

The GDL Fund

Annual Report — December 31, 2024

(Y)our Portfolio Management Team



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To Our Shareholders,

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the net asset value (NAV) total return of The GDL Fund was 5.6%, compared with a total return of 5.3% for the ICE BofA 3 Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index. The total return for the Fund's publicly traded shares was 5.9%. The Fund's NAV per share was \$10.26, while the price of the publicly traded shares closed at \$8.02 on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). See page 3 for additional performance information.

Enclosed are the financial statements, including the schedule of investments, as of December 31, 2024.

Investment Objective (Unaudited)

The Fund's primary investment objective is to achieve absolute returns in various market conditions without excessive risk of capital. The Fund will seek to achieve its objective by investing primarily in merger arbitrage transactions and, to a lesser extent, in corporate reorganizations involving stubs, spin-offs, and liquidations.

As permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, paper copies of the Fund's annual and semiannual shareholder reports will no longer be sent by mail, unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports. Instead, the reports will be made available on the Fund's website (www.gabelli.com), and you will be notified by mail each time a report is posted and provided with a website link to access the report. If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. To elect to receive all future reports on paper free of charge, please contact your financial intermediary, or, if you invest directly with the Fund, you may call 800-422-3554 or send an email request to info@gabelli.com.

Performance Discussion (Unaudited)

During the first nine months of 2024, globally announced mergers and acquisitions (M&A) activity totaled \$2.3 trillion, a 16% increase compared to the same period in 2023. The third quarter saw a 14% increase in announced deal volume relative to the second quarter, totaling \$784 billion. A total of 35,500 deals were announced globally year to date, with over 12,000 coming in the third quarter of the year. U.S. announced M&A has accounted for about half of total deal volumes, with deals across Europe increasing 30% year over year to \$481 billion, a two year high.

The technology sector remained the most active, with \$375 billion worth of new deals announced in the first three quarters of 2024, representing a 29% year-over-year increase. Energy and power and financials were the next most active, contributing 16% and 13%, respectively, to total deal volumes. Notable transactions in the quarter included Mars Company's agreement to acquire snack food maker Kellanova for \$28.8 billion in an all-cash transaction and Verizon Communications arrangement to acquire Frontier Communications for \$9.6 billion.

\$847 billion worth of deals were agreed upon in the fourth quarter 2024, a sequential decline of 5% relative to the third quarter. More than 50,000 deals were announced on a global basis in 2024. Deal activity domestically totaled \$1.4 trillion for the full year, a slight 5% rise relative to 2023 and the highest level in three years. Dealmaking within Europe totaled \$700 billion, increasing 22%, and within Asia Pacific totaling \$611 billion, increasing 1%. Technology, energy and power, and financials were the three most active sectors in 2024, accounting for more than \$1.4 trillion in announced deal activity. Noteworthy deals announced during the year included Capital One Financial Corp.'s acquisition of Discovery Financial, privately-held Mars agreement to acquire Kellanova, and the ConocoPhillips acquisition of Marathon Oil.

Selected holdings that contributed positively to performance in 2024 were: ImmunoGen (no longer held as of December 31, 2024), as the company which has approved treatments for ovarian cancer, agreed to be acquired by AbbVie for \$31.26 cash per share, with the deal closing on February 12, 2024; MDC Holdings (no longer held) a home builder operating in 34 markets across 16 states, entered an agreement to be acquired by Japan based Sekisui House for \$63 cash per share with the transaction closing in 92 days on April 19, 2024; and Kaman Corp (no longer held) which manufactures aircraft bearings and highly engineered components signed an agreement to be acquired by Arcline Investment Management for \$46 cash per share with the deal closing on April 19, 2024.

Some of our weaker performing securities were: TXNM Energy (0.4% of total investments as of December 31, 2024) was also in an agreement to be acquired by Avangrid for \$50.30 cash per share. The parties terminated the transaction on January 2, 2024 after an inability to secure New Mexico Public Utility Commission approval; Capri Holdings (0.5%) had entered an agreement to be acquired by Tapestry for \$57 cash per share, but the parties terminated the agreement on November 14, 2024 after a Federal Judge issued an injunction preventing the transaction from being completed; and iRobot (no longer held) which manufactures consumer robots, most notably the "Roomba". The company had entered an agreement to be acquired by Amazon.com for \$51.75 cash per share. The U.S. Federal Trade Commission blocked the transaction which caused the parties to terminate the agreement on January 29, 2024.

Thank you for your investment in The GDL Fund.

We appreciate your confidence and trust.

The views expressed reflect the opinions of the Fund's portfolio managers and Gabelli Funds, LLC, the Adviser, as of the date of this report and are subject to change without notice based on changes in market, economic, or other conditions. These views are not intended to be a forecast of future events and are no guarantee of future results.

Comparative Results

Average Annual Returns through December 31, 2024 (a) (Unaudited)

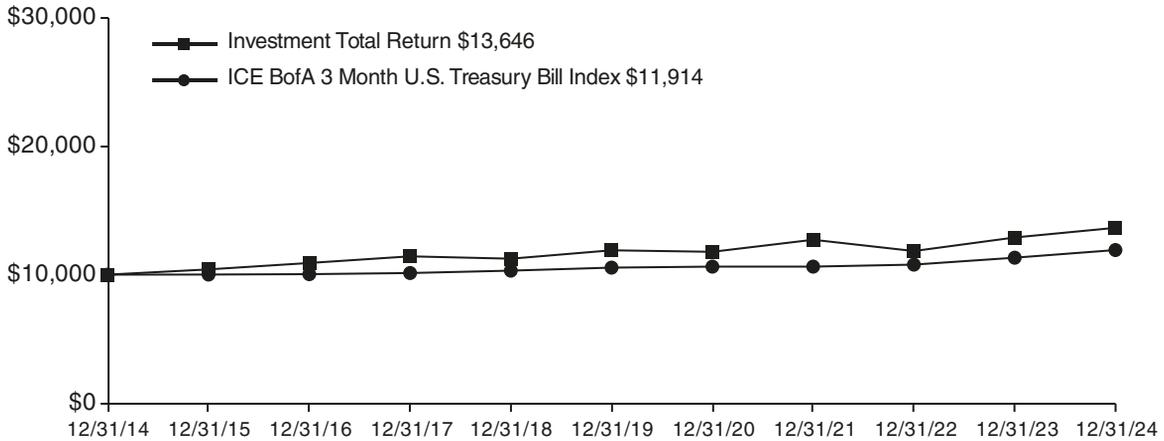
	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	15 Year	Since Inception (1/31/07)
GDL Fund (GDL)						
NAV Total Return (b)	5.60%	3.93%	3.01%	2.98%	3.05%	2.82%
Investment Total Return (c)	5.86	2.37	2.79	3.16	3.05	2.19
ICE BofA 3 Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index	5.25	3.89	2.46	1.77	1.20	1.39

