# Baillie Gifford<sup>®</sup>

# **Baillie Gifford Long Term Global Growth Equity Fund**

# Fourth Quarter 2024

#### **About Baillie Gifford**

Philosophy

Long-term investment horizon
A growth bias
Bottom-up portfolio construction
High active share

Partnership

100% owned by 58 partners with average 20 years' service
Ownership aligns our interests with those of our clients
Enables us to take a thoughtful, long-term view in all that we do
Stability, quality and consistency

#### **Fund Objective**

To produce capital growth over the long term by investing primarily in global equities. Performance will be measured against the MSCI ACWI Index.

#### **Investment Proposition**

The LTGG Team is structured such that every investor can contribute meaningfully to the generation of new ideas, stock research and stock discussions. We want to bring cognitive diversity, creativity and imagination to the research process. Once a stock has been fully researched and discussed, the decision makers are responsible for making the ultimate decision on its inclusion (or otherwise) in the portfolio. Their decisions place an emphasis on backing enthusiasm rather than achieving a full consensus. The LTGG portfolio is deliberately concentrated so the bar is high for any stock to be included in the portfolio. Stocks will typically enter the portfolio as small positions. Thereafter, the bias is towards hold discipline and running winners with a belief that asymmetric returns will drive investment performance.

#### **Fund Facts**

Launch Date	April 29, 2016
Fund Size	C\$1,399.3m
Benchmark	MSCI ACWI Index
Current Active Share	88%*
Current Annual Turnover	19%
Style	Long term, bottom-up focus on stocks with very high growth rates
Stocks (guideline range)	30-60
Current Number of Stocks	39
-	

<sup>\*</sup>Relative to MSCI ACWI Index. Source: Baillie Gifford & Co, MSCI.

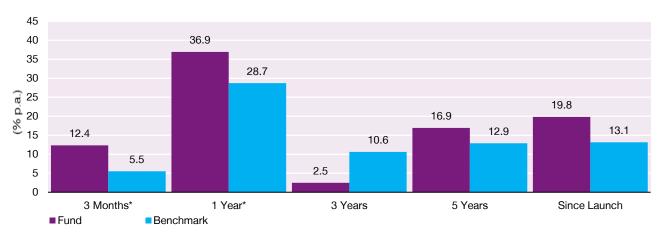
#### **LTGG Team**

Name	Job Title	Years' Experience
Mark Urquhart*	Investment Manager	28
John MacDougall*	Investment Manager	24
Michael Pye	Investment Manager	11
Gemma Barkhuizen	Investment Manager	7
*Dartner		

\*Partne

Performance 02

#### **Periodic Performance**



## **Discrete Performance**

	12/31/19-	12/31/20-	12/31/21-	12/31/22-	12/31/23-
	12/31/20	12/31/21	12/31/22	12/31/23	12/31/24
Fund %	98.5	2.3	-41.6	34.6	36.9
Benchmark %	14.8	18.0	-12.0	19.5	28.7

Source: CIBC, Revolution, MSCI. As at December 31, 2024. Canadian dollars. Fund performance shown is based on the NAV calculated by CIBC Mellon Trust Company, 4pm ET. Benchmark calculated using close to close. \*Not annualized. Launch date: April 29, 2016.

All the returns presented above are gross of investment management fees. The results do not reflect the deduction of investment management fees. Fees are charged outside the fund.

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# **Stock Level Attribution**

## Quarter to December 31, 2024

## **Top Five Contributors**

# Asset Name Contribution (%) AppLovin 1.9 Atlassian 1.2 Cloudflare 1.0 Shopify 1.0 Netflix 0.8

#### **Bottom Five Contributors**

Asset Name	Contribution (%)
PDD Holdings	-1.0
Nu Holdings	-0.6
ASML	-0.5
Moderna	-0.5
Enphase Energy	-0.5

# One Year to December 31, 2024

## **Top Five Contributors**

Contribution (%)
5.0
2.3
1.9
1.8
1.5

## **Bottom Five Contributors**

Asset Name	Contribution (%)
PDD Holdings	-2.3
Dexcom	-1.7
Moderna	-1.7
Kering	-1.1
Enphase Energy	-0.9

# Since Inception\* to December 31, 2024

## **Top Five Contributors**

Asset Name	Contribution (%)
Tesla Inc	20.0
NVIDIA	16.9
Amazon.com	8.6
Netflix	4.7
Tencent	3.4

# **Bottom Five Contributors**

Asset Name	Contribution (%)
Apple	-4.2
Moderna	-2.9
Carvana	-2.8
Microsoft	-2.8
Baidu.com	-2.4

Source: Revolution, MSCI. Baillie Gifford Long Term Global Growth Equity Fund relative to MSCI ACWI Index.

