

GA-COURTENAY SPECIAL SITUATIONS FUND

JUNE 2024 MONTHLY FACTSHEET AND SEMI-ANNUAL LETTER

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

PROFESSIONAL INVESTORS ONLY

GA-Courtenay Special Situations Fund is a performance-orientated global equity strategy with modest-to-low correlation to the market at large. The fund maintains a focused portfolio of high-quality equity investments and selected merger arbitrages, and targets competitive advantage through a repeatable deep dive research process.

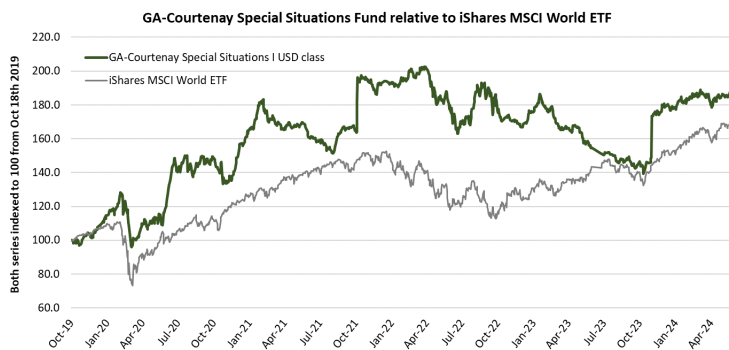
KEY INFORMATION

MONTHLY SUMMARY

Fund Name	GA-Courtenay Special Situations Fund
Fund Manager	Adrian Courtenay
Fund Launch	October 2019
Fund Type	Irish UCITS
Liquidity	Daily
Fund Size	\$37m
Share Classes	USD, GBP, EUR, CHF
USD I	IE00BK6GV895
GBP I	IE00BK6GV757
EUR I	IE00BK6GVD10
CHF I	IE00BMCZLC50
USD R	IE00BK6GVC03
GBP R	IE00BK6GV864
EUR R	IE00BK6GVF34
CHF R	IE00BMCZLD67
Investment Manager	Green Ash Partners LLP
Management Company	Bridge Fund Management Ltd
Fees	Institutional share class: 0.75% pa + 20% performance fee Retail share class: 1.25% pa + 20% performance fee

- The GA-Courtenay Special Situations Fund USD I class returned by +2.2% in June, a month which also saw the iShares MSCI World ETF rise by +1.1%.
- Promising progress continues to be made in the comprehensive further development of the fund's merger arbitrage systems, which incorporate now an extensive capture of historical M&A event data series including more than 30 years of history of antitrust regulator litigations and mitigations. That said, there were no major new arbitrage positions added in the month, albeit some existing positions successfully matured.
- In the fund's equity investment book, a new position was established in Raspberry Pi, the London-listed specialist in low cost computing that has recently listed. I presented our investment thesis for our holding at the Sohn Monaco conference on the 26th of June, and a video of the presentation has been uploaded to the Shareholder Communications section of the fund's website.

PERFORMANCE



iShares MSCI World ETF tracks the performance results of the MSCI World Daily Total Return Net Index. Whilst the fund targets absolute returns, the fund uses the Index for performance comparison (as per the prospectus).

GA-COURTENAY SPECIAL SITUATIONS FUND PERFORMANCE

Fund Performance by Year	2019 (3m)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Inception to date	Annualised since inception
GA-Courtenay Special Situations Fund (USD I)	+9.1%	+42.8%	+24.4%	-12.8%	+6.4%	+4.9%	+88.8%	+14.5%

Fund Performance by Month (YTD)	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	YTD
GA-Courtenay Special Situations Fund (USD I)	+1.5%	+1.5%	+0.7%	-2.6%	+1.6%	+2.2%							+4.9%

The performance of the GA-Courtenay Special Situations Fund is based on the USD I share class. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results.