- (a) Returns represent past performance and do not guarantee future results. Investment returns and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate. The Fund's use of leverage may magnify the volatility of net asset value changes versus funds that do not employ leverage. When shares are sold, they may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data presented. Visit www.gabelli.com for performance information as of the most recent month end. The ICE BofA 3 Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index is comprised of a single issue purchased at the beginning of the month and held for a full month. At the end of the month, that issue is sold and rolled into the outstanding Treasury Bill that matures closest to but not beyond three months from the re-balancing date. To qualify for selection, an issue must have settled on or before the re-balancing (month end) date. Dividends are not reinvested for the ICE BofA 3 Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index. You cannot invest directly in an index.
- (b) Total returns and average annual returns reflect changes in the NAV per share and reinvestment of distributions at NAV on the ex-dividend date and are net of expenses. Since inception return is based on an initial NAV of \$19.06.
- (c) Total returns and average annual returns reflect changes in closing market values on the NYSE and reinvestment of distributions. Since inception return is based on an initial offering price of \$20.00.

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the Fund before investing.

**COMPARISON OF CHANGE IN VALUE OF A \$10,000 INVESTMENT IN
THE GDL FUND (INVESTMENT TOTAL RETURN) AND ICE BOFA 3 MONTH U.S. TREASURY BILL INDEX
(Unaudited)**

Average Annual Total Returns*			
	1 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Investment	5.86%	2.79%	3.16%



* Past performance is not predictive of future results. The performance tables and graph do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund distributions or the sale of Fund shares.

Summary of Portfolio Holdings (Unaudited)

The following table presents portfolio holdings as a percent of total investments before securities sold short as of December 31, 2024:

The GDL Fund

Long Positions

U.S. Government Obligations.....	43.2%
Computer Software and Services.....	11.8%
Financial Services.....	6.2%
Health Care	5.0%
Telecommunications.....	3.9%
Energy and Utilities.....	3.9%
Food and Beverage.....	3.6%
Building and Construction	3.4%
Diversified Industrial.....	3.3%
Hotels and Gaming.....	1.5%
Entertainment	1.5%
Consumer Products	1.5%
Transportation.....	1.3%
Paper and Forest Products	1.3%
Specialty Chemicals.....	1.2%
Aerospace.....	1.0%
Equipment and Supplies.....	1.0%
Broadcasting	1.0%
Electronics.....	1.0%

Metals and Mining	0.8%
Automotive	0.5%
Retail.....	0.5%
Closed-End Funds.....	0.4%
Containers and Packaging.....	0.3%
Business Services	0.3%
Consumer Services	0.2%
Cable and Satellite	0.2%
Wireless Communications	0.1%
Machinery	0.1%
	<u>100.0%</u>

Short Positions

Paper and Forest Products	(1.6)%
Energy and Utilities.....	(0.9)%
Financial Services	(0.8)%
Metals and Mining	(0.6)%
Containers and Packaging.....	(0.3)%
Building and Construction	(0.2)%
	<u>(4.4)%</u>

The Fund files a complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-PORT. Shareholders may obtain this information at www.gabelli.com or by calling the Fund at 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554). The Fund's Form N-PORT is available on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov and may also be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 800-SEC-0330.

Proxy Voting

The Fund files Form N-PX with its complete proxy voting record for the twelve months ended June 30, no later than August 31 of each year. A description of the Fund's proxy voting policies, procedures, and how each Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities is available without charge, upon request, by (i) calling 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554); (ii) writing to The Gabelli Funds at One Corporate Center, Rye, NY 10580-1422; or (iii) visiting the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

