

Meet the 2013 Rising Stars of Asset Management

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This is the third FN 40 Under 40 Rising Stars of Asset Management, Financial News' editorial pick of the brightest up-and-coming men and women in the industry.



Maxime Carmignac

They are individuals who have had to navigate through a nervous economic recovery, second-guess extraordinary measures set by central bankers and still find ways of beating their peers – all the while responding to a demanding client base.

It's a broad list of 40 individuals with a wide range of expertise. There are, of course, fund managers, but there are also investment strategists, credit and derivatives experts, pensions representatives, and figures from wealth management and private banking.

We have recognised those who help grow their own business – including those who look after client relationships, manage marketing and provide regulatory advice. We have also celebrated those brave and smart enough to set up shop and who have successfully found an investment niche in a competitive market.

While there are traditional stock pickers in the list, including a few who can boast good emerging markets records, there is a stronger showing from those working in fixed income, demonstrating yet again how the financial crisis remains a dominant theme for the industry.

The individuals are often all-rounders – some have successfully jumped across sectors and even industries, while others have come from non-traditional financial backgrounds. Two individuals boast degrees in aerospace engineering or aeronautical engineering. The list also includes an amateur violinist and an art gallery patron, and there is a strong showing of athleticism and sporting ability.

John Adu
Director, Source
Age 26

Adu studied biomedical materials science at university before an internship at Barclays Global Investors in 2008 helped him realise that his interests went beyond medicine. After stints at advisory boutique IlliquidX and Welbeck Group, he joined Source in 2010 as a junior UK salesman covering discretionary wealth managers and IFAs. He now works with institutional investors in the UK and Ireland. He was promoted to director in 2012 after raising more than \$1 billion in assets and is working on product development in the UK and Ireland. Adu has played a key role in boosting Source's fixed-income platform, which it runs in collaboration with Pimco.

Michael Allen
Chief investment officer, Momentum Global Investment Management
Age 36

Allen first joined Momentum Global Investment Management on a three-month secondment in 2003 from South Africa. A decade later he is still at the firm, which manages £4.7 billion, having taken on several positions including fixed-income fund manager, head of research and fixed-income analyst. Three years ago he was promoted to chief investment officer and has begun to implement his vision for the firm's asset allocation process. This includes creating a more collaborative global asset allocation committee. He says all 16 of the firm's investment professionals now participate in the committee's meetings and adds: "It's making people feel like they have ownership in the overall client solution."

Nicolo Bocchin
Portfolio manager and head of credit, Aletti Gestielle
Age 35

Bocchin has enjoyed a successful year as portfolio manager of the Gestielle Obbligazionario Corporate Bond fund. He is ranked in the top decile of a peer group of 178 funds in the European corporate bond sector to the end of July, according to data from Lipper Global, and has outperformed the average manager by more than six percentage points over the past 12 months. Bocchin is also head of credit at Aletti Gestielle, an Italian investment manager. He manages fixed-maturity funds and the firm describes him as a point of reference for many of his portfolio management colleagues.

Chris Bullock
Fixed-income portfolio manager, Henderson Global Investors
Age 35

Bullock, who joined Henderson as an analyst in 2003 after a year at Insight Investment, says the fund management industry is at a "dynamic stage in its development". Now a corporate bond manager on Henderson's fixed-income team, Bullock has been a co-manager on the Horizon European Corporate Bond fund since its launch in December 2009 and the Credit Alpha Total Return fund since its launch in July 2007. On both funds, he works alongside Stephen Thariyan, Henderson's head of credit. In total, Bullock helps to manage £3.4 billion. The Euro Corporate Bond fund, which has grown from £5 million at launch to £1.2 billion today, has powered ahead of its peers, up 6.96% in the year to August 7, according to data from FE Trustnet.

