

## FACHPANEL

# The Value of Active Management

Donnerstag, 03. April 2025, 14:00 - 14:45 UHR

English

**Moderation:** Manuela M. Fröhlich

**Referent(en):** Georg von Wyss Alex Rauchenstein René Nicolodi Damian Burkhardt

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In an era of increasing market efficiency and the rise of passive investing, does active management still offer a competitive edge? This panel will explore the value of active investment strategies, discussing whether skilled fund managers can consistently outperform the market and how active approaches adapt to volatile economic conditions.

Key topics include stock selection, risk management, and the role of active investing in uncertain times. The discussion will address questions such as: What differentiates successful active managers from the rest? How can active strategies create long-term value for investors? And in which market conditions does active management have the biggest advantage over passive investing? A crucial session for investors looking to navigate today's complex financial landscape.

### **Manuela M. Fröhlich**

Co-Founders & Partner, Fondsfrauen GmbH

Manuela M. Fröhlich ist eine erfahrene Führungspersönlichkeit in der Finanzbranche und Mitbegründerin des führenden Frauennetzwerks in der DACH-Region und Luxemburg. Mit mehr als 35 Jahren Erfahrung im internationalen Bankgeschäft und Asset Management gilt sie als Vorreiterin in der Umsetzung von herausragendem Kundenservice und globalen Vertriebsstrategien für liquide und alternative Anlagen.

Ihre Führungsqualitäten und ihre Erfahrung machen sie zu einer gefragten Moderatorin und Diskussionsteilnehmerin, die Branchenforen und Konferenzen Substanz und Dynamik verleiht.

### **Georg von Wyss**

Partner bei BWM Value Investing und Portfolio Manager der Classic Funds

Georg von Wyss is a partner at BWM AG and Portfolio Manager of the Classic Funds. Born in Zürich, he grew up in the USA and earned a B.A. in economics and literature at Columbia College of Columbia University, NY. After two years as a securities analyst at Bank Julius Bär, he went back to Columbia for an M.A. in English and Comparative Literature, after which he worked for two years as a financial journalist. He then earned an MBA at the Amos Tuck School at Dartmouth College to definitely concentrate on securities analysis, first at Mutual Series Fund and then Rüd, Blass. In 1997 he cofounded the fund boutique BWM AG with Thomas Braun and Erich Müller.

### **Alex Rauchenstein**

Managing Partner, SIA Funds

Alex Rauchenstein wurde 1967 in Aarau geboren und besitzt ein Executive MBA der Carnegie Mellon University, ein MBA der HEC Genf und ein CEFA (Chartered European Financial Analyst).

In seiner Jugend trainierte er viele Stunden für seinen Lieblingssport Biathlon, diese Leidenschaft hat ihm viel für sein Leben mitgegeben.

Im Alter von 15 Jahren kaufte Alex seine erste Aktie und war von da an von der Börse fasziniert. Alex hat mehr als 35 Jahre Erfahrung im Finanzmarkt, er begann seine Karriere 1988 bei der UBS, nach einem Traineeprogramm wechselte er zu UBS Asset Management, wo er nach der Verwaltung eines Pensionsfonds 1995 für die Lancierung des UBS Central Europe Fund

verantwortlich war. Im Jahr 1999 wurde er CIO einer kleinen Privatbank in Liechtenstein. Im Jahr 2006 wechselte Alex zur SIA Gruppe und baute die regulierte Vermögensverwaltungsgesellschaft SIA Funds AG auf.

Schon sehr früh in seinem Berufsleben war er vom Value Investing fasziniert und kann sich seither keine andere Art des Investierens mehr vorstellen.

### **René Nicolodi**

Head of Equities & Themes Asset Management, ZKB

René Nicolodi is currently Head of Equities & Themes and Deputy Head of Asset Management at Swisscanto Invest by Zürcher Kantonalbank. Over the last 20+ years, he has held several positions at Zürcher Kantonalbank and other financial institutions. René Nicolodi is part of the ESG Commission of the European Federation of Financial Analysts Societies (EFFAS) and has been the Vice-President of the Board of Swiss Sustainable Finance. Additionally, he is a lecturer on asset management and sustainable finance at different universities. René Nicolodi gained a Ph.D. in the area of 'Sustainable Pension Fund Engagement' from the University of Zurich, and since 2009 has been a Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst (CAIA). He recently completed a Master of Arts in Digital Management in 2022 at Hyper Island / Teesside University.

### **Damian Burkhardt**

Senior Portfolio Manager, EFG

Damian joined EFGAM in October 2024 and is the lead portfolio manager for Swiss Equities. He joined from Credit Suisse Asset Management where he was head of Swiss equities, responsible for over CHF 3bn of assets. Prior to this, Damian was senior portfolio manager at Lombard Odier Investment Managers, where he managed a number of Swiss equity funds and also co-managed a thematic fund and a European equity fund. Earlier in his career, he served as senior private markets investment manager at BlackRock Private Equity Partners, responsible for international private equity transactions for institutional clients in Europe and the US.

Damian holds a MA degree in Accounting and Finance from the London School of Economics and Political Science and a dual bachelor degree in both Economics and Business Administration from the University of St. Gallen. He is also a CFA charterholder.