (without the reference to an adaptation). The earliest copies of Valens single 4111 (credited to “Arvee Allens” and coming out in late January 1959) still have Label 58, most likely indicating the approximate time frame for the above two copies of single 4110.

#### Label 59

Del-Fi

4110

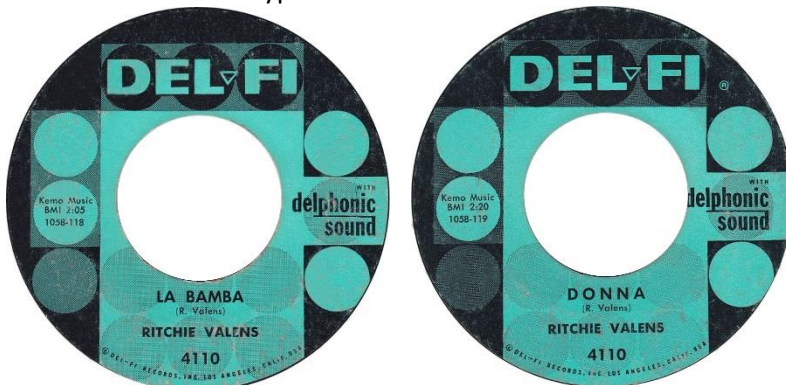
Turquoise label with fewer circles than Label 58. Del-Fi is in wide print.

The text at the right reads “WITH delphonic sound,” and the © symbol is part of the rim print.

These copies came out between February and August 1959.



These labels use the typeface from Label 58t2b and revert to the original author credit.





### Label 59a

Del-Fi

4110

Turquoise and black label with new logo. The label resembles a seal.  
These copies came out between September 1959 and December 1960.



### Label 61

Del-Fi

4110

Black and turquoise label with new logo. The label resembles a seal.  
These copies came out between 1961 and about February 1964.



Kemo Music  
BMI-2:05

