



WHAT IS « MISTER MARKET » TELLING US?

Frédéric VILHES, PhD
Chief Investment Officer
Richfox Capital
May 03, 2023

This presentation is intended for qualified
and professional investors only.



- **Market outlook**

TACTICAL



- **Long Term Capital Market Assumptions**

STRATEGIC



- **Investment Solution**

ALPHA



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This presentation mainly answers the following questions



From a **short-term perspective**, should we expect a market regime in **capitulation mode** or a usual **rotation of equity sectors**?

Slide 21

Since the beginning of Q2 2022, we have observed a **sustainable equity market sell-off regime**. Will this process **continue in 2023**?

Slide 23

In the short term, should we expect **further turbulence in global stock markets**?

Slide 26

Do we observe a **transmission of equity market risk** to other asset classes?

Slide 28

Is there any **systemic risk** in the **US high yield** credit market?

Slide 31

Do financial and economic **fundamentals** point to an upcoming **significant economic slowdown** (recession) in the United States?

Slide 40

Does a factor analysis suggest a **decline in the market's expected inflation** and the U.S. 10-year rate in 2023?

Slide 44

Have central banks **begun their balance sheet reduction programs** in a meaningful way?

Slide 47

What **tactical asset allocation** could we suggest? In the long term, what are our **capital market assumptions** and **efficient portfolios**?

Slides 49 & 57

RISK FACTORS FOR READING THE MARKET

Appropriate risk indicators can help us to **understand** and **anticipate** changes in financial market trends.

A structured methodology could help:

- to **identify changes in the financial market** cycle and adapt portfolios accordingly, and
- to **move quickly** from an aggressive tactical asset allocation to a conservative tactical asset allocation **at the beginning of a sustainable bear market.**



Rationale: Reduce US risky assets in your portfolios if there is systemic risk!



RISK FACTORS FOR READING THE MARKET



SYSTEMIC RISK

Overall, **systemic risk** models do not **anticipate a significant decline** in the performance of equities

RISK AVERSION

Risk aversion indicators decrease but remain **RISK OFF** in the US and Europe

SENTIMENT

US investor sentiment remains **bearish**

LEADING SIGNALS

And US leading economic indicators **point to a slowdown** in economic activity or short-term recession



Summary

RISK ON - RISK OFF MAP



Market Risk



Risk Aversion & Sentiment



Political Risk



Macro Leading Indicator

TIME TO INCREASE RISK?



RISK ON

NEUTRAL

RISK OFF

| RISK SIGNALS SUMMARY | | | As of March 24 th 2023 | As of March 31 st 2023 | As of April 14 th 2023 | As of April 28 th 2023 |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Market Risk | US Equity Momentum signal <small>Pair-wise model US stocks vs. US treasuries</small> | Slide 30 | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON |
| | US Treasury model <small>Pair-wise model US 10 years vs. US 30 years</small> | Slide 30 | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON |
| | Global Equity turbulences signal <small>Daily volatilities and correlation of global indices</small> | Slide 22 | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON |
| | The Absorption Ratio <small>PCA methodology based on S&P 500 intra-stocks</small> | Slide 19 | Decreases | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON |
| | The change in Absorption Ratio <small>This ratio rose in advance of market turbulence</small> | Slide 20 | Decreases | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON |
| | Intra-stock S&P500 correlation signal | Slide 17 | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON |
| | Cross Asset turbulence index <small>A measure of unusualness in financial markets</small> | Slide 24 | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON |
| | VIX model | Slide 25 | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON |
| | US High Yield <small>US High Yield C spread H0A3 Govt OAS</small> | Slide 27 | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON |
| US Equity protection signal | Slide 25 | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON | RISK ON | |
| Risk Aversion & Sentiment | US Risk Aversion Market Index | Slide 32 | RISK OFF | RISK OFF | RISK OFF | Decreases |
| | European Risk Aversion Market Index | Slide 32 | RISK OFF | RISK OFF | RISK OFF | RISK OFF |
| | US Investor sentiment <small>Bullish – bearish readings</small> | Slide 33 | BEAR | BEAR | BEAR | BEAR |
| Political Risk | US Economic Policy Uncertainty Index | Slide 79 | LOW | Increases | Increases | LOW |
| | European Economic Policy Uncertainty Index | Slide 80 | LOW | Increases | Increases | HIGH |
| Macro Leading Indicator | US Contraction leading signal | Slide 37 | Increases | Increases | Increases | Increases |
| | US Business Cycle vs 5Y/5Y forward rates | Slide 37 | Decreases | Decreases | Decreases | Decreases |



