

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC

Form N-30B-2

November 12, 2003

T H E S W I S S H E L V E T I A F U N D , I N C .

Directors and Officers

Paul Hottinguer

CHAIRMAN

Eric R. Gabus+

VICE CHAIRMAN (NON OFFICER)

Paul R. Brenner, Esq.

DIRECTOR

Alexandre de Takacsy

DIRECTOR

Claude Frey

DIRECTOR

Baron Hottinger

DIRECTOR

Claude Mosseri-Marlio

DIRECTOR

Didier Pineau-Valencienne*

DIRECTOR

Stephen K. West, Esq.*

DIRECTOR

Samuel B. Witt III, Esq.**

DIRECTOR

Rodolphe E. Hottinger

PRESIDENT

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Rudolf Millisits

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

TREASURER

Philippe Comby

VICE PRESIDENT

Edward J. Veilleux

VICE PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

Leslie K. Klenk

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Frederick Skillin

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Dawn L. Taylor

ASSISTANT TREASURER

*Audit Committee member

**Audit Committee chairman

+Governance Committee Chairman

INVESTMENT ADVISOR

Hottinger Capital Corp.

1270 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 400

New York, New York 10020

(212) 332-7930

ADMINISTRATOR

Forum Administrative Services, LLC

CUSTODIAN

Swiss American Securities Inc.

TRANSFER AGENT

PFPC Inc.

P.O. Box 43027

Providence, RI 02940-3027

(800) 331-1710

LEGAL COUNSEL

Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Deloitte & Touche LLP

THE INVESTMENT ADVISOR

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

The Swiss Helvetia Fund, Inc. (the "Fund") is managed by Hottinger Capital Corp., which belongs to the Hottinger Group.

The Hottinger Group dates back to Banque Hottinguer, which was formed in Paris in 1786 and is one of Europe's oldest private banking firms. The Hottinger Group has remained under the control of the Hottinger family through seven generations. It has offices in New York, Zurich, Luxembourg, Toronto, Geneva, Vienna, London, and the Bahamas.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

The Swiss Helvetia Fund, Inc.
1270 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 400
New York, New York 10020
1-888-SWISS-00 (1-888-794-7700)
(212) 332-2760

FOR INQUIRIES AND REPORTS:

1-888-SWISS-00 (1-888-794-7700)
Fax (212) 332-7931
email: swz@swz.com

WEBSITE ADDRESS

<http://www.swz.com>

The Fund

The Swiss Helvetia Fund, Inc. is a non-diversified, closed-end investment company whose objective is to seek long-term capital appreciation through investment in equity and equity-linked securities of Swiss companies. The Fund, listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "SWZ," is managed by Hottinger Capital Corp.

The Fund has earned the Lipper, Inc. award for ranking number one among Western European closed-end funds in ten year performance for the periods ended December 31, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, and 1998. The Fund had previously been recognized for its top one year performance in the same category for the year 2000. The Fund also maintained Morningstar's overall rating of four stars as of September 30, 2003. Of course, past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Net Asset Value is calculated daily by 6:15 P.M. (Eastern Time). The most recent calculation is available by calling 1-888-SWISS-00 or by accessing our Website. Weekly Net Asset Value is also published in BARRON'S, the Monday edition of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL and the Sunday Edition of THE NEW YORK TIMES.

1

T H E S W I S S H E L V E T I A F U N D , I N C .

Letter to Stockholders

GLOBAL MARKET REVIEW

The Swiss Performance Index (SPI) experienced a 6% increase for the third quarter of 2003 after a sharp August rise was followed by a strong decline at quarter end. The profit taking was triggered in part by the sudden weakness of the U.S. dollar following the G7 meeting in September. While the G7 participants recognized the need for an adjustment in the U.S. currency, it seemed obvious that the U.S. administration had put some pressure on China to allow its

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

currency to float more freely versus the U.S. dollar. The sudden drop of the U.S. currency revealed investors' concerns about persistent imbalances in the global economy, where North America is still the only expanding consumer market. Domestic demand is still weak everywhere else, especially in Europe. Volatility in the currency market and in the U.S. Treasury market is set to continue and most likely will affect future stock performance.

The market is also uncomfortable with the idea of an implicit end of the strong dollar policy at the same time that the U.S. government is running a bigger and bigger deficit. The looming presidential election and the prospect of the continuing lack of job creation despite fiscal and monetary stimulus are already stimulating politicians' appetite for protectionism. If enacted by Congress, global trade impediments could be harmful to the cost structure of U.S. corporations. These companies have been participating heavily in the global outsourcing trend and are among the largest investors in China's manufacturing infrastructure.

[EDGAR Representation of Graph:

SWISS FRANC/U.S. DOLLAR EXCHANGE RATE

CHF Curncy		CHF Curncy	
Date	Px Last	Date	Px Last
12/31/2002	1.3836	5/19/2003	1.2967
1/2/2003	1.4017	5/20/2003	1.2906
1/3/2003	1.3982	5/21/2003	1.3003
1/6/2003	1.3932	5/22/2003	1.2958
1/7/2003	1.401	5/23/2003	1.289
1/8/2003	1.387	5/26/2003	1.2869
1/9/2003	1.3921	5/27/2003	1.2869
1/10/2003	1.3805	5/28/2003	1.2971
1/13/2003	1.3864	5/29/2003	1.2832
1/14/2003	1.3866	5/30/2003	1.2979
1/15/2003	1.3834	6/2/2003	1.299
1/16/2003	1.3747	6/3/2003	1.311
1/17/2003	1.3682	6/4/2003	1.3185
1/20/2003	1.3674	6/5/2003	1.3002
1/21/2003	1.3635	6/6/2003	1.3197
1/22/2003	1.3637	6/9/2003	1.3155
1/23/2003	1.3632	6/10/2003	1.3171
1/24/2003	1.3531	6/11/2003	1.3088
1/27/2003	1.353	6/12/2003	1.3109
1/28/2003	1.3572	6/13/2003	1.2959
1/29/2003	1.3554	6/16/2003	1.3057
1/30/2003	1.3561	6/17/2003	1.3092
1/31/2003	1.3639	6/18/2003	1.3226
2/3/2003	1.3591	6/19/2003	1.3147
2/4/2003	1.3467	6/20/2003	1.328
2/5/2003	1.3605	6/23/2003	1.3226
2/6/2003	1.3541	6/24/2003	1.3287
2/7/2003	1.3557	6/25/2003	1.33
2/10/2003	1.3683	6/26/2003	1.3508
2/11/2003	1.3673	6/27/2003	1.3501
2/12/2003	1.3715	6/30/2003	1.3509
2/13/2003	1.3549	7/1/2003	1.3428
2/14/2003	1.3621	7/2/2003	1.3445
2/17/2003	1.3725	7/3/2003	1.3482
2/18/2003	1.3766	7/4/2003	1.3481
2/19/2003	1.3675	7/7/2003	1.3734
2/20/2003	1.3568	7/8/2003	1.3686
2/21/2003	1.3648	7/9/2003	1.3597
2/24/2003	1.3558	7/10/2003	1.3609
2/25/2003	1.3583	7/11/2003	1.3764

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

2/26/2003	1.3548	7/14/2003	1.3736
2/27/2003	1.3618	7/15/2003	1.3851
2/28/2003	1.352	7/16/2003	1.3751
3/3/2003	1.3384	7/17/2003	1.3695
3/4/2003	1.3349	7/18/2003	1.3637
3/5/2003	1.3298	7/21/2003	1.3533
3/6/2003	1.3353	7/22/2003	1.3619
3/7/2003	1.3361	7/23/2003	1.3464
3/10/2003	1.3259	7/24/2003	1.3455
3/11/2003	1.3285	7/25/2003	1.3445
3/12/2003	1.3363	7/28/2003	1.346
3/13/2003	1.3616	7/29/2003	1.3521
3/14/2003	1.367	7/30/2003	1.366
3/17/2003	1.381	7/31/2003	1.3709
3/18/2003	1.3828	8/1/2003	1.3642
3/19/2003	1.3935	8/4/2003	1.3467
3/20/2003	1.3872	8/5/2003	1.3477
3/21/2003	1.4029	8/6/2003	1.3535
3/24/2003	1.3843	8/7/2003	1.3501
3/25/2003	1.3826	8/8/2003	1.3593
3/26/2003	1.3813	8/11/2003	1.3582
3/27/2003	1.3834	8/12/2003	1.3684
3/28/2003	1.3698	8/13/2003	1.3661
3/31/2003	1.3514	8/14/2003	1.3705
4/1/2003	1.3521	8/15/2003	1.3709
4/2/2003	1.3789	8/18/2003	1.3889
4/3/2003	1.3778	8/19/2003	1.3885
4/4/2003	1.3854	8/20/2003	1.3879
4/7/2003	1.3879	8/21/2003	1.4131
4/8/2003	1.3872	8/22/2003	1.4174
4/9/2003	1.3795	8/25/2003	1.4153
4/10/2003	1.3882	8/26/2003	1.4128
4/11/2003	1.3936	8/27/2003	1.413
4/14/2003	1.3899	8/28/2003	1.4142
4/15/2003	1.3921	8/29/2003	1.3999
4/16/2003	1.3716	9/1/2003	1.4007
4/17/2003	1.3814	9/2/2003	1.4189
4/18/2003	1.3814	9/3/2003	1.4151
4/21/2003	1.3878	9/4/2003	1.4044
4/22/2003	1.3706	9/5/2003	1.3825
4/23/2003	1.3746	9/8/2003	1.391
4/24/2003	1.3612	9/9/2003	1.3785
4/25/2003	1.362	9/10/2003	1.3835
4/28/2003	1.3713	9/11/2003	1.3834
4/29/2003	1.3613	9/12/2003	1.3791
4/30/2003	1.3547	9/15/2003	1.3802
5/1/2003	1.3452	9/16/2003	1.3895
5/2/2003	1.344	9/17/2003	1.3793
5/5/2003	1.342	9/18/2003	1.3848
5/6/2003	1.3246	9/19/2003	1.3679
5/7/2003	1.3244	9/22/2003	1.3547
5/8/2003	1.314	9/23/2003	1.3591
5/9/2003	1.3161	9/24/2003	1.3501
5/12/2003	1.311	9/25/2003	1.3436
5/13/2003	1.3133	9/26/2003	1.3449
5/14/2003	1.3183	9/29/2003	1.3253
5/15/2003	1.3243	9/30/2003	1.3192]
5/16/2003	1.3076		

SWISS MARKET REVIEW AND FUND PERFORMANCE

Within the Swiss market, the cyclical, financial and technology sectors had the best performance during the quarter, building on an already strong second

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

quarter. Despite the sharp increase in long-term U.S. interest rates, the prospect of economic improvement supported equity valuations. While small and mid capitalization stocks outperformed the rest of the market, low trading volume and the impact of short positions being covered, were most likely more responsible than any true improvement in the fundamentals of these companies. The Fund's investment strategy has been to concentrate on finding mis-priced stocks in the mid and large capitalization segment of the market. Management increased exposure to turnaround situations, undervalued cyclical growth companies and under priced business franchises.

