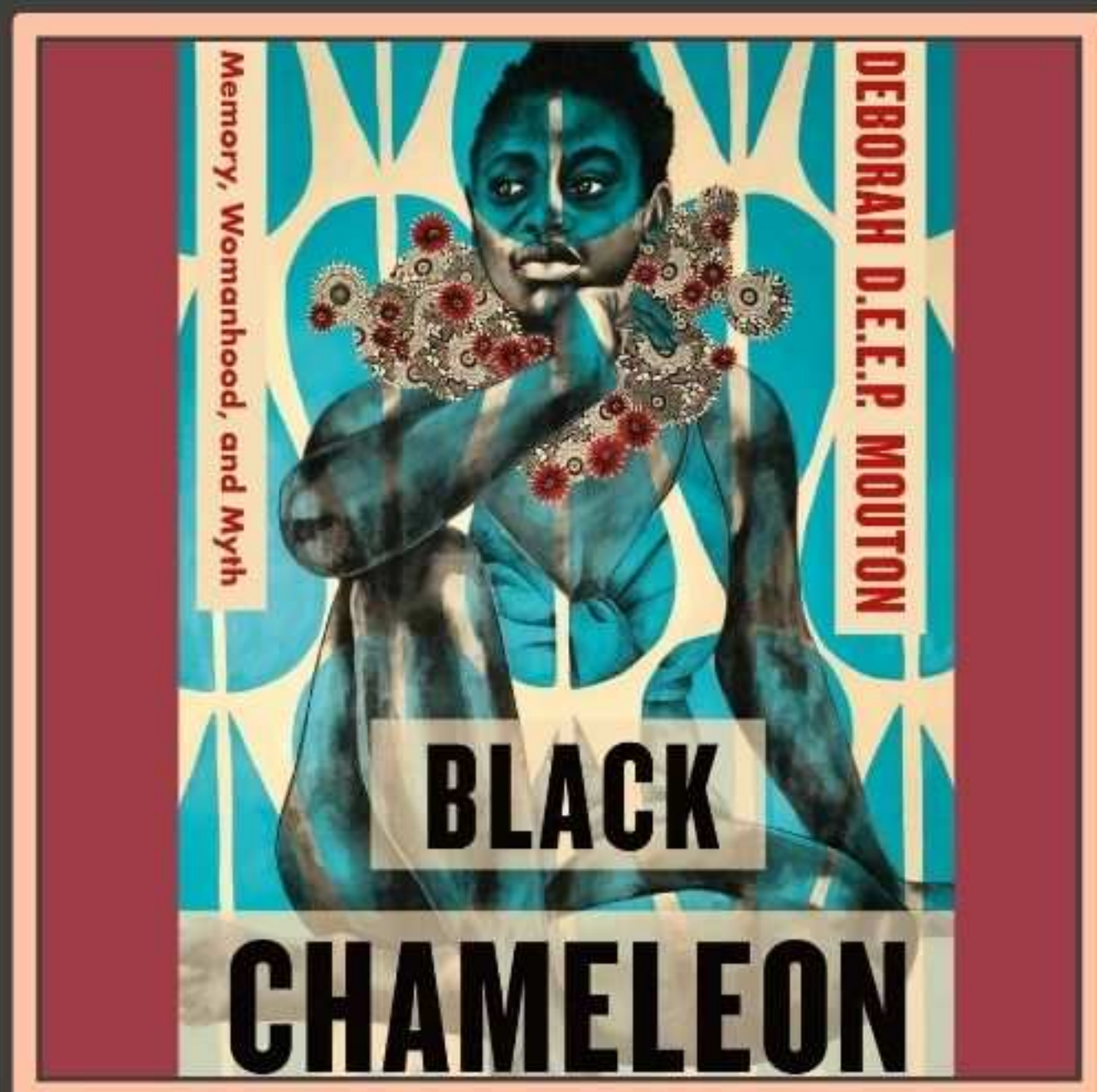


# 8:46



## How does compassion inform your art?

My work centers on breaking down the barriers, assumptions, and prejudices that we all have about each other to find a place to connect as humans. The human story only works through a space of compassion. The stories I chose to tell, whether through poem, song, play, story, or other text-based art forms, are ones that challenge the things you have believed. They strip us down to our core understandings. By doing this, I hope audiences are left with more compassion for others. I hope that they see that we all share the same feelings, suffering, and triumph. We are interwoven with each other. That, to me, is what compassion is all about.

## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT *Deborah D.E.P. Mouton*



Deborah D.E.P. Mouton is an internationally-known, multi-hyphenate literary artist, director, performer, critic and the first Black Poet Laureate of Houston, TX. She is the author of the 2019 poetry collection *Newsworthy* with Bloomsday Literary (and its German counterpart *Berichtenswert* with Elif Verlag), which was a finalist for the The Writer's League of Texas Book Award and Honorable Mention in the Summerlee Book Prize. Her poems have garnered her a pushcart nomination and been translated across multiple genres and languages. Honored by Houston Business Journal as a part of their 2021 40 Under 40 class, she has been a contributing writer for *Glamour*, *Texas Monthly*, *Muzzle*, and ESPN's *The Undefeated*.

As a playwright and a librettist, she has penned multiple stage works including *Marian's Song* with

Houston Grand Opera (HGO) & *The Forest of Secrets*, which premiered at National Sawdust. Her directorial debut began with her work *The World's Intermission*, commissioned by Performing Arts Houston and performed at the historic Jones Hall. A work which has since been adapted for film. She serves as writer/director for *Plumshuga: The Rise of Lauren Anderson*, a choreopoem premiering at Stages Theater in Houston, TX where she resides. Her forthcoming memoir, *Black Chameleon* with Henry Holt & Co. (2023), examines womanhood through mythology. One of its stories has been adapted into a storybook opera for young audiences titled "Lula, the Mighty Griot" (HGO). Currently, she is a Resident Artist with the American Lyric Theater, Rice University, and the Houston Museum of African American Culture.

**Finalist**  
Artist of the Year 2022

**COMPASSION**  
*Through The ARTS*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Plumshuga: The Rise of Lauren Anderson** - World Premiere  
OCTOBER 7, 2022 – NOVEMBER 13, 2022 @STAGES THEATRE
- "\_\_\_\_\_ As Myth" - Exhibition Opening Reception  
OCTOBER 27, 2022 @MOODY CENTER FOR THE ARTS, RICE UNIVERSITY
- **Black Chameleon** - Book Launch - MARCH 7, 2023

[WWW.LIVELIFEDEEP.COM](http://WWW.LIVELIFEDEEP.COM)

| [@LIVELIFEDEEP](https://IG/TWITTER/TIKTOK)

| [DEEP@LIVELIFEDEEP.COM](mailto:DEEP@LIVELIFEDEEP.COM)