The GDL Fund

Schedule of Investments — December 31, 2024

Shares	Cost	Market Value	Shares	Cost	Market Value
COMMON STOCKS — 56.2%			Diversified Industrial — 3.3%		
Aerospace — 1.0%			Electronics — 1.0%		
40,000	Heroux-Devtek Inc.† \$ 910,246	\$ 884,344	71,000	Barnes Group Inc. \$ 3,319,445	\$ 3,355,460
26,000	Spirit AeroSystems Holdings Inc., Cl. A† 868,740	886,080	75,000	EMCORE Corp.† 228,368	225,000
			5,000	United States Steel Corp. 235,075	169,950
			41,000	Universal Stainless & Alloy Products Inc.† 1,800,351	1,805,230
	1,778,986	1,770,424	9,000	Velan Inc.† 35,115	67,620
				5,618,354	5,623,260
Automotive — 0.5%			Energy and Utilities — 3.9%		
20,000	Iveco Group NV 105,463	193,497	40,000	ALLETE Inc. 2,527,379	2,592,000
270,000	TI Fluid Systems plc 663,837	653,041	6,000	Avista Corp. 222,978	219,780
	769,300	846,538	30,000	ChampionX Corp. 1,072,953	815,700
			11,475	ConocoPhillips 1,276,282	1,137,976
Broadcasting — 1.0%			30,000	DMC Global Inc.† 405,532	220,500
14,237	Sirius XM Holdings Inc. 428,600	324,603	460,000	Gulf Coast Ultra Deep Royalty Trust† 30,398	12,742
74,000	TEGNA Inc. 1,462,231	1,353,460	3,000	Hess Corp. 422,699	399,030
	1,890,831	1,678,063	225,000	Profire Energy Inc.† 566,375	571,500
			12,000	TXNM Energy Inc. 574,942	590,040
Building and Construction — 3.4%				7,099,538	6,559,268
15,000	Lennar Corp., Cl. B 582,481	1,982,250	Entertainment — 1.5%		
74,000	Summit Materials Inc., Cl. A† 3,759,346	3,744,400	65,000	Endeavor Group Holdings Inc., Cl. A 1,722,083	2,033,850
	4,341,827	5,726,650	70,000	IMAX China Holding Inc.† 85,347	66,425
Business Services — 0.3%			10,000	Manchester United plc, Cl. A† 159,800	173,500
22,000	Despegar.com Corp.† 423,056	423,500	30,000	Paramount Global, Cl. B 328,491	313,800
Cable and Satellite — 0.2%				2,295,721	2,587,575
60,000	WideOpenWest Inc.† 280,043	297,600	Equipment and Supplies — 1.0%		
Computer Software and Services — 11.8%			20,000	Cepton Inc.† 59,700	65,200
7,000	Altair Engineering Inc., Cl. A† 733,355	763,770	80,000	DS Smith plc. 380,068	542,824
125,000	BM Technologies Inc.† 593,004	611,250	190,000	Manitex International Inc.† 1,069,357	1,102,000
155,000	Brightcove Inc.† 670,599	674,250		1,509,125	1,710,024
100,000	Desktop Metal Inc., Cl. A† 483,287	234,000	Financial Services — 6.2%		
1,500	Esker SA 412,312	405,224	53,000	CI Financial Corp. 1,177,058	1,140,784
189,000	HashiCorp Inc., Cl. A† 6,322,548	6,465,690	9,000	Enstar Group Ltd.† 2,883,903	2,898,450
350,000	Innovid Corp.† 1,064,583	1,081,500	12,000	ICC Holdings Inc.† 264,812	279,120
200,000	Markforged Holding Corp.† 923,657	628,000	100,000	Payfare Inc.† 266,570	267,140
203,856	SecureWorks Corp., Cl. A† 1,708,283	1,724,622	215,000	Retail Opportunity Investments Corp., REIT 3,741,714	3,732,400
88,000	Smartsheet Inc., Cl. A† 4,903,842	4,930,640	13,000	Sandy Spring Bancorp Inc. 419,510	438,230
250,000	Zuora Inc., Cl. A† 2,482,162	2,480,000	19,600	Steel Partners Holdings LP† 244,498	834,176
	20,297,632	19,998,946	25,000	The First Bancshares Inc. 816,957	875,000
Consumer Products — 1.5%				9,815,022	10,465,300
40,000	Capri Holdings Ltd.† 1,756,149	842,400	Containers and Packaging — 0.3%		
95,000	Pactiv Evergreen Inc. 1,648,851	1,659,650	8,000	Berry Global Group Inc. 570,073	517,360
	3,405,000	2,502,050			
Consumer Services — 0.2%					
175,000	SPAR Group Inc.† 419,125	339,500			

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The GDL Fund
Schedule of Investments (Continued) — December 31, 2024

<u>Shares</u>		<u>Cost</u>	<u>Market Value</u>	<u>Shares</u>		<u>Cost</u>	<u>Market Value</u>
COMMON STOCKS (Continued)							
Food and Beverage — 3.6%							
60,000	Britvic plc	\$ 992,182	\$ 983,242	50,000	Spirent Communications plc†	\$ 128,110	\$ 110,793
62,000	Kellanova	4,991,911	5,020,140			6,831,965	6,686,160
7,000	Lifeway Foods Inc.†	173,390	173,600				
		<u>6,157,483</u>	<u>6,176,982</u>				
Health Care — 4.9%				Transportation — 1.3%			
8,000	Amedisys Inc.†	739,400	726,320	40,000	Abertis Infraestructuras SA†(a)	311,164	146,262
160,000	Avid Bioservices Inc.†	1,964,637	1,976,000	95,000	Air Transport Services Group Inc.†	2,083,929	2,088,100
93,000	Cross Country Healthcare Inc.†	1,680,269	1,688,880	1,100	Steel Connect Inc.†	13,097	13,717
39,000	Patterson Cos. Inc.	1,204,548	1,203,540			2,408,190	2,248,079
270,000	Revance Therapeutics Inc.†	1,776,566	820,800				
46,000	SurModics Inc.†	1,918,841	1,821,600				
		<u>9,284,261</u>	<u>8,237,140</u>				
Hotels and Gaming — 1.5%				Wireless Communications — 0.1%			
50,000	Bally's Corp.†	857,114	894,500	713,121	NII Holdings Inc., Escrow†	184,194	249,592
65,000	Everi Holdings Inc.†	847,894	878,150				
50,000	GAN Ltd.†	63,851	91,000				
65,000	PlayAGS Inc.†	728,828	749,450				
		<u>2,497,687</u>	<u>2,613,100</u>				
Machinery — 0.1%				TOTAL COMMON STOCKS			
25,000	CFT SpA†(a)	138,180	119,123			95,335,884	95,153,357
Metals and Mining — 0.7%				CLOSED-END FUNDS — 0.4%			
70,000	Gatos Silver Inc.†	952,231	978,600	425,000	Altaba Inc., Escrow†	283,375	605,625
114,500	O3 Mining Inc.†	132,504	131,431				
		<u>1,084,735</u>	<u>1,110,031</u>				
Paper and Forest Products — 1.3%				RIGHTS — 0.2%			
40,000	Smurfit WestRock plc.	1,896,000	2,154,400	Computer Software and Services — 0.0%			
Retail — 0.5%				1,000	Flexion Therapeutics Inc., CVR†	0	100
15,000	Albertsons Companies Inc., Cl. A	324,919	294,600				
25,000	Bapcor Ltd.	83,490	73,036				
17,000	Nordstrom Inc.	410,021	410,550				
		<u>818,430</u>	<u>778,186</u>				
Specialty Chemicals — 1.2%							
340,000	Arcadium Lithium plc†	1,882,460	1,744,200				
5,500	Covestro AG†	332,888	330,436				
		<u>2,215,348</u>	<u>2,074,636</u>				
Telecommunications — 3.9%							
63,000	Frontier Communications Parent Inc.†	2,215,499	2,186,100				
280,000	HKBN Ltd.	200,879	183,503				
105,000	Juniper Networks Inc.	3,911,528	3,932,250				
17,793	Orange Belgium SA†	375,949	273,514				