Darren Bustin

Head of derivatives, Royal London Asset Management

Age 33

As head of derivatives, Bustin oversees portfolios with a notional value of about £5.5 billion at Royal London Asset Management. But this is set to become “significantly larger” following the 2013 acquisition of the Co-operative Insurance Society and The Co-operative Asset Management. Bustin’s initial career plan was to be an RAF fighter pilot, but towards the end of his training his eyesight failed and he decided to go back to university. He followed up his first-class Honours degree in aerospace engineering with a master’s in financial engineering and quantitative analysis. He joined Royal London Asset Management in 2011, after time at JP Morgan, BNP Paribas, Kames Capital and a hedge fund.

Maxime Carmignac

Managing director of the UK office, Carmignac Gestion

Age 33

When Maxime Carmignac rejoined Carmignac Gestion in January 2010, many predicted that it was a matter of time before she would one day head the asset management firm that was founded by her father, Édouard Carmignac.

Her promotion in July of this year, following her return from maternity leave, to run the one-year-old London office has done little to dampen such anticipation. Carmignac junior, whose new role will involve focusing on business strategy, was until December a portfolio manager on the firm’s international long/short equity fund.

She has also previously worked at McKinsey & Co, Lazard Freres, Morgan Stanley, Cheyne Capital and Visium Asset Management. Carmignac Gestion, meanwhile, has grown at an impressive rate since the financial crisis – from €13 billion in 2009 to €55 billion at the end of June. Carmignac is a keen showjumper – she is a former member of the French junior showjumping team – and has run four marathons.

Esther Chan

Emerging market debt manager, Aberdeen Asset Management

Age 33

Chan made the most of the boom in emerging market debt since joining the Singapore office of Aberdeen Asset Management in 2005. Starting out as a credit analyst, she later became a specialist in Indonesian debt restructurings. Moving to London two years later, she is now one of Aberdeen’s top corporate bond managers. At the start of the year, her team won a \$200 million emerging markets corporate bond mandate from Dutch pension scheme PKA. Chan holds a law degree from University College, London and has taken part in Tough Guy, the gruelling survival course.

Mouhammed Choukeir

Chief investment officer, Kleinwort Benson

Age 36

Choukeir has been at the helm of Kleinwort Benson's investment strategy since joining soon after Sally Tennant became chief executive of the private bank in 2011. In the past year, he has increased his investment team by about 20%, to 45 people. Choukeir spent the earlier stages of his career at larger banks, including three years at Citigroup and then nine years at Morgan Stanley, where he worked across fixed income and multi-asset portfolios.

Choukeir mentors several people at the private bank, which is owned by RHJ International, and also works with educational charities, largely mentoring young people from financially disadvantaged backgrounds. He says his interest in finance and economics dates back to a young age and extends to his personal time. His biggest concerns involve the potential fallout around experiments undertaken by central banks. A keen runner, Choukeir enjoys music and festivals.

Leland Clemons

Head of Emea capital markets, iShares

Age 36

Texas native Clemons joined Barclays Global Investors in 2005, before BlackRock acquired the business in 2009, and has been on an upward trajectory ever since. He has served in a number of senior roles including a stint as head of iShares' capital markets unit in the US, a role he held in San Francisco before moving to London early last year. Clemons relocated to become head of iShares capital markets in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. He has spearheaded initiatives to make trading in the region more efficient. In June, iShares and Tradeweb partnered on a tool that makes it easier to find, price and trade the baskets of underlying bonds in fixed-income ETFs. It also plans to launch the first iShares ETF with an international security structure.

Stephen Cohen

Head of investment strategy, Emea, iShares

Age 38

Since joining iShares in 2011 from Nomura, where he was the global head of equity-linked strategy and led the convertibles research team, Cohen has built iShares' investment strategy and exchange-traded fund research group. In May, his role was expanded when he was appointed chief investment strategist for BlackRock's international fixed-income team. As a regular commentator on fixed-income markets, Stephen has become a thought leader in the business. In October 2012 he wrote Blending Insights, an analysis of the key trends in the European asset management industry's use of active and passive vehicles. He worked in Japanese convertibles at ING Barings from 2001 to 2003 and in 1996 began his career in UBS' fixed-income team, where he held roles within relative value strategy and hedge fund sales. He holds a first-class degree in economics from Southampton University.

