Introduction

This is the eighth edition of our 50 Leading Women in Hedge Funds report and is published in association with EY for the seventh time. Whilst Covid-19 has denied us the opportunity to host a discerning company event in London and New York, at least this year, the professional achievements of the women featured in this year’s report shine through, nonetheless. We are so pleased to be publishing this report just a few days after Kamala Harris made history by becoming the first female, first Black and first Asian-American US Vice-President-elect.

Previous reports have sometimes repeated two or three names from earlier reports, most notably where the women in question have enjoyed a significant promotion – either within their current firm or as part of a move to a new firm – or have founded their own firm. With one exception, all the women featured in this year’s report are new names.

However, a good number of the firms featured in this year’s report have provided honorees before. Firms such as BNP Paribas, Bridgewater Associates, Citadel, D. E. Shaw, GAM Systematic Cambridge, Millennium Management, Northern Trust, Pictet Asset Management, Point72, Simmons & Simmons and Tudor Investment Corporation have featured different women each year because these firms seem to be particularly good at hiring and promoting lots of women into senior roles. In this year’s report we also feature women from firms who last featured some years back, namely Angelo Gordon (in 2016) and Brevan Howard (in 2011).

Firms appearing in this report for the first time include Beach Point Capital Management, Capstone Investment Advisors, Dalton Investments, Houbian Loke, Indus Capital, Janus Henderson, LibraMax Capital, Lone Pine, MKG, Mudrick Capital, Odley Asset Management, One William Street, Quantativa and Quantitative Brokers.

Some 23 of the women featured this year are investment professionals, whilst 27 are in non-investment roles including compliance, legal, audit, operations, finance, administration, sales, marketing and investor relations.

Three of the women in this year’s report work for two of the most profitable hedge fund managers of all time – according to ETF Edmond de Rothschild analysis – namely Bridgewater Associates and Lone Pine. The two Lone Pine women in this year’s report are two of the three portfolio managers who succeeded Lone Pine’s founder Steve Mandel. Most of the report’s discretionary equity portfolio managers specialize in the healthcare and biotechnology sector, which has attracted more attention this year for obvious reasons. Four of the investment professionals work for systematic and quantitative hedge fund managers, which is notable given the general dearth of women in STEM. Another noteworthy cluster is three women managing multi-billion amounts in liquid credit strategies.

Women in the report sit on a wide variety of committees including management, operating, executive, risk management, compliance, brokerage, conflicts, technical standards, capital allocation, steering, valuation and ESG. Some women sit on as many as five committees.

Many of the honorees also sit on diversity and inclusion councils or committees. These often overlap with a proliferation of affinity groups and networks, which can cover: women, parenting, LGBTQI+, disabilities, and multiple ethnic and/or racial groups, which can include Black/African/Caribbean, Hispanic or Latin, and others such as multicultural.

These groups may sometimes exist exclusively for employees, but increasingly they are also reaching out into the wider community for different reasons, sometimes they dovetail with corporate or personal philanthropy or voluntary work, and in other cases the objective is to promote more diverse recruitment. Hiring drives may centre around universities but they can also start earlier to pipe young people’s interest in studying STEM or finance-related subjects.

Advanced university study is a rarity in the list. The plurality of the fifty did not pursue university study beyond bachelor’s level, and the MBA remains the most frequent postgraduate qualification. There are at least four CPA chartholders and two CFA charterholders on the list, which only contains three women with a PhD or one economist, one quantitative portfolio manager and a valuation expert.

New York and London are unsurprisingly the most popular locations but we have cast the net into Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Connecticut, Minneapolis and Los Angeles in the US; Dublin and Zurich in Europe, and Beijing, Hong Kong and Singapore in Asia to identify these names.

An analysis of the S&P Composite 1500 found that firms with women at the top were worth on average $10 million more than those without.

A diverse workforce is one dimension of internal ESG/CSR policies, and several women on both the investment and non-investment sides were keen to talk to us about their respective firm’s evolving ESG policies. These can range from customized mandates excluding certain sectors to engagement with companies. Some firms are even publishing their own ESG related research. This is clearly a growth area, not least as opinion polls suggest that female investors are more concerned about ESG.

The standard disclaimer applies. This alphabetically ordered report is not a ranking per se, but rather a selection of senior women who should serve to inspire others. As a trade publication, occasionally we have to overlook women whose employers eschew any media coverage. Many of those omitted from this report are worthy candidates and may well feature in future reports. We have also received a large number of nominations for women who do not yet seem quite senior enough, but they could well “graduate” to leading women status quite soon as they ascend the career ladder. Many female portfolio managers running very small amounts of money (sometimes outside a fund or corporate structure) could also be considered if they grow assets, form or join a firm. We are keen to meet such women – and we may be able to feature them in future reports.
Kathryn Alexander
Head of Data Initiatives and Relationships, Global Quantitative Strategies, Citadel, New York

Sarah Allfandari
Chief Executive Officer
Dalton Investments
Los Angeles

Kathryn Alexander joined Dalton as Chief Executive Officer in June 2016, following a successful career in Europe where she co-founded Longhamp Asset Management. In her role at Dalton, she will be leading Dalton’s next phase of growth through a distinctive offering of globally recognized Asian and Emerging Markets equities strategies with fully integrated ESG investment processes. The firm has been at the forefront of progressive corporate governance initiatives in Japan and Korea (where it is a signatory of both market corporate governance codes) and recently expanded its ESG commitment through its joining of both the PRI and Climate Action 100+. Allfandari’s track record in asset raising and client relationship development in Europe is exemplary, demonstrated by the success of her former firm Longhamp which grew to be one of the most successful independent asset managers and distributors in Europe and Dalton’s Aum distributions partner for its UCTIS funds range. Before establishing Longhamp, she worked within Morgan Stanley’s Fund-alternative UCTIS platform in charge of marketing and previously sold structural products for Société Générale after a spell in proprietary trading at the bank. Allfandari has a Master of Finance from ESCP Business School and a BSc in Finance from Université Paris Dauphine.
Janet Joyce Arzt
President
Mudrick Capital Management
New York

Janet Joyce Arzt oversees non-investment functions, including operations, accounting, finance, legal and compliance, client services and marketing at Mudrick Capital, which specializes in illiquid credit and deep value equity-driven investing in North America. She reports to founder, Jason Mudrick, and sits on the Management Committee. Since she joined in 2014 as Director of Business Development and Investor Relations, firm assets under management have grown from $900m (€814m) to $4.6bn (€4.1bn). Arzt has led strategic initiatives including launching longer lock capital vehicles in 2016, a senior secured strategy in 2017, a separately managed fund of fund account based on an ESG/SRI exclusion list, and bespoke products including some with deferred fees and others offering co-investments. She has also helped with a hiring drive that has doubled the headcount to 26 people including two in the London office. Prior to joining Mudrick Capital, she worked in the Client Advisory Group at York Capital Management. Before that she worked at Morgan Creek Capital Management as a Senior Analyst focused on hedge fund investments. She has a BS in Commerce from the McIntire School of Commerce at the University of Virginia and is a CFA charterholder.