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The GDL Fund

Schedule of Investments (Continued) — December 31, 2024

Shares	Cost	Market Value	Shares	Proceeds	Market Value	
RIGHTS (Continued)			Containers and Packaging — (0.3)%			
Health Care (Continued)			58,000	Amcro plc..... \$ 609,574	\$ 545,780	
3,000	Opiant Pharmaceuticals Inc., CVR†	\$ 0	\$ 1,500	Energy and Utilities — (0.9)%		
100,000	Paratek Pharmaceuticals Inc., CVR†	0	2,000	2,500	Chevron Corp. 356,070	
3,000	Prevail Therapeutics Inc., CVR†	0	600	11,475	ConocoPhillips..... 1,306,513	
2,000	Radius Health Inc., CVR† ..	0	200		<u>1,662,583</u>	
1,000	Sigilon Therapeutics Inc., CVR†	0	7,550	Financial Services — (0.8)%		
	<u>186,211</u>	<u>202,448</u>	11,700	Atlantic Union Bankshares Corp.	503,102	
			25,000	Renasant Corp.	840,152	
				<u>1,343,254</u>	<u>1,336,946</u>	
Metals and Mining — 0.1%			Metals and Mining — (0.6)%			
10,000	Kinross Gold Corp., CVR†(a)	0	0	178,500	First Majestic Silver Corp... 967,015	
419,000	Pan American Silver Corp., CVR†	96,370	155,030	Paper and Forest Products — (1.6)%		
	<u>96,370</u>	<u>155,030</u>	10,280	International Paper Co.	533,933	
			40,000	Smurfit WestRock plc.....	1,839,754	
				<u>2,373,687</u>	<u>2,714,550</u>	
Paper and Forest Products — 0.0%			TOTAL SECURITIES SOLD			
24,000	Resolute Forest Products Inc., CVR†	0	48,000	SHORT(c).....		
	<u>282,581</u>	<u>405,578</u>		<u>\$ 7,213,981</u>	<u>\$ 7,486,427</u>	
Principal Amount			<p>(a) Security is valued using significant unobservable inputs and is classified as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy.</p> <p>(b) At December 31, 2024, \$6,000,000 of the principal amount was reserved and/or pledged with the custodian for securities sold short and forward foreign exchange contracts.</p> <p>(c) At December 31, 2024, these proceeds are being held at Pershing LLC.</p> <p>† Non-income producing security.</p> <p>†† Represents annualized yields at dates of purchase.</p>			
\$ 73,702,000	U.S. GOVERNMENT OBLIGATIONS — 43.2%		CVR Contingent Value Right			
	U.S. Treasury Bills, 4.179% to 4.799%††, 01/16/25 to 06/12/25(b)	73,140,704	73,174,504	REIT Real Estate Investment Trust		
TOTAL INVESTMENTS BEFORE SECURITIES SOLD SHORT — 100.0%			\$ 169,042,544	169,339,064		
SECURITIES SOLD SHORT — (4.4)%			(7,486,427)			
Other Assets and Liabilities (Net)			3,441,717			
PREFERRED SHARES			(47,316,600)			
NET ASSETS — COMMON SHARES			<u>\$ 117,977,754</u>			
NET ASSET VALUE PER COMMON SHARE			<u>\$ 10.26</u>			
Shares	Proceeds	Market Value	Geographic Diversification			
SECURITIES SOLD SHORT — (4.4)%			Long Positions			
Building and Construction — (0.2)%			North America			
3,000	Lennar Corp., Cl. A.....	\$ 257,868	\$ 409,110	Europe		
				Latin America		
				Asia/Pacific		
				Total Investments — Long Positions		
				100.0%		
				<u>\$ 169,339,064</u>		
				Short Positions		
				North America		
				(2.8)%		
				Europe		
				(1.6)%		
				Total Investments — Short Positions		
				(4.4)%		
				<u>\$ (4,779,367)</u>		
				<u>(2,707,060)</u>		
				<u>\$ (7,486,427)</u>		

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The GDL Fund

Schedule of Investments (Continued) — December 31, 2024

As of December 31, 2024, forward foreign exchange contracts outstanding were as follows:

	Currency Purchased	Currency Sold		Counterparty	Settlement Date	Unrealized Appreciation/ (Depreciation)
USD	1,810,744	CAD	2,600,000	State Street Bank and Trust Co.	01/31/25	\$ (90)
USD	938,063	EUR	900,000	State Street Bank and Trust Co.	01/31/25	4,652
USD	626,034	GBP	500,000	State Street Bank and Trust Co.	01/31/25	248
TOTAL FORWARD FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONTRACTS						<u>\$ 4,810</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The GDL Fund

