

# DEGAS PASTEL SOCIETY

## *Spring Paint Out & Demo with Melissa Ladner*



**Friday, March 31, 2023  
Destrehan Plantation**

13034 River Road, Destrehan, LA 70047

9 am – Meet & Greet

Melissa's Plein Air Demo starts at 10 am

**Free Admission**

A native Mississippian, Melissa Ladner is probably best known for her pastel paintings of Red Creek. This aptly named creek of brilliant reddish-orange, and yellow ochre-tinted water, flows through an area of the piney woods region her family has called home for six generations. It is the deep woods, creeks, hidden lakes, and dirt roads she has explored since youth, that offer the recurring subjects in the representational landscape paintings she produces in soft pastel. When painting these remote places, whether on location or in the studio, she strives to take the viewer on explorations with her—to destinations most people will never get to see for themselves.

Although she began drawing at a very young age, Melissa did not discover pastel as a medium until she began her studies at Ole Miss. She received a BFA from the University of Mississippi in 1994 and is a member of the Degas Pastel Society and the Pastel Society of America. Melissa also works part-time as a graphic designer for the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Archives.

**Refreshments will be served at the Meet & Greet.**

**A shelter is available in case of bad weather.**

**After the demo, participants can paint and picnic on the beautiful grounds of Destrehan Plantation. Bring a packed lunch with you.**