Mary Ann Betsch
Managing Director, Financial Control
Citadel
New York

Mary Ann Betsch joined Citadel in 2016 to build out the firm’s Financial Control team in New York. During her tenure, she has driven meaningful enhancements in the efficiency and effectiveness of the function across multiple areas of Citadel’s business – particularly at the intersection of Operations, Treasury and Financial Controls. She has also driven meaningful enhancements in the processes performed by the firm’s administrators. Betsch regularly collaborates with the Client and Partner Group to streamline processes that improve the client experience. She is passionate about team building and talent development and has overseen a significant hiring program over the past two years. Prior to joining Citadel, she was a partner in PwC’s Financial Services practice, where she advised global investment banks and leading alternative asset managers. During her tenure at PwC, she was selected as a Professional Accounting Fellow at the Federal Reserve Board. She holds a BS in Public Accounting from Fordham University and is a licensed Certified Public Accountant in New York State.

Samantha Bower
Head of Business Development and Investor Relations, Macro Investment Business
M&G Investments
London

Samantha Bower markets the Episide Discretionary Global Macro strategy, which can be accessed through UCITS or Cayman funds, or segregated mandates, all of which run part/part. The strategy, lead managed by Dave Fishwick since 1999, is marketed globally, including in the US, and to investors in Europe via the UCITS. Assets are around $4bn, and the team also runs circa $5bn in long-only multi-asset strategies (Sept 2020), which are marketed by M&G’s broader distribution teams. Previously, Bower was responsible for business development of single manager hedge funds and funds of hedge funds across a variety of strategies at ABS AMRO Asset Management, at Man Group joint venture, Man-Vector, and at third party marketer Folke Asset Management. She started her career in finance in 1997 at PaineWebber London in fixed income sales. She chairs the AIM Business Development and IR Group, is a member of the Women in Finance, and Women in Banking & Finance (WBF). She has a BA in International Business with Modern Languages (French and Spanish) from South Bank University and is a CAIA charterholder.

Arancha Cano
Managing Director and Portfolio Manager
Wellington Management
London

Arancha Cano is a seasoned macro investor who manages a long/short equity strategy predominately focused on the equities of global financial companies. Her research and style incorporate high levels of engagement with central banks and management of financial services companies globally. Before joining Wellington in 2017, Cano was an equity portfolio manager investing in global financials at Balyasny Asset Management for two years. Prior to that she managed a global financials portfolio at M&G Capital for seven years. Before that she worked at UBS as a portfolio manager in Proprietary Trading and in specialist sales for global financials. She earlier worked in sales at AxaMansard in Madrid, Cano also worked at the Spanish Ministry of Economy hosting an annual event in London called Ladies in Finance, that aims to provide a forum for education, networking and connectivity of women financial professionals in the London community.
Natalia Chefer
Managing Director and Co-Head, Discretionary Macro
The D. E. Shaw Group
New York

Natalia Chefer jointly manages portfolio construction and risk for the Discretionary Macro team's investments and directly oversees trading in currencies, equities, and emerging markets. The Discretionary Macro strategy draws on the firm's collaborative ethos to investigate technical, structural, and behavioural themes and pursue cross-asset-class trading. Chefer is also a rotating member of the firm's Risk Committee, which has ultimate responsibility for capital allocation and risk management. Upon joining the D. E. Shaw Group in 2011, she initially worked in corporate credit before pivoting to Discretionary Macro in 2019. Chefer is an active member of the firm's DISCO Women affinity group, which, through allyship and mentorship initiatives, seeks to help build a diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace. Additionally, she sits on the Foreign Exchange Committee of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. She has a joint B.Comm. in Economics and Finance from McGill University and an MS in Public Financial Policy from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Kathy Choi
Portfolio Manager
Beach Point Capital Management
Santa Monica

Kathy Choi, who reports to Beach Point’s founding partners, co-CEOs and co-CEOs, Carl Goldsmith and Scott Klein, focuses on opportunistic credit mandates across high yield bonds and bank debt, stressed and distressed credit. Beach Point’s opportunistic credit strategy focuses on distressed and complex investments leveraging the firm’s legal expertise. Choi sits on the firm’s ESG Committee, Management Committee, and co-chairs its Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Prior to Beach Point, Choi was a Managing Director at Post Advisory Group where she spent eight years focusing on a variety of high yield and distressed investments. She was previously a Senior Research Analyst at DE Shaw Capital Management, and prior to that role she worked in investment banking at Salomon Brothers as an associate in the High Yield Capital Markets group as well as a financial analyst in the Mezzar and Acquisitions group. Choi has a BS in Economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and an MBA from Harvard University.

Maureen D’Alleva
Head of Performing Credit
Angelo Gordon
New York

As the portfolio manager of Angelo Gordon’s dedicated performing credit platform and its Nordres Capital CLOs in both the US and Europe, D’Alleva is directly responsible for managing approximately $6bb in assets and leads a team of 15 investment professionals in New York and London. Looking to the recent state of the markets, she believes this is a good climate for credit picking and that maintaining a focus on monitoring the liquidity runway of underlying borrowers can help prudent leveraged loan investors avoid defaults. D’Alleva’s role at Angelo Gordon extends beyond performing credit, as she is Chair of the firm’s Executive Committee and Co-Head of the BG Women’s Network, which seeks to engage women across the firm, increase connectivity through networking events, mentoring, and learning and development opportunities. She was also Co-Head of the JCI Diversity Council, which develops strategic initiatives and events aimed at fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity and inclusion at the firm. Prior to joining Angelo Gordon, D’Alleva spent 11 years with Morgan Stanley’s Global High Yield group where she focused on underwriting and investment analysis of both bank loans and bonds. She holds a BS in Computer Systems from Baruch College.

Louisa Church
Executive Managing Director and Head of Investor Relations for Europe and the Middle East
Sculpt Capital Management
London

Louisa Church is Head of Investor Relations for Europe and the Middle East at Sculpt Capital, where she is primarily responsible for developing and maintaining the firm’s relationships across institutional investors, consultants, high net worth individuals and their advisors. In 2020, Sculpt has raised assets across all funds and strategies, including multi-strategy opportunistic credit and its fourth closed end fund real estate vehicle, which raised $1.2bn. In terms of diversity, Church is involved in Sculptor’s Women, Network and the firm also has Black and African American, Hispanic and Latinx, Asian and LGBTQ+ affinity networks. Church joined the firm in 2019, and reports to Sculptor’s President and COO, Wayne Cohen. Prior to joining Sculptor, Church was CEO of Europe, Partner and Co-Head of Global Client Advisory at BrookMonte Capital Management. Before that, she was a Director of Client Relations and Business Development EMEA at Forte Capital Management. She holds an MA in History of Art from Edinburgh University.
Denise Davidson
Partner and UK Alternatives Audit Leader
EY London

Denise Davidson leads a team of almost 30 hedge fund auditors in London, as well as 60 based in Bangalore, India. She handles audit relationships with owner-managed start-ups all the way up to well established global managers. In 2020, due to the Covid-19 crisis, Davidson and her team transitioned seamlessly to home working, conducting audits remotely through the use of the firm’s proprietary audit technology. She sits on EY’s Global Hedge Fund Steering Committee and leads on EY’s Global Alternatives Funds Research, delivering key findings from the firm’s flagship annual research to the European market. She also co-hosts regular Alternative Technical sessions and webcasts, focusing on accounting, tax and regulatory topics relevant to the industry. Client work aside, she is the Partner responsible for employee matters for her business unit and is the Partner Sponsor for EY’s UK Financial Services Graduates and Apprentices programmes. She is also active on EY’s Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Committee, promoting equal opportunities and influencing the firm’s D&I strategy. She has a BSc in Accounting and Finance from Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen and is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland.

