

Maurice Ewing Medal

*Speech by Öz Yilmaz during the award ceremony
August 30, 2022*

There is some truth in the anonymous statement that “Wisdom of age will overcome inexperience of youth.” With age comes experience which in our applied science of geophysics is of paramount importance. With the Ewing Medal, presumably, SEG has now declared me to be a member of the group of individuals with wisdom based on years of experience.

And so, here are some words of wisdom within the context of seismic imaging beneath complex overburden structures in areas with irregular topography and complex near-surface:

*Kronos gave us the Arrow of Time
So that we may observe Depths of the Earth*

*But then Hades deceived us with the Arrow of Depth
So that we may be lost in Darkness of Depth*

*Exhausting even futile can it be
Pursuit for Earth Model in Depth*

*When truly in need wiser may it be
To be content with Earth Image in Time*

And to the young generation of our profession:

Always honor what the real data tell you and discard the theory that is not consistent with the observed data. In this regard, Nature is your best critic, but is also kind and affectionate to you. As a geophysicist, first and foremost, you are a physicist. Always keep in mind the physics of geophysics. And Let Reason Be Your Faith.