2

T H E S W I S S H E L V E T I A F U N D , I N C .

Letter to Stockholders (continued)

[EDGAR Representation of Graph:

SWISS PERFORMANCE INDEX IN SWISS FRANCS

SPI Index Date	Last Price	SPI Index Date	Last Price
1/3/2003	100.00%	5/20/2003	94.45%
1/6/2003	100.38%	5/21/2003	93.19%
1/7/2003	99.84%	5/22/2003	95.50%
1/8/2003	99.65%	5/23/2003	95.66%
1/9/2003	99.19%	5/26/2003	94.96%
1/10/2003	99.18%	5/27/2003	95.49%
1/13/2003	99.80%	5/28/2003	97.43%
1/14/2003	101.24%	5/30/2003	96.87%
1/15/2003	99.23%	6/2/2003	99.29%
1/16/2003	98.64%	6/3/2003	98.49%
1/17/2003	97.19%	6/4/2003	99.19%
1/20/2003	95.76%	6/5/2003	98.42%
1/21/2003	95.25%	6/6/2003	100.06%
1/22/2003	92.76%	6/10/2003	100.11%
1/23/2003	92.77%	6/11/2003	101.20%
1/24/2003	91.79%	6/12/2003	101.96%
1/27/2003	88.58%	6/13/2003	100.28%
1/28/2003	88.24%	6/16/2003	102.29%
1/29/2003	88.66%	6/17/2003	103.27%
1/30/2003	90.17%	6/18/2003	104.07%
1/31/2003	90.41%	6/19/2003	102.61%
2/3/2003	91.41%	6/20/2003	102.92%
2/4/2003	89.21%	6/23/2003	100.78%
2/5/2003	89.72%	6/24/2003	100.77%
2/6/2003	87.33%	6/25/2003	100.83%
2/7/2003	86.64%	6/26/2003	101.14%
2/10/2003	85.40%	6/27/2003	101.23%
2/11/2003	87.29%	6/30/2003	100.59%
2/12/2003	85.32%	7/1/2003	98.37%
2/13/2003	85.39%	7/2/2003	100.13%
2/14/2003	87.49%	7/3/2003	100.80%
2/17/2003	89.45%	7/4/2003	100.84%
2/18/2003	88.52%	7/7/2003	102.93%
2/19/2003	86.38%	7/8/2003	102.58%
2/20/2003	86.46%	7/9/2003	101.63%
2/21/2003	86.73%	7/10/2003	101.44%

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

2/24/2003	85.79%	7/11/2003	102.52%
2/25/2003	84.08%	7/14/2003	103.91%
2/26/2003	83.26%	7/15/2003	103.47%
2/27/2003	83.73%	7/16/2003	103.16%
2/28/2003	85.07%	7/17/2003	102.47%
3/3/2003	85.83%	7/18/2003	102.55%
3/4/2003	83.10%	7/21/2003	101.95%
3/5/2003	81.52%	7/22/2003	101.82%
3/6/2003	81.39%	7/23/2003	102.40%
3/7/2003	80.23%	7/24/2003	103.74%
3/10/2003	77.34%	7/25/2003	103.29%
3/11/2003	77.04%	7/28/2003	104.47%
3/12/2003	76.18%	7/29/2003	104.24%
3/13/2003	78.42%	7/30/2003	105.24%
3/14/2003	82.69%	7/31/2003	105.94%
3/17/2003	84.88%	8/1/2003	105.33%
3/18/2003	85.64%	8/4/2003	104.28%
3/19/2003	87.58%	8/5/2003	105.40%
3/20/2003	88.08%	8/6/2003	104.42%
3/21/2003	91.33%	8/7/2003	104.18%
3/24/2003	87.05%	8/8/2003	104.62%
3/25/2003	87.67%	8/11/2003	104.56%
3/26/2003	87.42%	8/12/2003	105.48%
3/27/2003	86.37%	8/13/2003	105.24%
3/28/2003	86.69%	8/14/2003	106.08%
3/31/2003	84.34%	8/15/2003	107.35%
4/1/2003	85.29%	8/18/2003	107.94%
4/2/2003	87.96%	8/19/2003	108.38%
4/3/2003	89.03%	8/20/2003	107.78%
4/4/2003	90.35%	8/21/2003	108.89%
4/7/2003	92.46%	8/22/2003	109.79%
4/8/2003	91.94%	8/25/2003	108.26%
4/9/2003	92.60%	8/26/2003	107.94%
4/10/2003	90.69%	8/27/2003	108.45%
4/11/2003	92.16%	8/28/2003	108.95%
4/14/2003	93.00%	8/29/2003	107.53%
4/15/2003	95.16%	9/1/2003	109.41%
4/16/2003	94.29%	9/2/2003	108.83%
4/17/2003	94.06%	9/3/2003	110.99%
4/22/2003	94.23%	9/4/2003	111.13%
4/23/2003	95.44%	9/5/2003	111.34%
4/24/2003	94.08%	9/8/2003	111.85%
4/25/2003	93.26%	9/9/2003	111.15%
4/28/2003	94.88%	9/10/2003	111.24%
4/29/2003	94.01%	9/11/2003	111.35%
4/30/2003	94.67%	9/12/2003	111.24%
5/2/2003	94.22%	9/15/2003	111.72%
5/5/2003	95.55%	9/16/2003	112.55%
5/6/2003	96.71%	9/17/2003	113.15%
5/7/2003	96.48%	9/18/2003	113.66%
5/8/2003	94.33%	9/19/2003	112.82%
5/9/2003	94.17%	9/22/2003	110.41%
5/12/2003	93.58%	9/23/2003	109.47%
5/13/2003	94.73%	9/24/2003	109.87%
5/14/2003	94.94%	9/25/2003	108.40%
5/15/2003	95.30%	9/26/2003	107.81%
5/16/2003	95.86%	9/29/2003	107.32%
5/19/2003	93.90%	9/30/2003	106.12%]