Amelia Davies
Managing Director
Murano Connect
London and New York

Joining Murano as its maiden employee in 2011, in an investor analyst role, Amelia Davies advanced to become Global Head of Business Development and in 2019 became one of its three directors; she also co-founded Ophir Bulling, and Principal, Molly Hinczew. Davies has hired and trained analysts and researchers, including Murano’s Head of US Sales and Head of European and Asian Sales, all of whom report to her. She has researched investors, built CRM databases, and onboarded asset managers across hedge fund, private credit, private equity and long only strategies, including some with an ESG focus. Murano’s cloud and phone-based offering has been particularly sought after amidst remote working in 2020 and Murano’s manager client base for bespoke matchmaking between investors and managers to close to full capacity. Davies is now driving forward Murano’s new offering, Murano Consulting, which helps asset managers with projects around branding, marketing and positioning. The firm’s travel calendar coordination centre, Puddle, is now held pending maximisation of travel. She has a BSc in Psychology from Nottingham University.

Anh Do
Partner and Head of Pharmaceuticals and Biotech Investment
Indus Capital
New York

Anh Do has led Indus’s pharmaceuticals and biotech research since 2016. Her team carries out proprietary research, including attending many medical and scientific conferences, to generate long ideas in innovative companies that have strong teams, and short ideas in incumbents that are being disrupted by innovation. The geographic focus is China, Japan and the US. In 2020, Do’s analysis of the spread and policy responses to Covid-19, as well as nascent treatments and vaccines, has increasingly influenced Indus’s directional, sector and factor positioning. Do joined Indus straight after graduating from college in 2000 and was initially a generalist before specialising in pharmaceuticals in late 2009 and 2010. She is a member of Morgan Stanley Women’s Investment Roundtable and serves on the Board of Vietnam Finance Society in New York City. Do grew up in Vietnam, studied A-levels in the UK, and has a BA in Economics and Political Science from Bowdoin College. Indus Capital is a $4bn alternative asset management firm offering long/short strategies investing primarily in the Asia Pacific region.

Stephanie Dolan
Chief Financial Officer and Managing Director
One William Street Capital Management
New York

Stephanie Dolan is the firm’s Chief Financial Officer, responsible for fund and management company accounting, financial reporting, and US and international tax compliance. She is a member of the Risk Committee, the Valuation Committee and the Management Steering Committee, and serves as an officer of the firm’s registered investment fund. Outside of the firm, Dolan is passionate about mentorship, and actively devotes time and participates in speaking engagements to undergraduates and young professionals providing insight on potential careers in accounting and finance. Prior to joining One William Street at its inception in 2008, Dolan was Managing Director and Controller of Lehman Brothers’ Investment Management Division, responsible for budgeting, financial reporting and accounting, including the private client, asset management, and private equity businesses. Earlier in her career, she held various financial management roles within the capital markets division. Prior to Lehman Brothers, she worked as a manager in Arthur Andersen’s audit practice working with banking, hedge fund and mutual fund clients. She has a BA in Accounting from Simon College. One William Street Capital Management is an alternative investment firm with a focus on asset-based credit that manages approximately $8bn.
Rui Dong
Senior Vice President and Trader, Discretionary Energy
The D. E. Shaw Group
New York

Rui Dong joined the D. E. Shaw Group in 2009, where she is a senior member of the Discretionary Energy team, which primarily trades crude oil, natural gas, refined products and power markets. Dong is involved in trading both directional and relative-value opportunities, including calendar and cross-commodity spreads. Additionally, she leads research initiatives both within the energy team and as part of collaborative firm-wide projects, working to stay on top of shifts in energy market dynamics both tied to macro considerations, such as geopolitical and policy factors, and based on the firm’s bottom-up research and analysis. Recent energy-related themes have included increased interconnectivity of US and global natural gas markets, US shale production dynamics, international fuel import/export patterns, and post Covid-19 mobility patterns. She also mentors new hires and is active in the firm’s DESCO Women affinity group, whose activities include lunch-and-learn conversations, after-hours social events, and hosting prominent speakers. She has a BA in Computer Science and Economics from Harvard University.

Bronwyn Eckhardt
Managing Director and Chief Compliance Officer - US
Tudor Investment Corporation
Stamford, Connecticut

As Chief Compliance Officer, Bronwyn Eckhardt is responsible for Tudor’s regulatory and compliance oversight in the US. She has been essential in the development and refinement of the firm’s internal controls in effectively identify and manage regulatory risk, and maintains strong relationships with the various agencies with which Tudor is registered, including the US Securities and Exchange Commission, US Commodity Futures Trading Commission and US National Futures Association. She joined Tudor in May 2000 and has served as the head of the firm’s Compliance Management group and as a member of the firm’s Management & Control Committee, Brokerage Committee, and Compliance Committee. She maintains on-going compliance programs for Tudor’s regulated and non-regulated business strategies and is the primary point of contact for regulators.

Kimberly Evans
Head of Private Capital Fund Services, North America
Northern Trust
Chicago

Kimberly Evans is responsible for strategy development and execution, client relationships, technology and management of teams providing fund administration across private capital strategies: private equity, venture capital, real estate, infrastructure, private credit, fund of funds and secondaries, where assets under administration have grown by 8% percent since her appointment in 2018. Previously, at Northern Trust, she led the pension and treasury business for government, sovereign wealth and Taft-Hartley fund segments in the Americas, where assets under custody grew by 33 percent, to more than $600 billion, under her leadership. She currently serves as the President of the Women in Leadership Business Resource Council at Northern Trust whose mission is to engage and empower women in the workplace. Prior to Northern Trust, Evans worked at major financial institutions and was COO of a privately-held company where she led a successful turnaround. Evans graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a BSc in Psychology. She was named a Chicago United 2019 Business Leader of Color and was also recognized as a Leader in Philanthropy by the University of Chicago. She serves on the board of the Chicago Public Education Fund.

Ann C. Gallo
Senior Managing Director, Partner and Global Industry Analyst
Wellington Management
Boston

Ann Gallo is a global industry analyst and the investment team leader on Wellington Management’s Health Care Team, specializing in the health care services and medical technology industries. She manages two global health care hedge funds and several global health care sector portfolios. She also heads Wellington’s Private Equity Oversight Committee. She joined Wellington in August 2020 after nurturing a passion for health care investing, and is a strong advocate for diversity, equity, accessibility, social responsibility and environmental sustainability in health care. Gallo is a member of the board of the Harvard Medical School Alumni Association’s Gender Equity Committee. She was a Fulbright Scholar in Health Sciences and received her MA in Health Care Management from Harvard University.
Mala Gaonkar  
Managing Director, Portfolio Manager and Member of the Management Committee  
Lone Pine Capital  
London

Mala Gaonkar joined Lone Pine Capital in 1996 and currently serves as Managing Director and one of three portfolio managers. In this role, she plays an integral part in making investment decisions and managing Lone Pine’s portfolio, focusing her analytical work on media, tech, telecom and emerging markets financials. She also co-leads an 11-member team of analysts with which she works closely on various investment ideas. She is a member of Lone Pine’s Management Committee, which oversees the firm’s strategy and its ESG, Brokerage and Valuation Committees. Before joining Lone Pine, Gaonkar served as a Consultant for Boston Consulting Group, as well as a Telecom and Media Private Equity Analyst at Chase Capital Partners. She co-founded the Surge Foundation, a data-driven non-profit led by female scientists, and is a trustee of the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), a founding trustee of Ariadne Labs and The Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering, and a member of Harvard’s Global Advisory Council. She graduated from Harvard and Bucknell Colleges and received her MBA from Harvard Business School. Founded in 1999 by Stephen Mandel Jr., Lone Pine Capital is a private investment adviser headquartered in Greenwich, Connecticut that employs long/short and long only strategies.