Alan Connery

Portfolio manager, AllianceBernstein

Age 37

Connery has been credited by AllianceBernstein for single-handedly turning around performance of its European Growth portfolio, which it admits had previously been dogged by erratic performance for several years. Connery took over as sole fund manager of the portfolio in the third quarter of 2011. In 2012, the portfolio outperformed its benchmark by four percentage points. In the first six months of this year, it outperformed by 3.6 percentage points. Connery, who has a BA in classics, joined AllianceBernstein as a European mid-cap analyst in 2005, progressing to the UK portfolio construction team in 2007, and went on to become lead portfolio manager of UK and European funds in 2011.

Nathalie Dauriac-Stoebe

Founder and chief executive, Signia Wealth

Age 35

Dauriac-Stoebe, who founded Signia Wealth in 2010, says she wants to take the wealth management firm “to the next level”. Since it was first established, Signia has grown to 40 staff with £2 billion of assets under management. She aims to get the firm to manage £5 billion within the next three to five years. To aid the push, Signia this year appointed Rupert Robinson from Schroders as its head of wealth management. The firm has also expanded its private equity offering and recently advised clients in the acquisition of jewellery company Theo Fennell.

Dauriac-Stoebe, who became a partner at Coutts at the age of 26, names Signia board members John Caudwell and Jon Moulton as key mentors through their support of the firm and their philanthropic leadership.

Dauriac-Stoebe, who is expecting a second child, also helps her family run its four vineyards. Hobbies include golf, in which she competed at university level while at Cambridge.

Massimo di Tria

Head of global P&C ALM and strategic asset allocation, Allianz Investment Management SE, Allianz Group

Age 37

Di Tria moved to Allianz’s headquarters in Munich in July to take up his role as head of global property and casualty asset-liability management and strategic asset allocation, where he works on strategic investment decisions for about €100 billion of assets. He moved from Italy, where he was chief investment manager and head of financial engineering, managing about €10 billion of assets. He started out at Fineco Asset Management as a quantitative analyst, focusing on forecasting and asset allocation models. Di Tria was a contract professor of equity portfolio management, financial economics and financial modelling at Bocconi University for seven years. He is a member of the Italian association of wine tasters.

Richard Dowell

Head of clients, Cardano

Age 39

Dowell is one of the three leading individuals behind Cardano UK, the British arm of the Dutch pensions-management firm. First named a rising star in 2011, he returns to the list this year after helping the firm expand in his role as head of clients. The firm has added several new advisory and fiduciary-management clients during the past year, with assets under advice and management rising from £20 billion to £50 billion, of which £10 billion is directly managed by the firm. Cardano says its clients have outperformed the average UK scheme by 5.4% a year during the three years to April 30. Dowell has also been instrumental in designing a new partially delegated strategy for some clients this year.

Ludovic Feuillet

Asset manager, GLG Partners

Age 33

As a manager of the Atlas Macro fund, Feuillet works alongside GLG Partners' chief investment strategist Jamil Baz. His responsibilities include trading, execution, market monitoring, trade ideas and risk management. Last year Feuillet took on additional responsibility on the fund following the departure of co-manager, Driss Ben-Brahim. He has also recently worked on a new initiative – the GLG Total Return strategy – which launched in July. Prior to his appointment at GLG in 2010, Feuillet worked at Goldman Sachs in the M&A division and then the emerging market trading group. He holds an advanced degree in financial mathematics from the University Paris Sorbonne.

Jason Granet

Head of international liquidity portfolio management, Goldman Sachs Asset Management

Age 35

After a dozen years at Goldman Sachs Asset Management, Granet was last year rewarded with a promotion to managing director level. Granet joined the US bank in 2000 after graduating from the University of Michigan and worked in the fixed-income team between 2004 and 2007 before becoming co-head of the secured funding team on the central funding desk, holding the role until 2010. He now has responsibility for the management of the international money market and short-duration portfolios.

