



**JIM
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Investor profile at InvestingByTheBooks: The book *The World's 99 Greatest Investors: The Secret of Success* provides a unique opportunity to learn from the most prominent investors globally. In the book they generously share their experiences, advice and insights and we are proud to present these excerpts. Magnus Angenfelt, previously a top ranked sell side analyst and hedge fund manager, will be presenting one investor per month. For those who cannot wait for the monthly columns, we strongly recommend you to buy the book. The investor himself writes the first section below and then Angenfelt describes the background of the investor and comments on his investment philosophy. Enjoy.

Stay with things about which you yourself know a great deal. Do not rely on others unless and until you yourself are very knowledgeable about the investment.

The best opportunities are often in areas which are ignored. They are often ignored because things have been going wrong for some time, which usually makes them cheap as well. Positive change usually comes eventually, so if you can see it before others, you will be successful. A

combination of very cheap and positive change usually leads to positive secular changes which can last for years. The more you are ridiculed and ignored, the more likely you are to be correct. If you are wrong, you will mainly lose opportunity costs.

Likewise, shorts come from the reverse. Looking at things which are extremely popular are also things which are usually very expensive. Never short something just because it is expensive, because they often get more expensive. Wait until you see the negative, secular changes (which always come) on the horizon, then act. You will certainly be even more scorned when you point out the looming problems of a popular sector, so be sure you have done your homework so you have the mental staying power.

Do nothing most of the time. Just wait until you see money lying over in the corner.

Then go over and pick it up. Be careful after it works out (if it does), because then you will be most cocky and think you are smart since you will have made so much money. Beware of hubris and a feeling that you have to jump back in immediately. Go to the beach for a while and look out the window while you calm down.

BORN Baltimore, Maryland, USA 1942.

EDUCATION Rogers graduated with a BA in History from Yale University and acquired a second BA degree in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics from Balliol College, Oxford in 1966.

CAREER After serving as an analyst for a couple of investment companies he ended up in 1971 at Arnhold and S. Bleichroeder, where he met George Soros and later cofounded the Quantum Fund. He retired in 1980, aged 37, to become private investor. Since then Rogers has served as a professor at Columbia University, financial commentator, author, and adventurer.

INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY He is a contrarian investor, strongly believing that the market is nearly always wrong. He makes few moves and has long investment horizon. Even if he is well known for his commodity focus and skills, he is more of a globally omnivorous investor, making bets on macro, countries, and almost all asset classes. One of his preferred investing environments is when markets are hysterical for some reason – but they must be fundamentally sound before he takes action. He regards the commodity market as the best investing market on the long side these days. As a private investor, he constantly analysed the countries through which he travelled for investment ideas. He invested in India before its markets were opened to foreigners and turned a huge profit when they were. Rogers calls his style ‘Local, wherever I am’.

OTHER As early as 2002 he saw the real estate and consumer debt bubbles coming. In 2006, Rogers said he was shorting US financials, homebuilders, and Fannie Mae. George Soros described him, in one of his books, as ‘an outstanding and extremely hardworking analyst, doing the work of six’. He is the creator of the Rogers International Commodities Index (RICI). In 1990–92, Rogers fulfilled a lifelong dream: motorcycling 100,000 miles across six continents. Ten years later he travelled for three years, passing through 116 countries. He has three Guinness records (two from travelling) and has written five books. In 2007 he moved to Singapore and is quoted as saying: ‘If you were smart in 1807 you moved to London, if you were smart in 1907 you moved to New York City, and if you are smart in 2007 you move to Asia’.

Sources: Jim Rogers; George Soros, Soros on Soros: Staying Ahead of the Curve (1995); Quantum Fund; Wikipedia.