Angela Samfilippo Gorder  
Managing Partner and Global Head of Business Development  
Argentum Creek Partners  
Minneapolis

Angela Samfilippo Gorder co-founded Argentum Creek in 2005. She is responsible for strategic decision making, business risk assessment and management of the firm, which invests in emerging market corporate debt strategies in listed and fund vehicles. She serves on several firm committees including the Management Committee, Operating Committee, Risk Management Committee and the Compliance Committee. Her business development remit encompasses capital raising, client service, branding and marketing. Prior to joining Argentum Creek, Gorder worked at US small cap firm Oak Hill Advisors as a Managing Director helping the firm launch its first fund. Previously, as Pine River’s first marketer and investment relations professional, she helped the firm build up its infrastructure and grow assets from circa $5bn to circa $20bn. Before Pine River, she was on the prime brokerage capital introductions team at Banc of America Securities in Chicago. She belongs to the Minnesota chapter of 100 Women in Finance, sits on the Investment Committee for the Northwest Area Foundation, which focuses on alleviating poverty in indigenous rural communities. She graduated from Michigan State University with a BA in Accounting and an MBA in Finance and Taxation.

Kelly Granat  
Managing Director, Portfolio Manager and Member of the Management Committee  
Lone Pine Capital  
Greenwich, Connecticut

Kelly Granat joined Lone Pine Capital in 2007 and currently serves as Managing Director and one of three portfolio managers at the firm. In this role, which she has held since 2011, she plays an integral role in making investment decisions and managing Lone Pine’s portfolio, focusing her analytical work on the consumer space. She also co-leads an 11-member team of analysts with which she works closely on various investment ideas. She is a member of Lone Pine’s Management Committees, which oversees the firm’s strategy and guides its various business priorities, as well as a member of the ESG, Brokerage and Valuation Committees. Prior to joining Lone Pine, Granat served as an Analyst at J.P. Morgan Securities, a Financial Analyst at JPMorgan Capital Partners, and a Senior Analyst at Angelo Gordon & Co. She graduated from Harvard and Rockcliffe Colleges in 1996 and received her MBA from Harvard Business School in 2002. Founded in 1997 by Stephen Mandel Jr., Lone Pine Capital is a private investment adviser headquartered in Greenwich, Connecticut that employs long/short and long only strategies.

Claire Holdsworth  
General Counsel  
Odey Asset Management  
London

Claire Holdsworth joined Odey as General Counsel in 2004. She reports to Odey’s Chief Executive Officer, Jim Pursey, and works closely with the firm’s Chief Compliance Officer, Jack Satt, and Chief Operating Officer, Tom Richard. As well as overseeing legal matters at Odey, she acts as Company Secretary for group companies in the UK, Channel Islands and Switzerland. She provides legal support to Odey’s Cayman hedge funds, Irish and UK CITS, Irish (UCO) and segregated accounts and to Odey Wealth, the firm’s UK and Channel Islands private client business. She previously worked as a securities and derivatives lawyer at Credit Lyonnais, trained as a corporate lawyer at Hogan Lovells, where she did secondments to Barclays and John Lewis. She started studying law, and took her solicitor examinations, whilst serving as a Captain in the Intelligence Corps of the British Army in Germany, Saudi Arabia, Northern Ireland and Bosnia. She has a BA in German from the University of Wales.
Kate Holleran
Managing Director and Head of Capital Solutions, Americas
Barclays
New York

Kate Holleran leads the Barclays Capital Solutions team in the Americas, which sits within the Prime business and which offers financing, clearing, and execution services for many of the world’s largest and most sophisticated hedge funds.

The Capital Solutions platform develops relationships with institutional investors and hedge fund managers by delivering industry leading content, targeted capital introduction services and hosting content rich forums for knowledge transfer and discussion on industry issues. Holleran joined Barclays in 2022 from Lehman Brothers’ Capital Introduction team in the US. She previously worked within the Prime CIO team where she helped to integrate the firm’s fixed income, equity financing and futures clearing business, and managed a service that offered turn-key real estate services to hedge fund and asset management clients. Holleran began her career at Lehman Brothers Europe within the finance division in London where she was a product controller supporting the equity finance business. She has a degree in Business and Economics from the University of Dublin, Trinity College, Ireland. She holds designations from the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) and the Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst (CAIA).

Karin Jans
Partner and Head of Business Development
Quantica Capital
Zurich

Karin Jans sits on Quantica’s Executive Committee and reports to the firm’s CEO while two other business development professionals — a senior relationship manager and a senior product specialist — report to her. The team of 11 professionals manages the Quantica Managed Futures strategy, which has received the Hedge Fund Journal’s UCITS Hedge performance awards in the trend following CTA category. The strategy can be traded with or without commodities since a large European institutional investor required a version excluding commodities due to their ESG policy two years ago. Vehicles include a Cayman fund, two UCITS funds and a number of separately managed accounts. The team has been running the fully systematic QMP Program for more than 35 years. Prior to joining Quantica, Jans was a Senior Relationship Manager with Union Bancaire Privee (UBP), marketing alternative investments to institutional clients. Prior to joining UBP, she was a Senior Relationship Manager for a private equity fund of funds that was under the corporate umbrella of BlackRock Private Equity Partners AG and Swiss RE Private Equity Partners AG at different times. She has a BBA in Banking and Finance from the University of Applied Sciences in Zurich, is a CFA charterholder and holds the Series 3 and 30 Licenses.

Alexandra Krystal
Managing Director and Head of US Prime Services Sales and Capital Introduction
CIBC
New York

Alexandra Krystal joined CIBC in 2017 to re-build the US prime brokerage business. CIBC continues its global prime brokerage expansion with a strategic business plan that includes cross-asset class offerings for financing, clearing, and execution, as well as synthetic prime brokerage and DMA. Krystal’s responsibilities include the development and implementation of the firm’s US prime brokerage initiatives, including oversight of sales, onboarding, and capital introductions. Krystal is also responsible for managing senior hedge fund relationships, overseeing the build-out of client-facing strategies and providing ongoing guidance to respect market structure and industry trends. Krystal is involved with community outreach, having hosted events related to education and women in finance. Prior to CIBC, Krystal worked in the Hedge Fund Consulting Practice at EY, where she led the Prime Hedging Strategy. Krystal developed EY’s PR Advisory Business, where she and her team worked along side prime brokers to perform best in class assessment considering metrics across infrastructure, legal entity analysis, and balance sheet. She also developed an industry-leading Hedge Fund Treasury Study to substantiate the evolution of the financing role. Previously, she worked in prime brokerage sales at UBS and Barclays. She holds an MBA from New York’s Columbia University and a BA from Colgate University.