Statement of Assets and Liabilities December 31, 2024

Assets:	
Investments in securities, at value (cost \$169,042,544)	\$ 169,339,064
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$8)	8
Deposit at brokers for securities sold short	4,224,141
Receivable for investments in securities sold	3,162
Dividends and interest receivable	243,430
Deferred offering expense	167,564
Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign currency contracts	4,900
Prepaid expenses	6,316
Total Assets	<u>173,988,585</u>
Liabilities:	
Securities sold short, at value (proceeds \$7,213,981)	7,486,427
Payable to bank	1,207
Distributions payable	28,432
Payable for investment securities purchased	747,131
Payable for investment advisory fees	163,919
Payable for payroll expenses	128,791
Payable for offering costs	47,830
Payable for accounting fees	3,750
Dividends payable on securities sold short	5,500
Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign currency contracts	90
Series C Cumulative Preferred Shares, callable and mandatory redemption 03/26/25 (See Notes 2 and 7)	34,446,600
Series E Cumulative Preferred Shares, callable and mandatory redemption 03/26/25 (See Notes 2 and 7)	12,870,000
Other accrued expenses	81,154
Total Liabilities	<u>56,010,831</u>
Net Assets Attributable to Common Shareholders	<u>\$ 117,977,754</u>
Net Assets Attributable to Common Shareholders Consist of:	
Paid-in capital	\$ 119,193,122
Total accumulated loss	(1,215,368)
Net Assets	<u>\$ 117,977,754</u>
Net Asset Value per Common Share:	
(\$117,977,754 ÷ 11,501,987 shares outstanding at \$0.001 par value; unlimited number of shares authorized)	<u>\$ 10.26</u>

Statement of Operations For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Investment Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$8,977)	\$ 1,049,724
Interest	4,580,236
Total Investment Income	<u>5,629,960</u>
Expenses:	
Investment advisory fees	952,505
Interest expense on preferred shares	2,236,857
Payroll expenses	247,325
Dividend expense on securities sold short	150,867
Trustees' fees	113,000
Legal and audit fees	82,076
Shareholder communications expenses	72,343
Shareholder services fees	60,008
Accounting fees	45,000
Offering expense for issuance of preferred shares	44,886
Custodian fees	16,981
Service fees for securities sold short (See Note 2)	14,941
Interest expense	57
Miscellaneous expenses	4,958
Total Expenses	<u>4,041,804</u>
Less:	
Advisory fee reduction on unsupervised assets (See Note 3)	(12,784)
Expenses paid indirectly by broker (See Note 5)	(3,180)
Custodian fee credits	(14,594)
Total Credits and Reductions	<u>(30,558)</u>
Net Expenses	<u>4,011,246</u>
Net Investment Income	<u>1,618,714</u>
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments in Securities, Securities Sold Short, Swap Contracts, Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts, and Foreign Currency:	
Net realized gain on investments in securities	6,095,541
Net realized loss on securities sold short	(2,267,656)
Net realized loss on swap contracts	(10,567)
Net realized gain on forward foreign exchange contracts	180,580
Net realized gain on foreign currency transactions	2,205
Net realized gain on investments in securities, securities sold short, swap contracts, forward foreign exchange contracts, and foreign currency transactions	<u>4,000,103</u>
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation:	
on investments in securities	(1,781,889)
on securities sold short	1,558,643
on forward foreign exchange contracts	18,133
on foreign currency translations	(11,965)
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments in securities, securities sold short, forward foreign exchange contracts, and foreign currency translations	<u>(217,078)</u>
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments in Securities, Securities Sold Short, Swap Contracts, Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts, and Foreign Currency	<u>3,783,025</u>
Net Increase in Net Assets Attributable to Common Shareholders Resulting from Operations	<u>\$ 5,401,739</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The GDL Fund

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Attributable to Common Shareholders

	Year Ended December 31, 2024	Year Ended December 31, 2023
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 1,618,714	\$ 1,151,677
Net realized gain on investments in securities, securities sold short, swap contracts, forward foreign exchange contracts, and foreign currency transactions	4,000,103	1,695,266
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments in securities, securities sold short, forward foreign exchange contracts, and foreign currency translations	<u>(217,078)</u>	<u>3,439,490</u>
Net Increase in Net Assets Attributable to Common Shareholders Resulting from Operations	<u>5,401,739</u>	<u>6,286,433</u>
Distributions to Common Shareholders:		
Accumulated earnings	(4,553,420)	(2,824,414)
Return of capital	<u>(1,051,722)</u>	<u>(3,066,974)</u>
Total Distributions to Common Shareholders	<u>(5,605,142)</u>	<u>(5,891,388)</u>
Fund Share Transactions:		
Decrease from repurchase of common shares	(3,652,383)	(7,660,676)
Net Decrease in Net Assets from Fund Share Transactions	<u>(3,652,383)</u>	<u>(7,660,676)</u>
Net Decrease in Net Assets Attributable to Common Shareholders	(3,855,786)	(7,265,631)
Net Assets Attributable to Common Shareholders:		
Beginning of year	121,833,540	129,099,171
End of year	<u>\$ 117,977,754</u>	<u>\$ 121,833,540</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The GDL Fund

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Net increase in net assets attributable to common shareholders resulting from operations	\$	5,401,739
Adjustments to Reconcile Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations to Net Cash from Operating Activities:		
Purchase of long term investment securities		(353,769,703)
Proceeds from sales of long term investment securities		323,748,388
Proceeds from short sales of investment securities		22,362,968
Purchase of securities to cover short sales		(21,963,798)
Net sales of short term investment securities		57,904,517
Net realized gain on investments		(6,095,541)
Net realized loss on securities sold short		2,267,656
Net change in unrealized depreciation on investments		1,781,889
Net accretion of discount		(4,264,453)
Net decrease in unrealized appreciation on forward foreign exchange contracts		(18,133)
Net decrease in unrealized depreciation on securities sold short		(1,558,643)
Increase in receivable for investments sold		(3,162)
Increase in dividends and interest receivable		(21,566)
Increase in deferred offering expense		(72,565)
Increase in prepaid expenses		(6,316)
Decrease in payable for investments purchased		(483,766)
Increase in payable for offering costs		27,074
Decrease in payable for investment advisory fees		(851,820)
Decrease in payable for payroll expenses		(7,862)
Increase in payable for dividends payable on securities sold short		5,500
Decrease in other accrued expenses		(98,478)
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>24,283,925</u>
Net decrease in net assets resulting from financing activities:		
Redemption of Series E Cumulative Preferred Shares		(15,455,000)
Distributions to common shareholders		(5,616,304)
Repurchase of common shares		(3,652,383)
Increase in payable to bank		1,207
Net cash used in financing activities		<u>(24,722,480)</u>
Net decrease in cash		<u>(438,555)</u>
Cash (including foreign currency and restricted cash):		
Beginning of year		4,662,704
End of year		<u><u>\$ 4,224,149</u></u>
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Interest paid on preferred shares	\$	2,236,857
Interest paid on bank overdrafts		57
The following table provides a reconciliation of deposits at broker for securities sold short and foreign currency reported within the Statement of Assets and Liabilities that sum to the total of the same amount above at December 31, 2024:		
Deposits at broker for securities sold short	\$	4,224,141
Foreign currency, at value		8
		<u><u>\$ 4,224,149</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The GDL Fund

