# Yuki Asia Umbrella Fund uki Japan Rebounding Growth Fund

2018 LIPPER FUND AWARD, UK EQUITY JAPAN BEST FUND OVER 3 YEARS EQUITY JAPAN BEST FUND OVER 5 YEARS

#### FUND PROFILE

OBJECTIVE	Long-term capital appreciation through investment in equities of Japanese companies that are achieving EPS growth through the skillful execution of unique business models that are well suited to the economic environment and growth opportunities
APPROACH	Intensive bottom-up research (company visits, interviews and fundamental analysis) with utilization of proprietary database of over 3,800 companies
SUITABILITY	Institutional investors with a long term view

## FUND MANAGER'S COMMENT | OVERVIEW

As of February 28 the outlook for corporate performance for this fiscal year (Bloomberg forecast) is as follows: sales revenue per share: up 1.2% from the previous year; earnings per share: up 2.6% from the previous year; dividends per share: up 14.6% from the previous year. The stock market fell in February for the second consecutive month. Domestically, in addition to increasing expectations for further interest rate hikes by the Bank of Japan, there was a decline in export-related companies due to the drop in long-term U.S. interest rates, the appreciation of the yen, and concerns over tariff increases by the Trump administration. On the other hand, many companies with pricing power benefited due to the ability to pass through cost increases to consumers and increased demand related to AI, resulting in record-high earnings for the April-December period. Although there are uncertainties such as the impact of U.S. tariffs, there are also expectations for the normalization of domestic automobile production and consumption expansion due to inbound tourism. We think it is important to continue to conduct due diligence and select companies that can expect medium- to long-term EPS growth.

## **Investment Themes**

## WITH THIS IN MIND WE ARE BUILDING OUR PORTFOLIO AROUND THE FOLLOWING THEMES:

- 1. Companies that have established highly profitable business models that will enable them to achieve a high level of earnings growth over the medium to long term;
- Companies with sustainable earnings growth over the medium to long term in the hardware and software fields that contribute to the actualization of IoT and 5G, which are part of the fourth industrial revolution;
- **3**. Companies that offer the latest devices that utilize the infrastructure of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and take part in improving customer productivity;
- Companies that respond to environmental regulations through EV and electrical equipment, which are next-generation themes of the automobile industry where supply and demand are tight;
- 5. Companies that are resistant to current inflation and maintain high profitability.

## PERFORMANCE CHART





## MARKETING COMMUNICATION

PLEASE SEE PROSPECTUS FOR DETAILS BEFORE INVESTING

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## FUND FACTS

Market Coverage	Actively Managed Japanese Equity Fund				
Currency	Japanese Yen, U.S. Dollar, or Euro				
Inception Date	30 March 2011 Yen Unit Class 19 August 2015 USD Hedged Unit Class 01 May 2018 EUR Hedged Unit Class				
ISIN Code	IE00B3VGSP84 Yen Unit Class IE00BVRZ9185 USD Hedged Unit Class IE00BDRTDF67 EUR Hedged Unit Class				
Bloomberg Code	YUKIJPY:ID Yen Unit Class YUKIUSD:ID USD Hedged Unit Class YUKIEUR:ID EUR Hedged Unit Class				
Total Net Asset	¥3,879 Million				
Unit NAV	¥39,201 Yen Unit Class \$1,827.91 USD Hedged Unit Class € 1,013.44 EUR Hedged Unit Class				
Legal Classification	UCITS regulated by Central Bank of Ireland				
Listed	Irish Stock Exchange				
Reporting Year End	July				
Subscription / Redemption	Daily				
Minimum Investment	¥1,000,000 Yen Unit Class \$10,000 USD Hedged Unit Class €10,000 EUR Hedged Unit Class				
NAV Calculations	Daily				
Manager	Bridge Fund Management Ltd. Dublin				
Trustee	BNY Mellon Trust Company (Ireland) Ltd Dublin				
Investment Manager	Yuki Management & Research Co. Ltd Tokyo				
Fund Manager	Magotaka Oshitani				
Administrator	BNY Mellon Fund Services (Ireland) DAC Dublin				
Auditor	Deloitte Dublin				
International Placing Agent	Yuki - Co, LLC				