Equity investments	85.4% of NAV	Merger arbitrages	37.5% of NAV	Special Opportunities	0.0% of NAV	Gross exposure - total fund (% of NAV)	122.9%
SoftBank	8.81%	Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.	3.50%	Pershing Square SPARC Holdings, warrants	0.00%	Equity investments gross exposure	85.4%
Spotify	8.70%	Osino Resources Corp.	3.17%	(SSF owns 387,285 SPAR warrants; each warrant contains a call on two stock units upon merger announcement)		Merger arbitrages gross exposure	37.5%
Raspberry Pi	7.06%	Juniper Networks, Inc.	3.06%			Equity usage	100.4%
Uber	5.10%	Nuvei Corporation	3.01%			Equity investments	85.4%
Adobe	4.87%	Tyman plc	2.83%			Merger arbitrages	15.0%
American Express	4.56%	Stericycle, Inc.	2.71%			Net exposure - total fund (% of NAV)	89.2%
Berkshire Hathaway	3.52%	Catalent, Inc.	2.51%			Equity investments net exposure	85.4%
Pershing Square Holdings	3.89%	Pacific Smiles Group Limited	2.19%			Merger arbitrages (beta est)	3.7%
Exor	3.89%	National Western Life Group, Inc.	2.05%				
Formula One	3.75%	HashiCorp, Inc.	2.03%				
WK Kellogg	3.75%	BEST Inc.	2.00%				
Delfi	3.70%	Decmil Group Limited	2.00%				
Airbnb	3.50%	Haynes International, Inc.	2.00%				
Autodesk	3.39%	Doma Holdings Inc.	1.99%				
Monster Beverage	2.78%	Base Resources Limited	1.31%				
Amazon	2.64%	Greenthesis S.p.A.	0.98%				
Microsoft	2.50%	Ansarada Group Limited	0.16%				
Apple	1.46%						
Visa	1.24%						
Tesla	1.15%						
Coca-Cola Co	0.99%						
Canada Goose	0.98%						
Grab Holdings	0.95%						
McDonald's Corporation	0.92%						
Live Nation	0.48%						
Starbucks	0.43%						

Source: Green Ash Partners

FUND MANAGER SEMI-ANNUAL LETTER

Dear investors,

The GA-Courtenay Special Situations Fund USD I class returned by +2.2% in June, a month which also saw the iShares MSCI World ETF rise by +1.1%. For the year-to-date, the fund has so far risen by +4.9%, and the iShares MSCI World ETF by +10.8%. As I mentioned last month our deep dive foundational research processes are now incorporating a comprehensive upgrade of our arbitrage framework and systems, and following this the fund's risk appetite will also moderately increase, and this should be an additional factor driving performance as the year progresses.

What I would hope for, toward the end of the third quarter, is that our merger arbitrage holdings are somewhat closer in gross exposure to our equity investment book, and start to be more strongly an impactful driver of differentiated performance and in further de-correlating the fund.

Whilst I have deliberately controlled the pace at which we have deployed risk capital this year, this has been the right decision. Capital has been deployed with conviction across our various investment styles co-incident with when I have completed each piece of foundational research at the most advanced level that I have been able to take it. This is the right approach to turnaround – deployment and risk appetite increase then occurs when one is absolutely certain.

At the end of 2023, the fund averaged a higher count of “Buffettian” positions: long-term investments in simple, understandable businesses, and limited higher-multiple growth-style investments, and a modestly lower exposure in merger arbitrages than at current. This positioning followed the fund's white paper research, *How Far Away to Berkshire Hathaway*, which targeted the *first principles* underpinning the Buffettian approach (reductively, known as value investing).

During Q1 this year, our white paper, *A Venture Framework for the Intelligent Investor* was then published, which unified the first principles underpinning the Buffettian approach with our differentiated approach to growth investing, and also allowed higher-multiple positions in the fund to be included that prospectively benefit from the continuing AI era. The publication of a unification of so called value and growth investing is unique to this fund so far as I can ascertain (likely a select number of other investors in the private domain have independently recognised our learnings), and a significant competitive advantage.