TIME HORIZON: 1 WEEK TO 3 MONTHS

- The sharp rise in US interest rates and inflation forced the **equity market into negative returns** in 2022. This supports the scenario of a **gradual adjustment of the markets** in line with the new monetary policy of the FED in 2022.
- Since the beginning of the year markets are gradually **refocusing on economic fundamentals** and the expectations of a change in monetary policy **less aggressive** by the FED and ECB in 2023 due to a more **significant slowdown** in economic activity.
- In April, the **equity momentum remains positive**. Against the backdrop of a weakening banking sector and slowing economic activity, **investors are betting on a significant change** in the FED's monetary policy **in favor of risky assets**. The **VIX** index and U.S. **high yield** bond spreads remain **low**. In addition, **risk aversion** signals in the US and European markets **remain RISK OFF**, although there has recently been a **substantial decrease in risk aversion among investors in the US markets**. On the other hand, **systemic risk models do not anticipate** a significant decline in the equity market at this stage.

MAIN INSIGHTS AT A GLANCE

TACTICAL ASSET ALLOCATION

- Overall, in May we continue to **suggest maintaining an overweight position in equities** in our portfolios.



TIME HORIZON: 3 MONTHS TO 12 MONTHS

- In 2022, equity market performance fell due to rising short and long-term rates. We expect a normalization in **2023 until the third quarter** , with improved **US equity and government bond performance**.

This table summarizing all market views by US asset class for Q2 2023 / Q3 2023

| | | Current level 24.02.2023 | Current targets Q2 2023 / Q3 2023 |
|----------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| S&P 500 | Price | 3970 | 4400 |
| ICE BofA US Treasury & Agency (7-10 Y) | Yield | 3.98 | 3.5 |
| ICE BofA US Treasury (10+ Y) | Yield | 4.05 | 3.6 |
| Gold | Price | 1817 | 1920 |
| United States Dollar Index | Price | 105 | 92 / 98 |

These tactical views are based on equilibrium models and predictions.

* Dollar hedged

Target prices established in February 2023

TACTICAL ASSET ALLOCATION

- Tactically, **increasing** the weights of **US Equities**, **US government bonds** and **gold** may be a good bet in a normalization cycle in 2023 **until the third quarter**.

MAIN INSIGHTS AT A GLANCE



TIME HORIZON: 10 YEARS PLUS

- **US** and **Swiss** equities are expected to **outperform European** equities over the next decade and longer.
- **Hedged funds, private equity** and **real estate** should be selected and **overweighted** in strategic model portfolios.
- **Government bonds** and **emerging market debt** remain **key assets** in efficient model portfolios.
- **Indian stocks** **improve** the **expected performance** of optimal portfolios.