Financial Highlights

Selected data for a common share of beneficial interest outstanding throughout each year:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Operating Performance:					
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 10.18	\$ 9.98	\$ 10.53	\$ 10.74	\$ 11.15
Net investment income/(loss)	0.13	0.08	(0.10)	(0.20)	(0.28)
Net realized and unrealized gain/(loss) on investments in securities, securities sold short, swap contracts, forward foreign exchange contracts, and foreign currency transactions	0.36	0.46	(0.08)	0.44	0.14
Total from investment operations	<u>0.49</u>	<u>0.54</u>	<u>(0.18)</u>	<u>0.24</u>	<u>(0.14)</u>
Distributions to Common Shareholders:					
Net investment income	(0.15)	(0.12)	—	—	—
Net realized gain	(0.24)	(0.11)	—	(0.20)	—
Return of capital	(0.09)	(0.25)	(0.48)	(0.28)	(0.46)
Total distributions to common shareholders	<u>(0.48)</u>	<u>(0.48)</u>	<u>(0.48)</u>	<u>(0.48)</u>	<u>(0.46)</u>
Fund Share Transactions:					
Increase in net asset value from repurchase of common shares	0.07	0.14	0.11	0.03	0.19
Offering costs for preferred shares charged to paid-in capital	—	—	—	—	(0.00)(a)
Total Fund share transactions	<u>0.07</u>	<u>0.14</u>	<u>0.11</u>	<u>0.03</u>	<u>0.19</u>
Net Asset Value Attributable to Common Shareholders, End of Year	<u>\$ 10.26</u>	<u>\$ 10.18</u>	<u>\$ 9.98</u>	<u>\$ 10.53</u>	<u>\$ 10.74</u>
NAV total return †	<u>5.60%</u>	<u>6.96%</u>	<u>(0.60)%</u>	<u>2.54%</u>	<u>0.74%</u>
Market value, end of year	<u>\$ 8.02</u>	<u>\$ 8.04</u>	<u>\$ 7.84</u>	<u>\$ 8.93</u>	<u>\$ 8.72</u>
Investment total return ††	<u>5.86%</u>	<u>8.92%</u>	<u>(6.94)%</u>	<u>7.95%</u>	<u>(0.93)%</u>
Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data:					
Net assets including liquidation value of preferred shares, end of year (in 000's)	\$ 165,294	\$ 184,605	\$ 198,546	\$ 180,107	\$ 185,897
Net assets attributable to common shares, end of year (in 000's) . . .	\$ 117,978	\$ 121,834	\$ 129,099	\$ 145,660	\$ 151,451
Ratio of net investment income/(loss) to average net assets attributable to common shares including interest and offering costs (b)	1.35%	0.92%	(0.86)%	(1.81)%	(2.49)%
Ratio of operating expenses to average net assets attributable to common shares (c)(d)(e)	3.34%	4.65%	3.09%	2.89%	3.17%
Portfolio turnover rate	348%	316%	263%	329%	228%
Cumulative Preferred Shares:					
Series C Preferred					
Liquidation value, end of year (in 000's)	\$ 34,447	\$ 34,447	\$ 34,447	\$ 34,447	\$ 34,447
Total shares outstanding (in 000's)	689	689	689	689	689
Liquidation preference per share	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Average market value (f)	\$ 49.67	\$ 49.13	\$ 50.21	\$ 51.51	\$ 51.15
Asset coverage per share (g)	\$ 174.67	\$ 147.05	\$ 142.95	\$ 261.43	\$ 269.83
Series E Preferred					
Liquidation value, end of year (in 000's)	\$ 12,870	\$ 28,325	\$ 35,000	—	—
Total shares outstanding (in 000's)	1,287	2,833	3,500	—	—
Liquidation preference per share	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	—	—
Average market value (f)	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	—	—
Asset coverage per share (g)	\$ 34.93	\$ 29.41	\$ 29.57	—	—
Asset Coverage (h)	349%	294%	286%	523%	540%

† Based on net asset value per share, adjusted for reinvestment of distributions at the net asset value per share on the ex-dividend dates.

†† Based on market value per share, adjusted for reinvestment of distributions at prices determined under the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan.

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The GDL Fund

Financial Highlights (Continued)

- (a) Amount represents less than \$0.005 per share.
- (b) The Fund incurred interest expense during all periods presented. Interest expense on Preferred Shares relates to the \$50 Series C Preferred Shares from March 26, 2018 and to the \$10 Series E Preferred Shares from March 28, 2022 through December 31, 2024 (see Footnotes 2 and 7).
- (c) The Fund received credits from a designated broker who agreed to pay certain Fund operating expenses. For all periods presented, there was no material impact on the expense ratios.
- (d) The ratio of operating expenses excluding the custodian fee credit for the years ended December 31, 2024, 2023, 2022, and 2020 would have been 3.35%, 4.66%, 3.10%, and 3.18%. For the year ended December 31, 2021, there was no material impact on the expense ratios.
- (e) The ratio of operating expenses excluding interest, advisory fee waived for Unsupervised assets, dividends and service fees on securities sold short, and offering costs to average net assets attributable to common shares for the for the years ended December 31, 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, and 2020 would have been 3.20%, 4.59%, 3.05%, 2.79%, and 2.61%, respectively.
- (f) Based on weekly prices.
- (g) Asset coverage per share is calculated by combining all series of preferred shares.
- (h) Asset coverage is calculated by combining all series of preferred shares.