I would furthermore note that in terms of our positioning with regard to the AI era, our conclusion has been that for universal technological shifts one wants not to *own the technology*, but instead, the aim should be to *own the customer, and customer data, through software network effect economics*. In the same way that the *WinTel monopoly era* concluded with Microsoft capturing almost all the economics relative to Intel, my hypothesis is that the same will be true of the AI era, and the fund is extremely well, and asymmetrically, positioned for this outcome which is yet to be meaningfully priced in the market.

Whilst the trailing nine month period has been one in which deep dive foundational research has been prioritised, this does not mean that the more archetypal market opportunities within the fund's deployment doctrines have been missed. There has been only one readily ascertainable competitive bidding arbitrage situation in developed markets so far this year which has also offered entirely asymmetric entry points – Applus Services in Spain – and the fund participated with a fully scaled position in Q1 this year, realising an 18% return on our investment within three months and demonstrating the potential of arbitrage when a full search, and a disciplined, yet conviction approach is deployed. Fund unit holders should anticipate, in my view, not only more of the same high conviction deployments within our future activities in competitive merger arbitrages but also a higher frequency given in most periods such opportunities are more common.

It is important to emphasise that the period of carrying out foundational research should not be interpreted as my statement recognising prior weakness relative to other comparable hedge funds. I believe all fund managers should be consistently carrying out this form of work alongside their more stock-specific projects. The need for such work arises because fund managers must recognise that certain super-scaled US-based funds increasingly have a level of advantage in the markets, are capturing a large volume of the profits, and it is only with our comprehensive level of deep dive research that we can deliver on our ambitious mission including overtaking those funds in terms of alpha generation.



Adrian Courtenay is Managing Director at GreenAsh Partners, heading Special Situations Strategies, and is the Fund Manager of the GA-Courtenay Special Situations fund, established in 2019.

Prior to Green Ash, Adrian oversaw the fund at Odey Asset Management. Previously, Adrian was Vice President in the Special Situations Group at D.E. Shaw & Co.

Adrian, who is also a recognised speaker at Sohn investment conferences, has completed the Chartered Financial Analyst Program and is a graduate of Oriel College, Oxford, where he graduated with a 1st class MA and was a scholar.

FUND MANAGER COMMENTARY

My confident stance is not based on naivety. We are not, for example, investing based on algorithms that happened to have a high correlation with success in the past but in fact have indeterminate success probabilities in the future. We are allocating based on insightful first principles, on advantaged human reasoning, and ultimately, using common sense, but elusive to many precisely because the nascent human condition programs us to be ineffective in certain modern financial market circumstances. Overcoming this handicap is not impossible but it is not intuitive either, it requires *first principles-based* reasoning, and on top of this mathematics and system building to then fill in the gaps which human reasoning handicaps leave absent.

In merger arbitrage, where a number of the key variables are much more objectively definable than in most other forms of investing, we can greatly advantage our decision making by building extensive systems not just in terms of our worldwide search for opportunities (which the fund has always deployed) but also in a comprehensive historical capture of merger and acquisition event data series. Our database today includes more than 90,000 historic M&A transactions across developed markets over the last 30 years, and more than 1,000 regulatory authority mitigations (deal completes with changes enforced by regulators) and litigations (deal goes to the courts, and the merging parties either lose, or win, versus the antitrust regulator). I will review certain aspects of this database for unitholders as part of the fund's upcoming Q2 webinar.

A database such as this delivers a highly effective tool empowering a far more agile and efficient research and decision making process in merger arbitrage. What matters in most cases, in order to de-risk antitrust in merger arbitrage, is not what the market talking points are today, but a *comprehensive understanding of the market-definition-specific framework of every regulatory decision that has been made for companies within the same market definition going back multiple decades, combined with the interface of these decisions with the enforcement provisions in each of the merger documentations*. Our system has been designed to provide such utility at an instance, and at a resolution that goes well beyond the traditionally defined sector or subsector. What has been built here, by my own mindset of the design brief that I have demanded in building it, is an advantage that supersedes that which I have seen elsewhere. The system allows me to both pinpoint my more hands-on research in merger arbitrage to *what really matters*, and act with a significantly improved level of agility and conviction.

