

The Play: 17 MINUTES

17 minutes is the length of time Sheriff's Deputy Andy Rubens stood outside of a school while a shooter was inside. In the aftermath, he must come to terms with the choices he made during the tragedy. In Scott Organ's spellbinding play, one man's search for redemption prompts a community to ask—what will we be known for?

- Written by acclaimed playwright Scott Organ
- A taut, emotionally resonant drama about responsibility, redemption, and community response
- Originally produced by The Barrow Group in 2020, where it enjoyed a successful run
- Known for its quiet intensity and moral complexity

Why now? Why here?

- Gun violence remains one of America's most pressing issues
- Connecticut—home to Sandy Hook—has a unique stake in this conversation
- This would be the **Connecticut Premiere** of *17 MINUTES*



• A timely, relevant opportunity to use theatre as a tool for **empathy** and **action**

With devastating simplicity, the playwright, Scott Organ, reveals the effect of gun violence on the personal and societal level, without pointing fingers. His play provides the chance to stop, think, reflect and have a dialogue on the subject. It's not a black and white issue, but an issue we all have a responsibility to try to solve.

Andrea and Susan were so moved by this play, they created Greenheart Productions to help support a production of 17 MINUTES and future plays which are compelling and inspire dialogue, community outreach and opportunities for change.

What We've Done So Far

- Formed Greenheart Productions LLC to bring powerful plays like this to life
- Held a private reading during National Gun Violence Awareness Month
- Received a standing ovation and emotional audience response
- Inspired dialogue across educators, parents, activists, and theatre-goers

From our Driftway Barn audience:

"How do we get this seen?"

"The theme of forgiveness hit me the hardest."

"I question what I would have done in that situation versus what I hope I would do. Fear can incapacitate."



GREENHEART PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

17 MINUTES

by Scott Organ

Directed by Andrea Lynn Green

Stage Directions and talk-back moderation by Luisa Tanno

CAST

ANDY RUBENS	Mike Boland
VIRGIL MORRIS	Allan Zelle
SAMANTHA RUBENS	Susan Vanech
MARY	Dawn Vanessa Brown
DAN	Brian I. Carter
CECILIA	

At Driftway Barn



Mike Boland and Dawn Vanessa Brown in GHP's reading at Driftway Barn

Critical Acclaim

From the 2020 Barrow Group Production, 2020

- "Astonishingly effective new drama."
- Theaterscene
- "Organ's play accomplishes what the theatre does best... a complicated and compassionate human drama."
- Talkin' Broadway
- "The acting is uniformly excellent."
- Plays to See



- "A fine addition to our national dialogue about our country's abject failure of courage."
- Theater Reviews from My Seat

Featured on WNYC's All of It with Alison Stewart

From the Edinburgh Fringe Production, 2023

"A quiet, harrowing gift at this year's Edinburgh Fringe Festival." fringereview.co.uk

"Even in a cramped room ... it feels as if you have walked into a highly-charged TV drama. Strong cast ... writing is spare and nuanced." whatsonstage.com

"Few plays have explored inaction ... as acutely and intelligently." theatretravels.org



Why This Play Matters

- Doesn't assign blame—invites thought
- Encourages audiences to question, reflect, and talk
- Centers themes of forgiveness, failure, and moral courage



Mike Boland and Susan Vanech in GHP's reading at Driftway Barn

From our Driftway Barn audience: "This is a profound lesson in empathy."

What We're Seeking

A Producing Partner

- Collaborate on a full production of 17 MINUTES
- Share resources, venue, creative vision and more
- Co-host community talkbacks and engagement events



Mike Boland and Brian J. Carter in GHP's reading at Driftway Barn

Ideal Goals

- Multi-week run
- CT Premiere distinction
- Educational outreach (schools, community groups)

Potential Impact



Mike Boland and Susan Jacobson in GHP's reading at Driftway Barn

- Launch a model for socially responsive theatre in CT
- Offer post-show discussions and curated resources
- Partner with local orgs addressing gun violence and education
- Build a bridge between art, empathy, and community action

Call to Action

Join us in bringing this timely, vital story to a Connecticut stage.

Let's create a space for empathy, healing, and meaningful dialogue—together.

Contact: Andrea Lynn Green & Susan Jacobson anlynn.green@gmail.com & susanj@sbcglobal.net <u>greenheartproductions.org</u> (launching soon!)



Mike Boland and Allan Zeller in GHP's reading at Driftway Barn

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Your support is deeply appreciated.





GREENHEART PRODUCTIONS