Simon Haines

Fund manager, Threadneedle Investments

Age 35

Haines, who joined Threadneedle in 1999 as a trainee UK manager before becoming a fund manager in his own right in 2005, is the lead manager responsible for the Threadneedle UK Mid 250 fund. Haines has enjoyed a stellar year, achieving a top-quartile return of 29.84% for the 12 months to the end of August. While Haines is a top performer among mid-cap fund managers, he has also shown consistency alongside the wider peer group in the UK all-companies sector, with a top-quartile performance over three and five years to the end of August. His return over a three-year period is 70.8% compared with a FTSE 250 benchmark return of 62.01%.

Torolv Herstad

Senior investment specialist, Alfred Berg

Age 33

When he was young, Herstad considered following in his father's footsteps and taking up a career in engineering. Instead, he moved into finance, with a role at the Oslo Stock Exchange where he was promoted to head of index construction and calculation. Following roles covering fixed-income funds for Nordea Investment Funds, he last year joined Alfred Berg, the €19.6 billion Nordic asset management firm that is a part of BNP Paribas Investment Partners. He has been driving the international distribution of Nordic high-yield products and has raised €600 million from six countries in just a year on the niche asset class.

Chris Hogg

Chief executive, Royal Mail Pensions Trustees

Age 35

Hogg, a former consultant at KPMG and Aon Hewitt, took the in-house route in 2009 when he joined Royal Mail Pensions Trustees as head of funding. He says the move was a "big change" from looking at multiple schemes to a single in-house focus. Nevertheless, the scheme rewarded him with a promotion in June of this year when he was elevated to the top post, where he is responsible for about £4 billion of assets under management.

Hogg is promoting the importance of good governance in pension schemes and is involved in the Pensions Governance Index, an initiative to help schemes better understand how to meet their governance ambitions.

Hogg says he is fascinated by the Second World War and is researching his grandfather's war effort through his logbooks. Hogg is also a keen golfer – having managed to lower his handicap to just three when he was 16 years old.

Nick Hungerford

Co-founder and chief executive, Nutmeg

Age 33

Hungerford wanted to be a teacher when he was younger, but has instead carved out an impressive name for himself in financial services as a successful entrepreneur and an ambassador for UK trade and industry.

After six years at Barclays, he became the youngest ever director of Brewin Dolphin. However, Hungerford is now known for co-founding Nutmeg, an online discretionary management company.

The firm aims to offer better wealth services to a demographic normally limited in their investment choices by the size of their personal assets. Hungerford attracted the backing of a clutch of high-profile venture capitalists, including Tim Draper, Klaus Hommels and Daniel Aegerter.

Over the past year he has further bolstered client numbers, adding mainstream family offices and institutional clients to his books. Travel-mad Nick is a keen runner and admits to liking any sport that “puts him through pain”.

Howard Kearns

Head of liability-driven investment, State Street Global Advisors

Age 39

A pensions all-rounder, Kearns had worked at a number of firms before landing at State Street Global Advisors last October. Kearns first started out in 1997 as an actuary at Watson Wyatt. He later joined Goldman Sachs as head of the actuarial team of its pensions insurer Rothesay Life. He spent a year analysing liability-driven investments for the BT Pension Scheme, before moving to Credit Suisse. Kearns is now the figure responsible for State Street’s efforts in LDI, an area it has looked to revitalise in the past 18 months. During the past year, State Street launched a suite of new leveraged LDI funds, while assets under management have risen from around £4.7 billion at the end of 2011 to £5.5 billion at the end of 2012. Outside work, Kearns’ interests include road and mountain-biking.

Nick Kirrage

Portfolio manager, Schroders

Age 33

Kirrage and his co-manager of five Schroders funds, Kevin Murphy, are successful products of the Schroders graduate scheme. Their Specialist Value UK Equity fund generated 33.5% against 17.9% for the FTSE All-Share index over the year to June 30. Kirrage’s route into finance was otherwise less traditional, with a degree in aeronautical engineering, although a “safety first” approach that is essential for flight is also an important skill for a manager of money, especially one with a value style. The pair has made value investing not just a style but a brand: their Value Perspective blog is one of the best-known in the UK’s mutual funds industry.