MAIN INSIGHTS AT A GLANCE

CONTENTS



TIME HORIZON: 1 WEEK TO 3 MONTHS



MARKET OUTLOOK

Slides 15-19

SYSTEMIC RISK

Slides 20-33

The intra-stock S&P500 correlation signal

Slide 22

The absorption ratio US equities signal

Slide 24

The change in absorption ratio indicator

Slide 25

The global equity turbulence Index

Slide 27

The cross-asset turbulence Index

Slide 29

Volatility markets signals

Slide 30

US High Yield indicators

Slides 32-33

MOMENTUM SIGNALS

Slides 34-35

RISK AVERSION AND SENTIMENT SIGNALS

Slides 36-38

Risk aversion Index US and European markets

Slide 37

US investor sentiment signal

Slide 38

TIME HORIZON: 3 MONTHS TO 12 MONTHS



LEADING INDICATORS

Slides 39-47

US yield curves analysis

Slide 41

US activity models

Slide 42

US 10-year treasury yield factors analysis

Slides 43-46

FED and ECB analysis

Slide 47

TARGET PRICES 2023

Slides 48-56

US asset classes, Gold, VIX, US Cash and DXY

Slides 49-52

S&P 500 predictive models

Slide 53

US equity fair value models

Slides 53-54

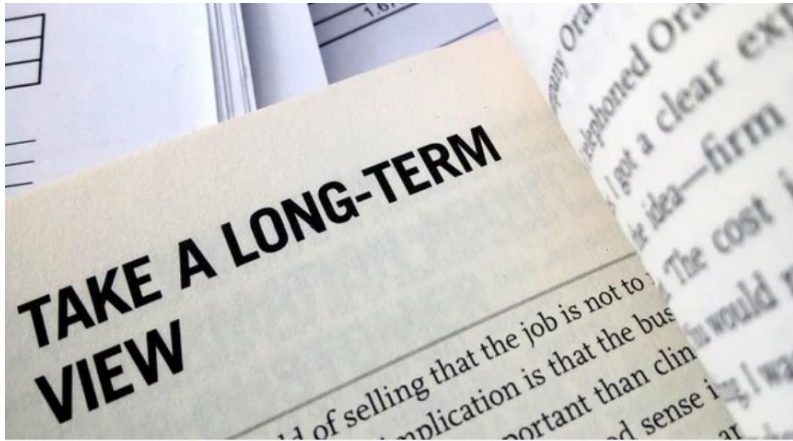
US treasuries fair value and predictive models

Slide 55

Gold fair value and predictive models

Slide 56

TIME HORIZON: 10 YEARS PLUS



TACTICAL ASSET ALLOCATION INVESTMENT



LONG TERM CAPITAL MARKET ASSUMPTIONS

Slides 57-67

Key findings

Slide 58

LTCMA 10 years plus US investors universe

Slides 60-61

LTCMA 10 years plus EU investors universe

Slide 62

LTCMA 10 years plus CH investors universe

Slide 63

Long term factors

Slides 64-67

INVESTMENT SOLUTION

Slides 68-80

Investment philosophy

Slide 70

Investment themes

Slide 71

Investment approach and strategies

Slides 72-73

Application

Slides 74-80

APPENDIX

To answer various questions often asked by investors



APPENDICES

Slides 81-99

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Momentum ranking US asset classes in USD | Slide 82 |
| Momentum ranking EU asset classes in USD | Slide 83 |
| US political risk | Slide 84 |
| EU political risk | Slide 85 |
| Bull market quantitative framework | Slide 86 |
| Bear market quantitative framework | Slide 87 |
| Bear market criteria check list | Slide 88 |
| US dollar factors analysis | Slide 89 |
| Gold factors analysis | Slide 90 |
| US high yield spread factors analysis | Slide 91 |
| Momentum ranking currencies | Slides 92-93 |
| US sectors oversold overbought strategy | Slide 94 |
| EU sectors oversold overbought strategy | Slide 95 |
| US activity analysis | Slide 96 |
| S&P 500 crashes intensity and depth measure model | Slide 97 |
| Smart beta investment strategies | Slides 98-99 |



The full presentation is available upon request through the **richfox.com** website.

This presentation contains forward-looking statements that involve inherent risks and uncertainties, and we might not be able to achieve the predictions, forecasts, projections and other outcomes we describe or imply in forward-looking statements. Market views insights provided comes from sources deemed reliable, but completeness or accuracy are not guaranteed.

Therefore, the forecasts suggested in this note are not guaranteed.

This presentation is intended for qualified and professional investors only.

For more information, please contact:

Frédéric VILHES

E-Mail: frederic.vilhes@richfox.com



Frédéric VILHES' background

Chief Investment Officer - Richfox capital since January 2023

Head of Research and founder - VFR Capital (2021 - 2022)

Head of Asset Allocation - Julius Baer (2016 - 2021)

Cross Asset Strategist - Bank Pictet (2012 - 2016)

Senior investment analyst - Merrill Lynch (2008 - 2012)

Head of trading research - BCV Lausanne (2006 - 2008)

Quantitative portfolio manager - Credit Suisse Asset Management (2004 - 2006)

Portfolio manager - Compagnie Financière Michelin (1998 - 2004)

PhD in Finance and Accounting from University of Geneva (2006)

Master of Financial Mathematics from University of Paris Dauphine (1997)