

**Danielle Deadwyler**

Nationality, b. 1982

*“The multimedia works come out of a need to represent what it feels like to be in multiple worlds, and to work in a non-linear process. It is in effort to meet myself, the multigenerational community in which I engage, and myriad others where they are...be that in movement, film, performance, public/private, et. al. It’s a stretching. And it comes in no one format. Each project calls forth its own modalities and mapping. Often one form leads, and calls back to the others to join the party.”*

*-Danielle Deadwyler*

**BIOGRAPHY**

Danielle Deadwyler is a multidisciplinary performance artist, actor, and filmmaker. An Atlanta native, Deadwyler’s art is rooted in theatre, dance, and creative writing. Hometown staples such as Gate City Heritage House, Total Dance Theatre, Gary Harrison Studios, Atlanta Street Theatre, Henry W. Grady High School, and Spelman College cumulatively honed Deadwyler amongst a distinctly Southern landscape. As a graduate student under Dr. Robin D. G. Kelley, she focused her analysis on issues facing women and African Americans while attaining a Master’s of Arts in American Studies from Columbia University.

As a professional actor, Deadwyler has performed in productions with Kenny Leon’s True Colors Theatre, Horizon Theatre, Synchronicity Theatre, Theatrical Outfit, Aurora Theatre and the Tony Award winning Alliance Theatre. She is the Creative Loafing Atlanta Critics Pick for Best Actress (2013) and Reader’s Pick for Best Performance Artist (2017). In 2015 she was the winning recipient of the Suzi Bass Award for Outstanding Lead Actress in a play. Deadwyler has since performed in numerous television and film roles, presented nationally and internationally, including Watchmen (HBO), Atlanta (FX), FBI: Most Wanted (CBS), Being Mary Jane (BET), and as Quita Maxwell on Tyler Perry’s The Haves & The Have Nots (OWN), among a host of independent films and experimental works. As a filmmaker and producer, Deadwyler’s work has been screened in the Creative Loafing Atlanta shorts contest (2011); WonderRoot Local Film night (2013/2015), and Hartsfield International Airport (2016), New Orleans Film Festival, Cucalorus Film Festival, and Oxford Film Fest. The multimedia project MuhfuckaNeva(Luvd)Uhs: Real Live Girl film was the Jury award winner of the WonderRoot Film Night (2015). She also starred in and co-produced the American Black Film Festival 2014 HBO Shorts Official Selection [lr/Reconcilable](#), a short film starring Jasmine Guy, Dick Gregory and Crystal Fox. Her short film, SuPerHeRoInUh, screened amongst ten finalists as a part of the Airport Shorts 3.0 program, and the Atlanta Film Festival 40th anniversary, at Hartsfield Jackson Airport for the duration of a year. CHOR(E)S, her most recent experimental work, was the jury award winner for experimental film at New Orleans Film Fest (2020) and bustitOpen, an experimental documentary she helmed, was the recipient of the Georgia Film Award at the Atlanta Film Festival.

# JOHNSON LOWE GALLERY

As performance artist, Deadwyler's race and gender-centric works have been included in MAMBU BADU collective's exhibition *If We Came From Nowhere Here, Why Can't We Go Somewhere There?* (D.C.), Mint Gallery (ATL), Whitespace Gallery (ATL), The Luminary (STL), Atlanta Contemporary Museum, Atlanta Film Festival, among others. She presented *(dis)possessed: the live mixtape* (2013), a one-woman theatrical performance art project, at Spelman College's Museum of Fine Art as a part of their Black Box series. Numerous grants have supported Deadwyler's works, from IDEA CAPITAL (2014/2017), ELEVATE Atlanta, Living Walls (2016), Synchronicity Theatre Stripped Bare Lab, WonderRoot Walthall Fellowship, and Artadia. She is a former [Atlanta Film Festival Filmmaker-in-Residence](#) and former MINT Leap Year Residency Fellow.

## EDUCATION

M.F.A., Creative Writing/Poetry, Ashland University, Ashland, OH

M.A., American Studies, Interdisciplinary Studies, Honor Roll, Columbia University in the City of New York

B.A., History, Phi Alpha Theta Society, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA

International Human Rights Exchange, University of Natal & University of Durban- Westville, Durban, South Africa

Long Ridge Writers Group, Non-fiction Writing Focus, West Redding, CT

## EXHIBITIONS/SCREENINGS

2023 The Alchemists, Johnson Lowe Gallery, Atlanta, GA

2013 WonderRoot, Local Film Night, Do Not Resuscitate video

2014 If We Came From Nowhere Here, Why Can't We Go Somewhere There?, Vivid Solutions Gallery, Washington, D.C., Mambu Badu Collective

