

**GABELLI GOLD FUND, INC.**

**STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

April 30, 2018

This Statement of Additional Information (the “SAI”), which is not a prospectus, describes the Gabelli Gold Fund, Inc., a Maryland corporation (the “Fund”). This SAI should be read in conjunction with the Fund’s prospectus for Class AAA, Class A, Class C, Class T, and Class I shares dated April 30, 2018. This SAI is incorporated by reference in its entirety into the Fund’s prospectus. Portions of the Fund’s annual report to shareholders are incorporated by reference into this SAI. For a free copy of the Fund’s prospectus or the Fund’s annual report to shareholders, please contact the Fund at the address, telephone number, or Internet website printed below.

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<u>CLASS</u>	<u>TICKER SYMBOL</u>
AAA	GOLDX
A	GLDAX
C	GLDCX
I	GLDIX
T	GLDTX

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Fund is a diversified, open-end management investment company organized under the laws of the State of Maryland on May 13, 1994. The Fund commenced operations on July 11, 1994. The Fund's principal office is located at One Corporate Center, Rye, New York 10580-1422. The Fund is advised by Gabelli Funds, LLC (the "Adviser").

## INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS

### Investments

The Fund's prospectus discusses the investment objective of the Fund and the principal strategies to be employed to achieve that objective. This SAI contains supplemental information concerning certain types of securities and other instruments in which the Fund may invest, additional strategies that the Fund may utilize in seeking to achieve its investment objective, and certain risks associated with such investments and strategies. Subject to the investment policies and restrictions set forth in the prospectus and herein, the Fund may invest in any of the securities described below.

### Equity Securities

Because the Fund, in seeking to achieve its investment objective, may invest in the common stocks of both foreign and domestic issuers, an investment in the Fund should be made with an understanding of the risks inherent in any investment in common stocks, including the risk that the financial condition of the issuers of the Fund's portfolio securities may become impaired or that the general condition of the stock market may worsen (both of which may contribute directly to a decrease in the value of the securities and thus in the value of the Fund's shares). Additional risks include risks associated with the right to receive payments from the issuer which is generally inferior to the rights of creditors of, or holders of debt obligations or preferred stock issued by, the issuer. The Fund does not expect to invest in excess of 5% of its assets in securities of unseasoned issuers (companies that have operated less than three years), which, due to their short operating history, may have less information available and may not be as liquid as other securities.

Moreover, common stocks do not represent an obligation of the issuer and therefore do not offer any assurance of income or provide the degree of protection of debt securities. The issuance of debt securities or even preferred stock by an issuer will create prior claims for payment of principal, interest, and dividends, which could adversely affect the ability and inclination of the issuer to declare or pay dividends on its common stock or the economic interest of holders of common stock with respect to assets of the issuer upon liquidation or bankruptcy. Further, unlike debt securities, which typically have a stated principal amount payable at maturity (which value will be subject to market fluctuations prior thereto), common stocks have neither a fixed principal amount nor a maturity and have values that are subject to market fluctuations for as long as the common stocks remain outstanding. Common stocks are especially susceptible to general stock market movements and to volatile increases and decreases in value as market confidence in and perceptions of the issuers change. These perceptions are based on unpredictable factors, including expectations regarding government, economic, monetary and fiscal policies, inflation and interest rates, economic expansion or contraction, and global or regional political, economic, or banking crises. The value of the common stocks in the Fund's portfolio thus may be expected to fluctuate.

Preferred stocks are usually entitled to rights on liquidation, which are senior to those of common stocks. For these reasons, preferred stocks generally entail less risk than common stocks. Such securities may pay cumulative dividends. Because the dividend rate and liquidation or redemption value is usually pre-established, such securities tend to have less possibility of capital appreciation.

### Foreign Securities

The Fund may invest directly in both sponsored and unsponsored U.S. dollar- or foreign currency-denominated corporate debt securities, certificates of deposit, and bankers' acceptances issued by foreign banks, and obligations of foreign governments or their subdivisions, agencies, and instrumentalities, international agencies and supranational entities. The Fund may invest directly in foreign equity securities and in securities represented by European Depositary Receipts ("EDRs") or American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"). ADRs are dollar-denominated receipts generally issued by domestic banks, which represent the deposit of a security of a foreign issuer with a bank, and which are publicly traded on exchanges or over-the-counter in the United States. EDRs are receipts similar to ADRs and are issued and traded in Europe.

Investing in the securities of foreign issuers involves special risks and considerations not typically associated with investing in U.S. companies. These risks are intensified with respect to investments in emerging market countries. These include differences in accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, generally higher commission rates on foreign transactions, the possibility of expropriation, nationalization, or confiscatory taxation, adverse changes in investment or exchange control regulations, trade restrictions, political instability (which can affect U.S. investments in foreign countries), the impact of economic sanctions, and

potential restrictions on the flow of international capital. It may be more difficult to obtain and enforce judgments against foreign entities. If the United States imposes economic sanctions against a foreign government or issuers, the Fund's investments in issuers subject to such sanctions may be frozen, prohibiting the Fund from selling or otherwise transacting in these instruments, and the Fund may be prohibited from investing in such issuers. Additionally, income (including dividends and interest) and capital gains from foreign securities may be subject to foreign taxes, including foreign withholding taxes, and other foreign taxes may apply with respect to securities transactions. Transactions on foreign exchanges or over-the-counter markets may involve greater time from the trade date until settlement than for domestic securities transactions and, if the securities are held abroad, may involve the risk of possible losses through the holding of securities in custodians and depositories in foreign countries. Foreign securities often trade with less frequency and volume than domestic securities and therefore may exhibit greater price volatility. Changes in foreign exchange rates will affect the value of those securities which are denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. Investing in depositary receipts may involve many of the same special risks associated with investing in securities of foreign issuers.

There is generally less publicly available information about foreign companies comparable to reports and ratings that are published about companies in the United States. Foreign companies are also generally not subject to uniform accounting and auditing and financial reporting standards, practices, and requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies.

With respect to certain foreign countries, there is the possibility of adverse changes in investment or exchange control regulations, nationalization, expropriation or confiscatory taxation, limitations on the removal of funds or other assets of the Fund, political or social instability, or diplomatic developments which could affect United States investments in those countries. Moreover, individual foreign economies may differ favorably or unfavorably from the United States' economy in such respects as growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency, and balance of payments position.

The dividends and interest payable on certain of the Fund's foreign securities may be subject to foreign withholding taxes, thus reducing the net amount of income available for distribution.

Investment in foreign securities also involves the risk of possible losses through the holding of securities in custodian banks and securities depositories in foreign countries. No assurance can be given that expropriation, nationalization, freezes, or confiscation of assets, which would impact assets of the Fund, will not occur, and shareholders bear the risk of losses arising from these or other events. There are frequently additional expenses associated with maintaining the custody of foreign investments. Expenses of maintaining custody of Fund investments are paid by the Fund. This may lead to higher expenses for funds that have foreign investments.

There are certain risks associated with investments in unsponsored ADR programs. Because the non-U.S. company does not actively participate in the creation of the ADR program, the underlying agreement for service and payment will be between the depository and the shareholder. The company issuing the stock underlying the ADRs pays nothing to establish the unsponsored facility, as fees for ADR issuance and cancellation are paid by brokers. Investors directly bear the expenses associated with certificate transfer, custody, and dividend payment.

In an unsponsored ADR program, there also may be several depositories with no defined legal obligations to the non U.S. company. The duplicate depositories may lead to marketplace confusion because there would be no central source of information to buyers, sellers, and intermediaries. The efficiency of centralization gained in a sponsored program can greatly reduce the delays in delivery of dividends and annual reports.

### **Emerging Market Securities**

The Fund may invest in emerging market securities. Such investments involve special risks. The economies, markets and political structures of a number of the emerging market countries in which the Fund may invest do not compare favorably with the U.S. and other mature economies in terms of wealth and stability. Therefore, investments in these countries may be riskier, and will be subject to erratic and abrupt price movements. Some economies are less well developed and less diverse (for example, Latin America, Eastern Europe and certain Asian countries) and more vulnerable to the ebb and flow of international trade, trade barriers and other protectionist or retaliatory measures. Similarly, many of these countries, particularly in Southeast Asia, Latin America, and Eastern Europe, are grappling with severe inflation or recession, high levels of national debt, currency exchange problems and government instability. Investments in countries that have recently begun moving away from central planning and state-owned industries toward free markets, such as the Eastern European or Chinese economies, should be regarded as speculative.

Certain emerging market countries have historically experienced, and may continue to experience, high rates of inflation, high interest rates, exchange rate fluctuations, large amounts of external debt, balance of payments and trade difficulties and extreme poverty and unemployment. The issuer or governmental authority that controls the repayment of an emerging market country's debt may not be able or willing to repay the principal and/or interest when due in accordance with the terms of such debt. A debtor's willingness or

ability to repay principal and interest due in a timely manner may be affected by, among other factors, its cash flow situation, and, in the case of a government debtor, the extent of its foreign reserves, the availability of sufficient foreign exchange on the date a payment is due, the relative size of the debt service burden to the economy as a whole and the political constraints to which a government debtor may be subject.

Government debtors may default on their debt and may also be dependent on expected disbursements from foreign governments, multilateral agencies and others abroad to reduce principal and interest arrearages on their debt. Holders of government debt may be requested to participate in the rescheduling of such debt and to extend further loans to government debtors.

If such an event occurs, the Fund may have limited legal recourse against the issuer and/or guarantor. Remedies must, in some cases, be pursued in the courts of the defaulting party itself, and the ability of the holder of foreign government fixed income securities to obtain recourse may be subject to the political climate in the relevant country. In addition, no assurance can be given that the holders of commercial bank debt will not contest payments to the holders of other foreign government debt obligations in the event of default under their commercial bank loan agreements.

The economies of individual emerging market countries may differ favorably or unfavorably from the U.S. economy in such respects as growth of gross domestic product, rate of inflation, currency depreciation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency and balance of payments position. Further, the economies of developing countries generally are heavily dependent upon international trade and, accordingly, have been, and may continue to be, adversely affected by trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade. These economies also have been, and may continue to be, adversely affected by economic conditions in the countries with which they trade.

Investing in emerging market countries may entail purchasing securities issued by or on behalf of entities that are insolvent, bankrupt, in default or otherwise engaged in an attempt to reorganize or reschedule their obligations, and in entities that have little or no proven credit rating or credit history. In any such case, the issuer's poor or deteriorating financial condition may increase the likelihood that the investing fund will experience losses or diminution in available gains due to bankruptcy, insolvency or fraud.

#### **Bullion of Gold and Other Precious Metals**

The Fund may invest up to 30% of its net assets in bullion of gold and other precious metals ("bullion"). Bullion will only be bought and sold through U.S. and foreign banks, regulated U.S. commodities exchanges, exchanges affiliated with a regulated U.S. stock exchange, and dealers who are members of, or affiliated with members of, a regulated U.S. commodities exchange, in accordance with applicable investment laws. Investors should note that bullion offers the potential for capital appreciation or depreciation, but unlike other investments does not generate income, and in these transactions the Fund may encounter higher custody and other costs (including shipping and insurance) than costs normally associated with ownership of securities. The Fund may attempt to minimize the costs associated with the actual custody of bullion by the use of receipts or certificates representing ownership interests in bullion.

#### **Sovereign Debt Securities**

Sovereign debt securities include fixed income securities issued or guaranteed by governments, their agencies and instrumentalities, and securities issued by supranational entities such as the World Bank or the European Union. Investment in sovereign debt can involve a high degree of risk, including the risk that the governmental entity that controls the repayment of sovereign debt may not be able or willing to repay the principal and/or interest when due in accordance with the terms of such debt. A governmental entity's willingness or ability to repay principal and interest due in a timely manner may be affected by, among other factors, its cash flow situation, the extent of its foreign reserves, the availability of sufficient foreign exchange on the date a payment is due, the relative size of the debt service burden to the economy as a whole, the governmental entity's policy towards international lenders or agencies and the political constraints to which a governmental entity may be subject. Although some sovereign debt, such as Brady Bonds, is collateralized by U.S. government securities, repayment of principal and interest is not guaranteed by the U.S. government. Governmental entities may also be dependent on expected disbursements from foreign governments, multilateral agencies and other entities to reduce principal and interest arrearages on their debt. The commitment on the part of these governments, agencies and others to make such disbursements may be conditioned on the implementation of economic reforms and/or economic performance and the timely service of such debtor's obligations. Failure to implement such reforms, achieve specified levels of economic performance or repay principal or interest when due may result in the cancellation of such third parties' commitments to lend funds to the governmental entity, which may further impair such debtor's ability or willingness to timely service its debts. Consequently, governmental entities may default on their sovereign debt.

Holders of sovereign debt may be requested to participate in the rescheduling or restructuring of such debt and to extend further loans to governmental entities. Restructuring arrangements have included, among other things, reducing and rescheduling interest and principal payments by negotiation, new or amended credit agreements or converting outstanding principal and unpaid interest to Brady

Bonds, and obtaining new credit for finance interest payments. There can be no assurance that foreign sovereign debt securities will not be subject to similar restructuring arrangements or to requests for new credit which may have adverse consequences for holders of such debt. Furthermore, certain participants in the secondary market for such debt may be directly involved in negotiating the terms of these arrangements and may therefore have access to information not available to other market participants. In the event of a default by a governmental entity, there may be limited or no effective legal remedies for collecting on such debt. A restructuring or default of sovereign debt may also cause additional impacts to the financial markets, such as downgrades to credit ratings, a flight to quality debt instruments, disruptions in common trading markets or unions, reduced liquidity, increased volatility, and heightened financial sector, foreign securities and currency risk, among others.

Debt securities issued by certain “supra-national” entities include entities designated or supported by governments to promote economic reconstruction or development, international banking organizations and related government agencies. Examples are the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (commonly called the “World Bank”), the Asian Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. A supra-national entity’s lending activities may be limited to a percentage of its total capital, reserves and net income. The governmental members of those supra-national entities are “stockholders” that typically make capital contributions and may be committed to make additional capital contributions if the entity is unable to repay its borrowings. There can be no assurance that the constituent governments will continue to be able or willing to honor their capitalization commitments. The Fund will not invest more than 20% of its assets in the securities of such supra-national entities.

### **Nonconvertible Fixed Income Securities**

The category of fixed income securities which are not convertible or exchangeable for common stock includes preferred stocks, bonds, debentures, notes, and money market instruments such as commercial paper and bankers’ acceptances. There is no minimum credit rating for these securities in which the Fund may invest. Accordingly, the Fund could invest in securities in default, although the Fund will not invest more than 5% of its assets in defaulted securities.

Up to 20% of the Fund’s total assets may be invested in lower quality (“junk”) debt securities, although the Fund currently does not expect to invest more than 5% of its assets in such securities. The market values of lower quality fixed income securities tend to be less sensitive to changes in prevailing interest rates than higher quality securities but more sensitive to individual corporate developments than higher quality securities. Such lower quality securities also tend to be more sensitive to economic conditions than are higher quality securities. Accordingly, these lower quality securities are considered predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer’s capacity to pay interest and repay principal in accordance with the terms of the obligation and will generally involve more credit risk than securities in the higher quality categories. Even securities rated “Baa” or “BBB” by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) and Standard and Poor’s Rating Services (“S&P”), a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., respectively, which ratings are considered investment grade, possess some speculative characteristics, and changes in economic conditions or other circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity to make principal and interest payments than is the case with higher grade bonds. See “Appendix - Description of Ratings.” There are risks involved in applying credit ratings as a method of evaluating high yield obligations in that credit ratings evaluate the safety of principal and interest payments, not market value risk. In addition, credit rating agencies may not change credit ratings on a timely basis to reflect changes in economic or company conditions that affect a security’s market value. The Fund will rely on the judgment, analysis, and experience of the Adviser in evaluating the creditworthiness of an issuer. In this evaluation, the Adviser will take into consideration, among other things, the issuer’s financial resources and ability to cover its interest and fixed charges, factors relating to the issuer’s industry and its sensitivity to economic conditions and trends, its operating history, the quality of the issuer’s management, and regulatory matters.

The risk of loss due to default by the issuer is significantly greater for the holders of lower quality securities because such securities are generally unsecured and are often subordinated to other obligations of the issuer. During an economic downturn or a sustained period of rising interest rates, highly leveraged issuers of lower quality securities may experience financial stress and may not have sufficient revenues to meet their interest payment obligations. An issuer’s ability to service its debt obligations may also be adversely affected by specific corporate developments, its inability to meet specific projected business forecasts, or the unavailability of additional financing.

Factors adversely affecting the market value of high yield and other fixed income securities will adversely affect the Fund’s net asset value per share (“NAV”). In addition, the Fund may incur additional expenses to the extent that it is required to seek recovery upon a default in the payment of principal or interest on its portfolio holdings. At times, adverse publicity regarding lower quality securities has depressed prices for such securities to some extent.

From time to time, proposals have been discussed regarding new legislation designed to limit the use of certain high yield debt securities by issuers in connection with leveraged buy-outs, mergers and acquisitions, or to limit the deductibility of interest payments on such securities. Such proposals, if enacted into law, could reduce the market for such debt securities generally, could negatively affect the financial condition of issuers of high yield securities by removing or reducing a source of future financing, and could

negatively affect the value of specific high yield issues and the high yield market in general. For example, under a provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), a corporate issuer may be limited from deducting all of the original issue discount on high yield discount obligations, i.e., certain types of debt securities issued at a significant discount to their face amount. The likelihood of passage of any additional legislation or the effect thereof is uncertain.

The secondary trading market for lower quality fixed income securities is generally not as liquid as the secondary market for higher quality securities and is very thin for some securities. The relative lack of an active secondary market may have an adverse impact on market price and the Fund’s ability to dispose of particular issues when necessary to meet liquidity needs or in response to a specific economic event such as a deterioration in the creditworthiness of the issuer. The relative lack of an active secondary market for certain securities may also make it more difficult for the Fund to obtain accurate market quotations for purposes of valuing its portfolio. Market quotations are generally available on many high yield issues only from a limited number of dealers and may not necessarily represent firm bids of such dealers or prices for actual sales. During such times, the responsibility of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) to value the securities becomes more difficult and judgment plays a greater role in valuation because there is less reliable, objective data available.

### **Convertible Securities**

Convertible securities are preferred stocks or debt obligations that are convertible at a stated exchange rate or formula into common stock or other equity securities. Convertible securities generally offer lower interest or dividend yields than non-convertible securities of similar quality. Convertible securities rank senior to common stocks in an issuer’s capital structure and consequently may be of higher quality and entail less risk than the issuer’s common stock. A convertible security entitles the holder to receive interest that is generally paid or accrued until the convertible security matures, or is redeemed, converted or exchanged. Convertible securities have both equity and fixed-income risk characteristics. Like all fixed-income securities, the value of convertible securities is susceptible to the risk of market losses attributable to changes in interest rates. Generally, the market value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, to increase as interest rates decline. However, when the market price of the common stock underlying a convertible security approaches or exceeds the conversion price of the convertible security, the convertible security tends to reflect the market price of the underlying common stock. As the market price of the underlying common stock declines, the convertible security, like a fixed-income security, tends to trade increasingly on a yield basis, and thus, may not decline in price to the same extent as the underlying common stock. The markets for convertible securities may be less liquid than markets for common stocks or bonds. A convertible security may also be called for redemption or conversion by the issuer after a particular date and under certain circumstances (including a specified price) established upon issue. If a convertible security held by the Fund is called for redemption or conversion, the Fund could be required to tender it for redemption, convert it into the underlying common stock, or sell it to a third party. Convertible securities are also subject to credit risk, and are often lower-quality securities.

