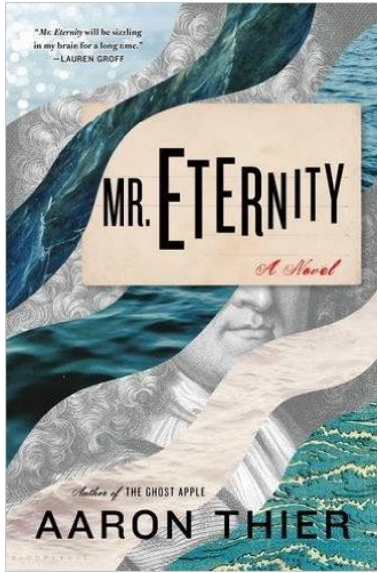


MFA@FLA ALUMNUS AARON THIER PROFILED IN THE BOSTON GLOBE



Aaron Thier, who graduated from the MFA@FLA in 2012, was recently [hailed by the Boston Globe](#) for his second novel, *Mr. Eternity*, published this month. The novel revolves around climate change, and began with the inspiration of picturing his home in New England being transformed by climate change into the swampland he came to know while attending the University of Florida.

“Set in five time periods on the brink of environmental, political or cultural crisis — 1560, 1750, 2016, 2200, and 2500 — the story follows an old, perhaps immortal, sailor who calls himself ‘Daniel Defoe,’ maybe because, like Robinson Crusoe, he has been shipwrecked multiple times. Defoe’s extraordinarily long life intersects with a quintet of young narrators trying to make sense of their lives in a damaged world,” the Globe article writes.

Padgett Powell and David Leavitt both commented on Thier’s “talent for literary mimicry.”

Powell wrote of his former MFA student: “Mr. Thier likes messin’ with historicity, as did Faulkner, and he uses crisp precise wit, as did (Donald) Barthelme, to mess with it.”

“He took to Florida like a manatee to a swamp ... In him the best of the subtropical and New England literary traditions are mingled,” Leavitt said.

Mr. Eternity is one of 14 books released by an MFA@FLA alum this year. The full article is available [here](#).