Guy Spier (born February 4, 1966) is a Zurich-based investor and author of a book on investing entitled *The Education of a Value Investor*.\[1\] He is well known for bidding US$650,100 with Mohnish Pabrai for a charity lunch with Warren Buffett June 25, 2008.\[2\] In 2009, he was featured in "the Checklist Manifesto", by Atul Gawande regarding his use of checklists as part of his investment process.\[3\]

## Contents

### Education

### Life and career

**Investment Style: Value and Activist Investing**

Farmer Mac, Allied Capital and Eliot Spitzer

Horsehead Holding

Philanthropy

### Personal life

### References

### External links

---

Spier was educated in England at the City of London Freemen's School, followed by Brasenose College at the University of Oxford, from which he gained a First Class degree in PPE (Politics, Philosophy and Economics).\[4\] The former British Prime Minister David Cameron was among his contemporaries at Brasenose.\[4\] Spier completed his MBA at the Harvard Business School, class of 1993 with Mark Pincus, Chris Hohn and Sherry Coutu.

### Life and career

From 1988 - 1990, Spier worked with David Pitt-Watson at Braxton Associates, which later became Deloitte Consulting. In 1991, he was an intern at the European Commission in Brussels.\[4\]

Spier manages the Aquamarine Fund, an investment partnership inspired by, and styled after Warren Buffett's 1950s investment partnerships. He is also an occasional financial commentator in the media.\[5\]

### Investment Style: Value and Activist Investing

---

Born  
February 4, 1966  
Pietermaritzburg, South Africa  

Residence  
Zurich, Switzerland  

Nationality  
South African, Israeli, German  

Education  
City of London Freemen's School, Ashtead, Surrey  

Alma mater  
Oxford University  
Harvard Business School  

Occupation  
Investor, Aquamarine Fund, Author  

---

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guy_Spier
Spier follows closely Warren Buffett's principles on Value Investing and capital allocation. However, he also admits that Value Investing has changed over time, as the popularity of style means that generally fewer opportunities become available to investors. Ideas that will work would still be around, but the successful value investor of today has to look further and sometimes think outside the box.[6]

Farmer Mac, Allied Capital and Eliot Spitzer

In 2003, Spier became the target, along with David Einhorn, Bill Ackman, and Whitney Tilson, of investigations by Eliot Spitzer,[7] then the New York Attorney General, as well as by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission regarding short sales of Farmer Mac, MBIA corp and Allied Capital. The melt down of these companies during the late-2000s financial crisis vindicated[8] their short thesis and was the subject of books by Ackman[9] and Einhorn.[10]

Horsehead Holding

In 2016 Spier, along with Phil Town and Matthew Peterson successfully petitioned Judge Sontchi at the Delaware Court of Bankruptcy to form an official committee of equity holders of Horsehead Corporation - which had filed for bankruptcy earlier that year.[11]

Philanthropy

Spier served as the chair and founder of the Weizmann Science and Business Club. He is a member of the Harvard Business School Alumni Board and also serves on advisory boards of Value Conferences; and of Zurich Minds.

From 2007 to 2009, Spier served on the Advisory Board of the Dakshana Foundation.

In spring 2010, Spier with Peter Hogenkamp and Tim Dührkoop co-founded TEDxZurich.

In 2017 Spier joined the newly formed board of the Swiss Friends of Oxford University[12]

Personal life

Spier lives in Zurich with his wife and three children. He is related to the Lazard banking family through his great great grandmother, Johanna Lazard.[13] He is a former resident of Tuxedo Park, New York, the village constructed by Pierre Lorillard in the late 1800s, where he lived in the Bruce Price Cottage. He is a member of Entrepreneurs’ Organization and of the Young Presidents Organization.

References


External links

- Personal Website (http://go.aqu.am/guyspier)
- Aquamarine Fund Website (http://www.aquamarinefund.com)
- Email Newsletter (http://go.aqu.am/newsletter)
- Blog (http://blog.aquamarinefund.net)


This page was last edited on 23 September 2018, at 09:32 (UTC).

Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.