The Fund may invest up to 25% of its total assets in convertible securities rated, at the time of investment, less than “BBB” by S&P or “Baa” by Moody’s or unrated but of equivalent credit quality in the judgment of the Adviser. A convertible security entitles the holder to exchange the security for a fixed number of shares of common stock or other equity security, usually of the same company, at fixed prices within a specified period of time. A convertible security entitles the holder to receive the fixed income of a preferred stock or bond until the holder elects to exercise the conversion privilege.

Some of the convertible securities in the Fund’s portfolio may be “Pay-in-Kind” securities. During a designated period from original issuance, the issuer of such a security may pay dividends or interest to the holder by issuing additional fully paid and nonassessable shares or units of the same or another specified security. While no securities investment is completely without risk, investments in convertible securities generally entail less risk than common stock, although the extent to which such risk is reduced depends in large measure upon the degree to which the convertible security sells above its value as a fixed income security.

### **Corporate Reorganization**

The Fund may invest in securities for which a tender or exchange offer has been made or announced and in securities of companies for which a merger, consolidation, liquidation, or reorganization proposal has been announced if, in the judgment of the Adviser, there is a reasonable prospect of capital appreciation significantly greater than the brokerage and other transaction expenses involved. The primary risk of this type of investing is that if the contemplated transaction is abandoned, revised, delayed, or becomes subject to unanticipated uncertainties, the market price of the securities may decline below the purchase price paid by the Fund.

In general, securities which are the subject of such an offer or proposal sell at a premium to their historic market price immediately prior to the announcement of the offer or proposal or may also discount what the stated or appraised value of the security would be if the contemplated transaction were approved or consummated. These investments may be advantageous when the discount significantly overstates the risk of the contingencies involved; significantly undervalues the securities, assets, or cash to be received by shareholders of the prospective acquiring portfolio company as a result of the contemplated transaction; or fails to adequately recognize the possibility that the offer or proposal may be replaced or superseded by an offer or proposal of greater value. The

evaluation of such contingencies requires unusually broad knowledge and experience on the part of the Adviser, which must appraise not only the value of the issuer and its component businesses as well as the assets or securities to be received as a result of the contemplated transaction, but also the financial resources and business motivation of the offer and the dynamics and business climate when the offer or proposal is in progress. Since such investments are ordinarily short term in nature, they will tend to increase the turnover ratio of the Fund, thereby increasing its brokerage and other transaction expenses. The Adviser intends to select investments of the type described which, in its view, have a reasonable prospect of capital appreciation which is significant in relation to both the risk involved and the potential of available alternate investments.

## **Options**

The Fund may purchase or sell options on individual securities as well as on indices of securities as a means of achieving additional return or for hedging the value of its portfolio.

A call option is a contract that gives the holder of the option the right, in return for a premium paid, to buy from the seller the security underlying the option at a specified exercise price at any time during the term of the option or, in some cases, only at the end of the term of the option. The seller of the call option has the obligation upon exercise of the option to deliver the underlying security upon payment of the exercise price. A put option is a contract that gives the holder of the option the right in return for a premium to sell to the seller the underlying security at a specified price. The seller of the put option, on the other hand, has the obligation to buy the underlying security upon exercise at the exercise price. The Fund's transactions in options may be subject to specific segregation requirements. See "Hedging Transactions" below.

If the Fund has sold an option, it may terminate its obligation by effecting a closing purchase transaction. This is accomplished by purchasing an option of the same series as the option previously sold. There can be no assurance that a closing purchase transaction can be effected when the Fund so desires.

The purchaser of an option risks a total loss of the premium paid for the option if the price of the underlying security does not increase or decrease sufficiently to justify exercise. The seller of an option, on the other hand, will recognize the premium as income if the option expires unexercised but forgoes any capital appreciation in excess of the exercise price in the case of a call option, and may be required to pay a price in excess of current market value in the case of a put option. Options purchased and sold other than on an exchange in private transactions also impose on the Fund the credit risk that the counterparty will fail to honor its obligations. The Fund will not purchase options if, as a result, the aggregate cost of all outstanding options exceeds 5% of the Fund's assets.

## **Warrants and Rights**

The Fund may invest up to 5% of its total assets in warrants or rights (other than those acquired in units or attached to other securities) which entitle the holder to buy equity securities at a specific price for or at the end of a specific period of time. The Fund will do so only if the underlying equity securities are deemed appropriate by the Adviser for inclusion in the Fund's portfolio.

Investing in rights and warrants can provide a greater potential for profit or loss than an equivalent investment in the underlying security, and thus, can be a speculative investment. The value of a right or warrant may decline because of a decline in the value of the underlying security, the passage of time, changes in interest rates or in the dividend or other policies of the company whose equity underlies the warrant or a change in the perception as to the future price of the underlying security, or any combination thereof. Rights and warrants generally pay no dividends and confer no voting or other rights other than the right to purchase the underlying security.

## **Investments in Investment Company Securities**

The Fund may invest in investment company securities. Investment company securities are securities of other open-end or closed-end investment companies. Except for so-called fund-of-funds, the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") generally prohibits a fund from acquiring more than 3% of the outstanding voting shares of an investment company and limits such investments to no more than 5% of the Fund's total assets in any one investment company and no more than 10% in any combination of investment companies. The 1940 Act further prohibits a fund from acquiring in the aggregate more than 10% of the outstanding voting shares of any registered closed-end investment company. Investing in other investment companies involves substantially the same risks as investing directly in the underlying instruments, but the total return on such investments at the investment company level may be reduced by the operating expenses and fees of such other investment companies, including advisory fees.

*Exchange Traded Funds.* Exchange traded funds ("ETFs") are a type of investment company security bought and sold on a securities exchange. An ETF generally represents a portfolio of securities designed to track a particular market index. The Fund could purchase an ETF to temporarily gain exposure to a portion of the U.S. or a foreign market while awaiting purchase of underlying securities. The risks of owning an ETF generally reflect the risks of owning the underlying securities they are designed to track, although lack of liquidity in an ETF could result in it being more volatile, and ETFs have management fees which increase their costs.

## **When-Issued, Delayed Delivery Securities, and Forward Commitments**

The Fund may enter into forward commitments for the purchase or sale of securities, including on a “when-issued” or “delayed delivery” basis. In such transactions, instruments are bought with payment and delivery taking place in the future in order to secure what is considered to be an advantageous yield or price at the time of the transaction. In some cases, a forward commitment may be conditioned upon the occurrence of a subsequent event, such as approval and consummation of a merger, corporate reorganization, or debt restructuring, i.e., a when-, as- and if-issued security. When such transactions are negotiated, the price is fixed at the time of the commitment, with payment and delivery taking place in the future, generally a month or more after the date of the commitment. While the Fund will only enter into a forward commitment with the intention of actually acquiring the security, the Fund may sell the security before the settlement date if it is deemed advisable.

Securities purchased under a forward commitment are subject to market fluctuation, and no interest (or dividends) accrues to the Fund prior to the settlement date. The Fund will “ earmark ” on the Adviser’s records or place in a segregated account with its custodian, cash or liquid securities in an aggregate amount at least equal to the amount of its outstanding forward commitments. When the Fund engages in when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment transactions, it relies on the other party to consummate the trade. Failure of the other party to do so may result in the Fund incurring a loss or missing an opportunity to obtain a price considered to be advantageous.

## **Short Sales**

The Fund may from time to time make short sales of securities, including short sales “against the box.” A short sale is a transaction in which the Fund sells a security it does not own in anticipation that the market price of that security will decline. A short sale against the box occurs when the Fund contemporaneously owns, or has the right to obtain at no additional cost, securities identical to those sold short. The Fund expects to make short sales both to obtain capital gains from anticipated declines in securities and as a form of hedging to offset potential declines in long positions in the same or similar securities. The short sale of a security is considered a speculative investment technique. Short sales against the box may be subject to special tax rules, one of the effects of which may be to accelerate income to the Fund.

When the Fund makes a short sale, it must borrow the security sold short and deliver it to the broker-dealer through which it made the short sale in order to satisfy its obligation to deliver the security upon conclusion of the sale. In connection with such short sales, the Fund may pay a fee to borrow securities or maintain an arrangement with a broker to borrow securities, and is often obligated to pay over any accrued interest and dividends on such borrowed securities. In a short sale, the Fund does not immediately deliver the securities sold or receive the proceeds from the sale. The Fund closes out a short position by purchasing and delivering an equal amount of the securities sold short.

To the extent that the Fund engages in short sales, it will provide collateral to the broker-dealer and (except in the case of short sales against the box) will maintain additional asset coverage in the form of segregated or “ earmarked ” assets on the records of the Fund’s Custodian, consisting of cash, U.S. government securities or other liquid securities that are equal to the current market value of the securities sold short, or (in the case of short sales against the box) will ensure that such positions are covered by offsetting positions, until the Fund replaces the borrowed security. Depending on arrangements made with the broker-dealer from which it borrowed the security regarding payment over of any payments received by the Fund on such security, the Fund may not receive any payments (including interest) on its collateral deposited with such broker-dealer. If the price of the security sold short increases between the time of the short sale and the time the Fund replaces the borrowed security, the Fund will incur a loss; conversely, if the price declines, the Fund will realize a capital gain. Any gain will be decreased, any loss increased, by the transaction costs described above. Although the Fund’s gain is limited to the price at which it sold the security short, its potential loss is theoretically unlimited. The successful use of short selling may be adversely affected by imperfect correlation between movements in the price of the security sold short and the securities being hedged.

The market value of the securities sold short of any one issuer will not exceed either 5% of the Fund’s total assets or 5% of such issuer’s voting securities. The Fund will not make a short sale if, after giving effect to such sale, the market value of all securities sold short exceeds 25% of the value of its assets or the Fund’s aggregate short sales of a particular class of securities exceeds 25% of the outstanding securities of that class. The Fund may also make short sales against the box without regard to such limitations.



## **Restricted and Illiquid Securities**

The Fund may invest up to a total of 15% of its net assets in securities that are subject to restrictions on resale and securities which are illiquid, including repurchase agreements with more than seven days to maturity. Illiquid securities include securities the disposition of which is subject to substantial legal or contractual restrictions. The sale of illiquid securities often requires more time and results in higher brokerage charges or dealer discounts and other selling expenses than does the sale of securities eligible for trading on national securities exchanges or in the over-the-counter markets. Restricted securities may sell at a price lower than similar securities that are not subject to restrictions on resale. The continued liquidity of such securities is not as well assured as that of publicly traded securities, and accordingly the Board will monitor their liquidity. The Board will review pertinent factors such as trading activity, reliability of price information, and trading patterns of comparable securities in determining whether to treat any such security as liquid for purposes of the foregoing 15% test. To the extent the Board treats such securities as liquid, temporary impairments to trading patterns of such securities may adversely affect the Fund's liquidity.

To the extent it can do so consistent with the foregoing limitations, the Fund may invest in non-publicly traded securities, including securities that are not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, (the "1933 Act") but that can be offered and sold to qualified institutional buyers under Rule 144A under that Act. The Board has adopted guidelines and delegated to the Adviser, subject to the supervision of the Board, the daily function of determining and monitoring the liquidity of Rule 144A securities. Rule 144A securities may become illiquid if qualified institutional buyers are not interested in acquiring the securities.

## **Repurchase Agreements**

The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements with banks and non-bank dealers of U.S. government securities which are listed as reporting dealers of the Federal Reserve Bank and which furnish collateral at least equal in value or market price to the amount of their repurchase obligation. In a repurchase agreement, the Fund purchases a debt security from a seller which undertakes to repurchase the security at a specified resale price on an agreed future date. The resale price generally exceeds the purchase price by an amount which reflects an agreed-upon market interest rate for the term of the repurchase agreement.

The Fund's primary risk is that if the seller defaults, the proceeds from the disposition of underlying securities and other collateral for the seller's obligation would be less than the repurchase price. If the seller becomes bankrupt, the Fund might be delayed in selling the collateral. Under the 1940 Act, repurchase agreements are considered loans. Repurchase agreements usually are for short periods, such as one week or less, but could be longer.

The Fund will not enter into repurchase agreements of a duration of more than seven days if, taken together with restricted securities and other securities for which there are no readily available quotations, more than 15% of its net assets would be so invested.

## **Lending Portfolio Securities**

To a limited extent, the Fund may lend its portfolio securities to brokers, dealers, and other financial institutions, provided it receives cash collateral which at all times is maintained in an amount equal to at least 102% and 105%, respectively, of the current market value of domestic and international securities loaned. By lending its portfolio securities, the Fund can increase its income through the investment of the cash collateral. For the purposes of this policy, the Fund considers collateral consisting of U.S. government or agency securities or irrevocable letters of credit issued by banks whose securities meet the standards for investment by the Fund to be the equivalent of cash. Such loans may not exceed 33 1/3% of the Fund's total assets. From time to time, the Fund may return to the borrower and/or a third party which is unaffiliated with the Fund, and which is acting as a "placing broker," a part of the interest earned from the investment of collateral received for securities loaned.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") currently requires that the following conditions must be met whenever the Fund's portfolio securities are loaned: (1) the Fund must receive at least 100% cash collateral from the borrower; (2) the borrower must increase such collateral whenever the market value of the securities rises above the level of such collateral; (3) the Fund must be able to terminate the loan at any time; (4) the Fund must receive reasonable interest on the loan, as well as any dividends, interest or other distributions on the loaned securities, and any increase in market value; (5) the Fund may pay only reasonable custodian fees approved by the Fund's Board of Directors ("Board") in connection with the loan; (6) while voting rights on the loaned securities may pass to the borrower, the Board must terminate the loan and regain the right to vote the securities if a material event adversely affecting the investment occurs, and (7) the Fund may not loan its portfolio securities so that the value of the loaned securities is more than one third of its total asset value, including collateral received from such loans. These conditions may be subject to future modification.

Such loans will be terminable at any time upon specified notice. The Fund might experience the risk of loss if the institution with which it has engaged in a portfolio loan transaction breaches its agreement with the Fund.

## **Borrowing**

The Fund does not borrow money except for (1) short term credits from banks as may be necessary for the clearance of portfolio transactions and (2) borrowings from banks for temporary or emergency purposes, including meeting redemption requests, which would otherwise require the untimely disposition of its portfolio securities. Borrowing will not, in the aggregate, exceed 15% of the Fund's total assets after giving effect to the borrowing and borrowing for purposes other than meeting redemptions may not exceed 5% of the value of the Fund's assets after giving effect to the borrowing. The Fund will not make additional investments when borrowings exceed 5% of assets. The Fund may mortgage, pledge, or hypothecate assets to secure such borrowings.

## **Money Market Instruments**

Subject to the Fund's policy of investing at least 80% of its net assets in securities of companies engaged principally in gold-related activities, the Fund may invest in money market instruments. In cases of abnormal market or economic conditions, the Fund may invest up to 100% of its assets in money market instruments for defensive purposes, although the Fund intends to stay invested in securities satisfying its investment objective to the fullest extent practicable. Money market instruments include obligations of the U.S. Government and its agencies and instrumentalities, commercial paper (including bank obligations), certificates of deposit (including Eurodollar certificates of deposit), and repurchase agreements. The Fund intends to invest only in short term and medium term debt securities that the Adviser believes to be of high quality, i.e., rated in one of the two highest categories by Moody's or S&P or, if unrated, determined to be equivalent in credit quality by the Adviser. For liquidity purposes in meeting redemption requests or paying dividends or expenses, the Fund may also invest its assets in such instruments.

## **Hedging Transactions**

*Futures and Forward Contracts.* The Fund may enter into futures and forward contracts only for certain bona fide hedging, yield enhancement, and risk management purposes. The Fund may enter into futures and forward contracts on precious metals as a hedge against changes in the prices of precious metals held or intended to be acquired by the Fund, but not for speculation or for achieving leverage. The Fund's hedging activities may include purchases of futures and forward contracts as an offset against the effect of anticipated increases in the price of a precious metal which the Fund intends to acquire or sales of futures and forward contracts as an offset against the effect of anticipated declines in the price of precious metals which the Fund owns. Precious metals futures and forward contract prices can be volatile and are influenced principally by changes in spot market prices, which in turn are affected by a variety of political and economic factors. While the correlation between changes in prices of futures and forward contracts and prices of the precious metals being hedged by such contracts has historically been very strong, the correlation may at times be imperfect and even a well conceived hedge may be unsuccessful to some degree because of market behavior or unexpected precious metals price trends. The Fund may also enter into futures and forward contracts for the purchase or sale of debt securities, debt instruments, or indices of prices thereof, stock index futures, other financial indices, and U.S. government securities.

The current view of the staff of the SEC is that a fund's long and short positions in futures contracts, as well as put and call options on futures written by it, must be collateralized with cash or other liquid securities and segregated with the Fund's custodian or "covered" in a manner similar to that for covered options on securities and designed to eliminate any potential leveraging (See "Asset Coverage for Forward Contracts, Options, Futures, and Options on Futures" below).

A "sale" of a futures contract (or a "short" futures position) means the assumption of a contractual obligation to deliver the securities underlying the contract at a specified price at a specified future time. A "purchase" of a futures contract (or a "long" futures position) means the assumption of a contractual obligation to acquire the securities underlying the contract at a specified price at a specified future time.

Certain futures contracts are settled on a net cash payment basis rather than by the sale and delivery of the securities underlying the futures contracts. U.S. futures contracts have been designed by exchanges that have been designated as "contract markets" by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC"), and must be executed through a futures commission merchant, i.e., a brokerage firm, which is a member of the relevant contract market. Futures contracts trade on these contract markets and the exchange's affiliated clearing organization guarantees performance of the contracts between the clearing members of the exchange.

The Fund may also purchase and write covered call or put options on precious metals futures contracts. Such options would be purchased solely for hedging purposes. Call options might be purchased to hedge against an increase in the price of precious metals the Fund intends to acquire, and put options may be purchased to hedge against a decline in the price of precious metals owned by the Fund. As is the case with futures contracts, options on precious metals futures may facilitate the Fund's acquisition of precious metals or permit the Fund to defer disposition of precious metals for tax or other purposes.

These contracts entail certain risks, including but not limited to the following: no assurance that futures contracts transactions can be offset at favorable prices, possible reduction of the Fund's yield due to the use of hedging, possible reduction in value of both the securities hedged and the hedging instrument, possible lack of liquidity due to daily limits on price fluctuation, imperfect correlation between the contracts and the securities being hedged, and potential losses in excess of the amount invested in the futures contracts themselves.