2014 Leap Year Applicant Exhibition, Mint Gallery, Atlanta, GA

2014 Company XX, Mammal Gallery, Atlanta, GA

2015 LadyFest Atlanta, Eyedrum, Atlanta, GA

2015 Somebody Else's Problem, Short Shorts Video Festival, Failure to Appear, Whitespace Gallery

2015 WonderRoot Local Film Night, MuhfuckaNeva(Luvd)Uhs

2015 Femlanta, New Mavericks series, Atlanta Film Festival

2015 Sporadic Democracy, The Luminary, St. Louis, MO

2015 Make Making Work, Work, Mint, Atlanta, GA

2016 Airport Shorts 3.0, Hartsfield International Airport, Atlanta Film Society

2016 Sybil, 368 Ponce, Atlanta, GA

2016 Quincunx, Little Five Arts Alive, 7 Stages Theatre, Atlanta, GA

2017 You are Welcome, You're Welcome, MINT Gallery (Hive at Hambidge/Colony Square), Atlanta, GA

2017 Rent was due on the 5th, ALTERED MEANS, Atlanta, GA

2018 Movement Love, Atlanta Contemporary, Atlanta, GA

2018 Living the Legacy II mural, Living Melody Collective, Center for Civil and Human Rights, Atlanta, GA

2018 Selfie: Identity at Arm's Length, Still Point Gallery, Atlanta, GA

2019 Notions of Sainly Flesh, Living Melody Collective, Tempus Project Space, Tampa, FL

2019 EngageMINT, Mint Gallery, Atlanta, GA

2019 High Rise, The Goat Farm, Mint Gallery, Atlanta, GA

2020 Mint Gallery, Leap Year Group Exhibition, Atlanta, GA

2020 CHOR(E)S, Atlanta Film Festival, Atlanta, GA

# JOHNSON LOWE GALLERY

2020 CHOR(E)S, New Orleans Film Festival, JURY AWARD WINNER, New Orleans, LA  
2020 CHOR(E)S, Cucalorus Film Festival, Wilmington, NC  
2021 CHOR(E)S, Oxford Film Festival, Oxford, MS  
2021 bustitOpen, Atlanta Film Festival, GEORGIA FILM AWARD WINNER, Atlanta, GA  
2021 Eyeshadow, Essex Flowers, New York, NY  
2021 MINT Gallery, Solo Exhibition, Atlanta, GA  
2021 Atlanta Biennial, Virtual Remains, Atlanta Contemporary, Atlanta, GA  
2021 CUE Art Foundation, Solo Exhibition, New York, NY

## PERFORMANCE

2013 dispossessed: the live mixtape, Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, Black Box Series, Atlanta, GA  
2015 MuhfuckaNeva(Luvd)Uhs: Real Live Girl (MNLUi), live performance, Eyedrum, Atlanta, GA  
2015 Blood, Milk, Fire, Body Tracks, Mammal Gallery, Atlanta, GA  
2016 RE/Track, Love/d & Sex/ed, Mammal Gallery, Atlanta, GA  
2016 MuhfuckaNeva(Luvd)Uhs: Real Live Girl (MNLUii), ELEVATE Atlanta, City of Atlanta/Office of Cultural Affairs, Atlanta, GA  
2017 BUSTitOPEN, Living Walls Inaugural Laura Patricia Calle Grant Performance, Atlanta, GA  
2018 The Ood: A Field Guide to Apocalyptic Worlds, Synchronicity Theatre Stripped Bare Lab 2017-18, Atlanta, GA

## HONORS/AWARDS/GRANTS

2009 Suzi Bass Award, Best Ensemble, For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf, Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre  
2011 Semi-Finalist, Creative Loafing 1st Annual Atlanta Shorts Contest, Brummagem  
2013 Creative Loafing, Best of Atlanta Critic's Pick, Best Actress  
2014 American Black Film Festival Official Selection, Ir/Reconcilable (Producer/Talent), HBO Shorts Competition, (finalist)  
2015 Suzi Bass Award, Best Leading Actress, The C.A. Lyons Project, The Alliance Theatre  
2015 Suzi Bass Award, Best Ensemble, Clybourne Park, Aurora Theatre  
2015 Jury Award, WonderRoot Local Film Night, MuhfuckaNeva(Luvd)Uhs video  
2016 Living Walls, Inaugural Laura Patricia Calle Inaugural Grant Recipient, Atlanta, GA  
2016 ELEVATE Atlanta, Grant/Performance recipient, Atlanta, GA  
2017-18 WonderRoot Walthall Artist Fellowship, Atlanta, GA  
2017- Atlanta Film Festival, Filmmaker-in-Residence  
2014-15, 2017-18 IDEA CAPITAL Grant Recipient  
2017 Creative Loafing, Best of Atlanta Reader's Pick, Best Performance Artist  
2017-18 Synchronicity Theatre Stripped Bare Lab Recipient

# JOHNSON LOWE GALLERY

2018 Hambidge Creative Arts and Sciences Residency, Distinguished Fellow, Rabun Gap, GA  
2018-19 MINT Gallery Leap Year Resident Awardee, Atlanta, GA  
2018 Artadia Atlanta Awards Finalist  
2018 40 Under 40 Spelman College, Spelman Messenger Magazine  
2019 Tempus Projects Residency, Living Melody Collective, Tampa, FL  
2019 Dream Warriors Foundation Grant recipient, Atlanta, GA  
2019 Artadia Atlanta Finalist, Winner  
2020 Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs Contracts for Arts Services, Atlanta, GA Award Winner  
2020 Black Spatial Relics Residency/Grant Recipient  
2020 Franklin Furnace Grant Recipient