

# **KLS Athos Event Driven Fund**



# **Objective**

The KLS Athos Event Driven Fund is an equity biased, event driven fund with a primary focus on short dated and liquid hard catalyst events in the Asia Pacific region and beyond. Athos Capital was founded by Matthew Moskey and Fred Schulte Hillen, two seasoned event driven investors. Prior to launching Athos in 2012 both worked at large multinational asset managers and Asian focused funds. They have the unique combination of M&A banking, special situations trading, legal and operational experience. The team are based in Hong Kong from where they have built an excellent network of contacts across Asia and a very disciplined investment process to deliver good risk adjusted returns for their investors. The Fund is actively managed and not managed by reference to a benchmark.

### **Commentary**

March was a strong month, driven by the continued momentum of Event activity and catalysts across a number of our core strategies, resulting in a broadly positive first quarter performance. During the quarter, we increased our positioning in conviction ideas, especially during this period of an overall lower arbitrage participation environment. Several of these conviction positions contributed to the performance during the month.

Positive performance mainly came from a position in a Hong Kong listed company that continued to distribute a material cash dividend to shareholders, as well as an increase of a share class arbitrage exposure during the past few weeks of volatility. Several of our key M&A positions that met major transaction milestones also contributed to incremental performance. Our A/H Share strategy also added to performance, especially thanks to a key position that experienced heightened volatility in both the A and H lines due to US sanction concerns. Positive performance was partly offset by a number of positions that were impacted by this period of elevated volatility. We used the volatility to increase exposure to several high conviction positions. A terminated deal in the oil and gas space also reduced March's performance.

Looking forward, we expect the deal environment to continue to be robust as we move into the second quarter. We continue to view merger arbitrage opportunities in Asia as highly attractive, especially as several cross-border deals with interesting trading dynamics were announced during the quarter. We expect deal momentum to continue, driven by stability in funding, conglomerates looking to expand their global reach as well as unutilized private equity dry powder. In addition, we have also been monitoring and positioning ourselves for event opportunities arising from corporate governance initiatives within and outside of Japan, especially as major corporations start to take the lead in adopting corporate governance measures to improve shareholder returns.

### **Fund Details**

Launch Date:	15 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Fund Size:	\$43m
Athos AUM:	\$1.13bn
Fund Structure:	UCITS
Domicile:	Ireland
Min Investment:	Class SI: \$50,000,000 Class I: \$1,000,000 Class R: \$10,000
Currencies:	USD (base); GBP, EUR, CHF (all hedged)
Management Fee:	Class F: 0.75% (Founders Only) Class SI: 1.00% Class I: 1.25% Class R: 1.75% Class SIF: 2.00%* *no performance fee
Pricing:	Daily
Liquidity:	Daily
Performance Fee:	20% above one month SOFR hurdle and high watermark
Manager:	Waystone Management Company (IE) Limited
Investment Manager:	Kepler Partners LLP
Sub Inv. Manager:	Athos Capital Ltd
Portfolio Managers:	Fred Schulte-Hillen Matthew Moskey
Inv. Universe:	Global
UK Reporting Status	Yes
Country Registrations:	Ireland UK France Germany Spain Switzerland (QI)

# **Performance**

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD
202	4 -1.8%	0.6%	2.9%										1.7%
202	3 0.6%	-0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	-1.9%	0.7%	2.7%	0.2%	0.9%	-0.6%	2.3%	2.7%	7.8%
202	2 -0.1%	-1.7%	-2.1%	-1.1%	-1.6%	-0.3%	1.4%	-0.2%	-1.7%	-0.1%	3.4%	0.1%	-4.0%
202	1			-0.3%	0.7%	-1.2%	-2.6%	2.8%	-0.9%	0.9%	0.1%	1.1%	0.5%

<sup>\*</sup>Class F USD Net Total Return. Performance period is since inception 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. The value of investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise and you may not get back the amount of your original investment. The return of your investment may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations if your investment is made in a currency other than that used in the past performance calculation.