Samantha Levenstein
Director of Investor Relations
Beach Point Capital Management
New York

Samantha Levenstein markets for Beach Point Capital Management, a full-service management firm focusing on credit-related investments and specializing in complex, less-followed opportunities, and headquartered in Santa Monica, the firm has raised assets across all strategies in global public and private credit, event driven, securitized, stressed and distressed. Beach Point has a global investor base with pension funds making up the largest group and endowments and foundations the second largest. Levenstein sits in the firm’s New York office, which has a staff of 12 including investment and operational professionals. Prior to Beach Point, she worked at alternative strategies consulting firm, Aksia LLC, helping institutional investors build out their hedge fund, private credit and opportunistic programs, as well as the using on business development. She is a member of the Milken Institute’s Young Leaders’ Circle, a Fundraising Steering Committee Member for the Women’s Alternative Investment Forum and sits on the Board for the non-profit, Clark Milton, which educates patients and provides needed grants to cover the cost of cryopreserving for women whose fertility is threatened by cancer. She has a BS from the University of Florida’s College of Journalism and a JD from New York Law School.
Cindy Ma
Managing Director and Global Head of Portfolio Valuation and Fund Advisory Services
Houlihan Lokey
New York

Cindy Ma joined Houlihan Lokey in 2007 and the valuation team she heads in a leading firm for hard-to-value assets. She has extensive expertise in valuing liquid securities across capital structures, industries and geographies and in establishing best in class valuation policies and procedures. She belongs to Houlihan Lokey’s Technical Standards Committee, sits on the Financial Instruments Board of the International Valuation Standards Council, and has worked as a consulting and testifying expert for the SEC. She also sits on Houlihan Lokey’s Diversity and Inclusion Council. Prior to joining Houlihan Lokey, Ma was a partner at EY and directed a complex array of significant litigation and restructuring projects related to derivatives valuation, securities trading and risk management. She began her career trading derivatives and designing risk management products for a global commodity firm. She holds a PhD in Finance from Columbia University, a BS in Accounting from Indiana University, and the CFA and FRICS designations. A frequent speaker at industry conferences, she has authored numerous publications including a college textbook on derivatives and served as an Adjunct Professor at the Columbia Business School. Ma is a board member of PENN$IC, a non-profit that connects public school students to success.

Joy G. Mashaal
Managing Director
Senova Management
Los Angeles

Joy G. Mashaal (sister of founder Richard Mashaal) has worked at Senova Management LLC for 28 years covering the healthcare industry for Senova’s flagship strategy as well as its technology strategy. Her areas of focus include biotech, pharma, medical devices, healthcare information technology, and diagnostic tools. Senova’s contrarian investment philosophy leads her to seek out-of-favor or “under the radar” long ideas—like Israeli spinal robotics company, Mosaie Robotics, which has since been acquired by Medtronic. On the short side, Senova concentrates on companies with questionable business practices or governance issues—like Infosys Therapeutics, which was involved in the illegal marketing of its opioid medication and Akorn Pharmaceuticals, whose fraudulent activities led Fresenius to emerge on its bid to acquire the company. Mashaal sees Celcius, which was involved in an investment reimbursement in vaccine and anti-infective science. Senova has crossed over into private investments such as Luminex, a transformational diagnostic company, and diabetes technology firm, Bigfoot Biomedical, where Mashaal sits on the board. Mashaal previously worked as a research analyst focused on biotechnology at Castle Creek Life Science Partners. She holds a BA in Environmental Studies and an MA in Conservation Biology, both from the University of Pennsylvania.

Nicole McLean
Executive Director, Trading
Campbell & Company
Baltimore

Nicole McLean has worked on Campbell & Company’s trading desk since June 2008. She currently oversees the firm’s listed derivative and cash equity trading with counterparties globally. McLean works closely with the Research and Operations teams, in implementing seamless, automated workflows as new, more exotic markets are added to the trading program. She also chairs Campbell’s Best Execution Committee, which requires her to coordinate the efforts of senior members across various departments to continually evolve Campbell’s trading process and supporting infrastructure to provide the best results for their clients. Her focus on delivering these results includes leading efforts on transaction cost analysis (TCA) and working directly with bank and third-party vendors in selecting various trading algorithms. Most recently she tested and co-headed a specialized algorithm to better handle Campbell’s most challenging listed derivative markets as well as lead an algorithmic-controlled study for the quant equity programs. She also has responsibility for the ongoing upgrading of the firm’s order and execution management systems. During Covid-19, McLean has been key in establishing Campbell’s new work from home environment. She holds a BS in Business Administration from Villanova University and an MBA from Loyola University Maryland.

Surbhi Mehta
Managing Director, Investor Relations and Product Development, Portfolio Manager Recruiting
 Tudor Investment Corporation
Stamford, Connecticut

Surbhi Mehta oversees investor relations and product development in strategy and marketing. Prior to joining Tudor, Mehta was a global research analyst as well as a corporate investor relations advisor with Goldman Sachs. Mehta joined Goldman Sachs in 2007 and is focused on the development, launch and marketing of new funds which support Goldman Sachs’ clients and strategies. Prior to Goldman Sachs, she helped launch two new funds, expanded the firm’s client base and implemented the investment manager hiring process. She is a board member of the Texas Public Employee’s Retirement Trust (TPERF). Mehta has a BA in Economics from the University of Virginia, a JD from Vanderbilt University, and a Certificate in Global Finance from the University of Pennsylvania. Mehta has also worked at a number of investment firms including J.P. Morgan, Goldman Sachs, and Blackstone Group. Prior to Goldman Sachs, Mehta worked at the law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom. Mehta holds a PhD in Finance from the University of Chicago. Mehta is active in the local community and is the founding member of the Goldman Sachs Women’s Network. She is also a member of the Women’s Economic Agenda (WEAG), a group of female finance professionals and business leaders. Mehta has also served as a Director of the New York City Mission, a faith-based community organization in New York City. Mehta is a member of the Women’s Economic Agenda (WEAG), a group of female finance professionals and business leaders. Mehta has also served as a Director of the New York City Mission, a faith-based community organization in New York City. Mehta is also a member of the Women’s Economic Agenda (WEAG), a group of female finance professionals and business leaders. Mehta has also served as a Director of the New York City Mission, a faith-based community organization in New York City. Mehta is also a member of the Women’s Economic Agenda (WEAG), a group of female finance professionals and business leaders. Mehta has also served as a Director of the New York City Mission, a faith-based community organization in New York City. Mehta is also a member of the Women’s Economic Agenda (WEAG), a group of female finance professionals and business leaders. Mehta has also served as a Director of the New York City Mission, a faith-based community organization in New York City. Mehta is also a member of the Women’s Economic Agenda (WEAG), a group of female finance professionals and business leaders. Mehta has also served as a Director of the New York City Mission, a faith-based community organization in New York City. Mehta is also a member of the Women’s Economic Agenda (WEAG), a group of female finance professionals and business leaders. Mehta has also served as a Director of the New York City Mission, a faith-based community organization in New York City. Mehta is also a member of the Women’s Economic Agenda (WEAG), a group of female finance professionals and business leaders. Mehta has also served as a Director of the New York City Mission, a faith-based community organization in New York City. Mehta is also a member of the Women’s Economic Agenda (WEAG), a group of female finance professionals and business leaders. Mehta has also served as a Director of the New York City Mission, a faith-based community organization in New York City. Mehta is also a member of the Women’s Economic Agenda (WEAG), a group of female finance professionals and business leaders. Mehta has also served as a Director of the New York City Mission, a faith-based community organization in New York City. Mehta is also a member of the Women’s Economic Agenda (WEAG), a group of female finance professionals and business leaders. Mehta has also served as a Director of the New York City Mission, a faith-based community organization in New York City. Mehta is also a member of the Women’s Economic Agenda (WEAG), a group of female finance professionals and business leaders. Mehta has also served as a Director of the New York City Mission, a faith-based community organization in New York City. Mehta is also a member of the Women’s Economic Agenda (WEAG), a group of female finance professionals and business leaders. Mehta has also served as a Director of the New York City Mission, a faith-based community organization in New York City.
Fiona Mulligan
Global Product and Client Solutions Manager, Hedge Fund Services
BNP Paribas Securities Services
Ireland