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The GDL Fund

Notes to Financial Statements

1. Organization. The GDL Fund (the Fund) was organized on October 17, 2006 as a Delaware statutory trust. The Fund is a diversified closed-end management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act). The Fund commenced investment operations on January 31, 2007.

The Fund's primary investment objective is to achieve absolute returns in various market conditions without excessive risk of capital. The Fund will seek to achieve its objective by investing primarily in merger arbitrage transactions and, to a lesser extent, in corporate reorganizations involving stubs, spin-offs, and liquidations. The Fund will invest at least 80% of its assets, under normal market conditions, in securities or hedging arrangements relating to companies involved in corporate transactions or reorganizations, giving rise to the possibility of realizing gains upon or within relatively short periods of time after the completion of such transactions or reorganizations. The principal risk associated with the Fund's investment strategy is that certain of the proposed reorganizations in which the Fund invests may involve a longer time frame than originally contemplated or be renegotiated or terminated, in which case losses may be realized. The Fund invests all or a portion of its assets to seek short term capital appreciation. This can be expected to increase the portfolio turnover rate and cause increased brokerage commission costs. The Fund may invest a high percentage of its assets in specific sectors of the market in order to achieve a potentially greater investment return. As a result, the Fund may be more susceptible to economic, political, and regulatory developments in a particular sector of the market, positive or negative, and may experience increased volatility to the Fund's NAV and a magnified effect in its total return.

2. Significant Accounting Policies. As an investment company, the Fund follows the investment company accounting and reporting guidance, which is part of U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) that may require the use of management estimates and assumptions in the preparation of its financial statements. The Fund's Board of Trustees (the Board) has designated Gabelli Funds, LLC (the Adviser) as the valuation designee under Rule 2a-5. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

Security Valuation. Portfolio securities listed or traded on a nationally recognized securities exchange or traded in the U.S. over-the-counter 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 asked prices or, if there were no asked prices quoted on that day, then the security is valued at the closing bid price on that day. If no bid or asked 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 obligations for which market quotations are readily available are valued at the average of the latest bid and asked prices. If there were no asked prices quoted on such day, the securities are valued using the closing bid price, unless the Board determines such amount does not reflect the security's 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

The GDL Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

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 from one or more dealers in the instrument in question by the Adviser.

Securities and assets for which market quotations are not readily available are fair valued as determined by 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 Receipt securities at the close of the U.S. exchange; and evaluation of any other information that could be indicative of the value of the security.

The inputs and valuation techniques used to measure fair value of the Fund's investments are summarized into three levels as described in the hierarchy below:

- Level 1 — unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical securities;
- Level 2 — other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.); and
- Level 3 — significant unobservable inputs (including the Board's determinations as to the fair value of investments).

A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input both individually and in the aggregate that is significant to the fair value measurement. The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities. The summary of the Fund's investments in securities and other financial instruments by inputs used to value the Fund's investments as of December 31, 2024 is as follows:

	Valuation Inputs			Total Market Value at 12/31/24
	Level 1 Quoted Prices	Level 2 Other Significant Observable Inputs	Level 3 Significant Unobservable Inputs (a)	
INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES:				
ASSETS (Market Value):				
Common Stocks:				
Machinery	—	—	\$ 119,123	\$ 119,123
Transportation	\$ 2,101,817	—	146,262	2,248,079
Wireless Communications	—	\$ 249,592	—	249,592
Other Industries (b)	92,536,563	—	—	92,536,563
Total Common Stocks	94,638,380	249,592	265,385	95,153,357
Closed-End Funds	—	605,625	—	605,625
Rights (b)	155,030	250,548	0	405,578
U.S. Government Obligations	—	73,174,504	—	73,174,504
TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES – ASSETS	\$ 94,793,410	\$ 74,280,269	\$ 265,385	\$ 169,339,064
LIABILITIES (Market Value):				
Common Stocks Sold Short (b)	\$ (7,486,427)	—	—	\$ (7,486,427)
TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES – LIABILITIES	\$ (7,486,427)	—	—	\$ (7,486,427)

The GDL Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

	Valuation Inputs			Total Market Value at 12/31/24
	Level 1 Quoted Prices	Level 2 Other Significant Observable Inputs	Level 3 Significant Unobservable Inputs (a)	
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS:*				
ASSETS (Unrealized Appreciation):				
FORWARD CURRENCY EXCHANGE CONTRACTS				
Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts	—	\$ 4,900	—	\$ 4,900
LIABILITIES (Unrealized Depreciation):				
FORWARD CURRENCY EXCHANGE CONTRACTS				
Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts	—	\$ (90)	—	\$ (90)

(a) The inputs for these securities are not readily available and are derived based on the judgment of the Adviser according to procedures approved by the Board.

(b) Please refer to the Schedule of Investments (SOI) for the industry classifications of these portfolio holdings.

* Other financial instruments are derivatives reflected in the SOI, such as options, futures, forwards, and swaps, which may be valued at the unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) of the instrument.

At December 31, 2024, the total value of Level 3 investments for the Fund was less than 1% of total net assets.

General. The Fund uses recognized industry pricing services – approved by the Board and unaffiliated with the Adviser – to value most of its securities, and uses broker quotes provided by market makers of securities not valued by these and other recognized pricing sources. Several different pricing feeds are received to value domestic equity securities, international equity securities, preferred equity securities, and fixed income securities. The data within these feeds are ultimately sourced from major stock exchanges and trading systems where these securities trade. The prices supplied by external sources are checked by obtaining quotations or actual transaction prices from market participants. If a price obtained from the pricing source is deemed unreliable, prices will be sought from another pricing service or from a broker/dealer that trades that security or similar securities.