#### **Limitations on the Purchase and Sale of Futures Contracts, Certain Options, and Swaps**

Subject to the guidelines of the Board, the Fund may engage in "commodity interest" transactions (generally, transactions in futures, certain options, certain currency transactions and certain types of swaps) only for bona fide hedging or other permissible transactions in accordance with the rules and regulations of the CFTC. Pursuant to Rule 4.5 under the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"), the Adviser has filed a notice of exemption from registration as a "commodity pool operator" with respect to the Fund. The Fund and the Adviser are therefore not subject to registration or regulation as a commodity pool operator under the CEA and pursuant to Rule 4.5 under the CEA, certain trading restrictions are now applicable to the Fund. These trading restrictions permit the Fund to engage in commodity interest transactions that include (i) "bona fide hedging" transactions, as that term is defined and interpreted by the CFTC and its staff, without regard to the percentage of the Fund's assets committed to margin and options premiums and (ii) non-bona fide hedging transactions, provided that the Fund does not enter into such non-bona fide hedging transactions if, immediately thereafter, either (a) the sum of the amount of initial margin deposits on the Fund's existing futures or swaps positions and option or swaption premiums would exceed 5% of the market value of the Fund's liquidating value, after taking into account unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such transactions, or (b) the aggregate net notional value of the Fund's commodity interest transactions would exceed 100% of the market value of the Fund's liquidating value, after taking into account unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such transactions. Therefore, in order to claim the Rule 4.5 exemption, the Fund is limited in its ability to invest in commodity futures, options and certain types of swaps (including securities futures, broad-based stock index futures and financial futures contracts). As a result, in the future, the Fund will be more limited in its ability to use these instruments than in the past and these limitations may have a negative impact on the ability of the Adviser to manage the Fund, and on the Fund's performance.

#### **Asset Coverage For Forward Contracts, Options, Futures, And Options On Futures**

The Fund will comply with guidelines established by the SEC with respect to coverage of forward currency contracts; options written by the Fund on currencies, securities and indexes; and currency, interest rate and index futures contracts and options on these futures contracts. These guidelines may, in certain instances, require "earmarking" on the records of the Fund or segregation by the Fund with its custodian, of cash or liquid securities to the extent the Fund's obligations with respect to these strategies are not otherwise "covered" through ownership of the underlying security, financial instrument, or currency or by other portfolio positions or by other means consistent with applicable regulatory policies. Segregated assets cannot be sold or transferred unless equivalent assets are substituted in their place or it is no longer necessary to segregate them. As a result, there is a possibility that segregation of a large percentage of the Fund's assets could impede portfolio management or the Fund's ability to meet redemption requests or other current obligations. For example, a call option written by the Fund on securities may require the Fund to hold the securities subject to the call (or securities convertible into the securities without additional consideration) or to segregate assets (as described above) sufficient to purchase and deliver the securities if the call is exercised. A call option written by the Fund on an index may require the Fund to own portfolio securities that correlate with the index or to segregate assets (as described above) equal to the excess of the index value over the exercise price on a current basis. A put option written by the Fund may require the Fund to segregate assets (as described above) equal to the exercise price. The Fund could purchase a put option if the strike price of that option is the same or higher than the strike price of a put option sold by the Fund. If the Fund holds a futures or forward contract, the Fund could purchase a put option on the same futures or forward contract with a strike price as high or higher than the price of the contract held. The Fund may enter into fully or partially offsetting transactions so that its net position, coupled with any segregated assets (equal to any remaining obligation), equals its net obligation. Asset coverage may be achieved by other means when consistent with applicable regulatory policies.

#### **Currency Transactions**

The Fund may enter into various currency transactions, including forward foreign currency contracts, currency swaps, foreign currency or currency index futures contracts, and put and call options on such contracts or on currencies. A forward foreign currency contract involves an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency for a set price at a future date. A currency swap is an arrangement whereby each party exchanges one currency for another on a particular day and agrees to reverse the exchange on a later date at a specific exchange rate. Forward foreign currency contracts and currency swaps are established in the interbank market conducted directly between currency traders (usually large commercial banks or other financial institutions) on behalf of their customers. Certain types of forward foreign currency contracts are now regulated as swaps by the CFTC and, although they may still be established in the interbank market by currency traders on behalf of their customers, such instruments must be executed in accordance with applicable federal regulations. The regulation of such forward foreign currency contracts as swaps is a recent development and there can be no assurance that the additional regulation of these types of derivatives will not have an adverse effect

on a fund that utilizes these instruments. The Fund expects to enter into these currency contracts and swaps in primarily the following circumstances: to “lock in” the U.S. dollar equivalent price of a security the Fund is contemplating to buy or sell that is denominated in a non-U.S. currency; or to protect against a decline against the U.S. dollar of the currency of a particular country to which the Fund’s portfolio has exposure. The Fund anticipates seeking to achieve the same economic result by utilizing from time to time for such hedging a currency different from the one of the given portfolio security as long as, in the view of the Adviser, such currency is essentially correlated to the currency of the relevant portfolio security based on historic and expected exchange rate patterns.

The Adviser may choose to use such instruments on behalf of the Fund depending upon market conditions prevailing and the perceived instrument needs of the Fund. The swap market has grown substantially in recent years with a large number of banks and investment banking firms acting both as principals and as agents utilizing standardized swap documentation. As a result, the swap market has become relatively broad and deep as compared to the markets for similar instruments which are established in the interbank market. In accordance with the current position of the SEC, the Fund will treat swap transactions as illiquid for purposes of the Fund’s policy regarding illiquid securities. Futures contracts, interest rate swaps, and options on securities, indices, and futures contracts and certain currency contracts sold by the Fund are generally subject to segregation and coverage requirements with the result that, if the Fund does not hold the security or futures contract underlying the instrument, the Fund will be required to segregate on an ongoing basis with its custodian, cash, U.S. government securities, or other high grade liquid debt obligations in an amount at least equal to the Fund’s obligations with respect to such instruments. Such amounts fluctuate as the obligations increase or decrease in value. The segregation requirement can result in the Fund maintaining securities positions it would otherwise liquidate or segregating assets at a time when it might be disadvantageous to do so.

### **Regulation of Certain Options, Currency Transactions, and Other Derivative Transactions as Swaps or Security-Based Swaps**

Title VII of the U.S. Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) enacted in July 2010, the “Derivatives Title”, includes provisions that comprehensively regulate the over-the-counter, i.e., not exchange-traded, derivatives markets for the first time. This regulation requires that certain of the options, currency transactions and other derivative transactions entered into by the Fund are regulated as swaps by the CFTC or regulated as security-based swaps by the SEC (collectively, “swaps”).

The Dodd-Frank Act generally requires swaps and security-based swaps to be submitted for clearing to regulated clearing organization (the so-called “clearing mandate”), unless an exemption from clearing applies. Swaps and security-based swaps that are submitted for clearing will be subject to minimum initial and variation margin requirements set by the relevant clearing organization, as well as possible SEC- or CFTC-mandated margin requirements. Accordingly, dealers of swaps and security-based swaps (usually large commercial banks or other financial institutions) as well as other market participants will be required to post margin to the clearing organizations through which their swaps and/or security-based swaps are cleared. The SEC, CFTC and other U.S. regulators also are required to impose margin requirements on uncleared swap and uncleared security-based swap transactions. These changes with respect to clearing and margin likely will increase a dealer’s costs, and those increased costs are expected to be passed through, at least partially, to market participants, including any fund that uses swaps or security-based swaps.

The Dodd-Frank Act also requires many swaps and security-based swaps that are currently executed on a bilateral basis in the over-the-counter market to be executed through a regulated securities, futures, or swap exchange or execution facility if those transactions are subject to the clearing mandate. Once such requirements become effective, it may be more difficult and costly for the Fund to continue to enter into customized swap or security-based swap transactions on a bilateral basis.

In addition, dealers and major participants in the over-the-counter market are required to register with the SEC and/or CFTC. Registered dealers and major participants are subject to minimum capital and margin requirements, business conduct standards, disclosure requirements, reporting and recordkeeping requirements, position limits, limitations on conflicts of interest, and other regulatory burdens. These requirements may increase the overall costs for dealers and major participants in the over-the-counter market, and such increased costs are likely to be passed through, at least partially, to market participants, including any fund that utilizes these instruments.

The CFTC has implemented mandatory exchange-trading and clearing requirements under the Dodd-Frank Act and the CFTC continues to approve contracts for central clearing. Uncleared swaps are subject to margin requirements that will be implemented on a phased-in basis. The Adviser will continue to monitor these developments, particularly to the extent regulatory changes affect the Fund’s ability to enter into swap agreements.

### **Portfolio Turnover**

The investment policies of the Fund may lead to frequent changes in investments, particularly in periods of rapidly fluctuating interest or currency exchange rates. The portfolio turnover may be higher than that of other investment companies. While it is impossible to predict with certainty the portfolio turnover, the Adviser expects that the annual turnover rate of the Fund will not exceed 75%.

Portfolio turnover generally involves some expense to the Fund, including brokerage commissions or dealer mark-ups and other transaction costs on the sale of securities and reinvestment in other securities. The portfolio turnover rate is computed by dividing the lesser of the amount of the securities purchased or securities sold by the average monthly value of securities owned during the year (excluding securities whose maturities at acquisition were one year or less). Portfolio turnover may vary from year to year, as well as within a year. For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2016 and 2017, the turnover rates were 14% and 13%, respectively.

### **Government Intervention in Financial Markets**

Global economies and financial markets are increasingly interconnected, which increases the possibility that conditions in one country or region may adversely affect companies in a different country or region. In the past, instability in the financial markets has led governments and regulators around the world to take a number of unprecedented actions designed to support certain financial institutions and segments of the financial markets that have experienced extreme volatility, and in some cases a lack of liquidity. Governments, their regulatory agencies, or self regulatory organizations may take actions that affect the regulation of the instruments in which the Fund invests, or the issuers of such instruments, in ways that are unforeseeable. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. Such legislation or regulation could limit or preclude the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Governments or their agencies may also acquire distressed assets from financial institutions and acquire ownership interests in those institutions. The implications of government ownership and disposition of these assets are unclear, and such a program may have positive or negative effects on the liquidity, valuation and performance of the Fund's portfolio holdings. Furthermore, volatile financial markets can expose the Fund to greater market and liquidity risk and potential difficulty in valuing portfolio instruments held by the Fund.

Voters in the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union ("Brexit"). As a result of this decision, the financial markets experienced high levels of volatility and it is likely that, in the near term, Brexit will continue to bring about higher levels of uncertainty and volatility. It is possible, that certain economic activity will be curtailed until some signs of clarity begin to emerge, including negotiations around the terms for United Kingdom's exit out of the European Union.

*Change in Presidential Administration.* In addition to the risks discussed above, the change in presidential administration could significantly impact the regulation of U.S. financial markets. Areas subject to potential change, amendment or repeal include the Dodd-Frank Act, including the Volcker Rule and various swaps and derivatives regulations, the authority of the Federal Reserve and Financial Stability Oversight Council, and renewed proposals to separate banks' commercial and investment banking activities. Other potential changes that could be pursued by the new presidential administration could include the United States' withdrawal from, or attempt to renegotiate, various trade agreements or the taking of other actions that would change current trade policies of the United States. It is not possible to predict which, if any, of these actions will be taken or, if taken, their effect on the economy, securities markets or the financial stability of the United States. A Fund may be affected by governmental action in ways that are not foreseeable, and there is a possibility that such actions could have a significant adverse effect on a Fund and its ability to achieve its investment objective.

### **Special Risks Related to Cyber Security**

The Fund and its service providers are susceptible to cyber security risks that include, among other things, theft, unauthorized monitoring, release, misuse, loss, destruction or corruption of confidential and highly restricted data; denial of service attacks; unauthorized access to relevant systems, compromises to networks or devices that the Fund and its service providers use to service the Fund's operations; or operational disruption or failures in the physical infrastructure or operating systems that support the Fund and its service providers. Cyber attacks against or security breakdowns of the Fund or its service providers may adversely impact the Fund and its shareholders, potentially resulting in, among other things, financial losses; the inability of Fund shareholders to transact business and the Fund to process transactions; inability to calculate the Fund's NAV; violations of applicable privacy and other laws; regulatory fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs; and/or additional compliance costs. The Fund may incur additional costs for cyber security risk management and remediation purposes. In addition, cyber security risks may also impact issuers of securities in which the Fund invests, which may cause the Fund's investment in such issuers to lose value. There can be no assurance that the Fund or its service providers will not suffer losses relating to cyber attacks or other information security breaches in the future.

## INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS

The Fund's investment objective and the following investment restrictions are fundamental and may not be changed without the approval of a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities as defined in the 1940 Act as the lesser of (1) 67% of the Fund's voting securities present at a meeting if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities are represented in person or by proxy or (2) more than 50% of the Fund's outstanding voting securities. All other investment policies or practices are considered not to be fundamental and accordingly may be changed without shareholder approval. If a percentage holdings restriction on investment or the use of assets set forth below is adhered to at the time the transaction is effected, later changes in percentage resulting from changing market values or total assets of the Fund will not be considered a deviation from policy. Under such restrictions, the Fund may not:

1. issue senior securities, except that the Fund may borrow money from a bank, including on margin if margin securities are owned, in an amount up to 33 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub>% of its total assets (including the amount of such enumerated senior securities issued but excluding any liabilities and indebtedness not constituting senior securities) and except that the Fund may borrow up to an additional 5% of its total assets for temporary purposes; or pledge its assets other than to secure such issuances or in connection with hedging transactions, short sales, when-issued and forward commitment transactions and similar investment strategies;
2. make loans of money or property to any person, except through loans of portfolio securities, the purchase of fixed income securities or the acquisition of securities subject to repurchase agreements;
3. underwrite the securities of other issuers, except to the extent that in connection with the disposition of portfolio securities or the sale of its own shares the Fund may be deemed to be an underwriter;
4. invest for the purpose of exercising control over management of any company;
5. purchase real estate or interests therein, including limited partnerships that invest primarily in real estate equity interests, other than publicly traded real estate investment trusts and publicly traded master limited partnership interests; or
6. purchase or sell commodities or commodity contracts except for certain bona fide hedging, yield enhancement and risk management purposes or invest in any oil, gas, or mineral interests, provided that the Fund may invest in bullion.

In addition, as a diversified investment company, the Fund is subject to the following limitations as to 75% of its total assets: (a) the Fund may not invest more than 5% of its total assets in the securities of any one issuer, except obligations of the U.S. Government and its agencies and instrumentalities, and (b) the Fund may not own more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of any one issuer.

The Fund has a concentration policy that it may not invest more than 25% of the value of its total assets in any particular industry other than the gold related or precious metals related industry in which the Fund shall so concentrate at least 25% of its total assets (this restriction does not apply to obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or its agencies or instrumentalities). This concentration policy may not be changed without shareholder approval in accordance with Section 13(a)(3) of the 1940 Act. At the next meeting of the shareholders of the Fund, the Board of Directors of the Fund will present a proposal to its shareholders seeking shareholder approval of this concentration policy as a fundamental policy of the Fund, pursuant to an undertaking given by the Fund to the SEC.

## PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS INFORMATION

Employees of the Adviser and its affiliates will often have access to information concerning the portfolio holdings of the Fund. The Fund and the Adviser have adopted policies and procedures that require all employees to safeguard proprietary information of the Fund, which includes information relating to the Fund's portfolio holdings as well as portfolio trading activity of the Adviser with respect to the Fund (collectively, "Portfolio Holdings Information"). In addition, the Fund and the Adviser have adopted policies and procedures providing that Portfolio Holdings Information may not be disclosed except to the extent that it is (a) made available to the general public by posting on the Fund's website or filed as part of a required filing on Form N-Q or N-CSR, or (b) provided to a third party for legitimate business purposes or regulatory purposes, which has agreed to keep such information confidential under terms approved by the Adviser's legal department or outside counsel, as described below. The Adviser will examine each situation under (b) with a view to determine that release of the information is in the best interest of the Fund and its shareholders and, if a potential conflict between the Adviser's interests and the Fund's interests arises, to have such conflict resolved by the Chief Compliance Officer or those Directors who are not considered to be "interested persons," as defined in the 1940 Act (the "Independent Directors"). These policies further provide that no officer of the Fund or employee of the Adviser shall communicate with the media about the Fund without obtaining the advance consent of the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer, or General Counsel of the Adviser.

Under the foregoing policies, the Fund may disclose Portfolio Holdings Information in the circumstances outlined below. Disclosure generally may be either on a monthly or quarterly basis with no time lag in some cases and with a time lag of up to sixty days in other cases (with the exception of proxy voting services which require a regular download of data).

1. To regulatory authorities in response to requests for such information and with the approval of the Chief Compliance Officer of the Fund;
2. To mutual fund rating and statistical agencies and to persons performing similar functions where there is a legitimate business purpose for such disclosure and such entity has agreed to keep such data confidential at least until it has been made public by the Adviser;
3. To service providers of the Fund, as necessary for the performance of their services to the Fund and to the Board where such entity has agreed to keep such data confidential at least until it has been made public by the Adviser. The Fund's current service providers that may receive such information are its administrator, sub-administrator, custodian, independent registered public accounting firm, legal counsel, and financial printers;
4. To firms providing proxy voting or other proxy services provided such entity has agreed to keep such data confidential at least until it has been made public by the Adviser;
5. To certain broker-dealers, investment advisers, and other financial intermediaries for purposes of their performing due diligence on the Fund and not for dissemination of this information to their clients or use of this information to conduct trading for their clients. Disclosure of Portfolio Holdings Information in these circumstances requires the broker-dealer, investment adviser, or financial intermediary to agree to keep such information confidential at least until it has been made public by the Adviser and is further subject to prior approval of the Chief Compliance Officer of the Fund and shall be reported to the Board at the next quarterly meeting; and
6. To consultants for purposes of performing analysis of the Fund, which analysis may be used by the consultant with its clients or disseminated to the public, provided that such entity shall have agreed to keep such information confidential at least until it has been made public by the Adviser.

As of the date of this SAI, the Fund makes information about its portfolio securities available to its administrator, sub-administrator, custodian, and proxy voting services on a daily basis, with no time lag, to its typesetter on a quarterly basis with a ten day time lag, to its financial printers on a quarterly basis with a forty-five day time lag, and to its independent registered public accounting firm and legal counsel on an as needed basis with no time lag. The names of the Fund's administrator, sub-administrator, custodian, independent registered public accounting firm, and legal counsel are set forth in this SAI. The Fund's proxy voting service is Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc., Donnelley Financial Solutions, and Appatura provide typesetting services for the Fund, and the Fund selects from a number of financial printers who have agreed to keep such information confidential at least until it has been made public by the Adviser.

Other than these arrangements with the Fund's service providers and proxy voting service, the Fund does not have any ongoing arrangements to make available information about the Fund's portfolio securities prior to such information being disclosed in a publicly available filing with the SEC that is required to include the information.

Disclosures made pursuant to a confidentiality agreement are subject to periodic confirmation by the Chief Compliance Officer of the Fund that the recipient has utilized such information solely in accordance with the terms of the agreement. Neither the Fund, nor the Adviser, nor any of the Adviser's affiliates will accept on behalf of itself, its affiliates, or the Fund any compensation or other consideration in connection with the disclosure of portfolio holdings of the Fund. The Board will review such arrangements annually with the Fund's Chief Compliance Officer.

## DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Under Maryland law, the Fund's Board is responsible for establishing the Fund's policies and for overseeing the management of the Fund. The Board also elects the Fund's officers who conduct the daily business of the Fund. Information pertaining to the Directors and Officers of the Fund is set forth below.