[EDGAR Representation of Graph:

SWISS PERFORMANCE INDEX IN U.S. DOLLARS

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

SPI Index		SPI Index	
Date	Last Price	Date	Last Price
1/3/2003	100.00%	5/20/2003	102.16%
1/6/2003	100.71%	5/21/2003	100.78%
1/7/2003	99.58%	5/22/2003	102.99%
1/8/2003	100.43%	5/23/2003	103.55%
1/9/2003	99.62%	5/26/2003	103.15%
1/10/2003	100.23%	5/27/2003	104.03%
1/13/2003	100.85%	5/28/2003	105.10%
1/14/2003	102.20%	5/30/2003	104.09%
1/15/2003	100.29%	6/2/2003	106.94%
1/16/2003	100.15%	6/3/2003	105.07%
1/17/2003	99.23%	6/4/2003	105.60%
1/20/2003	97.88%	6/5/2003	106.10%
1/21/2003	97.67%	6/6/2003	105.91%
1/22/2003	95.08%	6/10/2003	106.51%
1/23/2003	95.41%	6/11/2003	108.19%
1/24/2003	94.84%	6/12/2003	108.78%
1/27/2003	91.45%	6/13/2003	107.62%
1/28/2003	90.92%	6/16/2003	109.66%
1/29/2003	91.53%	6/17/2003	110.56%
1/30/2003	92.57%	6/18/2003	109.96%
1/31/2003	92.36%	6/19/2003	108.93%
2/3/2003	93.79%	6/20/2003	107.96%
2/4/2003	92.58%	6/23/2003	106.43%
2/5/2003	91.97%	6/24/2003	105.84%
2/6/2003	90.24%	6/25/2003	106.45%
2/7/2003	89.20%	6/26/2003	104.94%
2/10/2003	87.47%	6/27/2003	104.67%
2/11/2003	89.32%	6/30/2003	103.91%
2/12/2003	87.10%	7/1/2003	102.56%
2/13/2003	88.16%	7/2/2003	103.89%
2/14/2003	89.62%	7/3/2003	104.48%
2/17/2003	91.29%	7/4/2003	104.62%
2/18/2003	89.89%	7/7/2003	104.93%
2/19/2003	88.21%	7/8/2003	104.60%
2/20/2003	89.11%	7/9/2003	104.18%
2/21/2003	89.11%	7/10/2003	104.20%
2/24/2003	88.31%	7/11/2003	104.44%
2/25/2003	86.91%	7/14/2003	105.75%
2/26/2003	85.88%	7/15/2003	104.45%
2/27/2003	85.99%	7/16/2003	104.83%
2/28/2003	87.79%	7/17/2003	104.53%
3/3/2003	89.44%	7/18/2003	105.30%
3/4/2003	86.79%	7/21/2003	105.13%
3/5/2003	85.72%	7/22/2003	104.59%
3/6/2003	85.44%	7/23/2003	106.36%
3/7/2003	83.88%	7/24/2003	107.42%
3/10/2003	81.56%	7/25/2003	107.51%
3/11/2003	80.97%	7/28/2003	108.62%
3/12/2003	79.96%	7/29/2003	108.11%
3/13/2003	81.28%	7/30/2003	107.99%
3/14/2003	84.49%	7/31/2003	108.01%
3/17/2003	85.82%	8/1/2003	107.73%
3/18/2003	86.54%	8/4/2003	108.15%
3/19/2003	88.02%	8/5/2003	109.03%
3/20/2003	88.75%	8/6/2003	108.36%
3/21/2003	90.99%	8/7/2003	107.87%
3/24/2003	87.90%	8/8/2003	107.50%
3/25/2003	88.58%	8/11/2003	107.83%
3/26/2003	88.36%	8/12/2003	107.96%

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

3/27/2003	87.22%	8/13/2003	107.67%
3/28/2003	88.64%	8/14/2003	107.89%
3/31/2003	87.11%	8/15/2003	109.33%
4/1/2003	88.08%	8/18/2003	108.56%
4/2/2003	89.14%	8/19/2003	108.83%
4/3/2003	90.14%	8/20/2003	108.44%
4/4/2003	91.05%	8/21/2003	107.90%
4/7/2003	92.44%	8/22/2003	108.23%
4/8/2003	92.34%	8/25/2003	106.78%
4/9/2003	93.81%	8/26/2003	107.18%
4/10/2003	91.61%	8/27/2003	107.39%
4/11/2003	92.54%	8/28/2003	107.77%
4/14/2003	93.61%	8/29/2003	107.08%
4/15/2003	95.53%	9/1/2003	109.09%
4/16/2003	95.81%	9/2/2003	107.69%
4/17/2003	95.29%	9/3/2003	109.84%
4/22/2003	95.98%	9/4/2003	110.15%
4/23/2003	96.86%	9/5/2003	112.25%
4/24/2003	96.74%	9/8/2003	112.94%
4/25/2003	95.75%	9/9/2003	112.75%
4/28/2003	96.78%	9/10/2003	112.06%
4/29/2003	96.20%	9/11/2003	112.25%
4/30/2003	97.56%	9/12/2003	113.12%
5/2/2003	97.93%	9/15/2003	113.35%
5/5/2003	99.48%	9/16/2003	113.01%
5/6/2003	101.29%	9/17/2003	114.43%
5/7/2003	101.73%	9/18/2003	114.82%
5/8/2003	100.34%	9/19/2003	115.42%
5/9/2003	100.22%	9/22/2003	114.17%
5/12/2003	99.78%	9/23/2003	113.09%
5/13/2003	100.71%	9/24/2003	113.37%
5/14/2003	101.02%	9/25/2003	112.65%
5/15/2003	100.75%	9/26/2003	112.19%
5/16/2003	102.25%	9/29/2003	112.71%
5/19/2003	101.37%	9/30/2003	112.48%]

