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Hedge funds: the brightest rising stars

Yasmine Chinwala, Harriet Agnew and Angela Henshall

18 May 2011

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



40 under 40 rising stars of hedge funds

Despite variable performance during the recent market turmoil, hedge fund assets are approaching record levels once more, and the next generation of talent is making its way through an altered post-crisis landscape.

The 40 listed here say they have learnt lessons from the financial crisis and

many are applying them to new ventures. Fifteen of the 40 have taken advantage of an improved environment for start-ups by striking out on their own and launching new funds, although fundraising is still tough.

This list is not confined to money managers; it includes individuals from the operational and strategic side of the business, marketers, fundraisers, investors, consultants, researchers, prime brokers and even a lawyer.

The list reflects the industry's shift towards lobbying regulators and preparing for rule changes, including the winding down of banks' proprietary trading businesses to comply with the Volcker rule.

There is an increasing investor demand to tap into growth economies in emerging markets, as evidenced by the two Africa specialists and two emerging market fund managers listed here. Just as the focus of investing and regulation has shifted, the prime brokerage business has undergone a sea change, with competition fiercer than ever.

Their roles vary, but the 40 names on the list have in common fierce determination, dedication, dynamism and, of course, youth. Some people might view them as just one-dimensional workaholics, but read on and you will see that this is not the case.

The list includes competitive athletes, a best-selling novelist and collectors of the eclectic, to name but a few. The list is not ranked.

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40 under 40 hedge fund rising stars - the profiles

Yasmine Chinwala, Harriet Agnew and Angela Henshall

16 May 2011

Read profiles of all 40 hedge fund rising stars.

Jean-François Comte
Co-president, Lutetia Capital
Age 38

Comte's own abstract paintings decorate the walls of his office on Boulevard Haussmann in Paris, giving clients a clear indication of his creative side. This trait has served the former New York-based M&A banker well through the recession.

He set up one of the world's first event-driven Ucits funds at Lutetia, betting correctly that the Ucits [platform](#) would help draw a larger investor base. The Lutetia Patrimoine fund launched in 2009 and grew from seed money of \$5m to \$110m of assets under management in just 15 months.

Comte says support from senior mentors during his career, including [Lazard's](#) deputy chairman [Jeffrey Rosen](#), have been crucial to his success.

Fabrice Seiman
Co-president, Lutetia Capital
Age 32

Seiman began his career working for the French civil service. He spent time in the finance ministry as an adviser to politician Jean-François Copé, who Seiman says has had a profound influence on his later career. He left government for a role at [PAI Partners](#), one of France's biggest private equity houses, where he picked up the skills and models he uses in his role at Lutetia.

[Bloomberg](#) ranks his fund near top among 300 peers according to [Sharpe](#) ratio. He is a lecturer at the Institute of Politic Sciences in Paris and in 2007 was named by the [World Economic Forum](#) on its prestigious list of young global leaders.