

Perhaps the best film fan news of the year: Boardwalk returns since 1979!



Author's collection



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Today's news that will shock (in a good way) movie mavens: *Boardwalk* is coming out on Blu-ray and DVD.

It's a 1979 American drama written by Stephen Verona and Leigh Chapman, directed by Verona and stars Ruth Gordon, Lee Strasberg, and Janet Leigh.

The film has not been available on home video.

Until now.

Married for 50 loving years, David (Lee Strasberg) and Becky (Ruth Gordon) have lived in the same Coney Island neighborhood for most of their life together. But the area is not what it used to be, and their children ask them to move. A powerful and determined man, David states, "I left one country, I'm not about to leave another. This is where I choose to live and nobody, but nobody, is going to make me leave." But Becky becomes ill and David's cafeteria and synagogue are vandalized by thugs. David must make his final stance.

Those who saw it remember *Boardwalk* is a film about love, violence and survival that was filmed on location at numerous spots in New York City, including the famous (but now

defunct Dubrow's Cafeteria).

Boardwalk was Verona's fourth film. He's credited with creating the first music videos, starting with The Beatles. He produced more than 100 videos before retiring from the art in 1972, 11 years before the birth of MTV. By the time he was 27, he was nominated for an Academy Award for his live action short film *The Rehearsal* which he created, produced & directed. Not satisfied with commercials or videos, he moved on to write, produce and co-direct his first feature film, *The Lords of Flatbush*. This is the film that launched the careers of Sylvester Stallone, Henry Winkler and Richard Gere, who were all discovered by Verona who says, "Stallone said that I created the character of Rocky, and Henry said that he took his Fonzie character from Sly."

We will miss Dubrow's. But we will never have to miss *Boardwalk* any longer.