Kathryn Koch

Head of global portfolio solutions – international, Goldman Sachs Asset Management

Age 33

Formerly a senior portfolio strategist in the office of former chairman Jim O’Neill, Koch secured promotion in May to run GSAM’s global portfolio solutions division for the international business. Koch’s team is responsible for providing multi-asset products for institutional and individual investors, managing more than \$20 billion globally. Koch first joined GSAM from university and in 2011 became the first and youngest woman to rise from analyst to managing director in the international business. Married to a former army officer who was deployed twice to Iraq, she this year led the launch of the Veterans’ Internship Program for Goldman Sachs’ London office.

Polina Kurdyavko

Partner, senior portfolio manager, BlueBay Asset Management

Age 34

Kurdyavko, head of BlueBay’s emerging markets corporate debt team, manages one of the largest dedicated emerging market corporate products on sale. She has enjoyed a successful 12 months growing assets, with emerging market corporate debt assets now standing at \$7.69

billion, up from \$4.76 billion in June 2012, including long-only and alternative funds. Kurdyavko joined the company in July 2005 from UBS to carry out secondary coverage of issuers in central and eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa and as research support for primary issuance of selected corporates. She was made a partner in April 2012.

Jeremy Lee

Head of pensions risk, Santander UK

Age 35

As a student, Lee toyed with the idea of taking his higher education in a musical direction. Instead, he graduated in 1999 with a first-class degree in mathematics from Cambridge. He started his career on Mercer's graduate scheme and qualified as an actuary in 2003. Spells at PwC and Redington followed, before he moved to Santander UK last year. As head of pensions risk, he has worked on the integration of seven legacy defined-benefit funds into a single, £8 billion scheme. Lee keeps in touch with the wider industry as features editor of The Actuary magazine. He also continues to play violin in an amateur orchestra.

Yvonne Lenoir Gehl

Counsel, BRP Bizzozero & Partners

Age 39

Lenoir Gehl, a trained lawyer, in July left her trade-body role to take on a new private sector role at BRP Bizzozero & Partners, a Geneva-based consultancy set up in 2010, which advises firms on cross-border business as well as compliance, risk and regulatory issues. The firm has worked primarily with banks, but Lenoir Gehl has been charged with building its asset management department. Before the move, Lenoir Gehl was a senior policy adviser at the European Fund and Asset Management Association, where she liaised with fund managers, the European Commission and the European Securities and Markets Authority on policy initiatives.

Fraser Lundie

Co-head of credit, Hermes Fund Managers

Age 33

Lundie was inspired to take up a career in the financial markets after watching Oliver Stone's 1987 film Wall Street. Following a master's in investment analysis from the University of Stirling, he made the move in 2004 when he joined Fortis Investments. Two promotions followed over the next four years. In 2010 he moved to Hermes Fund Managers as senior credit portfolio manager, and last year was named co-head of credit alongside Mitch Reznick, with whom he worked at Fortis and whom he cites as one of his mentors. In his role at Hermes, Lundie has helped build a 12-person team, managing \$1 billion across four credit strategies. Performance is impressive – the Hermes Global High Yield and Global Investment Grade strategies have outperformed their targets since launch, and funds have earned top ratings from providers. On the back of strong performance, Lundie has recently launched a new strategy, the Hermes Multi-Strategy Credit fund, which combines long-only best-in-class investments with a range of hedging strategies.

Nick Martin

Fund manager, Polar Capital

Age 36

Martin helped the Polar Capital Global Insurance fund post impressive growth of 35% in the 12 months to July 2013, compared with a benchmark performance of 24.5% by the MSCI World index. Now in his 12th year working on the fund, he has concentrated on the underlying earnings of a core group of 35 stocks in order to achieve the benchmark-beating performance. The Spurs-supporting father-of-two has spent the past year concentrating on US stocks and visiting key companies in the portfolio as well as important industry conferences, such as Berkshire Hathaway's annual meeting.