## CONTACTS

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## FUND MANAGER'S COMMENT | REVIEW

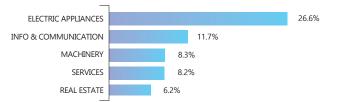
Through company visits and participation in earnings announcement meetings, the fund manager added new positions, confirmed existing positions, and increased the weightings of some positions. One company of note, Cover Corp (5253) is leading both domestically and internationally in creating the VTuber market. Cover cultivates IP through the design of VTuber characters and the selection of talent. The company supports the daily activities of each VTuber and has successfully expanded their primarily male fan base. Initially, revenue came from the streaming business, but as character recognition has grown, they have expanded into merchandising and IP licensing businesses, transitioning into a phase of revenue and profit growth. To differentiate itself from other Japanese competitors, Cover has been developing overseas markets from the beginning, resulting in a large number of overseas fans, and this strategy of anticipating the expansion of fans beyond Japan has been successful. Continued expansion of the fan base is expected both domestically and internationally, and with existing and new characters, an annual revenue and profit growth of over 20% is anticipated, making it a company of interest.

## PERFORMANCE DATA

PAST PERFORMANCE DOES NOT PREDICT FUTURE RETURNS

	YTD	1M	3M	1Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	Since Inception
FUND	-6.2%	-6.6%	-7.8%	5.9%	8.7%	31.4%	73.4%	10.3% p.a.

## SECTOR BREAKDOWN



# yuki



MARKETING COMMUNICATION PLEASE SEE PROSPECTUS FOR DETAILS BEFORE INVESTING

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#### FEES

Manager	0.015%
Administrator	0.085% - 0.025%
Trustee	0.02%
Investment Manager and Placing Agent	1.50%

Plus hedge cost for USD Hedged Unit Class

## **TOP HOLDINGS**

	4.40/
1 Sanrio Co (8136)	4.1%
2 NEC Corp (6701)	4.0%
<b>3</b> Fujitsu Ltd (6702)	4.0%
4 Hitachi Ltd (6501)	3.9%
5 Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (7011)	3.1%
6 ASICS Corp (7936)	3.1%
7 Sinfonia Technology (6507)	2.8%
8 Suzuki Motors (7269)	2.6%
9 Tsumura & Co (7740)	2.6%
<b>10</b> Japan Elevator Service (6544)	2.6%
TOTAL	32.8%

## FUND MANAGER'S COMMENT | Future Strategy

For the second consecutive month, the market ended significantly down in February. Factors including concerns over the global economic downturn due to President Trump's tariff policies, the deteriorating earnings of Japanese companies especially exporters, the shift towards a stronger yen, and the uncertainty in the AI industry triggered by Chinese company DeepSeek, led to an expanding decline in the stock market towards the end of the month. While sectors such as automotive and machinery stocks saw significant drops, the market in particular prioritized short-term profit-taking, resulting in larger declines for high PER stocks of growth companies that are expected to continue their earnings growth over the medium to long term. Although concerns remain unresolved about an economic slowdown centered on China, once the direction of the Trump administration's tariff policy is determined, our analysis suggests that the U.S. stock market can regain its efficiency. There is great potential for growth companies in the Japanese market when global investors choose to focus on fundamentals, and against the TOPIX's PER multiple of 15.2x, the PER of companies with good earnings that are trading at fair value has dropped to the 13.7x level. Within that fair value group of growth companies, small-cap growth companies are trading at a PER of 12.6x. When the market's upward trend is in place, we expect that these companies will rise significantly. Regardless of economic boom or bust, our analysis is that companies with unique business models and high market share will be able to sustain sales growth from the next fiscal year onward and will be able to pass on price increases even in the face of concerning inflationary conditions such as rising raw material prices, so EPS growth will also be sustainable. Our investment policy is to focus on fundamentals, building a portfolio focused on companies undergoing a high rate of change with a superior market advantage. We will adjust our position weightings based on target prices using our 3-year earnings estimates, and thoroughly analyze and evaluate company earnings to focus our investments on companies that we expect will improve profits over the medium to long term and have high EPS growth momentum based on unit sales growth.

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