Fiona Mulligan plays a pivotal role in shaping the Hedge Fund Services product offerings globally at BNP Paribas Securities Services, driving key product innovations, such as the digital client and investor portal, that are in line with the evolving needs of hedge fund clients. She also supports the development and execution of the go-to-market strategy for the business, working across functions to identify and leverage synergies with wider bank solutions. Prior to joining Credit Suisse Prime Fund Services (which was acquired by BNP Paribas), she was Head of Investor Relations for GLG (now Man Group) where she was responsible for service provider selection and oversight, distribution management, sales and marketing support. This client contact has given her a deep understanding of operational nuances faced by hedge funds and how they can streamline processes and reduce costs through outsourcing. With over 15 years of experience in the hedge fund industry, she has a wealth of experience spanning operations, risk, compliance, distribution services, sales and marketing support, client relationship management, project management and digital innovation. She has a BA in International Business from Ulster University. She is a member of 100 Women in Finance.

Sara Nainzadeh
Fundamental Equity Portfolio Manager
Millennium Management
New York

Sara Nainzadeh manages a global portfolio with a team of five senior analysts covering the consumer discretionary, TMT, utilities, industrials and energy sectors. She re-joined Millennium in 2020 after spending over 10 years in investment banking at Cantor Fitzgerald. Prior to her role as a portfolio manager, she worked as an analyst covering utilities and energy at Millennium from 2004 to 2007. She started her career at Merrill Lynch in the Equity Research Department covering natural gas pipelines and electric and gas utilities. Nainzadeh currently sponsors an annual scholarship for underprivileged individuals studying arts subjects at the University of Rochester. She is also an active participant in New York’s Persian community and serves as a member of the Nour Foundation’s Metropolitan Museum Committee. Nainzadeh has a BA in English from the University of Rochester.

Katrina Paglia
General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer
Capstone Investment Advisors
New York

Katrina Paglia joined Capstone in 2019 as General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer, where she is responsible for legal, regulatory and compliance functions and is a member of the Management, Investment, Conflicts and Valuation Committees. Since joining, Paglia has expanded her growing team to a global presence, with its current six lawyers and compliance staff across Capstone’s offices, managing regulatory oversight in the US, UK, Canada and Australia. She instills in her team an innovative and collaborative culture with respect to legal and compliance strategy, such as deploying cutting-edge technology to automate various workflows. As a champion of a positive work environment, Paglia is a member of Capstone’s Diversity & Inclusion group and recently launched the Capstone Women’s Network with various initiatives to support the career development of women at Capstone. Prior to Capstone, Paglia was General Counsel, Corporate and Governance, and Corporate Secretary at Oc-Ziff Capital Management (now Sculptor Capital Management). She began her career at Vinubi LLP, was later Compliance Manager at American Express, and Legal and Compliance Counsel at M.D. Sass. Paglia earned her BA in Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland and JD with a Certificate in Business Law from Brooklyn Law School.

Rania Papageorgiou
Economist, Fixed Income and Macro
Citadel
New York

Rania Papageorgiou is an economist within Citadel’s Fixed Income and Macro business, where her work powers US growth and inflation forecasting models used across multiple investment teams. Her research has centered on near and medium-term inflation dynamics in developed economies, with a particular focus on the US. She also specializes in commodity-driven small open economies (namely Canada, Australia, and New Zealand), forecasting growth, inflation and labor market dynamics to inform the firm’s expectations for fiscal and monetary policy. Before joining Citadel in 2015, Papageorgiou worked as a researcher within the Western Hemisphere Department at the International Monetary Fund (IMF), having worked in the Strategy, Policy and Review Department before that. Prior to the IMF, she spent a summer as a graduate student at the Bank of Canada in the Financial Markets Department. She holds a BA and BSc in Economics and Biomedical Sciences from McGill University and an MA in International Economics from Johns Hopkins University SAIS.
Danielle Pizzo
Head of Investment Business Strategy
Schonfeld Strategic Advisors
New York

Danielle Pizzo is responsible for developing and executing Schonfeld’s vision and is a key contributor to all firm investment decisions. She sits on the three-person Capital Allocation Committee, alongside O.D. Ryan Tilkin and President Andreas Fishman, the six-person Management Committee; on executive committees of Schonfeld’s Actuarial and European branches; and as an extension of Schonfeld’s Executive Committee. In addition to maintaining portfolio manager relationships across the firm, she oversees strategy and personnel across fundamental equity, business development, marketing and investor relations, recruiting and communications. In 2020, Schonfeld, which owns $6bn of external capital in addition to Schonfeld family assets, has hired sector specialists in consumer, TMT, and utilities within its fundamental equity strategy, and predilects managers trading quantitative equity, stat arb, quant macro, and discretionary systematic event strategies. Pizzo is a key person dedicated to the development of the firm’s Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Alliance, which includes various sub-communities. She also sits on Schonfeld’s Philanthropy Committee. She was previously Chief of Staff to the CEO and began her career at Schonfeld on the business development team. Prior to Schonfeld, she was Research Associate at K&L Gates. She received a BA in Economics and Psychology from Bucknell University.

Miriam Porat
Head of Risk
Brennan Howard
London

Miriam Porat has been Head of Risk since May 2012, and a member of the Brennan Howard Asset Management (BHAM) Board of Partners since August 2013. She sits on the Operational and Business Risk Committees and Chairs the BHAM Valuation Committee. Porat focuses mainly on market risk and liquidity risk which are managed both quantitatively and qualitatively. She also works in conjunction with the firm’s compliance department to monitor counterparty risk. As part of the assessment of market risk, Porat is closely involved in the regular updating of the firm’s historical and hypothetical stress test scenarios that serve to help with the identification of tail risks within the portfolio. In 2020, amid strong performance across all the Brennan Howard funds, the business continuity plan worked very smoothly while staff were working from home and the management of liquidity and market risk has continued seamlessly. Prior to joining Brennan Howard, initially in the Tel Aviv office, Porat was Market Risk Analyst at Bank Leumi le-Israel and previously at Luchshitz-Kaniezer, the Israeli branch of Arthur Andersen. She has a BA in Accounting and Economics and an MBA in Finance, Banking and Accounting from the Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

Gloria Radelf
Founding Member, Partner and Chief Administrative Officer
LibreMax Capital
New York

