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Egypt to show work of Cairo artist killed in Tahrir Square for Venice Biennale

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As reported by [Hyperallergic](#), those in charge of the Egyptian Pavilion at this year's Venice Biennale have decided to show the work of a young Cairo-based artist, Ahmed Basiony, who was killed in gunfire while he was protesting in Tahrir Square at the beginning of the year. On the website [Universes in Universe](#) the curators have released the following statement:

'The Egyptian Pavilion is honored to present a project in the name of our friend and brother, Ahmed Basiony (1978 - 2011).

On January 28th, 2011 - artist, musician and professor, Ahmed Basiony was killed with several gunshot wounds inflicted by snipers on the Friday of Wrath in Tahrir Square (The 2011 Egyptian Revolution). Ending at 32 years of age, the same period that witnessed the remaining year of Anwar Sadat's presidency, followed by his assassination, and resulting with an Egypt held under the Mubarak Regime, Basiony was what one would consider an emblem of hope to millions of Egyptians, who were determined to live their life for change from a nationally repressed command. A man who lived and died for his country; an artist honored for his courage and loving mystique amongst his friends, colleagues, and students who were proud to learn from his life, and more-so from the cause behind how it all ended, Basiony's words on his facebook status, on his last Wednesday and Thursday evenings, showed his full determination to continue the revolts in peace though beaten down with police batons:

"Please, O Father, O Mother, O Youth, O Student, O Citizen, O Senior, and O more. You know this is our last chance for our dignity, the last change to change the regime that has lasted the past 30 years. Go down to the streets, and revolt, bring your food, your clothes, your water, masks and tissues, and a vinegar bottle, and believe me, there is but one very small step left... If they want war, we want peace, and I will practice proper restraint until the end, to regain my nation's dignity."

The exhibition will feature Basiony's project *30 Days of Running in the Space*, a project that the artist initiated a year ago, across the Nile from Tahrir Square, which involved running around in a specially devised structure hung with plastic sheets for an hour every day, wearing a suit that would analyse his bodily rhythms - sweat and steps taken - as he ran for the hour, information that would be projected onto a screen. This work will be juxtaposed with the raw footage of the recent protests that was taken from Basiony's video camera.