Dan Mikulskis

Co-head of asset and liability modelling, Redington

Age 32

Mikulskis spent five years in investment consulting at Mercer, where he qualified as an actuary, before he made the leap into asset management when he joined Macquarie's fund management arm in a Sydney-based role in 2008. A year later, the maths graduate joined a macro hedge fund before switching to Deutsche Bank in the cross-asset trading group.

As he pondered a return to the UK, Mikulskis met Rob Gardner, Redington's co-founder and co-chief executive, and a move followed in June 2012. He has embraced Redington's style and is at the core of the firm's ambitions as a serious player – over the past seven years it has grown to advise on more than £270 billion of assets, and counts 11 of the 30 biggest pension schemes in the UK among its clients.

Mikulskis' time in Sydney has influenced his passions – he is heavily into sport and puts surfing at the top of his list.

Roger Miners

Chief marketing officer, Allianz Global Investors

Age 38

Born in the Netherlands, brought up in Switzerland and fluent in French, Miners has the kind of international background suited to a pan-European asset manager such as Allianz Global Investors, which in January 2012 gave him responsibility for its marketing in Europe. During the past year, he has been responsible for the firm's first pan-European publicity campaign, based on the theme of financial repression. He was also responsible for developing the asset manager's presence in digital and social media, such as iPad apps and Twitter. Miners has also implemented a new, internal marketing management portal, which aims to be a one-stop shop for materials for Allianz salespeople.

Kevin Murphy

Portfolio manager, Schroders

Age 33

Murphy, alongside his co-manager of five Schroders funds Nick Kirrage, manages assets totalling £4.6 billion, including the £1.4 billion Income fund and the £408 million Recovery fund. The former, which the duo took over in 2010, has made 44.8% over the three years to July

31, against 43.4% for the fund's benchmark, the FTSE All-Share Total Return index. The Recovery fund, which Murphy and Kirrage have run together since 2006, has done better – it has had returns of 61% over the same period, against a 43.4% benchmark return and a 45% sector average. Murphy, like Kirrage, is an alumnus of Schroders' graduate scheme, having joined the firm in 2000.

Abi Oladimeji

Head of investment strategy, Thomas Miller Investment

Age 35

Oladimeji, who oversees Thomas Miller Investment's £2.6 billion in assets under management, was in March promoted to director of the firm. He joined TMI in 2006 after working as a consultant, where he specialised in investment theory. Now he puts theory into practice, and clients have benefited, outperforming their benchmark over one year and three years to the end of June. A total of 87% of TMI's institutional clients have also outperformed their benchmark over three years overall. Oladimeji has conducted research and analysis in areas of corporate finance, financial markets and economic regulation, and leads a range of courses and seminars on these topics.

Stéphane Pouchoulin

Chief executive, FundQuest Advisor

Age 38

Pouchoulin, who has worked across the spectrum of BNP Paribas Investment Partners' activities, was last year appointed to the top job of the firm's specialist fund selection division. Pouchoulin first started out in equity broking in 2001 and worked across corporate broking, the private bank and asset management before becoming project manager for the integration of BNP Paribas Investment Partners and Fortis Investments in 2008. The following year he joined FundQuest Group, which has been given a new strategic path as FundQuest Advisor to focus on advisory services and BNP Paribas Asset Management's multi-asset offering. Pouchoulin manages 28 people based in Paris, London and Singapore with oversight of €40 billion of assets under advice.

Yassi Sohrabi

Executive director and private banker, JP Morgan

Age 34

Sohrabi is keen to share her experiences and tips with other women. In the past year she has launched the Investment Study Circle, a monthly educational lunch for current and prospective female clients. Sohrabi joined JP Morgan's investment team in 2004 and became a banker in 2007. She now looks after some of the biggest clients in JP Morgan's UK ultra-high net worth team, covering family offices, hedge fund managers and entrepreneurs. Sohrabi, who was born in Geneva and is of Persian and French origin, sits on the Tate Modern's Middle East and North Africa acquisition committee. She is a patron of the Serpentine and Whitechapel galleries and is involved in promoting JP Morgan Chase's art collection and involvement with art institutions in London.