All attribution figures are calculated gross of fees, relative to the Index from stock level up, based on closing prices.

Attribution is shown relative to the index therefore not all stocks shown are held in the portfolio. See the List of Holdings section of this report for the stocks held.

<sup>\*</sup>April 29, 2016

Commentary 04

#### Market environment

The fourth quarter of 2024 saw continued trends of the past 18 months, with the markets mainly propelled by Artificial Intelligence (AI) related stocks and the "Trump Trade". Following the US presidential elections, investor speculation focussed on Trump's agenda of protectionism, deregulation and tax cuts. Amid this backdrop, Long Term Global Growth continued to demonstrate resilience, posting strong absolute and relative returns.

#### Performance

Among the largest contributors to performance over the quarter were AppLovin, Atlassian and Shopify.

AppLovin: Shares have more than doubled since our initial purchase in October 2024. The company's latest results showed exceptional growth with revenues growing 39% and net income margin rising from 13% in Q3 2023 to 36% in Q3 2024. The sharp improvement highlights the success of its Axon technology in targeted advertising and positions the company well for its planned expansion beyond mobile game advertising into broader e-commerce.

Atlassian: The company's focus on cloud migration and Al driven features has strengthened its position in collaboration and productivity software, demonstrating successful strategy execution. Revenues for the quarter ending 30 September 2024 surpassed \$1billion, up 21% year-over-year and exceeding market expectations. However, we continue to monitor the recent transition to a single CEO structure and the appointment of a new Chief Revenue Officer.

Shopify: Impressive growth and improving margins reflect the quality of Shopify's business. Q3 2024 revenues rose 26% year over year, with operating income outpacing this by increasing 130%. This marks six consecutive quarters of revenue growth in excess of 25% alongside expanding free cash flow margins, demonstrating the improved economics and returns following the divestment of its logistics operations in June 2023.

Among the largest detractors to performance over the quarter were PDD holdings, Nu holdings, and ASML.

PDD Holdings: PDD's rapid growth has become the norm, with a 5-year compound annual growth rate (CAGR) over 80% and improving profitability. With this backdrop, revenue growth of 44% and earnings growth of 60% year over year marked a deceleration and raised concerns about competition. After a deep-dive review, we believe PDD is well-positioned to maintain strong domestic and international growth, leveraging its scale for continued profit expansion.

Nu Holdings: Despite strong results for the quarter, revenue growth of 56% and a return on equity of 30%, shares dropped 30% in December driven by market sentiment on emerging markets and valuation concerns. With 110 million customers and a lower cost base, we believe the company will continue to thrive across diverse product offerings, market segments, and geographies.

ASML: ASML posted third quarter 2024 revenues of €7.5 billion, with a 28% net income margin, however this was below market expectations and company guidance due to weaker extreme ultraviolet lithography (EUV) demand from its two largest customers due to production issues and a normalisation of sales from China. This, along with a downward revision of the 2025 outlook, raised concerns. While the semiconductor industry remains cyclical, we are evaluating lithography's role in advancing computing power, while noting the company's recent leadership change.

#### **Notable Transactions**

During the quarter, we added two companies to the fund: AppLovin and Horizon Robotics. AppLovin, a leading advertising technology company in the mobile game market, benefits from its Al based models to improve ad targeting, boosting both customer returns and its own net revenue. Given the operating leverage inherent in its business model, we see a clear path to 5x upside, and success in e-commerce could prove truly transformative to returns.

Horizon Robotics specialises in developing artificial intelligence solutions for the automotive industry, particularly in advanced driver assistance and autonomous driving. We have been following the company since 2016 when its founder left Baidu (a former LTGG holding). Having had the opportunity to get to know the company over the last several years we've come to view Horizon Robotics as possessing one of the most talented and ambitious teams globally. This, combined with operating in a fast-growing area with applications beyond automotive, led us to take a small initial position for our clients at IPO.

Commentary 05

We sold our position in HDFC Bank during the quarter. The merger between HDFC Ltd and HDFC Bank, along with significant management changes, weakened our conviction in the company's cultural advantage, which was a key part of our investment thesis. To generate meaningful upside from here would require both improved profitability and faster growth, which are now at odds. Given more compelling opportunities elsewhere, we decided to redeploy the capital.