Since LibreMax launched in 2010 Gloria Radelf has been responsible for implementing and managing policies and procedures for the firm’s operations, finance/accounting, technology and human resources department. She is also a member of the firm’s ESG, Risk and Valuation committees. Radelf works directly on the firm’s business development opportunities, including the minority investment from Neuberger Berman Gpm’s Dual Capital Partners in 2018, and the acquisition of Trimaran Advisors, with $1bn in assets under management, in 2019. Radelf helps oversee the firm’s approach to environmental, social and corporate governance-related investing on behalf of its funds, aligning with UNPRI standards, and emphasizing ESG engagement with issuers and relevant stakeholders. Her technology initiatives have introduced cybersecurity developments, cloud computing and risk analytics enhancements to the firm. In 2020, Radelf activated the firm’s business continuity plan, remote work, and return to office initiatives in response to New York’s Covid-19 shutdowns. Prior to LibreMax, Radelf was a primary investor focused on equities at Diamondback Capital and Rhombus Capital, and prior to that was a sell-side equity analyst focused on the technology, media and telecoms sectors. She holds a BA from Dukke University.

Alina Rakhamimov
Technical Lead - Algorithm Development
Quantitative Brokers
New York

Quantitative Brokers (QB) is an agency broker and FinTech providing broker-neutral algorithmic execution and transaction cost analysis (TCA) services to the hedge fund industry. Alina Rakhamimov joined QB in 2019 and has led multiple initiatives such as new algorithmic development, including Striker, QB’s first algorithm for options on futures. She has lead the development of the company’s proprietary algorithmic engine and current client workflow solutions. She works closely with multiple teams within Technology, Research, and Product – to build new and enhance existing algorithmic strategies. The goals are to reduce trading costs and manage quantum risk through strategically designed low latency and scalable execution strategies based on quantitative research. Prior to QB, Rakhamimov worked as a quantitative developer at two quantitative hedge funds – statistical arbitrage managers, Thales Fund Management, and IQT Fund – where she focused on designing high and low frequency trading and market making strategies in equities and derivatives instruments. She also has prior experience in FinTech as an algorithmic trading engineer at a financial advisory firm, where she developed investment analytics and data solutions for structured finance. She has a BS in Mathematics and Computer Sciences from Tel Aviv University and an MS in Mathematics of Finance from New York University.
Robyn Shepherd
Head of Corporate Engagement
Bridgewater Associates
Westport, Connecticut

Reporting to the CEO, Robyn Shepherd oversees the firm’s public affairs, communications and branding functions, as well as the company’s initiatives for sustainability, diversity and inclusion, and community. Since joining the firm in 2004, she has held key investments, client-facing, and management roles and has helped the firm transition from a founder-led boutique to an institution led by the next generation. After serving as Head of Sustainability, she worked alongside CEO David McCormick as his Chief of Staff, partnering with him on initiatives, company culture agenda, business oversight, and governance. In that role, she built Bridgewater’s communications function, created its Alumni Network, and was a founding member of the firm’s Diversity and Inclusion Council. Today, she oversees the teams responsible for running and evolving those initiatives in line with the firm’s strategic priorities. She is also the Co-Founder and Senior Sponsor of Bridgewater’s Women’s Inclusion Network, one of its employee affinity groups (the others are Bridgewater Black Network, BPRNDC, Hispanic + Latinx Network). Before joining Bridgewater, she was an analyst at Lintum Rock Partners and an investment analyst at HarbourVest Partners. She has a BA in Economics from Brown University.

Natasha Sibley
Portfolio Manager
Janus Henderson Investors
London

Natasha Sibley is Portfolio Manager for two of the six strategies within Janus Henderson’s Eleven Diversified Alternatives business: convertible bond arbitrage and risk transfer. The risk transfer strategy also forms the basis of the Gazar AlphaGamma Castor strategy, which Sibley co-manages with David Elms, Head of Diversified Alternatives, in whom she reports. The risk transfer strategy uses derivatives to trade risks, such as dividend futures, equity type, volatility, variance, correlation and dispersion that banks can find difficult to warehouse for regulatory reasons. Sibley is of the opinion that structured products can also give rise to inefficiencies in these markets. In June a UCITS version of the multi-strategy product, Janus Hendersons Global Multi-Strategy Fund, was launched, running pari passu with the Cayman vehicle. The UCITS can also be accessed via an Australian managed investment scheme structure. Sibley joined Henderson in 2009 on its graduate training scheme, became a portfolio manager in 2013 and was named Portfolio Manager of Castor in 2017. She sits on the firm’s Gender Diversity committee. She has a BA and Master’s degrees in Mathematics from Oxford University. She is a CFA charterholder.

Shalini Sriram
Managing Director and Head of Structured Credit
Third Point
New York

Shalini Sriram leads structured credit investments for Third Point, which she joined in 2017. Reporting to Founder, CIO and CEO Dan Loeb, she is responsible for all investments within the strategy in Third Point’s main funds and in a newly launched Structured Credit Opportunities Fund, which has raised $600m since May 2020. Third Point has been a leading investor in structured credit since 2012, and since Sriram assumed her role, the firm has invested in increasingly diversified asset types including residential, commercial and consumer credit securitisations. During the March market dislocation, Third Point demonstrated its opportunistic approach by doubling exposure to structured credit in a matter of weeks and launching a dedicated fund to capitalise on new opportunities. Sriram draws on Third Point’s broad investment focus across equities, corporate and structured credit, venture capital and board positions for consumer loan originators via segmenting her research process and investment framework. She has spent her 10-year career in structured credit, with 10 years on the sell-side at Bank of America and Morgan Stanley. Sriram received her BA in Economics with Honours from Wellesley College and an MBA from Columbia University.

Dr Silvia Stanescu
Scientist
GAM Systematic Cambridge
Cambridge, UK

Dr Silvia Stanescu joined GAM Systematic Cambridge in 2018. She specialises in systematic options trading, while also developing new futures macro strategies as well as enhancing the firm’s existing quantitative strategies and contributing to the development of the solutions business. She also serves on the Governance Board of the CGMI, an institute specialised in the mathematics of information housed by the Department of Mathematics at the University of Cambridge. Before joining GAM Systematic Cambridge, Stanescu worked for the Equity Derivatives Strategy team at Deutsche Bank in London, where she authored papers on volatility risk premia and dispersion trading and marketed the team’s research to the wide variety of Deutsche Bank’s client base, including pension funds, asset managers and hedge funds. Stanescu began her career in academia at Kent Business School and her research on areas such as risk forecasting and option pricing was published in top academic and practitioner journals in finance, including the Journal of Portfolio Management, European Journal of Operational Research, International Journal of Forecasting and The Hedge Fund Journal. She holds an MSc and a PhD in Finance from the ICMA Centre at the University of Reading, a BSc in Business Economics from the University of Reading and a BSc in Banking and Finance from the Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies.
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**Galina Velimukhametova**
Senior Investment Manager
Picet Asset Management
London

Galina Velimukhametova manages the Picet Alt-Distressed and Special Situations strategy, a long/short credit strategy focused on distressed and distressed corporates mainly in Europe. It trades a concentrated book of relatively liquid long and short positions across the capital structure including bonds, convertible bonds, loans, CDSs and equities. The strategy employs deep fundamental research and can sometimes take an active stance in restructurings. In 2022, Velimukhametova expects that post-Covid downgrades and defaults will lead to a growing supply of distressed debt and restructuring opportunities, adding to the volume of ‘zombie companies’ and over-leveraged structures that existed before the Covid crisis. She leads a team of four: all four and Velimukhametova previously worked together at Man GLG, where Velimukhametova managed a European distressed strategy that generated double-digit annualized returns between August 2009 and August 2011. Velimukhametova was previously on MD. Partner and member of the investment committee at King Street (Europe) LLP and a debt, credit and capital structure arbitrage trader at JP Morgan. The strategy runs €230m as of September 2022. She has an MBA from Washington University and a degree in Economics from Moscow State University.