The Swiss market performance as measured by the SPI Index for the nine months ended September 30 was 16.99% in U.S. dollar terms compared to 14.71% for the S&P 500. The Swiss franc loss of 6% versus the euro this year has translated into a year to date Swiss market performance of 5.5% in euro terms. This compares to a performance of only 1.7% in euros for the S&P 500 despite the very strong advance of U.S. technology stocks.

The Fund underperformed the SPI with an increase in net asset value of 15.14% and a share price performance of 14.91% in U.S. dollar terms. However, the Fund outperformed the Swiss Market Index (SMI) of blue chip companies which was up only 14.03% in U.S. dollar terms. The Fund's portfolio has a higher weighting in mid-sized companies than either the SPI or SMI and the accent put on stock picking has resulted in a focus on fewer names. Management has also reduced the Fund's exposure to the financial sector, mainly the insurance and financial service companies, due to the increased volatility in the worldwide bond market, especially in the U.S. Management expects the volatility in the U.S. Treasury market to continue based on the weakness of the U.S. dollar, the hedging activities of mortgage bankers and the increasing U.S. deficit.

YEAR TO DATE
DECEMBER 31, 2002
THROUGH
SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

PERFORMANCE IN SWISS FRANCS

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

Swiss Performance Index (SPI)	11.74%
Swiss Helvetia Fund	
Based on Net Asset Value in Swiss Francs	9.97%
CHANGE IN U. S. DOLLAR VS. SWISS FRANC	-4.49%
PERFORMANCE IN U.S. DOLLARS	
SWISS HELVETIA FUND PERFORMANCE	
Based on Market Price	14.91%
Based on Net Asset Value	15.14%
S&P 500 Index	14.71%
MSCI EAFE Index	18.37%
Lipper European Fund Index (10 Largest)	15.31%
Lipper European Fund Universe Average	15.20%
SOURCES: FORUM FINANCIAL GROUP AND BLOOMBERG	

3

T H E S W I S S H E L V E T I A F U N D , I N C .

Letter to Stockholders (continued)

PEER GROUP/INDICES PERFORMANCE COMPARISON IN SWISS FRANCS 1

	TOTAL RETURN YEAR TO DATE				
	AS OF 9/30/03	TOTAL RETURN 2002	TOTAL RETURN 2001	TOTAL RETURN 2000	TOTAL RETURN 1999
SWISS HELVETIA FUND	9.97%	-20.40%	-22.91%	14.06%	14.70%
Swiss Performance Index (SPI)	11.74%	-25.95%	-22.03%	11.91%	11.69%
Swiss Market Index (SMI)	8.91%	-27.84%	-21.11%	7.47%	5.71%
Switzerland iShares ² (Formerly called Webs Switzerland)	9.10%	-26.23%	-23.12%	7.75%	12.22%
CS Equity Swiss Blue Chips ^{3, 7}	8.74%	-28.75%	-22.12%	10.97%	7.57%
UBS Equity Inv. Switzerland ^{4, 7}	9.00%	-26.02%	-22.04%	7.42%	6.43%
Pictet Valsuisse ^{5, 7}	9.40%	-27.93%	-22.35%	7.34%	9.38%

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

Saraswiss (Bank Sarasin) ^{6, 7}	9.66%	-28.51%	-24.45%	9.72%	7.10%
--	-------	---------	---------	-------	-------

	CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE 12/31/96 - 9/30/03
SWISS HELVETIA FUND	57.12%
Swiss Performance Index (SPI)	44.37%
Swiss Market Index (SMI)	27.93%
Switzerland iShares ² (Formerly called Webs Switzerland)	23.55%
CS Equity Swiss Blue Chips ^{3, 7}	31.54%
UBS Equity Inv. Switzerland ^{4, 7}	26.37%
Pictet Valsuisse ^{5, 7}	24.25%
Saraswiss (Bank Sarasin) ^{6, 7}	22.29%

SOURCES : BLOOMBERG, MANAGEMENT COMPANIES' WEBSITES, INVESTMENT COMPANY CAPITAL CORP., AND FORUM FINANCIAL GROUP.

1Performance of funds is based on changes in the fund's NAV over a specified period. In each case total return is calculated assuming reinvestment of all distributions. Funds listed, other than Switzerland iShares, are not registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Performance and descriptive information about the funds are derived from their published investor reports and websites, which are subject to change.

2Switzerland iShares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange and invest in most of the same stocks listed in the Morgan Stanley Capital International (Switzerland) Index. These stocks represent Switzerland's largest and most established public companies, accounting for approximately 85% of the market capitalization of all of Switzerland's publicly traded stocks. Performance of iShares is calculated based upon the December 31 closing prices each year using the Swiss franc/U.S. dollar exchange rate as of noon each such date, as reported by Bloomberg. Such exchange rates were as follows: 12/31/96 = 1.35, 12/31/97 = 1.46, 12/31/98 = 1.38, 12/31/99 = 1.60, 12/31/00 = 1.61, 12/31/01 = 1.67, 12/31/02 = 1.39, and 9/30/03 = 1.32.