Name, Position(s), Address <sup>(1)</sup> And Age	Term of Office and Length of Time Served <sup>(2)</sup>	Number of Funds in Fund Complex <sup>(3)</sup> Overseen by Director	Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years	Other Directorships During Past Five Years
<b><u>INTERESTED</u></b>				
<b><u>DIRECTORS<sup>(4)</sup>:</u></b>				
<b>Mario J. Gabelli</b> Chairman Age: 75	Since 1994	32	Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and Chief Investment Officer– Value Portfolios of GAMCO Investors, Inc. and Chief Investment Officer– Value Portfolios of Gabelli Funds, LLC and GAMCO Asset Management Inc.; Director/Trustee or Chief Investment Officer of other registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex; Chief Executive Officer of GGCP, Inc.; Executive Chairman of Associated Capital Group, Inc.	Director of Morgan Group Holdings, Inc. (holding company); Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of LICT Corp. (multimedia and communication services company); Director of CIBL, Inc. (broadcasting and wireless communications); Director of ICTC Group Inc. (communications)
<b><u>INDEPENDENT</u></b>				
<b><u>DIRECTORS<sup>(5)</sup>:</u></b>				
<b>E. Val Cerutti</b> Director Age: 78	Since 1994	7	Chief Executive Officer of Cerutti Consultants, Inc.	Director of The LGL Group, Inc. (diversified manufacturing) (1990-2009)
<b>Anthony J. Colavita<sup>(6)</sup></b> Director Age: 82	Since 1994	28	President of the law firm of Anthony J. Colavita, P.C.	—
<b>Werner J. Roeder</b> Director Age: 77	Since 1994	23	Retired physician; Former Vice President of Medical Affairs (Medical Director) at New York Presbyterian/ Lawrence Hospital (1999-2014)	—
<b>Anthonie C. van Ekris<sup>(6)</sup></b> Director Age: 83	Since 1994	22	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of BALMAC International, Inc. (global import/export company)	—
<b>Salvatore J. Zizza<sup>(6)(7)</sup></b> Director Age: 72	Since 2004	30	President of Zizza & Associates Corp. (private holding company); Chairman of Harbor Diversified, Inc. (pharmaceuticals); Chairman of BAM (semiconductor and aerospace manufacturing); Chairman of Bergen Cove Realty Inc.; Chairman of Metropolitan Paper Recycling Inc. (recycling) (2005-2014)	Director and Vice Chairman of Trans-Lux Corporation (business services); Director and Chairman of Harbor Diversified Inc. (pharmaceuticals)
<b>Daniel E. Zucchi</b> Director Age: 77	Since 1994	2	President of Zucchi, Inc. (general business consulting); Senior Vice President of Hearst Corp. (1984-1995)	Cypress Care LLC (health care) (2001-2009);



<u>Name, Position(s), Address<sup>(1)</sup> and Age</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served<sup>(2)</sup></u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</u>
<b>OFFICERS:</b>		
<b>Caesar M.P. Bryan</b> Chief Investment Officer Age: 62	Since 1994	Senior Vice President and Portfolio Manager of GAMCO Investors, Inc.
<b>Bruce N. Alpert</b> President Age: 66	Since 1994	Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Gabelli Funds, LLC since 1988; Officer of registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex; Senior Vice President of GAMCO Investors, Inc. since 2008
<b>John C. Ball</b> Treasurer Age: 42	Since 2017	Treasurer of funds within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex since 2017; Vice President and Assistant Treasurer of AMG Funds, 2014-2017; Vice President of State Street Corporation, 2007-2014
<b>Agnes Mullady</b> Vice President Age: 59	Since 2006	Officer of funds within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex since 2006; President and Chief Operating Officer of the Fund Division of Gabelli Funds, LLC since 2015; Chief Executive Officer of G.distributors, LLC since 2010; Senior Vice President of GAMCO Investors, Inc. since 2009; Vice President of Gabelli Funds, LLC since 2007; Executive Vice President of Associated Capital Group, Inc. since 2016
<b>Andrea R. Mango</b> Secretary Age: 46	Since 2013	Vice President of GAMCO Investors, Inc. since 2016; Counsel of Gabelli Funds, LLC since 2013; Secretary of registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex since 2013; Vice President of all closed-end funds within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex since 2014; Corporate Vice President within the Corporate Compliance Department of New York Life Insurance Company, 2011-2013
<b>Richard J. Walz</b> Chief Compliance Officer Age: 59	Since 2013	Chief Compliance Officer of registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex since 2013; Chief Compliance Officer of AEGON USA Investment Management, 2011-2013

(1) Address: One Corporate Center, Rye, NY 10580-1422.

(2) Each Director will hold office for an indefinite term until the earliest of (i) the next meeting of shareholders, if any, called for the purpose of considering the election or re-election of such Director and until the election and qualification of his or her successor, if any, elected at such meeting, or (ii) the date a Director resigns or retires, or a Director is removed by the Board or shareholders, in accordance with the Fund's By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation. For officers, includes time served in prior officer positions with the Fund. Each officer will hold office for an indefinite term or until the date he or she resigns or retires or until his or her successor is elected and qualified.

(3) The "Fund Complex" or the "Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex" includes all the U.S. registered investment companies that are considered part of the same fund complex as the Fund because they have common or affiliated investment advisers.

(4) "Interested person" of the Fund as defined in the 1940 Act. Mr. Gabelli is considered to be an "interested person" of the Fund because of his affiliation with the Fund's Adviser.

(5) Directors who are not considered to be "interested persons" of the Fund as defined in the 1940 Act are considered to be "Independent" Directors.

(6) Mr. Colavita's son, Anthony S. Colavita, serves as a director of other funds in the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex. Mr. van Ekris is an independent director of Gabelli International Ltd., Gabelli Fund LDC, GAMA Capital Opportunities Master Ltd., and GAMCO International SICAV, Mr. Zizza is an independent director of Gabelli International Ltd., and all of which may be deemed to be controlled by Mario J. Gabelli and/or affiliates and in that event would be deemed to be under common control with the Fund's Adviser.

(7) On September 9, 2015, Mr. Zizza entered into a settlement with the SEC to resolve an inquiry relating to an alleged violation regarding the making of false statements or omissions to the accountants of a company concerning a related party transaction. The company in question is not an affiliate of, nor has any connection to, the Fund. Under the terms of the settlement, Mr. Zizza, without admitting or denying the SEC's findings and allegation, paid \$150,000 and agreed to cease and desist committing or causing any future violations of Rule 13b2-2 of the 1934 Act.

The Board believes that each Director's experience, qualifications, attributes, and skills on an individual basis and in combination with those of other Directors lead to the conclusion that each Director should serve in such capacity. Among the attributes or skills common to all Directors are their ability to review critically and to evaluate, question, and discuss information provided to them; to interact effectively with the other Directors, the Adviser, the sub-administrator, other service providers, counsel, and the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm, and to exercise effective and independent business judgment in the performance of their duties as Directors. Each Director's ability to perform his duties effectively has been attained in large part through the Director's business, consulting, or public service positions, and through experience from service as a member of the Board and one or more of the other funds in the Fund Complex, public companies, non-profit entities, or other organizations as set forth above and below. Each Director's ability to perform his duties effectively also has been enhanced by education, professional training, and other experience.

### **Interested Director**

*Mario J. Gabelli, CFA.* Mr. Gabelli is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Fund. Mr. Gabelli is Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and Chief Investment Officer – Value Portfolios of GAMCO Investors, Inc. (“GBL”), a New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”)-listed asset manager and financial services company. He is the Chief Investment Officer of Value Portfolios of Gabelli Funds, LLC and GAMCO Asset Management Inc., each of which are asset management subsidiaries of GBL. In addition, Mr. Gabelli is Chief Executive Officer, Chief Investment Officer, a director and the controlling shareholder of GGCP, Inc. (“GGCP”), a private company that holds a majority interest in GBL, and the Chairman of MJG Associates, Inc., which acts as an investment manager of various investment funds and other accounts. He is Executive Chairman of Associated Capital Group, Inc. (“Associated Capital”), a public company that provides alternative management and institutional research services, and is a majority-owned subsidiary of GGCP. Mr. Gabelli serves as Overseer of the Columbia University Graduate School of Business and as a trustee of Boston College and Roger Williams University. He serves as a director of the Winston Churchill Foundation, The E.L. Wiegand Foundation, The American-Italian Cancer Foundation, and The Foundation for Italian Art and Culture. He is Chairman of the Gabelli Foundation, Inc., a Nevada private charitable trust. Mr. Gabelli serves as Co-President of Field Point Park Association, Inc. Mr. Gabelli received his Bachelor's degree from Fordham University, M.B.A. from Columbia Business School, and honorary Doctorates from Fordham University and Roger Williams University.

### **Independent Directors**

*E. Val Cerutti.* Mr. Cerutti is Chief Executive Officer of Cerutti Consultants, Inc. Mr. Cerutti serves on the board of another fund in the Fund Complex. He formerly served as a director of The LGL Group, Inc., a diversified manufacturing company. Mr. Cerutti was President and Chief Operating Officer of Stella D'oro Biscuit Co., and served on the board of advisers of the Hagan School of Business of Iona College. He has served as a consultant to several venture capital groups. Mr. Cerutti has a Bachelor's degree from Fordham University and M.B.A. from Iona College.

*Anthony J. Colavita, Esq.* Mr. Colavita is a practicing attorney with over fifty-five years of experience. He is Chairman of the Fund's Audit and Nominating Committees, and a member of the Fund's *ad hoc* Proxy Voting Committee. Mr. Colavita serves on comparable or other board committees with respect to other funds in the Fund Complex on whose boards he sits. He served as a Commissioner of the New York State Thruway Authority and as a Commissioner of the New York State Bridge Authority, where his duties included reviewing financial documents of these agencies. He served for eleven years as the elected Supervisor of the Town of Eastchester, New York, responsible for ten annual municipal budgets. Mr. Colavita also served as Special Counsel to the New York State Assembly for five years and as a Senior Attorney with the New York State Insurance Department. He is the former Chairman of the New York State Republican Party, the Westchester County Republican Party, and the Eastchester Republican Town Committee. Mr. Colavita received his Bachelor's degree from Fairfield University and his Juris Doctor from Fordham University School of Law.

*Werner J. Roeder, M.D.* Dr. Roeder is a retired physician with over forty-five years of experience and former Vice President of Medical Affairs (Medical Director) at New York Presbyterian/Lawrence Hospital Center in Bronxville, New York. As Vice President of Medical Affairs at New York Presbyterian/Lawrence Hospital, he was actively involved in personnel and financial matters concerning the hospital's \$140 million budget. Dr. Roeder is the Chairman of the Fund's *ad hoc* Proxy Voting Committee, a member of the Fund's Audit and Nominating Committees, and a member of both multi-fund *ad hoc* Compensation Committees. He serves on comparable or other board committees with respect to other funds in the Fund Complex on whose boards he sits. Dr. Roeder is board certified as a surgeon by The American Board of Surgery and previously served in a consulting capacity to Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield. He obtained his Doctorate in Medicine from New York Medical College.

*Anthonie C. van Ekris.* Mr. van Ekris has been the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of BALMAC International, Inc., a global import/export company, for over twenty years. Mr. van Ekris is a member of the Fund's *ad hoc* Proxy Voting Committee. He serves on the boards of other funds in the Fund Complex and as Chairman of the GAMCO International SICAV. Mr. van Ekris has over fifty-five years of experience as Chairman and/or Chief Executive Officer of public and private companies involved in international trading or commodity trading, and served in both of these capacities for nearly twenty years for a large public jewelry chain. Mr. van Ekris is a former director of an oil and gas operations company. He served on the boards of a number of public companies and for more than ten years on the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army of Greater New York.

*Salvatore J. Zizza.* Mr. Zizza is the President of Zizza & Associates Corp., a private holding company that invests in various industries. He also serves as Chairman to other companies involved in manufacturing, recycling, real estate, technology, and pharmaceuticals. He serves as the Lead Independent Director of the Fund and is a member of the Fund's Audit and Nominating Committees and both multi-fund *ad hoc* Compensation Committees. Mr. Zizza serves on comparable or other board committees with respect to other funds in the Fund Complex on whose boards he sits. In addition to serving on the boards of other funds in the Fund Complex, Mr. Zizza is currently and has previously been a director of other public companies. He was also the President, Chief Executive Officer, and Chief Financial Officer of a large NYSE-listed construction company. Mr. Zizza received his Bachelor's degree and M.B.A. in Finance from St. John's University, which awarded him an Honorary Doctorate in Commercial Sciences.

*Daniel E. Zucchi.* Mr. Zucchi is President of Zucchi, a marketing and communications consulting firm. He serves on the board of another fund in the Gabelli/GAMCO Fund Complex. Mr. Zucchi served as a board member and an investor in Anduro Holdings Inc., a manufacturer of consumer packaging. He served as a board member and was one of the initial investors in Cypress Care LLC, a pharmacy benefit management company. In addition, Mr. Zucchi was a Senior Executive at Time Warner and the Hearst Corporation for over thirty years. In the public sector, Mr. Zucchi has served as a locally-elected government official, most recently since 2009 as a member of the Westchester County Executive's task force. Mr. Zucchi is a graduate of the University of Connecticut and attended the Harvard AAAA program during his tenure at Time Warner.

### **Directors — Leadership Structure and Oversight Responsibilities**

Overall responsibility for general oversight of the Fund rests with the Board. The Board has appointed Mr. Zizza as the Lead Independent Director. The Lead Independent Director presides over executive sessions of the Directors and also serves between meetings of the Board as a liaison with service providers, officers, counsel, and other Directors on a wide variety of matters including scheduling agenda items for Board meetings. Designation as such does not impose on the Lead Independent Director any obligations or standards greater than or different from other Directors. More than 75% of the members of the Board are Independent Directors and each of the Nominating, Audit and *ad hoc* Proxy Voting Committees are comprised entirely of Independent Directors. The Board has established a Nominating Committee, Audit Committee, and *ad hoc* Proxy Voting Committee to assist the Board in the oversight of the management and affairs of the Fund. From time to time, the Board establishes additional committees or informal working groups to deal with specific matters or assigns one of its members to work with directors or trustees of other funds in the Fund Complex on special committees or working groups that deal with complex-wide matters, such as the multi-fund *ad hoc* Compensation Committee relating to compensation of the Chief Compliance Officer for all the funds in the Fund Complex. The Fund Complex also has a separate multi-fund *ad hoc* Compensation Committee relating to certain officers of the closed-end funds in the Fund Complex, and some of the Fund's Directors may from time to time also serve on this separate committee.

All of the Fund's Directors, other than Mr. Mario J. Gabelli, are Independent Directors and the Board believes they are able to provide effective oversight of the Fund's service providers. In addition to providing feedback and direction during Board meetings, the Directors meet regularly in executive session and chair all committees of the Board.

The Fund's operations entail a variety of risks including investment, administration, valuation, and a range of compliance matters. Although the Adviser, the sub-administrator, and the officers of the Fund are responsible for managing these risks on a day to day basis within the framework of their established risk management functions, the Board also addresses risk management of the Fund through its meetings and those of the committees and working groups. In particular, as part of its general oversight, the Board reviews with the Adviser at Board meetings the levels and types of risks being undertaken by the Fund, and the Audit Committee discusses the Fund's risk management and controls with the independent registered public accounting firm engaged by the Fund. The Board reviews valuation policies and procedures and the valuations of specific illiquid securities. The Board also receives periodic reports from the Fund's Chief Compliance Officer regarding compliance matters relating to the Fund and its major service providers, including results of the implementation and testing of the Fund's and such providers' compliance programs. The Board's oversight function is facilitated by management reporting processes that are designed to provide information to the Board about the identification, assessment, and management of critical risks and the controls and policies and procedures used to mitigate those risks. The Board reviews its role in supervising the Fund's risk management from time to time and may make changes in its discretion at any time.

The Board has determined that its leadership structure is appropriate for the Fund because it enables the Board to exercise informed and independent judgment over matters under its purview, allocates responsibility among committees in a manner that fosters effective oversight, and allows the Board to devote appropriate resources to specific issues in a flexible manner as they arise. The Board periodically reviews its leadership structure as well as its overall structure, composition, and functioning and may make changes in its discretion at any time.

## Board Committees

The Board has established two standing committees in connection with its governance of the Fund: the Audit and Nominating Committees, and has also established an *ad hoc* Proxy Voting Committee. The Fund does not have a standing compensation committee (although some of the individuals who are Directors of the Fund participate in the multi-fund *ad hoc* Compensation Committee described above).

The Fund's Audit Committee consists of three members: Messrs. Colavita (Chairman) and Zizza, and Dr. Roeder, who are Independent Directors of the Fund. The Audit Committee operates pursuant to a Charter that was most recently reviewed and approved by the Board of the Fund on February 21, 2018. As set forth in the Charter, the function of the Audit Committee is oversight; it is management's responsibility to maintain appropriate systems for accounting and internal control and it is the independent registered public accounting firm's responsibility to plan and carry out a proper audit. The Audit Committee is generally responsible for reviewing and evaluating issues related to the accounting and financial reporting policies and practices of the Fund, its internal controls, and, as appropriate, the internal controls of certain service providers, overseeing the quality and objectivity of the Fund's financial statements and the audit thereof and to act as a liaison between the Board and the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, the Audit Committee met twice.

The Fund's Nominating Committee consists of three members: Messrs. Colavita (Chairman) and Zizza, and Dr. Roeder, who are Independent Directors of the Fund. The Nominating Committee is responsible for selecting and recommending qualified candidates to the full Board in the event that a position is vacated or created. The Nominating Committee would consider, under procedures adopted by the Board, recommendations by shareholders if a vacancy were to exist. Such recommendations should be forwarded to the Secretary of the Fund. The Nominating Committee did not meet during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

The Fund's *ad hoc* Proxy Voting Committee consists of three members: Dr. Roeder (Chairman), and Messrs. Colavita and van Ekris, who are Independent Directors of the Fund. Under certain circumstances and pursuant to specific procedures and guidelines, the *ad hoc* Proxy Voting Committee will, in place of the Fund's Adviser, exercise complete control and discretion over the exercise of all rights to vote or consent with respect to certain securities owned by the Fund and may also determine to exercise complete control and discretion over the disposition of such securities. The *ad hoc* Proxy Voting Committee meets periodically on an as needed basis to consider such matters and did not meet during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

## Director Ownership of Fund Shares

Set forth in the table below is the dollar range of equity securities in the Fund beneficially owned by each Director and the aggregate dollar range of equity securities in the Fund Complex beneficially owned by each Director as of December 31, 2017.

<u>Name of Director</u>	<u>Dollar Range of Equity Securities Held in the Fund*</u>	<u>Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities Held in Fund Complex*</u>
<b><u>INTERESTED DIRECTORS:</u></b>		
Mario J. Gabelli	E	E
<b><u>INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS:</u></b>		
E. Val Cerutti	A	E
Anthony J. Colavita	C	E
Werner J. Roeder	C	E
Anthony C. van Ekris	B	E
Salvatore J. Zizza	A	E
Daniel E. Zucchi	A	E

\* Key to Dollar Ranges

- A. None
- B. \$1 – \$10,000
- C. \$10,001 – \$50,000
- D. \$50,001 – \$100,000
- E. Over \$100,000

Set forth in the table below is the amount of interests beneficially owned, as of December 31, 2017, by certain Independent Directors or their immediate family members, as applicable, in a holding that may be deemed to be controlled by Mario J. Gabelli and/or affiliates and in that event would be deemed to be under common control with the Fund's Adviser.