As investors in the fund appreciate, our operating design is *orthodox unorthodox*. In pursuing excellence in the markets, *this design is a feature not a bug*. We are orthodox because the design matches Warren Buffett's Buffett Partnership in the 1960s, twinning merger arbitrage with long-term equity investing, and a design advantaged by both de-correlation and a well above average search function across multiple domains and geographies for the best opportunities. However, we are also unorthodox because very few funds today operate with this same design – and in my view, this is a mistake by our peer group.

I continue to believe that our design is – by far – the optimal method for capital allocation in the markets, precisely because no other design can achieve both de-correlation and the extent of multi-domain search for the best opportunities, at the same time as deploying modest leverage without consistent use of expensive hedging (due to the de-correlation of much of our activities).

The value from our foundational research is also increasingly empowering the fund to capture new market opportunities, and with both a higher forecast accuracy and agility than would have been achievable prior. During June, the fund allocated to Raspberry Pi, a growth investment for which I presented our rationale at the Sohn Monaco conference. A video of my presentation is available on the Shareholder Communications section of the fund's website.

For a fuller summary of our investment hypothesis I would encourage unit holders to review the presentation directly. However, in short Raspberry Pi trades at 22x our conservative estimate of forward earnings, and has what we ascertain as a greater than 95% market share in the form of extremely low cost computing that is dominating education, hobbyists, and industrial IoT use cases. Over the last 4 years, the company has grown revenues at 40% per year (for the forward estimates we assume growth at just 14%), has a net cash position, and has been consistently profitable since its inception in 2011. For those who have read our white paper *A Venture Framework for the Intelligent Investor*, you will find Raspberry Pi is a close match of the principles laid out, including also its *super brand* attributes, and its *exceptional founder/CEO*.



In June, the fund allocated to Raspberry Pi, and I presented our rationale for the allocation at the Sohn Monaco conference in June.

For a summary of our investment hypothesis, a video of my presentation is available on the Shareholder Communications section of the fund's website.

FUND MANAGER COMMENTARY

An additional new allocation in June was to Delfi, the market leader in chocolate in South East Asia and with a 50% market share in Indonesia, and a value investment. The family-controlled company trades at a headline P/E ratio of 8x, has a net cash position, and pays a 7% dividend yield.

As our white paper on Hotel Chocolat laid out, chocolate companies with durable competitive advantage pass on cocoa price rises over time, and more generally achieve inflation resilience and recession resilience. However, in the case of Delfi, market worries relating to the steep rises in the cocoa price have led to a deeply discounted valuation at more than 50-70% below that of global peers. Whether this is corrected in due course by a return to equilibrium valuation, share buybacks, or corporate activity (the market no.3 position is held by Mondelez), I am confident that the position has the characteristics consistent with delivering highly pleasing outcomes.

The fund continues to operate at a small relative scale in terms of assets. At some stage, this may change, particularly as the merits of our operating method continue to be demonstrated. Nevertheless, whilst we may be small, we are smart. And it is the latter that matters the most both in terms of unit holder interests and in terms of the long-term net present value of our activities. Some large funds are so big, they can hardly move. Our path is to keep our heads down, work hard, and capture a differentiated trajectory and outcome. And this is why I continue to look forward to the future with great optimism.



Adrian Courtenay

Legal disclosures

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A summary of investor rights associated with an investment in the fund is available online in English at <https://bridgefundservices.com/media/vjqc5kva/summary-of-investor-rights-for-ucits-fund.pdf> and a paper copy is available upon request by emailing TATeam@bridgefundservices.com (you can include your own email address here if you wish and post the Summary of Investor Rights to your own website).

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The Fund's prospectus has detailed descriptions of the Funds risks. Before investing, please refer to the prospectus of Genfunds Global plc and to the applicable KIID/KID before making any final investment decisions.

The KID/KIID is available in English, French, German, Italian and Spanish; the Prospectus is available in English. You can get free copies from the investment manager at info@greenash-partners.com or the website of the management company at <https://bridgefundservices.com/funds/genfunds-global-plc/ga-courtenay-special-situations-fund/>

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