3 This fund invests in equities issued by leading Swiss companies. Stock selection is based on economic, sector and company analyses. Preference is given to large-cap companies.

4 This fund invests primarily in major Swiss companies. Quality criteria used for determining relative weightings of companies include: strategic orientation, strength of market position, quality of management, soundness of earnings, growth potential and potential for improving shareholder value. The investment objective seeks to provide results that are aligned with the SPI performance.

5 This fund invests in shares of Swiss companies listed on the Swiss Stock Exchange (SWX) and included in the SPI.

6 This fund invests in shares of Swiss companies. It weights individual sectors relative to the SPI on the basis of their expected relative performance. It focuses on liquid blue-chip stocks.

7These funds are not available for U.S. residents or citizens.

PAST PERFORMANCE IS NO GUARANTEE OF FUTURE RESULTS.

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

SPECIFIC COMPANY NEWS

UBS: On September 25th, UBS announced its intention to acquire the U.S. prime brokerage operations of ABN AMRO. The broker operates in several major U.S. locations and its main client base of smaller U.S. hedge funds provides a good complement to UBS's existing hedge fund service business.

ABB: On August 28th, ABB announced the issuance of 850 million Swiss franc denominated convertible bonds maturing in 2010. The issue was well received by the market as the amount of the issue was lower than had been expected and as investors continued to increase their confidence in management's restructuring plan.

4

T H E S W I S S H E L V E T I A F U N D , I N C .

Letter to Stockholders (continued)

Improved market sentiment toward the company also came from prospects for involvement of ABB's highly regarded high voltage transmission systems in the much needed upgrade of the U.S. power grid.

NOVARTIS: On September 23rd, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) delayed the approval of Novartis' arthritis and pain drug, Prexige, pending submission of additional clinical data. Given Novartis' growth base and well-filled pipeline it is expected that this delay will not significantly alter the company's long-term sales trends.

CREDIT-SUISSE: The announced disposal of Churchill (UK insurance operations) and the company's Italian insurance operations are now completed. These transactions will result in the realizing of capital gains in Credit Suisse Group's third quarter results and a strengthening of Winterthur Group's solvency position.

ZURICH FINANCIAL SERVICES: As part of its continued restructuring program, the company disposed of several of its life insurance business activities. On August 6th, it announced the closure of one of Zurich's UK life businesses and its sale to Swiss Re. On September 1st, it completed the sale of parts of its Dutch operations to SNS Reaal. On September 5th, it sold its life business and part of its non-life business in France to Generali. And on September 4th, it closed the sale of Zurich Life, part of its U.S. life and annuity operations, to Bank One Corporation.

ACTELION: On August 1st, the U.S. FDA approved Zavesca, the first oral treatment option for a genetic lipid storage disorder. On September 30th, the company announced that it had agreed to buy privately held Axovan AG (whose most advanced project is in the area of brain disorders, such as hemorrhage) for an initial amount of \$45 million. This acquisition should strengthen the company's research efforts within its existing expertise by adding numerous pre-clinical projects and compounds.

COMMENTS ON THE CURRENCY

U.S. DOLLAR: During the G7 meetings in Dubai, the industrialized nations issued a statement promoting more flexibility in exchange rates based on market mechanisms in order to smooth the necessary rebalancing of the global economy.

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

The core issue is the gradual downward adjustment of the U.S. dollar to reflect the massive deficits in the U.S. versus the surpluses of, mainly, China and Japan. Due to the expectation of fewer interventions to support it, the U.S. dollar decreased significantly against all major currencies.

SWISS ECONOMIC NOTES

The Swiss National Bank (SNB) continues its expansionary monetary policy. In its

5

T H E S W I S S H E L V E T I A F U N D , I N C .

Letter to Stockholders (continued)

last monetary policy assessment on September 18th, the SNB decided to leave the target range for the three-month Libor rate unchanged at 0.00% to 0.75% and to continue to keep the three-month Libor rate at the lower end of the range at 0.25%. The main reasons were the expectation of a moderate decline in real economic activity for 2003 and a perceptible economic upswing only in the course of 2004.

The real gross domestic product declined again in the second quarter of 2003. It fell by 1.2% from the first quarter and by 1% year-on-year. The labor market deteriorated further with an unemployment rate for September at 3.7% vs. 2.8% a year earlier. The unsatisfactory economic situation is primarily the result of stagnation in Europe. Despite more favorable exchange rate conditions, Swiss exports again fell in the second quarter. Consumer spending had a stabilizing effect while investments continued to decline overall.

Nevertheless, there are positive signs. Business sentiment has improved, residential construction has picked up and the financial markets have improved. These trends could gradually improve the Swiss economy towards the end of 2003 and the beginning of 2004.

Year-on-year, the consumer price index dropped to 0.5% in the second quarter of 2003 from 1.0% in the first quarter. The SNB forecasts a drop in inflation bringing its rate close to 0% due to continuing weak economic conditions in Switzerland and the generally moderate price pressure from imported goods.

OUTLOOK

While expectations are for in-line to strong third quarter earnings reports for the market overall and for a strong fourth quarter especially for semi-conductor stocks, it remains a question whether this is a seasonal recovery due to inventory rebuilding or a more fundamental one. With stock prices discounting strong acceleration in sales and even stronger acceleration in earnings, there is not much room for disappointment. If the NASDAQ were to drop substantially, the impact would likely be felt in most of the other areas of the U.S. market and elsewhere, particularly in economically sensitive industry groups. Management believes, however, that the biggest risk lies with an increase in bond yields. For that reason the Fund reduced its exposure to the financial sector as mentioned above. On the other hand opportunities remain for investing in companies with on-going structural reforms and in companies in the mid and small capitalization segment left behind by the liquidity rally.