<u>Name of Independent Director</u>	<u>Name of Owner and Relationships to Director</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Title of Class</u>	<u>Value of Interests</u>	<u>Percent of Class</u>
Anthony J. Colavita	Same	The LGL Group, Inc.	Common Stock	\$ 13,111	*
Anthony J. Colavita	Same	The LGL Group, Inc.	Warrants	\$ 4	*
Anthony J. Colavita	Family	Gabelli Associates Fund	Membership Interests	\$ 978,920	*
Werner J. Roeder	Same	Gabelli Associates Fund III	Membership Interests	\$ 592,371	*
Anthonie C. van Ekris	Same	LICT Corp.	Common Stock	\$ 279,600	*
Anthonie C. van Ekris	Same	The LGL Group, Inc.	Common Stock	\$ 12,358	*
Anthonie C. van Ekris	Same	The LGL Group, Inc.	Warrants	\$ 5	*
Anthonie C. van Ekris	Same	CIBL, Inc	Common Stock	\$ 34,800	*
Anthonie C. van Ekris	Same	ICTC Group, Inc	Common Stock	\$ 140	*
Anthonie C. van Ekris	Same	Morgan Group Holdings, Inc	Common Stock	\$ 240	*
Salvatore J. Zizza	Same	Gabelli Associates Fund	Membership Interests	\$2,345,043	*
Salvatore J. Zizza	Same	Gabelli Performance Partnership L.P.	Limited Partner Interests	\$ 331,115	*

\* An asterisk indicates that the ownership amount constitutes less than 1% of the total interests outstanding.

#### **Director and Officer Compensation**

The Fund pays each Director who is not considered to be an affiliated person an annual retainer of \$9,000 plus \$2,000 for each Board meeting attended. Each Director is reimbursed by the Fund for any out of pocket expenses incurred in attending meetings. All Board committee members receive \$500 per meeting attended and the Chairman of the Audit Committee and the Lead Director each receives a \$2,000 annual fee. A Director may receive a single meeting fee, allocated among the participating funds, for participation in certain meetings held on behalf of multiple funds in the Fund Complex. Directors who are directors or employees of the Adviser or an affiliated company receive no compensation or expense reimbursement from the Fund.

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the compensation of the Fund’s Directors. No Officer or person affiliated with the Fund received compensation in excess of \$60,000 from the Fund for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

**Compensation Table**

Aggregate Compensation from Fund (Fiscal Year)

<u>Name of Person and Position</u>	<u>Aggregate Compensation from the Fund*</u>	<u>Total Compensation from the Fund and Fund Complex**</u>
<b><u>INTERESTED DIRECTORS:</u></b>		
Mario J. Gabelli Chairman of the Board	\$ 0	\$ 0 (0)
<b><u>INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS:</u></b>		
E. Val Cerutti Director	\$ 17,000	\$ 40,000 (7)
Anthony J. Colavita Director	\$ 20,000	\$ 380,350 (36)
Werner J. Roeder Director	\$ 18,000	\$ 186,500 (23)
Anthonie C. van Ekris Director	\$ 17,000	\$ 220,000 (22)
Salvatore J. Zizza Director	\$ 20,000	\$ 319,000 (30)
Daniel E. Zucchi Director	\$ 17,000	\$ 24,000 (2)

\* Represents the total compensation paid to such persons for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

\*\* Represents the total compensation paid to such persons for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, by investment companies (including the Fund) or portfolios that are considered part of the same “fund complex” as the Fund because they have common or affiliated investment advisers. The parenthetical number represents the number of such investment companies and portfolios.

**Code of Ethics**

The Fund, its Adviser, and G.distributors, LLC, the Fund’s distributor (“G.distributors” or the “Distributor”) have adopted a code of ethics (the “Code of Ethics”) under Rule 17j-1 of the 1940 Act. The Code of Ethics permits personnel, subject to the Code of Ethics and its restrictive provisions, to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by the Fund.

**Proxy Voting Policies**

The Fund has delegated the voting of portfolio securities to the Adviser in its capacity as the Fund’s investment adviser. The Adviser has adopted proxy voting policies and procedures (the “Proxy Voting Policy”) for the voting of proxies on behalf of client accounts for which the Adviser has voting discretion, including the Fund. Under the Proxy Voting Policy, portfolio securities held by the Fund are to be voted in the best interests of the Fund.

Normally, the Adviser exercises proxy voting discretion on particular types of proposals in accordance with guidelines (the “Proxy Voting Guidelines”) set forth in the Proxy Voting Policy. The Proxy Voting Guidelines address, for example, proposals to elect the board of directors, to classify the board of directors, to select the independent registered public accounting firm, to issue blank check preferred stock, to use confidential ballots, to eliminate cumulative voting, to require shareholder ratification of poison pills, to support fair price provisions, to require a supermajority shareholder vote for charter or by-law amendments, to provide for director and officer indemnification and liability protection, to increase the number of authorized shares of common stock, to allow greenmail, to limit shareholders’ rights to call special meetings, to consider the non-financial effects of a merger, to limit shareholders’ rights to act by written consent, to approve executive and director compensation plans (including golden parachutes), to limit executive and director pay, to approve stock option plans, to opt in or out of state takeover statutes, and to approve mergers, acquisitions, corporate restructuring, spin-offs, buyouts, asset sales, or liquidations.

A Proxy Voting Committee comprised of senior representatives of the Adviser and its affiliated investment advisers has the responsibility for the content, interpretation, and application of the Proxy Voting Guidelines. In general, the Director of Proxy Voting Services, using the Proxy Voting Guidelines, recommendations of Institutional Shareholder Services, Inc. (“ISS”), Glass Lewis & Co. LLC (“Glass Lewis”), other third party services, and the analysts of G.research, LLC (“G.research”), will determine how to vote on each issue. For non-controversial matters, the Director of Proxy Voting Services may vote the proxy if the vote is (1) consistent with the recommendations of the issuer’s board of directors and not contrary to the Proxy Voting Guidelines; (2) consistent with the recommendations of the issuer’s board of directors and is a non-controversial issue not covered by the Proxy Voting Guidelines; or (3) contrary to the recommendations of the issuer’s board of directors but is consistent with the Proxy Voting Guidelines. In those instances, the Director of Proxy Voting Services or the Chairman of the Committee may sign and date the proxy statement indicating how each issue will be voted.

All matters identified by the Chairman of the Proxy Voting Committee, the Director of Proxy Voting Services, or the Adviser’s General Counsel as controversial, taking into account the recommendations of ISS, Glass Lewis, or other third party services and the analysts of G.research, will be presented to the Proxy Voting Committee. If the Chairman of the Proxy Voting Committee, the Director of Proxy Voting Services, or the Adviser’s General Counsel has identified the matter as one that (1) is controversial; (2) would benefit from deliberation by the Proxy Voting Committee; or (3) may give rise to a conflict of interest between the Adviser and its clients, the Chairman of the Proxy Voting Committee will initially determine what vote to recommend that the Adviser should cast and the matter will go before the Proxy Voting Committee.

For matters submitted to the Proxy Voting Committee, each member of the Proxy Voting Committee will receive, prior to the meeting, a copy of the proxy statement, any relevant third party research, a summary of any views provided by the portfolio manager, and any recommendations by G.research’s analysts. The portfolio manager, any member of Senior Management, or G.research’s analysts may be invited to present their viewpoints. If the Director of Proxy Voting Services or the Adviser’s General Counsel believes that the matter before the Proxy Voting Committee is one with respect to which a conflict of interest may exist between the Adviser and its clients, legal counsel will provide an opinion to the Proxy Voting Committee concerning the conflict. If the matter is one in which the interests of the clients of the Adviser may diverge, General Counsel will so advise and the Proxy Voting Committee may make different recommendations as to different clients. For any matters where the recommendation may trigger appraisal rights, Counsel will provide an opinion concerning the likely risks and merits of such an appraisal action.

Each matter submitted to the Proxy Voting Committee will be determined by the vote of a majority of the members present at the meeting. Should the vote concerning one or more recommendations be tied in a vote of the Proxy Voting Committee, the Chairman of the Committee will cast the deciding vote. The Proxy Voting Committee will notify the Proxy Department of its decisions and the proxies will be voted accordingly.

Where a proxy proposal raises a material conflict between the interests of the Fund’s shareholders on the one hand, and those of the Fund’s Adviser and/or the principal underwriters on the other hand, the conflict will be brought to the *ad hoc* Proxy Voting Committee of the Fund to determine a resolution.

The Fund files Form N-PX with the Fund’s complete proxy voting record for the twelve months ended June 30, no later than August 31 of each year. This filing for the Fund is available without charge, upon request, by calling toll-free (800) 422-3554 and on the SEC’s website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

## CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS

As of March 31, 2018, the following persons were known to own of record or beneficially 5% or more of the outstanding voting securities of any class of the Fund:

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>% of Class</u>	<u>Nature of Ownership</u>
<b>CLASS AAA</b>		
National Financial Services LLC For Exclusive Benefit of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Dept 4 <sup>th</sup> Fl Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	38.94%	Record*
Charles Schwab & Co Inc. Special Custody Acct FBO Exclusive Benefit of Customers Attn: Mutual Funds San Francisco, CA 94105-1905	22.76%	Record*
TD Ameritrade Inc. For the Exclusive Benefit of Our Clients Omaha, NE 68103-2226	8.20%	Record*
Wells Fargo Clearing Services LLC Special Custody Acct FBO Exclusive Benefit of Customer St. Louis, MO 63103-2523	5.67%	Record*
<b>CLASS A</b>		
Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith Inc. For The Sole Benefit of Its Customers Jacksonville, FL 32246-6484	43.55%	Record*
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney Jersey City, NJ 07311	12.54%	Record*
Charles Schwab & Co Inc. Special Custody Acct FBO Customers San Francisco, CA 94105-1905	5.68%	Record*
National Financial Services LLC For Exclusive Benefit of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Dept 4 <sup>th</sup> Fl Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	5.54%	Record*
Wells Fargo Clearing Services LLC Special Custody Acct FBO Exclusive Benefit of Customer St. Louis, MO 63103-2523	5.51%	Record*
Pershing LLC Jersey City, NJ 07399-0001	5.27%	Record*



UBS WM USA SPEC CDY A/C EBOC UBSFSI Attn: Department Manager Weehawken, NJ 07086-6761	5.04%	Record*
<b>CLASS C</b>		
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney Jersey City, NJ 07311	40.64%	Record*
Wells Fargo Clearing Services LLC Special Custody Acct FBO Exclusive Benefit of Customer St. Louis, MO 63103-2523	15.75%	Record*
Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith Inc. For The Sole Benefit of Its Customers Jacksonville, FL 32246-6484	9.16%	Record*
UBS WM USA SPEC CDY A/C EBOC UBSFSI Attn: Department Manager Weehawken, NJ 07086-6761	7.12%	Record*
Charles Schwab & Co Inc. Special Custody Acct FBO Customers San Francisco, CA 94105-1905	6.80%	Record*
<b>CLASS I</b>		
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney Jersey City, NJ 07311	29.60%	Record*
Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith Inc. For The Sole Benefit of Its Customers Jacksonville, FL 32246-6484	11.67%	Record*
UBS WM USA SPEC CDY A/C EBOC UBSFSI Attn: Department Manager Weehawken, NJ 07086-6761	11.37%	Record*
Pershing LLC Jersey City, NJ 07399-0001	9.17%	Record*
Agility Real Assets LLC C/O Perella Weinberg Partners New York, NY 10153-0023	8.26%	Record*
Wells Fargo Clearing Services LLC Special Custody Acct FBO Exclusive Benefit of Customer St. Louis, MO 63103-2523	6.66%	Record*

National Financial Services LLC For Exclusive Benefit of Our Customers Attn: Mutual Funds Dept 4 <sup>th</sup> Fl Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	6.39%	Record*
<b>CLASS T</b>		
Gabelli Funds LLC Rye, NY 10580-1422	100.00%	Beneficial

\* Beneficial ownership is disclaimed.

As of March 31, 2018, as a group, the Directors and Officers, excluding Mario J. Gabelli, of the Fund beneficially owned 2.43% of the outstanding shares (aggregating all classes) of the Fund.

## INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND OTHER SERVICES

### Investment Adviser

The Adviser is a New York limited liability company and registered investment adviser under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and serves as an investment adviser to registered investment companies with combined aggregate net assets of approximately \$24.2 billion as of December 31, 2017. The Adviser is a wholly owned subsidiary of GBL. Mr. Gabelli owns a majority of the stock of GGCP, which holds a majority of the capital stock and voting power of GBL. The Adviser has several affiliates that provide investment advisory services: GAMCO Asset Management Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of GBL, acts as investment adviser for individuals, pension trusts, profit sharing trusts, endowments, and The GAMCO Mathers Fund, and as a sub-adviser to certain third party investment funds, which include registered investment companies, having assets under management of approximately of \$18.9 billion as of December 31, 2017; Teton Advisors, Inc. and its wholly owned investment adviser, Keeley Teton Advisors, LLC, with assets under management of approximately \$3.4 billion as of December 31, 2017, act as investment advisers to The TETON Westwood Funds, the KEELEY Funds and separately managed accounts; Gabelli & Company Investment Advisers, Inc. (formerly, Gabelli Securities, Inc.), a majority-owned subsidiary of Associated Capital, acts as investment adviser for certain alternative investment products, consisting primarily of risk arbitrage and merchant banking limited partnerships and offshore companies, with assets under management of approximately \$1.5 billion as of December 31, 2017; and Gabelli Fixed Income, LLC, acts as investment adviser for separate accounts having assets under management of approximately \$31 million as of December 31, 2017. Teton Advisors, Inc. was spun off by GBL in March 2009 and is an affiliate of GBL by virtue of Mr. Gabelli's ownership of GGCP, the principal shareholder of Teton Advisors, Inc., as of December 31, 2017. Associated Capital was spun off from GBL on November 30, 2015, and is an affiliate of GBL by virtue of Mr. Gabelli's ownership of GGCP, the principal shareholder of Associated Capital.

Affiliates of the Adviser may, in the ordinary course of their business, acquire for their own account or for the accounts of their advisory clients, significant (and possibly controlling) positions in the securities of companies that may also be suitable for investment by the Fund. The securities in which the Fund might invest may thereby be limited to some extent. For instance, many companies in the past several years have adopted so-called "poison pill" or other defensive measures designed to discourage or prevent the completion of non-negotiated offers for control of the company. Such defensive measures may have the effect of limiting the shares of the company which might otherwise be acquired by the Fund if the affiliates of the Adviser or their advisory accounts have or acquire a significant position in the same securities. However, the Adviser does not believe that the investment activities of its affiliates will have a material adverse effect upon the Fund in seeking to achieve its investment objectives. Securities purchased or sold pursuant to contemporaneous orders entered on behalf of the investment company accounts of the Adviser or the advisory accounts managed by its affiliates for their unaffiliated clients are allocated pursuant to principles believed to be fair and not disadvantageous to any such accounts. In addition, all such orders are accorded priority of execution over orders entered on behalf of accounts in which the Adviser or its affiliates have a substantial pecuniary interest. The Adviser may on occasion give advice or take action with respect to other clients that differs from the actions taken with respect to the Fund. The Fund may invest in the securities of companies which are investment management clients of GAMCO Asset Management Inc. In addition, portfolio companies or their officers or directors may be minority shareholders of the Adviser or its affiliates.

The Adviser currently serves as an investment adviser to the Fund pursuant to an Investment Advisory Agreement (the "Agreement"), which was initially approved by the Fund's sole shareholder on June 15, 1994. Pursuant to the Agreement, the Adviser furnishes a continuous investment program for the Fund's portfolio, makes the day to day investment decisions for the Fund, arranges the portfolio transactions of the Fund, and generally manages the Fund's investments in accordance with the stated policies of the Fund, subject to the general supervision of the Board.

Under the Agreement, the Adviser also (i) provides the Fund with the services of persons competent to perform such supervisory, administrative, and clerical functions as are necessary to provide effective administration of the Fund, including maintaining certain books and records and overseeing the activities of the Fund’s Custodian and Transfer Agent; (ii) oversees the performance of administrative and professional services to the Fund by others, including BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc. (“BNY Mellon”), the Fund’s Custodian, Transfer Agent, and Dividend Disbursing Agent, as well as accounting, auditing, and other services performed for the Fund; (iii) provides the Fund with adequate office space and facilities; (iv) prepares, but does not pay for, the periodic updating of the Fund’s registration statement, prospectus and SAI, including the printing of such documents for the purpose of filings with the SEC and state securities administrators, the Fund’s tax returns, and reports to the Fund’s shareholders and the SEC; (v) supervises the calculation of the NAV of each class of shares in the Fund; (vi) supervises the preparation of, but does not pay for, all filings under the securities or “Blue Sky” laws of such states or countries as are designated by the Distributor, which may be required to register or qualify, or continue the registration or qualification, of the Fund and/or its shares under such laws; and (vii) prepares notices and agendas for meetings of the Fund’s Board and minutes of such meetings in all matters required by applicable law to be acted upon by the Board.

The cost of calculating the Fund’s NAV is an expense payable by the Fund pursuant to the Agreement. To the extent that a portion of the sub-administration fee is used to pay for personnel and equipment related to calculating the NAV, the Fund will reimburse the Adviser for such expense up to \$45,000. The Adviser will not seek reimbursement if assets are less than \$50 million. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, the Fund reimbursed the Adviser \$45,000 in connection with the cost of computing the Fund’s NAV.

The Agreement provides that absent willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence, or reckless disregard of its duty, the Adviser and its employees, officers, directors, and controlling persons are not liable to the Fund or any of its investors for any act or omission by the Adviser or for any error of judgment or for losses sustained by the Fund. However, the Agreement provides that the Fund is not waiving any rights it may have with respect to any violation of law which cannot be waived. The Agreement also provides indemnification for the Adviser and each of these persons for any conduct for which they are not liable to the Fund. The Agreement in no way restricts the Adviser from acting as adviser to others. The Fund has agreed by the terms of the Agreement that the word “Gabelli” in its name is derived from the name of the Adviser which in turn is derived from the name of Mario J. Gabelli; that such name is the property of the Adviser for copyright and/or other purposes; and that, therefore, such name may freely be used by the Adviser for other investment companies, entities, or products. The Fund has further agreed that in the event that for any reason the Adviser ceases to be its investment adviser, the Fund will, unless the Adviser otherwise consents in writing, promptly take all steps necessary to change its name to one which does not include “Gabelli.”

By its terms, the Agreement will remain in effect from year to year, provided each such annual continuance is specifically approved by the Fund’s Board or by a “majority” (as defined in the 1940 Act) vote of its shareholders and, in either case, by a majority vote of the Independent Directors, cast in person at a meeting called specifically for the purpose of voting on the continuance of the Agreement. The Agreement is terminable without penalty by the Fund on sixty days written notice when authorized either by a majority vote of its outstanding voting shares or by a vote of a majority of its Board, or by the Adviser on sixty days written notice, and will automatically terminate in the event of its “assignment” as defined by the 1940 Act.

As compensation for its services and the related expenses borne by the Adviser, the Fund pays the Adviser a fee, computed daily and payable monthly in an amount equal on an annualized basis to 1.00% of the Fund’s average daily net assets.

