

## SPOTLIGHT

## Emily Filler in blossom



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:  
DETAIL FROM *BLUE  
HYDRANGEAS*; STUDIO  
SHOT; *BLUE AND WHITE  
VASE*, 2016, MIXED MEDIA  
ON CANVAS, 122 X 122CM;  
*BOTANICALS*, STUDIO SHOT

IMAGES COURTESY OF THE  
ARTIST AND THE REBECCA  
HOSSACK ART GALLERY

**THE FIRST SOLO EXHIBITION** of 2017 to show at Rebecca Hossack gallery's Charlotte Street site is a collection of works by Canadian artist Emily Filler, who still works primarily out of Toronto.

Titled *Florilegium*, the pieces in the exhibition, many only produced in 2016, are noticeably centred on vibrant floral imagery. A number of Filler's previous exhibitions (*Into The Garden*, *Fresh Blooms* and *A Scattering of Blossoms*, for example) showcase her continued fascination with the natural world – a passion she has inherited from her father, fellow artist Rick Filler.

A prolific gardener from a young age, he has also led wilderness nature tours into the most remote regions of

Canada and both of these interests are incorporated into his fine art photography today.

Describing her process as 'painterly collage', Filler mentally collects images and patterns from various sources, such as books, photographs and fabrics, and interweaves paint with stencilled leaves and photographic transfers of plants in her serene mixed media creations.

She frequently focuses on removal as a technique to finalise her works, stripping back layers of paint to different depths to reveal contrasting layers of colour and texture, after spending hours carefully building them up. Fragments of antique photographs also tie in with her use of this retrospective technique.

The colours revealed range from pastel lilacs to bolder primary shades of red and blue, while checked borders surrounding parts of the paintings and precise dotted outlines are also recurrent, and contrast with Filler's looser brush strokes to frame her work. ■

1-25 February, 28 Charlotte Street, WIT,  
[rebeccahossack.com](http://rebeccahossack.com)