STOCK REPURCHASE PROGRAM

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

Pursuant to authorization by the Board, the Fund began open market

6

T H E S W I S S H E L V E T I A F U N D , I N C .

Letter to Stockholders (concluded)

purchases of its common stock on the New York Stock Exchange in 1999 and has continued purchases in each subsequent year. The Board has authorized the purchase of up to 500,000 shares in 2003. For the six months ended September 30, 2003, the Fund repurchased and retired 123,200 shares at an average price of \$10.12 per share (including broker commissions) and a weighted average discount of 17.13%. These repurchases, which had a total cost of \$1,247,166, resulted in an increase of \$251,661 in the Fund's net asset value.

Sincerely,

/s/ PAUL HOTTINGUER

Paul Hottinguer
CHAIRMAN

/s/ RODOLPHE HOTTINGER

Rodolphe Hottinger
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

September 30, 2003

7

T H E S W I S S H E L V E T I A F U N D , I N C .

Schedule of Investments (Unaudited) September 30, 2003

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets
------------------	----------	-------	-----------------------------

COMMON STOCKS - 95.54%

BANKS - 7.52%

435,000	UBS AG2 REGISTERED SHARES	\$24,408,224	7.52%
	Largest Swiss bank. It offers consumer, business and construction loans, mortgages, mutual funds, export and structured finance and securities brokerage services, advises on mergers and acquisitions, invests pension funds		

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

and sponsors credit cards.
(Cost \$7,578,949)

24,408,224 7.52%

BIOTECHNOLOGY - 5.11%

186,000 ACTELION LTD.1,2
REGISTERED SHARES 15,950,704 4.91%

Pharmaceutical company that develops and markets synthetic small-molecule drugs against diseases related to the endothelium. The Company's drugs, Veletri and Tracleer, are used in the treatment of heart and pulmonary conditions.
(Cost \$12,911,748)

53,940 BERNA BIOTECH AG1
REGISTERED SHARES 645,352 0.20%

Produces vaccines for influenza, hepatitis, travel and general immunization.
(Cost \$820,168)

16,596,056 5.11%

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets

CHEMICALS - 2.65%

180,000 CLARIANT AG1
REGISTERED SHARES \$ 2,364,834 0.73%

Specializes in color chemistry and manufactures a range of dyestuffs, pigments, chemicals, additives and master batches for the textile, paper, leather, plastics, synthetic fibers and paint industries.
(Cost \$2,622,095)

16,783 SIKA AG
BEARER SHARES 6,227,222 1.92%

Leading producer of construction chemicals.
(Cost \$4,237,473)

8,592,056 2.65%

CONSTRUCTION - 0.28%

2,468 GEBERIT AG
REGISTERED SHARES 915,735 0.28%

Manufactures and supplies water supply pipes and fittings, installation systems, drainage and flushing systems such as visible cisterns, and other sanitary systems for the commercial and residential construction markets.
(Cost \$651,692)

915,735 0.28%

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & ELECTRONICS - 9.09%

2,574,725	ABB LTD.1, 2 REGISTERED SHARES	14,232,540	4.38%
	The holding company for ABB Group which is one of the largest electrical engineering firms in the world. (Cost \$12,902,258)		

8

T H E S W I S S H E L V E T I A F U N D , I N C .

Schedule of Investments (Unaudited) (continued) September 30, 2003

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets
------------------	----------	-------	-----------------------------

COMMON STOCKS - (CONTINUED)

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & ELECTRONICS - (CONTINUED)

2,055	BELIMO HOLDING AG REGISTERED SHARES	\$ 760,938	0.23%
	World market leader in damper and volume control actuators for ventilation and air-conditioning equipment. (Cost \$450,524)		
60,000	KUDELSKI SA1 BEARER SHARES	1,601,545	0.50%
	Designs, produces, and distributes equipment under the 'Nagra' brand name for professional data display in audio and visual applications. (Cost \$1,735,665)		
175,000	LOGITECH INTERNATIONAL SA1 REGISTERED SHARES	5,446,388	1.68%
	Manufactures personal computer input devices, as well as producing trackballs, desktop publishing programs and related software. (Cost \$5,635,129)		
282,269	PHONAK HOLDING AG REGISTERED SHARES	4,221,424	1.30%
	Designs and produces wireless analog and digital hearing aids, transmitters, remote controls, microphones and receivers for use in wireless communications within broadcasting and sports. (Cost \$2,698,029)		

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & ELECTRONICS - (CONTINUED)			
5,400	SAIA-BURGESS ELECTRONICS HOLDING AG REGISTERED SHARES Develops and produces switches, motors and programmable control devices. Products are mainly used in the automobile, heating and air conditioning and telecommunications industries. (Cost \$1,485,298)	\$ 1,729,668	0.53%
45,300	TECAN GROUP AG REGISTERED SHARES Manufactures and distributes components and complete solutions for the automation of laboratory processes. (Cost \$1,524,349)	1,528,180	0.47%
		29,520,683	9.09%
FINANCIAL SERVICES - 4.33%			
439,000	CREDIT SUISSE GROUP2 REGISTERED SHARES A global operating financial group. (Cost \$11,994,385)	14,044,942	4.33%
		14,044,942	4.33%
FOOD & LUXURY GOODS - 15.41%			
300	LINDT & SPRUNGLI AG REGISTERED SHARES Major manufacturer of premium Swiss chocolates. (Cost \$1,196,399)	2,283,053	0.70%

9

T H E S W I S S H E L V E T I A F U N D , I N C .