**Advisory Fees Paid to Adviser by the Fund**  
(Fiscal years ended December 31)

2017	\$3,192,932
2016	\$2,953,178
2015	\$1,709,611

## Portfolio Manager Information

### Other Accounts Managed

The table that follows provides summary information regarding other accounts for which the portfolio manager was primarily responsible for the day to day management as of December 31, 2017.

<u>Name of Portfolio Manager</u>	<u>Type of Accounts</u>	<u>Total Number of Accounts Managed</u>	<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>Number of Accounts Managed with Advisory Fee Based on Performance</u>	<u>Total Assets with Advisory Fee Based on Performance</u>
Caesar M.P. Bryan*	Registered Investment Companies:	5	\$ 1.1 billion	0	\$ 0
	Other Pooled Investment Vehicles:	1	\$ 3.1 million	1	\$3.1 million
	Other Accounts:	19	\$294.9 million	0	\$ 0

\* For the portfolio manager, the above chart represents the portion of assets for which the portfolio manager has primary responsibility in the accounts indicated. Certain assets included under “Other Accounts” may be invested in Registered Investment Companies or Other Pooled Investment Vehicles primarily managed by the portfolio manager and therefore may be duplicated.

### Potential Conflicts of Interest

Actual or apparent conflicts of interest may arise when the portfolio manager also has day to day management responsibilities with respect to one or more other accounts. These potential conflicts include:

*Allocation of Limited Time and Attention.* Because the portfolio manager manages more than one account, he may not be able to formulate as complete a strategy or identify equally attractive investment opportunities for each of those accounts as if he were to devote substantially more attention to the management of only the Fund.

*Allocation of Limited Investment Opportunities.* If the portfolio manager identifies an investment opportunity that may be suitable for multiple accounts, the Fund may not be able to take full advantage of that opportunity because the opportunity may need to be allocated among these accounts or other accounts managed primarily by other portfolio managers of the Adviser and its affiliates.

*Pursuit of Differing Strategies.* At times, a portfolio manager may determine that an investment opportunity may be appropriate for only some of the accounts for which the portfolio manager exercises investment responsibility, or may decide that certain of these accounts should take differing positions with respect to a particular security. In these cases, the portfolio manager may execute differing or opposite transactions for one or more accounts which may affect the market price of the security or the execution of the transactions, or both, to the detriment of one or more other accounts.

*Selection of Broker-Dealers.* A portfolio manager may be able to select or influence the selection of the brokers and dealers that are used to execute securities transactions for the funds or accounts that they supervise. In addition to providing execution of trades, some brokers and dealers provide the Adviser with brokerage and research services which may result in the payment of higher brokerage fees than might otherwise be available. These services may be more beneficial to certain funds or accounts of the Adviser and its affiliates than to others. Although the payment of brokerage commissions is subject to the requirement that the Adviser determines in good faith that the commissions are reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services provided to the Fund, a portfolio manager’s decision as to the selection of brokers and dealers could yield disproportionate costs and benefits among the funds or other accounts that the Adviser and its affiliates manage. In addition, with respect to certain types of accounts (such as pooled investment vehicles and other accounts managed for organizations and individuals) the Adviser may be limited by the client concerning the selection of brokers or may be instructed to direct trades to particular brokers. In these cases, the Adviser or its affiliates may place separate, non-simultaneous transactions in the same security for a fund and another account that may temporarily affect the market price of the security or the execution of the transaction, or both, to the detriment of the Fund or the other account.

*Variation in Compensation.* A conflict of interest may arise where the financial or other benefits available to the portfolio manager differ among the accounts that he manages. If the structure of the Adviser’s management fee or the portfolio manager’s compensation differs among accounts (such as where certain accounts pay higher management fees or performance based management fees), the portfolio manager may be motivated to favor certain accounts over others. The portfolio manager also may be motivated to favor accounts in which he has an investment interest, or in which the Adviser or its affiliates have investment interests. Similarly, the desire to maintain assets under management or to enhance a portfolio manager’s performance record or to derive other rewards, financial or otherwise, could influence the portfolio manager in affording preferential treatment to those accounts that could most significantly benefit the portfolio manager.

The Adviser and the Fund have adopted compliance policies and procedures that are designed to address the various conflicts of interest that may arise for the Adviser and its staff members. However, there is no guarantee that such policies and procedures will be able to detect and address every situation in which an actual or potential conflict may arise.

**Compensation Structure**

The compensation of portfolio managers in the Gabelli organization is structured to enable it to attract and retain highly qualified professionals in a competitive environment. Mr. Bryan receives a compensation package that includes a minimum draw or base salary, equity based incentive compensation via awards of stock options and restricted stock, and incentive-based variable compensation based on a percentage of net revenues received by the Adviser for managing the Fund to the extent that the amount exceeds a minimum level of compensation. Net revenues are determined by deducting from gross investment management fees certain of the Firm’s expenses (other than Mr. Bryan’s compensation) allocable to the Fund.

Mr. Bryan receives similar incentive based variable compensation for managing other accounts for GAMCO Asset Management Inc. based on gross revenue. He also receives compensation for managing other accounts for Gabelli & Partners LLC, an affiliate of the Adviser, based on a percentage of net revenues received for managing the account. Compensation for managing accounts that have a performance based fee will have two components. One component is based on a percentage of net revenues received by the adviser for managing the account. The second component is based on absolute performance of the account, with respect to which a percentage of the net performance fee is paid to the portfolio manager.

These methods of compensation are based on the premise that superior long term performance in managing a portfolio should be rewarded with higher compensation as a result of growth of assets through appreciation and net investment activity. Equity based incentive compensation is based on an evaluation by the Adviser’s parent, GBL, of quantitative and qualitative performance evaluation criteria.

**Ownership of Shares in the Fund**

Set forth in the table below is the dollar range of equity securities in the Fund beneficially owned by the Fund’s portfolio manager:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Dollar Range of Equity Securities Held in the Fund*</u>
Caesar M.P. Bryan	E

- \* Key to Dollar Ranges- Information as of December 31, 2017
- A. None
  - B. \$1 – \$10,000
  - C. \$10,001 – \$50,000
  - D. \$50,001 – \$100,000
  - E. \$100,001 - \$500,000
  - F. \$500,001 – \$1,000,000
  - G. Over \$1,000,000

**Sub-Administrator**

The Adviser has entered into an agreement (the “Sub-Administration Agreement”) with BNY Mellon (the “Sub-Administrator”), which is located at 301 Bellevue Parkway, Wilmington, Delaware 19809. Under the Sub-Administration Agreement, the Sub-Administrator: (a) assists in supervising all aspects of the Fund’s operations except those performed by the Adviser under its advisory agreement with the Fund; (b) supplies the Fund with office facilities (which may be in the Sub-Administrator’s own offices), statistical and research data, data processing services, clerical, accounting and bookkeeping services, including, but not limited to, the calculation of the NAV of each class of the Fund, internal auditing and regulatory administration services, internal executive and administrative services, and stationery and office supplies; (c) prepares and distributes materials for all Fund Board meetings, including the mailing of all Board materials, and collates the same materials into the Board books, and assists in the drafting of minutes of the Board meetings; (d) prepares reports to Fund shareholders, tax returns, and reports to and filings with the SEC and state “Blue Sky” authorities; (e) provides any equipment or services necessary for the purpose of pricing shares or valuing the Fund’s investment portfolio; (f) provides compliance testing of all Fund activities against applicable requirements of the 1940 Act and the

rules thereunder, the Code, and the Fund’s investment restrictions; (g) furnishes to the Adviser such statistical and other factual information and information regarding economic factors and trends as the Adviser from time to time may require; and (h) generally provides all administrative services that may be required for the ongoing operation of the Fund in a manner consistent with the requirements of the 1940 Act.

For the services it provides, the Adviser pays the Sub-Administrator an annual fee based on the value of the aggregate average daily net assets of all funds under its administration managed by the Adviser as follows: up to \$10 billion - 0.0275%; \$10 billion to \$15 billion - 0.0125%; \$15 billion to \$20 billion - 0.01%; and over \$20 billion - 0.008%. The Sub-Administrator’s fee is paid by the Adviser and will result in no additional expense to the Fund.

#### Counsel

Paul Hastings LLP, 200 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10166, serves as the Fund’s legal counsel.

#### Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Ernst & Young LLP, 2005 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, independent registered public accounting firm, has been selected to audit the Fund’s annual financial statements.

#### Custodian, Transfer Agent, and Dividend Disbursing Agent

State Street Bank and Trust Company (“State Street”), 225 Franklin Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, is the Custodian for the Fund’s cash and securities. DST Asset Manager Solutions, Inc. (“DST”) located at 30 Dan Road, Canton, Massachusetts 02021-2809, performs the shareholder services and acts as the Fund’s transfer agent and dividend disbursing agent. Neither DST nor State Street assists in or is responsible for investment decisions involving assets of the Fund.

#### Distributor

To implement the Fund’s Rule 12b-1 Plans, the Fund has entered into a Distribution Agreement with G.distributors, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of GBL, having principal offices located at One Corporate Center, Rye, New York 10580-1422. The Distributor acts as agent of the Fund for the continuous offering of its shares on a best efforts basis.

Set forth in the table below are the amounts of sales commissions and underwriting fees on Class A shares and contingent deferred sales charges (“CDSC”) for Class A and Class C shares received and retained by the Distributor for the past three fiscal years:

#### Sales Commissions for the Years Ended December 31:

Share Class	2015		2016		2017	
	Commissions	Retained by Distributor	Commissions	Retained by Distributor	Commissions	Retained by Distributor
Class A Sales Commissions	\$ 50,588	\$ 6,995	\$ 365,146	\$ 54,164	\$ 238,649	\$ 27,017
Class A CDSCs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 4,993	\$ 4,993
Class C CDSCs	\$ 1,897	\$ 1,897	\$ 4,684	\$ 4,684	\$ 4,686	\$ 4,686

Set forth in the table below are the amounts of brokerage commissions and other compensation received by the Distributor during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017.

Net Underwriting Discounts and Commissions	Compensation on Redemptions and Repurchases	Brokerage Commissions*	Other Compensation
\$ 27,017	\$ 9,679	\$ 1,100	\$ 0

\* Amounts of brokerage commissions were received and retained by G.research, Inc., an affiliate of the Adviser and Distributor.

## DISTRIBUTION PLANS

The Fund has adopted separate distribution and service plans (each a “Plan” and collectively the “Plans”) pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act on behalf of each of the Class AAA, Class A, Class T, and Class C shares. Payments may be made by the Fund under each Plan for the purpose of financing any activity primarily intended to result in the sales of shares of the class to which such Plan relates as determined by the Board. Such activities typically include advertising; compensation for sales and marketing activities of the Distributor and other banks, broker-dealers, and service providers; shareholder account servicing; production and dissemination of prospectuses and sales and marketing materials; and capital or other expenses of associated equipment, rent, salaries, bonuses, interest, and other overhead. To the extent any activity is one which the Fund may finance without a distribution plan, the Fund may also make payments to finance such activity outside of the Plans and not be subject to its limitations. Payments under the Plans are not dependent on distribution expenses incurred by the Distributor. The Plans compensate the Distributor of the rates indicated below regardless of expense, and accordingly, a portion of the payments by the Fund may be used indirectly to finance distribution activities on behalf of other Gabelli/GAMCO funds and a portion of the payments by such other funds may be used to finance distribution activities on behalf of the Fund. The Plans are intended to benefit the Fund, among other things, by supporting the Fund’s distribution, which may increase its assets and thereby reduce the Fund’s expense ratio.

Under its terms, each Plan remains in effect so long as its continuance is specifically approved at least annually by vote of the Fund’s Board, including a majority of the Independent Directors. No Plan may be amended to increase materially the amount to be spent for services provided by the Distributor thereunder without shareholder approval, and all material amendments of any Plan must also be approved by the Board in the manner described above. Each Plan may be terminated at any time, without penalty, by vote of a majority of the Independent Directors, or by a vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund (as defined in the 1940 Act). Under each Plan, the Distributor will provide the Directors with periodic reports of amounts expended under such Plan and the purpose for which such expenditures were made.

Pursuant to the Plans, the Fund paid the Distributor 0.25% of its average daily net assets of Class AAA shares and Class A shares, 0.25% of its average daily net assets of Class T shares, and 1.00% of its average daily net assets of Class C shares. Due to the possible continuing nature of Rule 12b-1 payments, long term investors may pay more than the economic equivalent of the maximum front end sales charge permitted by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (“FINRA”).

Pursuant to each Plan, the Board will review at least quarterly a written report of the distribution expenses incurred on behalf of each class of shares of the Fund by the Distributor. The report includes an itemization of the distribution expenses and the purposes of such expenditures. In addition, as long as the Plans remain in effect, the selection and nomination of Independent Directors shall be limited to the Independent Directors.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, the Fund made payments under the Plans for Class AAA, Class A, and Class C shares of \$650,901 payable to the Distributor. The Plans compensate the Distributor regardless of its expense.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, the Distributor identified expenditures for the Fund of approximately \$20,500 for advertising and promotion, \$4,300 for printing, postage, and stationery, \$7,100 for overhead support expenses, \$134,500 for salaries of personnel of the Distributor, \$88,800 for advanced commissions, and \$507,400 for third party servicing fees.

The amounts included in the prior paragraph as third party servicing fees include amounts paid to the providers of various programs that make shares available to their customers. Subject to approvals by the Board, the Fund also makes payments to the providers of these programs, out of its assets other than Rule 12b-1 payments, in amounts not greater than savings of expenses the Fund would incur in maintaining shareholder accounts for those who invest in the Fund directly rather than through these programs. The Adviser and its affiliates may also pay for all or a portion of these program’s charges out of their financial resources other than Rule 12b-1 fees.

Pursuant to the Distribution Agreement, the Fund appoints the Distributor as its general distributor and exclusive agent for the sale of the Fund’s shares. The Fund has agreed to indemnify the Distributor to the extent permitted by applicable law against certain liabilities under federal securities laws. The Distribution Agreement shall remain in effect from year to year provided that continuance of such agreement shall be approved at least annually by the Fund’s Board, including a vote of a majority of the Independent Directors cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Distribution Agreement may be terminated by either party thereto upon sixty days written notice.

Class AAA shares were first offered to the public on July 11, 1994. Class A and Class C shares were first offered to the public on December 23, 2002. Class I shares were first offered to the public on January 11, 2008. Class T shares were first offered to the public on July 5, 2017.

Shares of the Fund may also be purchased through shareholder agents that are not affiliated with the Fund or the Distributor. There is no sales or service charge imposed by the Fund other than as described in the prospectus under the "Classes of Shares" section, but agents who do not receive distribution payments or sales charges may impose a charge to the investor for their services. Such fees may vary among agents, and such agents may impose higher initial or subsequent investment requirements than those established by the Fund. Services provided by broker-dealers may include allowing the investor to establish a margin account and to borrow on the value of the Fund's shares in that account. It is the responsibility of the shareholder's agent to establish procedures which would assure that upon receipt of an order to purchase shares of the Fund the order will be transmitted so that it will be received by the Distributor before the time when the price applicable to the buy order expires.

No Independent Director of the Fund had a direct or indirect financial interest in the operation of any Plan or related agreements. Those interested persons who beneficially own stock in affiliates of the Adviser or the Distributor or are employed by one of the Gabelli companies may be deemed to have an indirect financial interest.

## **PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS AND BROKERAGE**

The Adviser and its affiliates currently serve as investment adviser to a number of investment companies and private account clients and may in the future act as adviser to others. It is the policy of the Adviser and its affiliates to allocate investments suitable and appropriate for each such client in a manner believed by the Adviser to be equitable to each client. In making such allocations among the Fund and other client accounts, the main factors considered are the respective investment objectives, the relative size of portfolio holdings of the same or comparable securities, the availability of cash for investment, the size of investment commitments generally held, and the opinions of the persons responsible for managing the portfolios of the Fund and other client accounts.

Under the Agreement, the Adviser is authorized on behalf of the Fund to employ brokers to effect the purchase or sale of portfolio securities with the objective of obtaining prompt, efficient, and reliable execution and clearance of such transactions at the most favorable price obtainable ("best execution") at a reasonable expense. The Adviser is permitted to (1) direct Fund portfolio brokerage to G.research, a broker-dealer member of FINRA and an affiliate of the Adviser; and (2) pay commissions to brokers other than G.research which are higher than what might be charged by another qualified broker to obtain brokerage and/or research services considered by the Adviser to be useful or desirable for its investment management of the Fund and/or other advisory accounts under the management of the Adviser and any investment adviser affiliated with it. The Adviser does not consider the sales of shares of the Fund or other investment funds managed by the Adviser and its affiliates by brokers, including G.research, as a factor in its selection of brokers or dealers for the Fund's portfolio transactions and has adopted compliance policies and procedures for itself and its affiliates to prevent any such transactions on that basis.

Transactions on U.S. stock exchanges involve the payment of negotiated brokerage commissions, which may vary among brokers. Transactions in securities other than those for which a securities exchange is the principal market are generally executed through a principal market maker. However, such transactions may be effected through a brokerage firm and a commission is paid whenever it appears that the broker can obtain a price that is at least as favorable taking into account its commissions. In general, there may be no stated commission on principal transactions in OTC securities, but the prices of such securities usually may include undisclosed commissions or markups. Option transactions will usually be effected through a broker and a commission will be charged. The Fund also expects that securities will be purchased at times in underwritten offerings where the price includes a fixed amount of compensation generally referred to as a concession or discount.

The policy of the Fund regarding purchases and sales of securities and options for its portfolio is that primary consideration will be given to obtaining the most favorable prices and efficient execution of transactions. In seeking to implement the Fund's policies, the Adviser effects transactions with those brokers and dealers who the Adviser believes can obtain the most favorable prices and are capable of providing efficient executions. If the Adviser believes such price and execution are obtainable from more than one broker or dealer, it may give consideration to placing portfolio transactions with those brokers or dealers who also furnish research and other services to the Fund or the Adviser of the type described in Section 28(e) of the 1934 Act. In doing so, the Fund may also pay higher commission rates than the lowest available when the Adviser believes it is reasonable to do so in light of the value of the brokerage and research services provided by the broker effecting the transaction. Such services may include, but are not limited to, any one or more of the following: (i) information as to the availability of securities for purchase or sale; (ii) statistical or factual information or opinions pertaining to investments; (iii) wire services; and (iv) appraisals or evaluations of potential and existing investments.

Research services furnished by brokers or dealers through which the Fund effects securities transactions are used by the Adviser and its advisory affiliates in carrying out their responsibilities with respect to all of their accounts over which they exercise investment discretion. Such investment information may be useful only to one or more of such other accounts. The purpose of this sharing of research information is to avoid duplicative charges for research provided by brokers and dealers. Neither the Fund nor the Adviser has any agreement or legally binding understanding with any broker or dealer regarding any specific amount of brokerage



commissions which will be paid in recognition of such services. However, in determining the amount of portfolio commissions directed to such brokers or dealers, the Adviser considers the level of services provided, and based on such determinations the Adviser allocated brokerage commissions of \$251,297 on portfolio transactions in the principal amount of \$76,972,562 during 2017. The average commission on these transactions was \$0.00806 per share.