Alex Soulsby

Head of liability-driven investment and derivative fund management, F&C Investments

Age 36

Soulsby, who joined F&C in July 2006, originally looked to become an equity asset manager, but took a job in a derivatives-focused role after seeing a job advert that looked interesting. He now oversees investments for pensions and insurance clients for the manager, which has become a force to be reckoned with in liability-driven investment. F&C has become one of the largest LDI managers, with £29 billion of liabilities under management across 125 pension schemes. In the year to July, the firm won 38 new LDI clients, representing about £4.4 billion in new liabilities under management.

Merrick Styles

Director and co-head of investments, Amundi UK

Age 35

Styles, who holds a doctorate in motorcycle dynamics, is now revving his engine on a new front, working to launch Amundi's UK multi-asset product. Styles was promoted to his current position as co-head of investments for Amundi UK in January 2012 along with Christopher Morris. He now manages £1.1 billion in assets. One year ago, he was charged with helping the company to develop a multi-asset strategy in the UK. He has raised £20 million in seed money for the new multi-asset product. Styles' first goal is to raise £100 million over the next six months and to further promote the strategy with consultants.

Eve Tournier

Head of European credit in London and portfolio manager, Pimco

Age 38

Tournier moved to London in September after a five-year stint in Pimco's Newport Beach office. She now serves as head of European credit portfolio management and runs four funds, including the \$14 billion Pimco GIS Diversified Income fund, which has returned 9.27% over five years compared with an 8.77% benchmark return. She manages more than \$24 billion in assets and in London leads the credit portfolio management team in addition to her portfolio management responsibilities. Before her tenure at Pimco, Tournier served as European head of high-yield credit trading at Deutsche Bank in London.

Douglas Turnbull

Head of Chinese equities and investment director, Neptune Investment Management

Age 29

Turnbull's star continues to burn brightly at Neptune. In 2012, he was appointed head of Chinese equities and named co-manager on Neptune's China Special Situations fund. This April, he was promoted to investment director as well, and now manages £106 million in total. His main fund, the Neptune Greater China Income fund, beat benchmarks with a 16.6% return between launch in December 2009 and June 30 this year. As part of his responsibilities, Turnbull co-ordinates meetings with Chinese companies in London and China, and visits the country every quarter. He works alongside colleagues Rob Burnett, George Boyd-Bowman and Ian Sealey on the financials sector, contributing to Neptune's increasingly positive stance on European banks this year.

Britta Weidenbach

Managing director and head of European large-cap equities, Deutsche Asset & Wealth Management

Age 38

Weidenbach, who has worked at Deutsche Asset & Wealth Management for 14 years, is the sole manager of the firm's flagship funds for European and Euroland equities, for which she directly manages over €1.5 billion of assets. She has climbed the ranks at Deutsche and is now responsible for a team of eight portfolio managers with a total of €4 billion of assets under management. Her DWS Invest Top Euroland fund is in the first quartile of its Morningstar peer group. The fund has quadrupled in size over the past two years, to almost €430 million.

Carl 'Pepper' Whitbeck

Head of US high yield, Axa Investment Managers

Age 35

When Whitbeck was appointed head of US high yield at Axa Investment Managers in June 2011, it was a turbulent time for the fund manager. A number of key departures from the business contributed towards nearly £3 billion assets exiting high-yield strategies between May 31 and October 2011, settling at £9 billion. Whitbeck set about building a strategy to coax new investors into the fund, while achieving a top-r performance over the past year. Assets have since grown to £20.1 billion. Between September 2011 and January 2013, Whitbeck travelled to 24 countries as part of his commitment to researching the holdings within his fund.

- How we chose

Over the past three months, Financial News canvassed the market for opinion and drew up a longlist of more than 100 potential rising stars. All nominees had to be under 40 on September 9, based in Europe, the Middle East or Africa, and working in asset management. Candidates were then assessed by FN's editorial panel on four criteria: achievements to date given their age, the stature of their mentors, firepower at their disposal and their potential to reach a position of great influence. The list is not ranked.

--Profiles by Sophie Baker, Joe McGrath, Sarah Krouse, Mark Cobby, Mike Foster and Darren Lazarus