#### Market Outlook

Our outlook remains unchanged. We aim to invest in a concentrated portfolio of exceptional growth companies over the long term. We seek out companies that can grow to multiples of their current size, have a sustainable competitive advantage, are led by visionary and entrepreneurial management teams with a clear path to long-term profitability.

Transactions from 01 October 2024 to 31 December 2024.

# **New Purchases**

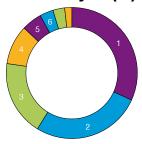
Stock Name	Transaction Rationale	
AppLovin	We have purchased a new holding in AppLovin for the fund. This performance advertising technology company has established a dominant position in the mobile game market. Its core software business grows as its artificial intelligence models power improvements in yield. As AppLovin's Al models get better at targeting the right ad impressions to buy in order to deliver return-on-advertising-spend, the advertiser benefits and AppLovin grows net revenue. The company's Al models have been improving their yield at a rapid clip, while very small percentage yield improvements can drive multiples of net revenue (2.5x net revenue requires 45bps of extra yield). These increases in net revenue come with >85% incremental EBITDA margin given strong operating leverage inherent in the business model, and the company requires negligible capital reinvestment for continued organic growth, allowing a clear path to 5x upside from growth in the core software business's cash flows over the next 5 years. We believe this is dramatically underappreciated by the market, with consensus assuming a rapid deceleration in growth over the next three years. There is additional upside potential from the company's emerging second act, namely its expansion beyond mobile game app advertising into ecommerce advertising - this new vertical is still experimental for AppLovin but early signs are encouraging. Underpinning all of this is a starkly differentiated business culture defined by talent density and high performance, captained by an obsessive founder who has proven himself a capable capital allocator and aligned with our long-term horizon. Note the company also owns mobile game studios which they intend to divest as opportunities arise - these studios were strategically important in the early days of building AppLovin's Al models but they are not part of our growth thesis. Their divestment is likewise immaterial to our upside case.	
Horizon Robotics Inc	We have followed Horizon Robotics' vision to create hardware and operating systems for artificial intelligence with interest since 2016. The company has focused its efforts on automotive chips and software, taking significant share in China from Western advanced driver-assistance system providers. We expect Horizon to benefit from further consolidation in the autonomous driving space. Creating a scalable solution requires co-design of hardware and software - which Horizon excels at - and the complexity of this task makes it less likely over the long term that individual vehicle brands or Tier 1 vendors will pursue their own capability. We think Horizon possesses one of the most talented and ambitious teams globally in this compelling growth area, with potential applications beyond automotive, and therefore we have taken a small initial position in the IPO.	

# Complete Sales

Stock Name	Transaction Rationale		
HDFC Bank	We have sold the position in HDFC Bank. LTGG invests in growth companies with the potential to multiply in size and we believe HDFC has limited remaining runway to do so. For worthwhile upside from here, we require both improved profitability and an acceleration in loan growth, but the two are increasingly in tension with each other for HDFC. The merger between the erstwhile parent company HDFC Ltd and HDFC Bank exacerbated this tension between growth and profitability, because the company must channel a material chunk of its deposit growth toward replacement of the former parent company's maturing debt. The resulting funding constraint creates a headwind to loan growth. Our long-term focus initially meant we were willing to look through some of the shorter-term headwinds to growth and profitability caused by the merger, but in the meantime our conviction in the company's cultural advantage has significantly diminished through management changes and demotions. The cultural advantage was the central pillar of our HDFC investment case, because it supported the exceptional asset quality HDFC has demonstrated over the years. The combination of this deterioration to the core investment thesis and truncated runway for upside led us to conclude HDFC no longer meets LTGG's high bar.		

Portfolio Positioning 07

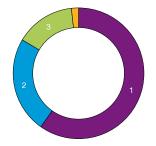
# Sector Analysis (%)



1	Information Technology	31.8
2	Consumer Discretionary	27.0
3	Communication Services	18.5
4	Health Care	9.7
5	Financials	5.0
6	Consumer Staples	3.4
7	Industrials	2.9
8	Cash	1.8

Total may not sum due to rounding.

# **Geographic Analysis (%)**



1 North America	59.8
2 Emerging Markets	23.8
3 Europe (ex UK)	14.7
4 Cash	1.8

Total may not sum due to rounding.