Investment research obtained by allocations of Fund brokerage is used to augment the scope and supplement the internal research and investment strategy capabilities of the Adviser but does not reduce the overall expenses of the Adviser to any material extent. Such investment research may be in written form or through direct contact with individuals and includes information on particular companies and industries as well as market, economic, or institutional activity areas. Research services furnished by brokers through which the Fund effects securities transactions are used by the Adviser and its advisory affiliates in carrying out their responsibilities with respect to all of their accounts over which they exercise investment discretion. Such investment information may be useful only to one or more of the other accounts of the Adviser and its advisory affiliates, and research information received for the commissions of those particular accounts may be useful both to the Fund and one or more of such other accounts.

The Adviser may also place orders for the purchase or sale of portfolio securities with G.research when it appears that, as an introducing broker or otherwise, G.research can obtain a price, execution, and commission, which is at least as favorable as that obtainable by other qualified brokers and at a commission rate at least as favorable as it provides to its best customers for similar transactions. As required by Rule 17e-1 under the 1940 Act, the Board has adopted procedures which provide that the commissions paid to G.research on brokerage transactions must not exceed those which would have been charged by another qualified broker or member firm able to effect the same or a comparable transaction at an equally favorable price or is what G.research charges its most favored customers on similar transactions. Rule 17e-1 under the 1940 Act and the Fund's procedures contain requirements that the Board, including the Independent Directors, review such commissions and transactions quarterly and procedures at least annually to determine their continuing appropriateness. The Adviser is also required to furnish reports and maintain records in connection with the reviews.

To obtain the best execution of portfolio trades on the NYSE, G.research controls and monitors the execution of such transactions on the floor of the NYSE through independent "floor brokers" or the Designated Order Turnaround System of the NYSE. Such transactions are then cleared, confirmed to the Fund for the account of G.research, and settled directly with the Custodian of the Fund by a clearing house member firm which remits the commission less its clearing charges to G.research. G.research may also effect the Fund's portfolio transactions in the same manner and pursuant to the same arrangements on other national securities exchanges which adopt direct access rules similar to those of the NYSE. In addition, G.research may directly execute transactions for the Fund on the floor of any exchange, provided: (i) the Fund's Board has expressly authorized G.research to effect such transactions; and (ii) G.research annually advises the Fund of the aggregate compensation it earned on such transactions.

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the Fund's payment of brokerage commissions for fiscal years ended December 31 as indicated:

	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31,</b>	<b>Commissions Paid</b>
<b>Total Brokerage Commissions</b>	2015	\$ 162,184
	2016	\$ 473,516
	2017	\$ 264,158
<b>Commissions paid to G.research</b>	2015	\$ 0
	2016	\$ 0
	2017	\$ 1,100
<b>% of Total Brokerage Commissions paid to G.research</b>	2017	0.42%
<b>% of Total Transactions involving Commissions paid to G.research</b>	2017	1.39%

During its fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, the Fund did not acquire securities of its regular broker-dealers, as defined in Rule 10b-1 under the 1940 Act, or their parents.

## REDEMPTION OF SHARES

Payment of the redemption price for shares redeemed may be made either in cash or in portfolio securities (selected at the discretion of the Board and taken at their value used in determining the Fund's NAV as described under "Determination of Net Asset Value"), or partly in cash and partly in portfolio securities. However, payments will be made wholly in cash unless the shareholder has redeemed more than \$250,000 over the preceding three months and the Adviser believes that economic conditions exist which would make payments in cash detrimental to the best interests of the Fund. If payment for shares redeemed is made wholly or partly in portfolio securities, brokerage costs may be incurred by the investor in converting the securities to cash. The Fund will not distribute in-kind portfolio securities that are not readily marketable.

Cancellation of purchase orders for Fund shares (as, for example, when checks submitted to purchase shares are returned unpaid) causes a loss to be incurred when the NAV of the Fund shares on the date of cancellation is less than on the original date of purchase. The investor is responsible for such loss, and the Fund may reimburse itself or the Distributor for such loss by automatically redeeming shares from any account registered at any time in that shareholder's name, or by seeking other redress. If the Fund is unable to recover any loss to itself, it is the position of the SEC that the Distributor will be immediately obligated to make the Fund whole.

The Fund imposes a redemption fee of 2.00% of the total redemption amount if shareholders sell or exchange any of their shares within seven days after the date of a purchase. The fee, its manner of calculation and exceptions to its applicability are discussed in the Fund's prospectus. The fee is not a sales charge (load) and is paid directly to the Fund and not the Adviser or Distributor.

## DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

The NAV is calculated separately for each class of the Fund. The NAV of Class C shares of the Fund, as applicable, will generally be lower than the NAV of Class A, Class I, Class T, or Class AAA shares, as applicable, as a result of the higher service and distribution related fees to Class C shares. It is expected, however, that the NAV of each class will tend to converge immediately after the recording of dividends, if any, which will differ by approximately the amount of the distribution and/or service fee expense accrual differential among the classes.

For purposes of determining the Fund's NAV, portfolio securities listed or traded on a nationally recognized securities exchange or traded in the OTC market for which market quotations are readily available are valued at the last quoted sale price or a market's official closing price as of the close of business on the day the securities are being valued. If there were no sales that day, the security is valued at the average of the closing bid and ask prices, or, if there were no ask prices quoted on such day, the security is valued at the most recently available bid price on that day. If no bid or ask prices are quoted on such day, the security is valued at the most recently available price, or, if the Board so determines, by such other method as the Board shall determine in good faith, to reflect its fair market value. Portfolio securities traded on more than one national securities exchange or market are valued according to the broadest and most representative market, as determined by the Adviser.

Portfolio securities primarily traded on a foreign market are generally valued at the preceding closing values of such securities on the relevant market, but may be fair valued pursuant to procedures established by the Board if market conditions change significantly after the close of the foreign market but prior to the close of business on the day the securities are being valued. Debt instruments for which market quotations are readily available are valued at the average of the latest bid and ask prices. If there were no ask prices quoted on such day, the security is valued using the closing bid price, unless the Board determines such amount does not reflect the securities' fair value, in which case these securities will be fair valued as determined by the Board. Certain securities are valued principally using dealer quotations. Futures contracts are valued at the closing settlement price of the exchange or board of trade on which the applicable contract is traded. OTC futures and options on futures for which market quotations are readily available will be valued by quotations received from a pricing service or, if no quotations are available from a pricing service, by quotations obtained by the Adviser from one or more dealers in the instrument.

Securities and assets for which market quotations are not readily available are valued at their fair value as determined in good faith under procedures established by and under the general supervision of the Board. Fair valuation methodologies and procedures may include, but are not limited to: analysis and review of available financial and non-financial information about the company, comparisons with the valuation and changes in valuation of similar securities, including a comparison of foreign securities with the equivalent U.S. dollar value American Depositary Receipts securities at the close of the U.S. exchanges; and evaluation of any other information that could be indicative of the value of the security.

The Fund may obtain valuations on the basis of prices provided by a pricing service approved by the Board. All other investment assets, including restricted and not readily marketable securities, are valued in good faith at fair value under procedures established by and under the general supervision and responsibility of the Fund's Board. Further information on fair valuation is provided in the Fund's prospectus under "Pricing of Fund Shares".

**NYSE Closings.** The holidays (as observed) on which the NYSE is closed, and therefore days upon which shareholders cannot redeem shares, currently are: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day and on the preceding Friday or subsequent Monday when a holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, respectively.

## **DIVIDENDS, DISTRIBUTIONS, AND TAXES**

The following is a summary of certain material U.S. federal income tax considerations regarding the purchase, ownership and disposition of shares of the Fund by U.S. persons. This summary does not address all of the potential U.S. federal income tax consequences that may be applicable to the Fund or to all categories of investors, some of which may be subject to special tax rules. Current and prospective shareholders are urged to consult their own tax adviser with respect to the specific federal, state, local, and foreign tax consequences of investing in the Fund. The summary is based on the laws in effect on the date of this SAI and existing judicial and administrative interpretations thereof, all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect.

### **General**

The Fund has elected to qualify and intends to continue to qualify on an annual basis as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Code and thereby eliminate or greatly reduce its income tax liability each year. To so qualify, the Fund must, among other things: (a) derive at least 90% of its gross income in each taxable year from dividends, interest, payments with respect to securities loans, and gains from the sale or other disposition of stock or securities or foreign currencies, or other income (including, but not limited to, gains from option, futures, or forward contracts) derived with respect to its business of investing in such stock, securities, or currencies and net income derived from interests in "qualified publicly traded partnerships," i.e., partnerships that are traded on an established securities market or tradable on a secondary market, other than partnerships that derive 90% of their income from interest, dividends, capital gains, and other traditional permitted mutual fund income; and (b) diversify its holdings so that, at the end of each quarter of the Fund's taxable year, (i) at least 50% of the market value of the Fund's assets is represented by cash and cash items (including receivables), securities of other regulated investment companies, U.S. government securities and other securities, with such other securities limited, in respect of any one issuer, to an amount not greater than 5% of the Fund's assets and not greater than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer and (ii) not more than 25% of the value of its assets is invested in the securities (other than U.S. government securities or securities of other regulated investment companies) of any one issuer, any two or more issuers of which 20% or more of the voting securities are held by the Fund and that are determined to be engaged in the same or similar trades or businesses or related trades or businesses, or in the securities of one or more qualified publicly traded partnerships. Any gains realized upon the sale of bullion will not count towards the 90% gross income test described above and any bullion owned by the Fund will not count towards the asset diversification requirement described above. There can be no assurance that the Fund will meet all of the requirements for such qualification each year.

Fund investments in partnerships, including in qualified publicly traded partnerships, may result in the Fund being subject to state, local or foreign income, franchise, or withholding tax liabilities.

As a regulated investment company, the Fund will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the portion of its taxable investment income and capital gains, if any, that it distributes to its shareholders, provided that the Fund distributes to its shareholders at least the sum of (i) 90% of its "investment company taxable income", i.e., taxable income other than its net realized long term capital gain over its net realized short term capital loss, plus or minus certain adjustments, and (ii) 90% of its net tax-exempt income for the taxable year. The Fund will be subject to income tax at regular corporate rates on any taxable income or gains that it does not distribute to its shareholders.

The Fund will determine either to distribute, or to retain for reinvestment, all or part of any net long term capital gains. If any such gains are retained, the Fund will be subject to a U.S. federal income tax (currently at a maximum rate of 21%) on the amount retained. In that event, the Fund expects to designate the retained amount as undistributed capital gain in a notice to its shareholders, each of whom (1) will be required to include in income for U.S. federal income tax purposes as long term capital gain its share of the undistributed amount, (2) will be entitled to credit its proportionate share of the tax paid by the Fund against its own U.S. federal income tax liability, if any, and to claim a refund to the extent the credit exceeds such liability, and (3) will increase its basis in its shares of the Fund by an amount equal to 79% of the amount of undistributed capital gain included in such shareholder's gross income. Organizations or persons not subject to U.S. federal income tax on such capital gain will be entitled to a refund of their pro rata share of such taxes paid by the Fund upon filing appropriate returns or claims for refund with the IRS.

Under the Code, amounts not distributed by the Fund on a timely basis in accordance with a calendar-year distribution requirement are subject to a nondeductible 4% excise tax. To avoid this excise tax, the Fund must distribute during each calendar year an amount equal to at least the sum of (1) 98% of its ordinary income (not taking into account any capital gains or losses) for the calendar year, (2) 98.2% of its capital gains in excess of its capital losses (adjusted for certain ordinary losses) for the twelve-month period generally ending on October 31 of the calendar year (unless an election is made by the Fund to use the Fund's December fiscal year end), and (3) all ordinary income and capital gain income for previous years that were not previously distributed. For this purpose, however, any ordinary income or net capital gain retained by the Fund that is subject to corporate income tax will be considered to have been distributed by year-end. The Fund anticipates that it will pay such dividends and will make such distributions as are necessary in order to avoid the application of this excise tax.

On December 31, 2017, the Fund's unused capital loss carryforwards were approximately \$66,342,238. These capital loss carryforwards will retain their character as either short term or long term capital losses and may be carried forward indefinitely to offset income of the Fund in future years.

If, in any taxable year, the Fund fails to qualify as a regulated investment company under the Code or fails to meet the distribution requirement, it will be taxed in the same manner as an ordinary corporation and distributions to its shareholders will not be deductible by the Fund in computing its taxable income. In addition, in the event of a failure to qualify, the Fund's distributions, to the extent derived from the Fund's current or accumulated earnings and profits, including any distributions of net long term capital gains, will be taxable to shareholders as dividend income. Provided that certain holding period and other requirements are met, such dividends will be eligible: (i) to be treated as qualified dividend income in the case of shareholders taxed as individuals, and (ii) for the dividends received deduction in the case of corporate shareholders. Moreover, if the Fund fails to qualify as a regulated investment company in any year, it must pay out its earnings and profits accumulated in that year in order to qualify again as a regulated investment company. If the Fund failed to qualify as a regulated investment company for a period greater than two taxable years, the Fund may be required to recognize any net built-in gains with respect to certain of its assets, i.e., the excess of the aggregate gains, including items of income, over aggregate losses that would have been realized with respect to such assets if the Fund had been liquidated, in order to qualify as a regulated investment company in a subsequent year.

Gains or losses on sales of securities by the Fund will generally be long term capital gains or losses if the securities have been held by the Fund for more than one year. Gains or losses on sales of securities held by the Fund for one year or less will generally be short term capital gains or losses.

The Fund's transactions in foreign currencies, forward contracts, options, and futures contracts (including options and futures contracts on foreign currencies) will be subject to special provisions of the Code (including provisions relating to "hedging transactions" and "straddles") that, among other things, may affect the character of gains and losses realized by the Fund, i.e., may affect whether gains or losses are ordinary or capital, accelerate recognition of income to the Fund and defer Fund losses. These rules could therefore affect the character, amount and timing of distributions to shareholders. These provisions also (a) will require the Fund to mark-to-market certain types of the positions in its portfolio, i.e., treat them as if they were closed out at the end of each year, and (b) may cause the Fund to recognize income without receiving cash with which to pay dividends or make distributions in amounts necessary to satisfy the distribution requirements for avoiding income and excise taxes. The Fund will monitor its transactions, will make the appropriate tax elections and will make the appropriate entries in its books and records when it acquires any foreign currency, forward contract, option, futures contract, or hedged investment in order to mitigate the effect of these rules and seek to prevent disqualification of the Fund as a regulated investment company.

The Fund's investment in so-called "Section 1256 contracts," such as regulated futures contracts, most foreign currency forward contracts traded in the interbank market and options on most stock indices, are subject to special tax rules. All Section 1256 contracts held by the Fund at the end of its taxable year are required to be marked to their market value, and any unrealized gain or loss on those positions will be included in the Fund's income as if each position had been sold for its fair market value at the end of the taxable year. The resulting gain or loss will be combined with any gain or loss realized by the Fund from positions in Section 1256 contracts closed during the taxable year. Provided such positions were held as capital assets and were not part of a "hedging transaction" nor part of a "straddle," 60% of the resulting net gain or loss will be treated as long term capital gain or loss, and 40% of such net gain or loss will be treated as short term capital gain or loss, regardless of the period of time the positions were actually held by the Fund.

The Fund may be required to treat amounts as taxable income or gain, subject to the distribution requirements referred to above, even though no corresponding amounts of cash are received concurrently, as a result of (1) mark-to-market, constructive sale or rules applicable to PFICs (as defined below) or partnerships or trusts in which the Fund invests or to certain options, futures or forward contracts, or "appreciated financial positions;" (2) the inability to obtain cash distributions or other amounts due to currency controls or restrictions on repatriation imposed by a foreign country with respect to the Fund's investments (including through depositary receipts) in issuers in such country; or (3) tax rules applicable to debt obligations acquired with "original issue discount," including zero-coupon or deferred payment bonds and pay-in-kind debt obligations, or to market discount if an election is made with respect to

such market discount. The Fund may therefore be required to obtain cash to be used to satisfy these distribution requirements by selling securities at times that it might not otherwise be desirable to do so or borrowing the necessary cash, thereby incurring interest expenses.

The diversification requirements applicable to the Fund's assets may limit the extent to which the Fund will be able to engage in transactions in options, futures contracts and options on futures contracts and will limit the extent to which the Fund will be able to hold bullion.

As a result of entering into swap contracts, the Fund may make or receive periodic net payments. The Fund may also make or receive a payment when a swap is terminated prior to maturity through an assignment of the swap or other closing transaction. Periodic net payments will generally constitute ordinary income or deductions, while termination of a swap will generally result in capital gain or loss (which will be a long term capital gain or loss if the Fund has been a party to the swap for more than one year). The tax treatment of many types of credit default swaps is uncertain.

In general, gain or loss on a short sale is recognized when the Fund closes the sale by delivering the borrowed property to the lender, not when the borrowed property is sold. Gain or loss from a short sale is generally considered as capital gain or loss to the extent that the property used to close the short sale constitutes a capital asset in the Fund's hands. Except with respect to certain situations where the property used by the Fund to close a short sale has a long term holding period on the date of the short sale, special rules would generally treat the gains on short sales as short term capital gains. These rules may also terminate the running of the holding period of "substantially identical property" held by the Fund. Moreover, a loss on a short sale will be treated as a long term capital loss if, on the date of the short sale, "substantially identical property" has been held by the Fund for more than one year. In general, the Fund will not be permitted to deduct payments made to reimburse the lender of securities for dividends paid on borrowed stock if the short sale is closed on or before the 45<sup>th</sup> day after the short sale is entered into.

### **Foreign Investments**

Dividends or other income (including, in some cases, capital gains) received by the Fund from investments in foreign securities may be subject to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may reduce or eliminate such taxes in some cases. If more than 50% of the value of the Fund's assets at the close of a taxable year consists of stocks or securities of foreign corporations, the Fund may elect to treat those foreign income taxes paid by the Fund that can be treated as income taxes under U.S. federal income tax principles as paid by its shareholders subject to certain exceptions. If the Fund were to make an election, an amount equal to the foreign income taxes paid by the Fund would be included in the income of its shareholders and the shareholders would be entitled to credit their eligible portions of this amount against their U.S. income tax liability or to deduct those portions from their U.S. taxable income. Holding period requirements restrict the ability of the Fund to make, and the shareholders to enjoy the benefits of, such an election. No deduction for foreign taxes may be claimed by a shareholder who does not itemize deductions. Certain limitations may be imposed on the extent to which the credit (but not the deduction) for foreign taxes may be claimed.

Under Section 988 of the Code, gains or losses attributable to fluctuations in exchange rates between the time the Fund accrues income or receivables or expenses or other liabilities denominated in a foreign currency and the time the Fund actually collects such income or pays such liabilities are generally treated as ordinary income or ordinary loss. Similarly, gains or losses on foreign currency, foreign currency forward contracts, certain foreign currency options or futures contracts, and the disposition of debt securities denominated in foreign currency, to the extent attributable to fluctuations in exchange rates between the acquisition and disposition dates, are also treated as ordinary income or loss unless the Fund were to elect otherwise.

### **Passive Foreign Investment Companies**

If the Fund purchases shares in certain foreign investment entities, called "passive foreign investment companies" ("PFICs"), it may be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a portion of any "excess distribution" or gain from the disposition of such shares even if such income is distributed as a taxable dividend by the Fund to its shareholders. Additional charges in the nature of interest may be imposed on the Fund in respect of deferred taxes arising from such distributions or gains. Generally, a non-U.S. corporation is treated as a PFIC if either 75% or more of its gross income is passive income or 50% or more of its assets produce passive income or are held for the production of passive income.