**Anna Johnson Vella**
Global Head of Consultant Relations, Capital Development and Investor Relations
Millennium Management
New York

Anna Johnson Vella was one of the first members of Millennium’s Capital Development and Investor Relations team, which has helped grow the firm’s assets from around $1bn to over $8bn. These assets have come from an increasingly diverse and global investor base, and include pension funds, endowments and institutions, many of which are advised by investment consultants in the US, Europe and Asia. Her current responsibilities include oversight of the firm’s relationships with their consultants. Vella joined Millennium in 2011 to oversee client services and investor relations. Her role has evolved over the years to include the capital development strategy for the JanusInvestor WorldQuest Millennium Advisors, a joint venture between Millennium and WorldQuant. Prior to Millennium, Vella was a Director on the Hedge Fund Research team at Union Bancaire Privee; before that she was Vice President of Investor Relations at Guggenheim. She began her career at Watson Wyatt Worldwide (now Towers Watson) as a strategy consultant. Vella graduated with a degree in Business Administration from Boston University.

**Kelly Wang**
Head of APAC FICC Sales and Relationship Management
Citadel Securities
Hong Kong

Based in Hong Kong, Kelly Wang is spearheading the growth of Citadel Securities’ client base across the Asia-Pacific region as the market making firm continues to expand its global leadership in US Treasuries and interest rate swaps. Since joining the firm in 2015, Wang has helped Citadel Securities develop new relationships with some of the region’s largest hedge funds, asset managers and regional banks, driving an increase in the firm’s trading volumes with APAC clients. She has over a decade of sales experience and was Head of Greater China Investor FX Sales at Citibank prior to joining Citadel Securities. Before Citibank, she was a Director of Global Macro Sales at Barclays Capital in Singapore. She began her career on the Global Leveraged Institutional Sales team at JP Morgan. Wang has an MBA from the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School of Business and a bachelor’s degree from National Taiwan University.

**Jenny Wood**
Global Head of Marketing and Investor Relations
Third Point
New York

Jenny Wood, who joined Third Point in 2009, was attracted by its track record of event driven and activist investing. She reports to founder, CEO and Co-Chief Investment Officer Daniel Loeb, and leads a team of eight who have in 2020 raised $500m for an SPV investing in Prudential, and $2.5bn for a structured credit fund. She is also seeking to raise awareness of Third Point’s USD Total Bond Fund, which trades at a discount to NAV, and its reinsurance vehicle, which recently merged with Sivas. Prior to joining Third Point, Wood was Chief Strategy Officer and Director of Marketing and Investor Relations at Senator Investment Group, another event-driven hedge fund, where she was responsible for business development, marketing and investor relations, as well as strategic planning. Prior to joining Senator, she was Head of US Marketing at Cantillon Capital Management, a long/short equity firm. Prior to Cantillon, she worked in various M&A roles for firms such as LAC, Rauchfeld and Credit Suisse First Boston. She started her career as a commodity finance analyst at Brown Brothers Harriman. She holds a BA in History from Dartmouth College. She serves on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors for the Atlantic Council, a non-partisan international policy organization that seeks to galvanize US leadership and engagement worldwide to shape solutions to global challenges.
Max Xu
Portfolio Manager
Aspect Capital
London

Max Xu joined Aspect in 2008 and has risen from researcher to senior researcher to principal researcher. He is now Portfolio Manager for Aspect’s alternative risk premia product, the Aspect Alternative Return Programme, the Aspect China Programme and the Aspect Asia Absolute Return Programme. He has led research and development for the Aspect China programme, including selecting and selecting strategies and back-testing. He has also worked closely with Aspect’s China onshore partner to launch the fund-tracking fund and to build an infrastructure. For the Aspect Alternative Return Programme, he defines the research hypothesis, closely monitors market trends, and works with the distribution team to update clients on research and performance. His general research responsibilities include statistical analysis of market data to generate alpha signals, portfolio construction, and risk management. Before joining Aspect, Xu was a former quantitative analyst at ING Paribas. Xu holds an MSc in Financial Mathematics from Cass Business School and a BSc in Biological Sciences from Beijing University. He is a CFA charterholder.

Joy Yang
Chief Asia Economist
POnei2 Singapore

Joy Yang joined Ponei2 in April 2017 and covers the company’s macro and market research in the region with a regular focus on China, Japan, and Korea and a more opportunistic focus on other economies such as Taiwan. She works closely with Ponei2’s Chief Economist, Dean Maki, as well as fellow economist David Stern, to provide timely economic analysis to the analysts and portfolio managers at the firm. As part of Ponei2’s macro research team, Yang has authored economic forecasts and has presented at conferences. She is also the founder of the Ponei2 macro strategy newsletter, which provides analysis and commentary on market developments and economic data. Yang is fluent in Chinese and English and has a PhD in Economics from the London School of Economics. She is a CFA charterholder.

Melody Yang
Partner
Simmons & Simmons
Beijing

Melody Yang is a funds and corporate lawyer based in Simmons & Simmons Beijing office. She has advised multiple leading global asset management groups, hedge fund managers in particular, in connection with their China market entry strategies through PFM, QDII, QDLP, QDIE, RQFII/QFII and various connect programs. Since China’s private fund sector fully opened to foreign participants in 2018, she has advised the first ever hedge fund launched in China managed by a foreign controlled entity for Max Group and subsequently advised multiple international hedge fund managers with respect to their fund distribution, corporate structuring and regulatory issues in China (including those largest hedge fund managers headquartered in the US and UK). She is qualified in the PRC, New York and England and Wales. She currently acts as an advisor to the International Partners Committee of the Asset Management Association of China (AMAC), China’s de facto private fund regulator. She is also one of the co-authors of the official textbook used for the national qualification exams for China’s private fund professionals. She also authors the China chapter of The Law of Hedge Funds: A Global Perspective (Second Edition) published by LexisNexis.

Nina Zhao
Systematic Portfolio Manager
Balrampur Asset Management
London

Nina Zhao, who reports to BAMS’s Head of Equities, Jeffrey Rennick, joined BAMS in January 2019 to launch an equity index and quantitative programme, a part of a multi-strategy fund. The index strategy trades indices and their constituents in the US, Europe and Asia, combining a systematic, data-driven approach with valuation and collaboration with BAMS’s discretionary teams. It can trade equities, cash, equity derivatives, indices, corporate bonds and USD swap. Zhao has a PhD in Econometrics and Finance from the University of Hong Kong and a BSc in Physics from Imperial College London. She has been with Goldman Sachs in the US and UK and as a Program Trading Strategist in the firm’s London office. She also has a BSc in Physics from Imperial College London.