Schedule of Investments (Unaudited) (continued)		September 30, 2003	
No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets
COMMON STOCKS - (CONTINUED)			
FOOD & LUXURY GOODS - (CONTINUED)			

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

207,000	NESTLE AG2 REGISTERED SHARES	\$ 47,729,441	14.71%
	Largest food and beverage processing company in the world. (Cost \$12,427,540)		
		-----	-----
		50,012,494	15.41%
INSURANCE - 11.02%			
273,530	CONVERIUM HOLDING AG2 REGISTERED SHARES	12,531,096	3.86%
	Offers reinsurance services worldwide. Provides accident and health, automobile, aviation and space, credit and surety, general third party liability, engineering, e-commerce, intellectual property, life, marine, professional liability and property, and catastrophe insurance. (Cost \$12,948,820)		
71,030	SWISS LIFE HOLDING1 REGISTERED SHARES	9,681,508	2.98%
	Provides life insurance, institutional investment management, and private banking services. (Cost \$7,225,714)		
187,924	SWISS REINSURANCE COMPANY2 REGISTERED SHARES	11,939,137	3.68%
	Second largest reinsurance company in the world. (Cost \$11,216,784)		
No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets

INSURANCE - (CONTINUED)			
13,000	ZURICH FINANCIAL SERVICES AG REGISTERED SHARES	\$ 1,624,262	0.50%
	Offers property, accident, health, automobile, liability, financial risk and life insurance and retirement products. (Cost \$1,223,672)		
		-----	-----
		35,776,003	11.02%
MISCELLANEOUS MEDICAL SERVICES - 0.69%			
17,000	GALENCIA HOLDING AG REGISTERED SHARES	2,252,764	0.69%
	Manufactures and distributes prescription and over-the-counter drugs, toiletries and hygiene products. (Cost \$2,123,038)		
		-----	-----
		2,252,764	0.69%

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES - 7.00%

284,000	ADECCO SA2 REGISTERED SHARES Leading personnel and temporary employment company. (Cost \$10,552,675)	14,032,258	4.32%
16,698	SGS SOCIETE GENERALE DE SURVEILLANCE HOLDING SA REGISTERED SHARES Provides a variety of industrial inspection, analysis, testing and verification services worldwide. (Cost \$4,295,869)	8,699,246	2.68%
		-----	-----
		22,731,504	7.00%

10

T H E S W I S S H E L V E T I A F U N D , I N C .

Schedule of Investments (Unaudited) (concluded) September 30, 2003

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets

COMMON STOCKS - (CONCLUDED)			
PHARMACEUTICALS - 26.42%			
1,315,000	NOVARTIS AG2 REGISTERED SHARES One of the leading manufacturers of pharmaceutical and nutrition products. (Cost \$16,301,451)	\$ 50,883,311	15.69%
420,000	ROCHE HOLDING AG2 DIVIDENDS RIGHTS CERTIFICATES Worldwide pharmaceutical company. (Cost \$8,467,363)	34,825,080	10.73%
		-----	-----
		85,708,391	26.42%
RETAIL - 2.10%			
163,650	CHARLES VOEGELE HOLDING AG1 BEARER SHARES Family apparel retailer which focuses on the value-for-money segment of the market. Operates retail stores in Switzerland, Germany, Austria, and the Benelux region. (Cost \$6,175,615)	6,821,848	2.10%
		-----	-----
		6,821,848	2.10%

Edgar Filing: SWISS HELVETIA FUND INC - Form N-30B-2

TECHNOLOGY - 1.87%

68,593	MICRONAS SEMICONDUCTOR HOLDING AG1 REGISTERED SHARES	2,155,543	0.66%
	Develops and manufactures a wide range of semiconductors and modules used by the automotive and consumer goods industries. (Cost \$1,486,445)		

No. of Shares	Security	Value	Percent of Net Assets
------------------	----------	-------	-----------------------------

TECHNOLOGY - (CONTINUED)

33,000	UNAXIS HOLDING AG REGISTERED SHARES	\$ 3,910,722	1.21%
	Provider of systems and IT services, including semiconductors, data storage and displays, as well as surface technology and space applications. (Cost \$3,622,467)		

-----	-----
6,066,265	1.87%

TRANSPORTATION - 2.05%

67,611	KUEHNE & NAGEL INTERNATIONAL AG REGISTERED SHARES	6,655,634	2.05%
	Operates sea freight, land and rail transportation businesses and warehousing and distribution facilities. (Cost \$3,548,676)		

-----	-----
6,655,634	2.05%

TOTAL COMMON STOCKS (Cost \$170,060,290)	\$310,102,599	95.54%
---	---------------	--------

OTHER ASSETS IN EXCESS OF LIABILITIES	14,482,177	4.46%
---------------------------------------	------------	-------

NET ASSETS	\$324,584,776	100.00%
	=====	=====

-
- 1 Non-income producing security.
2 One of the ten largest portfolio holdings.

A SWISS
INVESTMENTS
FUND

HELVETIA

FUND, INC.

WWW.SWZ.COM

THE SWISS HELVETIA FUND, INC.
EXECUTIVE OFFICES
The Swiss Helvetia Fund, Inc.
1270 Avenue of the Americas
Suite 400
New York, NY 10020
1-888-SWISS-00
(212) 332-2760
<http://www.swz.com>

QUARTERLY REPORT
FOR THE
PERIOD ENDED
SEPTEMBER 30, 20