If the Fund were to invest in a PFIC and elect to treat the PFIC as a "qualified electing fund" under the Code, in lieu of the foregoing requirements, the Fund might be required to include in income each year a portion of the ordinary earnings and net capital gains of the qualified electing fund, even if not distributed to the Fund, and such amounts would be subject to the 90% and excise tax distribution requirements described above. In order to make this election, the Fund would be required to obtain certain annual information from the PFICs in which it invests, which may be difficult or impossible to obtain.

Alternatively, the Fund may make a mark-to-market election that will result in the Fund being treated as if it had sold and repurchased all of its PFIC stock at the end of each year. In such case, the Fund would report any such gains as ordinary income and would deduct any such losses as ordinary losses to the extent of previously recognized gains. The election must be made separately for each PFIC owned by the Fund and, once made, would be effective for all subsequent taxable years of the Fund, unless revoked with the consent of the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS"). By making the election, the Fund could potentially ameliorate the potentially adverse tax consequences with respect to its ownership of shares in a PFIC, but in any particular year may be required to recognize income in excess of the distributions it receives from PFICs and its proceeds from dispositions of PFIC stock. The Fund may have to distribute this "phantom" income and gain to satisfy the 90% distribution requirement and to avoid imposition of the 4% excise tax.

The Fund will make the appropriate tax elections, if possible, and take any additional steps that are necessary to mitigate the effect of these rules.

## **Distributions**

Dividends and other distributions by the Fund are generally treated under the Code as received by the shareholders at the time the dividend or distribution is made. However, any dividend or distribution declared by the Fund in October, November, or December of any calendar year and payable to shareholders of record on a specified date in such a month shall be deemed to have been made and received by each shareholder on December 31 of such calendar year, provided such dividend is actually paid by the Fund during January of the following calendar year.

Distributions of net realized long term capital gains, if any, that the Fund reports as capital gains dividends are taxable as long term capital gains, whether paid in cash or in shares and regardless of how long a shareholder has held shares of the Fund. All other dividends of the Fund (including dividends from short term capital gains) from its net investment company taxable income ("regular dividends") are generally subject to tax as ordinary income.

Special rules apply, however, to regular dividends paid to individuals. Such a dividend may be eligible to be taxed at the rates generally applicable to long term capital gains for individuals (currently at a maximum federal rate of 20%), provided that the individual receiving the dividend satisfies certain holding period and other requirements. Dividends subject to these special rules are not actually treated as capital gains, however, and thus are not included in the computation of an individual's net capital gain and generally cannot be used to offset capital losses. The long term capital gains rates will apply to: (i) 100% of the regular dividends paid by the Fund to an individual in a particular taxable year if 95% or more of the Fund's gross income (ignoring gains attributable to the sale of stocks and securities except to the extent net short term capital gain from such sales exceeds net long term capital loss from such sales) in that taxable year is attributable to qualified dividend income received by the Fund; or (ii) the portion of the regular dividends paid by the Fund to an individual in a particular taxable year that is attributable to qualified dividend income received by the Fund in that taxable year if such qualified dividend income accounts for less than 95% of the Fund's gross income (ignoring gains attributable to the sale of stocks and securities except to the extent net short term capital gain from such sales exceeds net long term capital loss from such sales) for that taxable year. For this purpose, "qualified dividend income" generally means income from dividends received by the Fund from U.S. corporations and qualified foreign corporations, provided that the Fund satisfies certain holding period requirements in respect of the stock of such corporations and has not hedged its position in the stock in certain ways. However, qualified dividend income does not include any dividends received from tax-exempt organizations. Also, dividends received by the Fund from a real estate investment trust or another regulated investment company generally are qualified dividend income only to the extent the dividend distributions are made out of qualified dividend income received by such real estate investment trust or other regulated investment company. In the case of securities lending transactions, payments in lieu of dividends are not qualified dividend income. If a shareholder elects to treat Fund dividends as investment income for purposes of the limitation on the deductibility of investment interest, such dividends would not be qualified dividend income.

We will send you information after the end of each year setting forth the amount of dividends paid by us that are eligible for the reduced rates.

If an individual receives a regular dividend qualifying for the long term capital gains rates and such dividend constitutes an "extraordinary dividend," and the individual subsequently recognizes a loss on the sale or exchange of stock in respect of which the extraordinary dividend was paid, then the loss will be long term capital loss to the extent of such extraordinary dividend. An "extraordinary dividend" on common stock for this purpose is generally a dividend (i) in an amount greater than or equal to 10% of the taxpayer's tax basis (or trading value) in a share of stock, aggregating dividends with ex-dividend dates within an eighty-five day period or (ii) in an amount greater than 20% of the taxpayer's tax basis (or trading value) in a share of stock, aggregating dividends with ex-dividend dates within a 365 day period.

Distributions in excess of the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits will, as to each shareholder, be treated as a tax-free return of capital to the extent of a shareholder's basis in its shares of the Fund, and as a capital gain thereafter (if the shareholder holds its shares of the Fund as capital assets). Dividends paid by the Fund that are attributable to dividends received by the Fund from domestic corporations may qualify for the federal dividends-received deduction for corporations, provided certain holding period and other requirements are met.

Shareholders receiving distributions in the form of shares should have a basis in such shares of the Fund equal to the amount of cash that the shareholders would have received had they elected to receive cash instead of shares. If the NAV of shares is reduced below a shareholder's cost as a result of a distribution by the Fund, such distribution may be taxable even though it represents a return of invested capital. The price of shares purchased at any time may reflect the amount of a forthcoming distribution. Those purchasing shares just prior to a distribution will receive a distribution which will be taxable to them, even though the distribution represents, in an economic sense, a partial return of invested capital.

If the Fund is the holder of record of any stock on the record date for any dividends payable with respect to such stock, such dividends are included in the Fund's gross income not as of the date received but as of the later of (a) the date such stock became ex-dividend with respect to such dividends, *i.e.*, the date on which a buyer of the stock would not be entitled to receive the declared, but unpaid, dividends, or (b) the date the Fund acquired such stock. Accordingly, in order to satisfy its income distribution requirements, the Fund may be required to pay dividends based on anticipated earnings, and shareholders may receive dividends in an earlier year than would otherwise be the case. Under current law, the Fund serves to "block" unrelated business taxable income ("UBTI") from being realized by its tax-exempt shareholders. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a tax-exempt shareholder could realize UBTI by virtue of its investment in the Fund if shares in the Fund constitute debt-financed property in the hands of the tax-exempt shareholder within the meaning of Code Section 514(b). Certain types of income received by the Fund from real estate investment trusts, real estate mortgage investment conduits, taxable mortgage pools or other investments may cause the Fund to designate some or all of its distributions as "excess inclusion income." To Fund shareholders such excess inclusion income may (1) constitute taxable income, as UBTI for those shareholders who would otherwise be tax-exempt such as individual retirement accounts, 401(k) accounts, Keogh plans, pension plans and certain charitable entities; (2) not be offset against net operating losses for tax purposes; (3) not be eligible for reduced US withholding for non-US shareholders even from tax treaty countries; and (4) cause the Fund to be subject to tax if certain "disqualified organizations" as defined by the Code are Fund shareholders.

### **Sales of Shares**

Upon a taxable sale or exchange of shares, a shareholder will realize a taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized and the shareholder's basis in the shares. A redemption of shares by the Fund will be treated as a sale for this purpose. Such gain or loss will be a capital gain or loss if the shares are held as capital assets and will be long term capital gain or loss if the shares are held for more than one year and short term capital gain or loss if the shares are held for one year or less. Any loss realized on a sale or exchange will be disallowed to the extent the shares disposed of are replaced, including replacement through the reinvesting of dividends and capital gains distributions in the Fund, within a sixty-one day period beginning thirty days before and ending thirty days after the date the shares are disposed of. In such case, the basis of the shares acquired will be increased to reflect the disallowed loss. Any loss realized by a shareholder on the sale of Fund shares held by the shareholder for six months or less will be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a long term capital loss to the extent of any distributions (or deemed distributions) of net long term capital gain received by the shareholder with respect to such shares.

An exchange from one share class within the Fund to another share class within the Fund is generally not a taxable transaction, provided that such classes have identical rights with respect to the Fund's assets.

### **Backup Withholding**

The Fund may be required to withhold, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, a portion (currently at a rate of 24%) of the dividends, distributions, and redemption proceeds payable to shareholders who fail to provide their correct taxpayer identification number or to make required certifications, or who have been notified by the IRS that they are subject to backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld may be credited against the shareholder's U.S. federal income tax liability if proper documentation is provided.

### **Notices**

Shareholders will receive, if appropriate, various written notices after the close of the Fund's taxable year regarding the U.S. federal income tax status of certain dividends, distributions, and deemed distributions that were paid (or that are treated as having been paid) by the Fund to its shareholders during the preceding taxable year.

## Other Taxes

Dividends, distributions, and redemption proceeds may also be subject to additional state, local and foreign taxes depending on each shareholder's particular situation. Shareholders should consult their tax advisors regarding their investment in the Fund.

## Taxation of Non-U.S. Shareholders

Dividends paid by the Fund to non-U.S. shareholders are generally subject to withholding tax at a 30% rate or a reduced rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty. In order to obtain a reduced rate of withholding, a non-U.S. shareholder will be required to provide an applicable IRS Form W-8 certifying its entitlement to benefits under a treaty. The withholding tax does not apply to regular dividends paid to a non-U.S. shareholder who provides a Form W-8ECI, certifying that the dividends are effectively connected with the non-U.S. shareholder's conduct of a trade or business within the United States. Instead, the effectively connected dividends will be subject to regular U.S. federal income tax as if the non-U.S. shareholder were a U.S. shareholder. A non-U.S. corporation receiving effectively connected dividends may also be subject to additional "branch profits tax" imposed at a rate of 30% (or lower treaty rate). A non-U.S. shareholder who fails to provide an applicable IRS Form W-8 or other applicable form may be subject to backup withholding at the appropriate rate.

## The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA")

A 30% withholding tax on your Fund's distributions, including capital gains distributions, and on gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of shares of the Fund generally applies if paid to a foreign entity unless: (i) if the foreign entity is a "foreign financial institution," it undertakes certain due diligence, reporting, withholding, and certification obligations, (ii) if the foreign entity is not a "foreign financial institution," it identifies certain of its U.S. investors or (iii) the foreign entity is otherwise excepted under FATCA. If required under the rules above, and subject to any applicable intergovernmental agreements, withholding under FATCA applies: (i) generally with respect to distributions from your Fund; and (ii) with respect to certain capital gains distributions and gross proceeds from a sale or disposition of Fund shares that occur on or after January 1, 2019. If withholding is required under FATCA on a payment related to your shares, investors that otherwise would not be subject to withholding (or that otherwise would be entitled to a reduced rate of withholding) on such payment generally will be required to seek a refund or credit from the IRS to obtain the benefits of such exemption or reduction. The Fund will not pay any additional amounts in respect to amounts withheld under FATCA. You should consult your tax adviser regarding the effect of FATCA based on your individual circumstances.

**The foregoing is only a summary of certain material U.S. federal income tax consequences affecting the Fund and its shareholders. The Fund may make taxable distributions even in periods during which the share price has declined. The Fund does not make investment decisions based primarily on tax considerations. The Fund does not expect to seek any tax rulings from the Internal Revenue Service or opinions from counsel with respect to tax issues. Current and prospective shareholders are advised to consult their own tax advisers with respect to the particular tax consequences to them of an investment in the Fund.**

## Fund Matters

The Fund reserves the right to create and issue a number of portfolios, in which case the shares of each portfolio would participate equally in the earnings, dividends, and assets of the particular portfolio and would vote separately to approve management agreements or changes in investment policies, but shares of all portfolios would vote together in the election or selection of Directors, principal underwriters and auditors and, generally, on any proposed amendment to the Fund's Articles of Incorporation.

Upon liquidation of the Fund or any portfolio, shareholders of the affected portfolio would be entitled to share pro rata in the net assets of their respective portfolio available for distribution to such shareholders.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE FUND'S SHARES

### Description of Shares, Voting Rights, and Liabilities

The Fund is an open-end management investment company that was organized as a Maryland corporation on May 13, 1994. Its authorized capital stock consists of one billion shares of stock having a par value of one tenth of one cent (\$0.001) per share. The Fund is not required, and does not intend, to hold regular annual shareholder meetings, but may hold special meetings for consideration of proposals requiring shareholder approval, such as changing fundamental policies, or upon the written request of 10% of the Fund's shares. The Fund's Board is authorized to divide the unissued shares into separate portfolios of stock, each portfolio representing a separate, additional portfolio.



There are no conversion or preemptive rights in connection with any shares of the Fund. All shares, when issued in accordance with the terms of the offering, will be fully paid and nonassessable. Shares will be redeemed at NAV, at the option of the shareholder.

The Fund sends semi-annual and audited annual reports to all shareholders which include lists of portfolio securities and the Fund's financial statements, which shall be audited annually. Unless a shareholder otherwise specifically requests in writing, the Fund may send a single copy of prospectus and reports to shareholders to all accounts at the same address.

The shares of the Fund have noncumulative voting rights which means that the holders of more than 50% of the shares can elect 100% of the Directors if the holders choose to do so, and, in that event, the holders of the remaining shares will not be able to elect any person or persons to the Board. Unless specifically requested by an investor who is a shareholder of record, the Fund does not issue certificates evidencing Fund shares.

### **Shareholder Approval**

Other than elections of Directors, which is by plurality, any matter for which shareholder approval is required by the 1940 Act requires the affirmative vote of at least a "majority" (as defined by the 1940 Act) of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund at a meeting called for the purpose of considering such approval. A majority of the Fund's outstanding securities is the lesser of (1) 67% of the shares represented at a meeting at which more than 50% of the outstanding shares are present in person or by proxy or (2) more than 50% of the outstanding shares. Shareholders are entitled to one vote for each full share held and fractional votes for fractional shares held. Shareholders will vote in the aggregate except where otherwise required by law and except that each class will vote separately on certain matters pertaining to its distribution and shareholder servicing arrangements.

### **Information For Shareholders**

All shareholder inquiries regarding administrative procedures including the purchase and redemption of shares should be directed to G.distributors, LLC, One Corporate Center, Rye, New York 10580-1422. For assistance, call 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554) or through the Internet at [www.gabelli.com](http://www.gabelli.com).

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Fund's Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, including the Report of Ernst & Young LLP, are incorporated herein by reference to the Fund's Annual Report. The Fund's Annual Report is available upon request and without charge by calling 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554) or through the Internet at [www.gabelli.com](http://www.gabelli.com). Ernst & Young LLP provides audit services, tax return preparation and assistance, and other assurance services in connection with certain SEC filings.

## APPENDIX A

### DESCRIPTION OF CORPORATE DEBT RATINGS

#### MOODY'S INVESTORS SERVICE, INC. ("Moody's")

Aaa:	Obligations rated Aaa are judged to be of the highest quality, subject to the lowest level of credit risk.
Aa:	Obligations rated Aa are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.
A:	Obligations rated A are judged to be upper-medium grade and are subject to low credit risk.
Baa:	Obligations rated Baa are judged to be medium-grade and subject to moderate credit risk and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics.
Ba:	Obligations rated Ba are judged to be speculative and are subject to substantial credit risk.
B:	Obligations rated B are considered speculative and are subject to very high credit risk.
Caa:	Obligations rated Caa are judged to be speculative of poor standing and are subject to very high credit risk.
Ca:	Obligations rated Ca are highly speculative and are likely in, or very near, default, with some prospect of recovery of principal and interest.
C:	Obligations rated C are the lowest rated class of bonds and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.
NR:	NR is assigned to an unrated issuer, obligation and/or program.

Should no rating be assigned, the reason may be one of the following:

1. An application for rating was not received or accepted.
2. The issue or issuer belongs to a group of securities that are not rated as a matter of policy.
3. There is a lack of essential data pertaining to the issue or issuer.
4. The issue was privately placed, in which case the rating is not published in Moody's publications.

Suspension or withdrawal may occur if new and material circumstances arise, the effects of which preclude satisfactory analysis; if there is no longer available reasonable up-to-date data to permit a judgment to be formed; if a bond is called for redemption; or for other reasons.

Note: Moody's appends numerical modifiers, 1, 2 and 3 in each generic rating classification from Aa through Caa.. The modifier 1 indicates that the security ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of its generic rating category. Additionally, a "(hyb)" indicator is appended to all ratings of hybrid securities issued by banks, insurers, finance companies, and securities firms.

#### STANDARD & POOR'S RATINGS SERVICES ("S&P")

##### Investment Grade

AAA:	An obligation rated 'AAA' has the highest rating assigned by S&P. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is extremely strong.
AA:	An obligation rated 'AA' differs from the highest rated obligations only in small degree. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is very strong.
A:	An obligation rated 'A' is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher rated categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is still strong.
BBB:	An obligation rated 'BBB' exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

## Speculative Grade

Obligations rated 'BB', 'B', 'CCC', 'CC', and 'C' are regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. 'BB' indicates the least degree of speculation and 'C' the highest. While such obligations will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposures to adverse conditions.

- BB: An obligation rated 'BB' is less vulnerable to nonpayment than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial, or economic conditions which could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.
- B: An obligation rated 'B' is more vulnerable to nonpayment than obligations rated 'BB', but the obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. Adverse business, financial, or economic conditions will likely impair the obligor's capacity or willingness to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.
- CCC: An obligation rated 'CCC' is currently vulnerable to nonpayment, and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. In the event of adverse business, financial, or economic conditions, the obligor is not likely to have the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.
- CC: An obligation rated 'CC' is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment. The 'CC' rating is used when a default has not yet occurred, but Standard & Poor's expects default to be a virtual certainty, regardless of the anticipated time to default.
- C: An obligation rated 'C' is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment, and the obligation is expected to have lower relative seniority or lower ultimate recovery compared to obligations that are rated higher.
- D: An obligation rated 'D' is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the 'D' rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due unless Standard & Poor's believes that such payments will be made within five business days in the absence of a stated grace period or within the earlier of the stated grace period or 30 calendar days. The 'D' rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. An obligation's rating is lowered to 'D' if it is subject to a distressed exchange offer.
- N This indicates that no rating has been requested, or that there is insufficient information on which to base a rating, or that Standard & Poor's does not rate a particular obligation as a matter of policy.

\* The ratings from 'AA' to 'CCC' may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the major rating categories.

## Description of S&P and Moody's commercial paper ratings:

The designation A-1 by S&P indicates that the degree of safety regarding timely payment is strong. Within this category, certain obligations are designated with a plus sign (+). This indicates that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on these obligations is extremely strong. Capacity for timely payment on issues with an A-2 designation is satisfactory. However, the relative degree of safety is not as high as for issues designated A-1.

The rating Prime-1 (P-1) is the highest commercial paper rating assigned by Moody's. Issuers of P-1 paper must have a superior ability to repay short-term debt obligations, and ordinarily will be evidenced by leading market positions in well established industries, high rates of return of funds employed, conservative capitalization structures with moderate reliance on debt and ample asset protection, broad margins in earnings coverage of fixed financial charges and high internal cash generation, and well established access to a range of financial markets and assured sources of alternate liquidity.