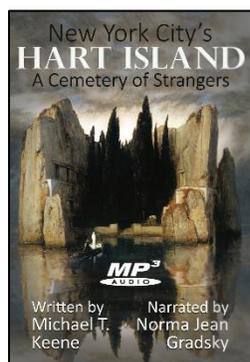


**For Immediate Release:**

## **‘New York City’s Hart Island: A Cemetery of Strangers’ Audio Book Reveals the Story of the Final Resting Place of the City’s Poor**

**April 2019 — New York —** In the new groundbreaking audio book *New York City’s Hart Island: A Cemetery of Strangers*, investigative history author Michael T. Keene uncovers the truth about how New York City’s Hart Island became the final resting place for many of the city’s poor and unclaimed dead. Keene has penned some of history’s most compelling stories, including *Vietnam Reflections: The Untold Story of the Holley Boys*; *The Psychic Highway: How the Erie Canal Changed America*; *Abandoned: The Untold Story of Orphan Asylums*; and other titles.



*A few miles from Manhattan there is a parallel New York. Instead of screeching subway trains, granite-and-glass museums, and billion-dollar skyscrapers, lies an island, home to deep trenches filled with cheap pine coffins. This is Hart Island where tourists never go. It is where New York City has been burying its unclaimed dead since 1869. More than a million bodies are interred within its soil!*

**“Michael Keene’s new audio book is a delight. ... The Narration by Norma Jean Gradsky is masterful.”**

**— Marilyn June Coffee, Author, *The Mail Order Kid***

*As the result of advances in DNA and fingerprint technology, the identities of some of these previously anonymous lost souls has been revealed and include famous actors, authors, and musicians. All are profiled in Keene’s new audio book, along with the strange history of Hart Island.*

**“New York City’s Hart Island: A Cemetery of Strangers is a fascinating delve into history, resurrecting the lost souls we have shamefully forgotten. The in-depth research and masterful storytelling of author Michael Keene comes alive with the wonderful narration by Norma Jean Gradsky.”**

**— Nathan D. Schoonover, Producer/Co-host, *The Shadow Nation***

### **About the Author:**



Michael Keene has written extensively about 19<sup>th</sup> century New York history. He is also an award-winning producer of the historical documentary series *Visions, True Stories of Spiritualism, Secret Societies & Murder*.

**Special Note:** On October 1, 2019 Keene will host the podcast, **“Talking Hart Island”**, an interview and talk show devoted to exploring the mysteries of Hart Island.

### **About the Narrator:**



Norma Jean Gradsky has produced more than 30 audio books. She earned a bachelor’s degree in theater and a master’s degree in communication in the fields of study of speech, communication and intercultural communication. Grandsky will co-host, **“Talking Hart Island”**

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