# **Top 10 Positions (Long)**

	COUNTRY	SECTOR	WEIGHT
Prosus	Netherlands	Consumer Discretionary	9.5%
Shinko Electric Industries	Japan	Information Technology	8.9%
Altium	Australia	Information Technology	5.8%
Brilliance China Automotive	China	Consumer Discretionary	5.5%
Osram Licht	Germany	Industrials	4.5%
China Traditional Chinese Medicine Holdings	China	Health Care	4.4%
Hollysys Automation Technologies	United States	Information Technology	4.4%
Lawson	Japan	Consumer Staples	4.3%
Rio Tinto	United Kingdom	Materials	4.3%
Alumina	Australia	Materials	4.3%
		Total	56.0%

Top 1	0 Positions	(Short)
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Top 10 Tosicions (Short)	COUNTRY	SECTOR	WEIGHT
Rio Tinto	Australia	Materials	-4.5%
Alcoa	United States	Materials	-4.4%
Tencent Holdings	China	Communication Services	-4.0%
Naspers	South Africa	Communication Services	-3.1%
LVMH	France	Consumer Discretionary	-3.0%
GlobalWafers	Taiwan	Information Technology	-2.2%
Keisei Electric Railway	Japan	Industrials	-1.8%
Chevron	United States	Energy	-1.6%
Seven Group Holdings	Australia	Industrials	-1.5%
International Paper	United States	Materials	-1.4%
		Total	-27.5%

# **Regional Exposure**

	LONG	SHORT	NET	GROSS
Developed Asia	56.6%	-41.9%	14.7%	98.5%
Emerging Asia	52.9%	-43.3%	9.6%	96.2%
Eastern Europe	0.4%	0.0%	0.4%	0.4%
Western Europe	68.0%	-13.1%	54.9%	81.0%
MEA	0.0%	-3.1%	-3.1%	3.1%
Multi	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
North America	32.2%	-19.6%	12.6%	51.9%
Oceania	16.8%	-8.1%	8.7%	24.9%
Total	226.9%	-129.1%	97.8%	355.9%

# **Sector Exposure**

	LONG	SHORT	NET	GROSS
Comm. Services	20.0%	-16.0%	4.0%	36.1%
Cons. Discretionary	43.2%	-18.0%	25.3%	61.2%
Consumer Staples	7.2%	-0.3%	7.0%	7.5%
Energy	10.7%	-5.6%	5.1%	16.3%
Financials	13.3%	-6.0%	7.3%	19.2%
Fund	0.0%	-0.7%	-0.7%	0.7%
Health Care	14.5%	-3.4%	11.1%	17.9%
Index	10.5%	-18.0%	-7.5%	28.6%
Industrials	18.3%	-10.6%	7.7%	28.9%
IT	53.5%	-25.1%	28.4%	78.5%
Materials	30.7%	-22.1%	8.6%	52.8%
Real Estate	3.6%	-2.8%	0.7%	6.4%
Utilities	1.4%	-0.5%	0.9%	2.0%
Total	226.9%	-129.1%	97.8%	355.9%

### **Gross Attribution Data\***

STRATEGY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	YTD
AH Arb	0.2%	0.2%	0.5%										0.9%
Announced M&A	-0.3%	0.1%	0.6%										0.4%
Credit	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%										0.0%
ECM	-1.3%	-0.6%	-0.0%										-1.9%
Global M&A	-0.3%	-0.1%	0.3%										-0.0%
Hedge	0.2%	-0.1%	-0.0%										0.0%
Partially announced M&A	0.0%	-0.0%	0.0%										-0.0%
PNL Ccy	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%										0.6%
Pre-bid M&A	-0.0%	0.1%	-0.1%										0.0%
Relative Value	0.2%	0.6%	0.9%										1.8%
Rights Arb	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%										0.0%
Share Class Arb	-0.0%	0.1%	0.9%										1.0%
Tactical	-0.1%	0.1%	0.2%										0.2%
Total	-1.2%	0.6%	3.6%										3.0%

<sup>\*</sup>This table reports gross profit and loss, by month and before expenses and fees have been included. Returns are summarised to provide an illustration of where the profit and loss is being generated. Fund expenses and fees and the categorisations can lead to variations in the attribution data. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results.

Data as at 29th March 2024.



#### Share Classes\*

	NAV PER SHARE	ISIN	INCEPTION DATE
Class F USD	105.67	IE00BN7J4Q47	15/04/2021
Class F GBP	103.71	IE00BN7J4S60	15/04/2021
Class F EUR	100.42	IE00BN7J4R53	15/04/2021
Class SIF USD	102.85	IE00BMQC6P09	15/04/2021
Class I USD	109.49	IE00BN7J4V99	27/03/2023
Class I GBP	104.72	IE00BN7J4X14	04/10/2023
Class I EUR	101.11	IE00BN7J4W07	07/10/2021
Class SI USD	112.43	IE00BN7J5383	07/06/2022
Class SI GBP	108.93	IE00BN7J5508	02/08/2022
Class SI EUR	105.99	IE00BN7J5490	19/08/2022
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All data as at 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024 unless otherwise stated. Source: Kepler Partners LLP unless otherwise stated

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