# **Top Ten Holdings**

Holdings		Fund %
1	Amazon.com	7.2
2	NVIDIA	5.3
3	Netflix	4.2
4	The Trade Desk	4.0
5	Intuitive Surgical	4.0
6	Meituan	3.9
7	Shopify	3.9
8	Cloudflare	3.8
9	Tesla Inc	3.4
10 Spotify		3.3

# **Portfolio Characteristics**

39
11
7
19
88%*
19%

\*Relative to MSCI ACWI Index. Source: Baillie Gifford & Co, MSCI.

# Voting Activity

Votes Cast in Favour	Votes Cast Against		Votes Abstained/Withheld	
Companies 6	Companies	None	Companies	None
Resolutions 49	Resolutions	None	Resolutions	None

# Company Engagement

Engagement Type	Company
Environmental	Amazon.com, Inc., Enphase Energy, Inc., Moderna, Inc., PDD Holdings Inc., Sea Limited, Shopify Inc., Tencent Holdings Limited, Tesla, Inc., The Trade Desk, Inc.
Social	Advanced Micro Devices, Inc., Amazon.com, Inc., Cloudflare, Inc., PDD Holdings Inc., Rivian Automotive, Inc., Sea Limited, Tencent Holdings Limited, The Trade Desk, Inc.
Governance	ASML Holding N.V., Amazon.com, Inc., AppLovin Corporation, Enphase Energy, Inc., Horizon Robotics, Kweichow Moutai Co., Ltd., Moderna, Inc., Moncler S.p.A., Rivian Automotive, Inc., Shopify Inc., Symbotic Inc., Tesla, Inc.
Strategy	AppLovin Corporation, Cloudflare, Inc., Horizon Robotics, Joby Aviation, Inc., Moderna, Inc., Moncler S.p.A., Rivian Automotive, Inc., Roblox Corporation, Sea Limited, Symbotic Inc., Tencent Holdings Limited, The Trade Desk, Inc.

List of Holdings 09

Asset Name	Fund %
Amazon.com	7.2
NVIDIA	5.3
Netflix	4.2
The Trade Desk	4.0
Intuitive Surgical	4.0
Meituan	3.9
Shopify	3.9
Cloudflare	3.8
Tesla Inc	3.4
Spotify	3.3
Atlassian	3.3
ASML	3.3
Adyen	3.1
Sea Limited	3.0
PDD Holdings	2.8
Coupang	2.7
MercadoLibre	2.6
AppLovin	2.6
Samsara	2.5
Workday	2.3
Tencent	2.1
e.l.f. Beauty Inc	2.0
Hermès International	1.9
Nu Holdings	1.9
Roblox	1.9
Dexcom	1.8
Datadog	1.8
BioNTech	1.6
CATL	1.6
Advanced Micro Devices	1.5
Moncler	1.5
BeiGene	1.4
Kweichow Moutai	1.4
Enphase Energy	1.1
Rivian Automotive	1.1
Moderna	0.9
Symbotic	0.7
Joby Aviation	0.7
Horizon Robotics	0.4
Cash	1.8
Total	100.0

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Total may not sum due to rounding.

#### **Additional Fund Information**

The Fund is a sub-fund of Baillie Gifford Funds Canada. Its Investment Manager and Distributor is Baillie Gifford Overseas Limited.

This factsheet does not provide you with all the facts that you need to make an informed decision about investing in the Fund. Further details of the risks associated with investing in the Fund can be found in the Offering Memorandum, copies of which are available at bailliegifford.com

#### **Important Information and Risk Factors**

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Baillie Gifford International LLC is wholly owned by Baillie Gifford Overseas Limited; it was formed in Delaware in 2005 and is registered with the SEC. It is the legal entity through which Baillie Gifford Overseas Limited provides client service and marketing functions in North America.

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#### **Fees**

	Long Term Global Growth Equity Fund Management Fees
	0.62% first C\$150m
	0.40% next C\$850m
	0.35% next C\$2500m
	0.30% thereafter

Investors are charged a fee for investment management services based on the above scale. This fee is payable directly to the manager.

Operating expenses are 0.03%, based on the actual expenses for the fiscal year to December 31, 2023. The Funds operating expenses are all expenses the Fund incurs in its daily operations excluding transaction fees.

#### **Dealing Information**

Settlement	T+2
Liquidity and Valuation	Daily
Elgibility	Permitted clients*
Dealing cut-off time	4pm Eastern
Custodian and Record Keeper	CIBC

<sup>\*</sup>As defined in Multilateral Instrument 32-102 Registration Exemptions for Non-Resident Investment Managers.

#### **Legal Notices**

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