Fair Valuation. Fair valued securities may be common or preferred equities, warrants, options, rights, or fixed income obligations. Where appropriate, Level 3 securities are those for which market quotations are not available, such as securities not traded for several days, or for which current bids are not available, or which are restricted as to transfer. When fair valuing a security, factors to consider include recent prices of comparable securities that are publicly traded, reliable prices of securities not publicly traded, the use of valuation models, current analyst reports, valuing the income or cash flow of the issuer, or cost if the preceding factors do not apply. A significant change in the unobservable inputs could result in a lower or higher value in Level 3 securities. The circumstances of Level 3 securities are frequently monitored to determine if fair valuation measures continue to apply.

The Adviser reports quarterly to the Board the results of the application of fair valuation policies and procedures. These may include backtesting the prices realized in subsequent trades of these fair valued securities to fair values previously recognized.

Derivative Financial Instruments. The Fund may engage in various portfolio investment strategies by investing in derivative financial instruments for the purposes of increasing the income of the Fund, hedging against changes in the value of its portfolio securities and in the value of securities it intends to purchase,

The GDL Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

or hedging against a specific transaction with respect to either the currency in which the transaction is denominated or another currency. Investing in certain derivative financial instruments, including participation in currencies, options, futures, or swap markets, entails certain execution, liquidity, hedging, tax, and securities, interest, credit, or currency market risks. Losses may arise if the Adviser's prediction of movements in the direction of the securities, foreign currency, and interest rate markets is inaccurate. Losses may also arise if the counterparty does not perform its duties under a contract, or, in the event of default, the Fund may be delayed in or prevented from obtaining payments or other contractual remedies owed to it under derivative contracts. The creditworthiness of the counterparties is closely monitored in order to minimize these risks. Participation in derivative transactions involves investment risks, transaction costs, and potential losses to which the Fund would not be subject absent the use of these strategies. The consequences of these risks, transaction costs, and losses may have a negative impact on the Fund's ability to pay distributions.

Collateral requirements differ by type of derivative. Collateral requirements are set by the broker or exchange clearing house for exchange traded derivatives, while collateral terms are contract specific for derivatives traded over-the-counter. Securities pledged to cover obligations of the Fund under derivative contracts are noted in the Schedule of Investments. Cash collateral, if any, pledged for the same purpose will be reported separately in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

The Fund's policy with respect to offsetting is that, absent an event of default by the counterparty or a termination of the agreement, the master agreement does not result in an offset of reported amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities across transactions between the Fund and the applicable counterparty. Therefore the Fund reflects derivative assets and liabilities any related collateral gross on the statement of assets and liabilities. The enforceability of the right to offset may vary by jurisdiction.

The Fund's derivative contracts held at December 31, 2024, if any, are not accounted for as hedging instruments under GAAP and are disclosed in the Schedule of Investments together with the related counterparty.

Swap Agreements. The Fund may enter into equity contract for difference swap transactions for the purpose of increasing the income of the Fund. The use of swaps is a highly specialized activity that involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio security transactions. In an equity contract for difference swap, a set of future cash flows is exchanged between two counterparties. One of these cash flow streams will typically be based on a reference interest rate combined with the performance of a notional value of shares of a stock. The other will be based on the performance of the shares of a stock. Depending on the general state of short term interest rates and the returns on the Fund's portfolio securities at the time an equity contract for difference swap transaction reaches its scheduled termination date, there is a risk that the Fund will not be able to obtain a replacement transaction or that the terms of the replacement will not be as favorable as on the expiring transaction.

Unrealized gains related to swaps are reported as an asset and unrealized losses are reported as a liability in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. The change in value of swaps, including the accrual of periodic amounts of interest to be received or paid on swaps, is reported as unrealized gain or loss in the Statement of Operations. A realized gain or loss is recorded upon receipt or payment of a periodic payment or termination of swap agreements. At December 31, 2024, the Fund held no investments in equity contract for difference swap agreements. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the effect of equity contract for difference swap agreements can be found in the Statement of Operations under Net Realized and Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments in securities, Securities Sold Short, Swap Contracts, Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts, and

The GDL Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

Foreign Currency within Net realized loss on swap contracts. There were no swap positions held at each month-end during the year.

Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts. The Fund may engage in forward foreign exchange contracts for the purpose of hedging a specific transaction with respect to either the currency in which the transaction is denominated or another currency as deemed appropriate by the Adviser. Forward foreign exchange contracts are valued at the forward rate and are marked-to-market daily. The change in market value is included in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on forward foreign exchange contracts. When the contract is closed, the Fund records a realized gain or loss equal to the difference between the value of the contract at the time it was opened and the value at the time it was closed.

The use of forward foreign exchange contracts does not eliminate fluctuations in the underlying prices of the Fund's portfolio securities, but it does establish a rate of exchange that can be achieved in the future. Although forward foreign exchange contracts limit the risk of loss due to a decline in the value of the hedged currency, they also limit any potential gain that might result should the value of the currency increase. Forward foreign exchange contracts at December 31, 2024 are reflected within the Schedule of Investments. The Fund's volume of activity in forward foreign exchange contracts during the year ended December 31, 2024 had an average monthly notional amount of approximately \$3,559,960.

At December 31, 2024, the value of forward foreign exchange contracts can be found in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities under Assets, Unrealized appreciation on forward foreign exchange contracts and under Liabilities, Unrealized depreciation on forward foreign exchange contracts. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the effect of forward foreign exchange contracts can be found in the Statement of Operations under Net Realized and Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments in Securities, Securities Sold Short, Swap contracts, Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts, and Foreign Currency, within Net realized gain on forward foreign exchange contracts and Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on forward foreign exchange contracts.

At December 31, 2024, the Fund's derivative assets and liabilities (by type) are as follows:

	Gross Amounts of Recognized Assets Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Gross Amounts Available for Offset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Net Amounts of Assets Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Assets			
Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts	\$4,900	\$(90)	\$4,810
	Gross Amounts of Recognized Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Gross Amounts Available for Offset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Net Amounts of Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Liabilities			
Forward Foreign Exchange Contracts	\$90	\$(90)	—

The GDL Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

The following table presents the Fund's derivative assets and liability by counterparty net of the related collateral segregated as of December 31, 2024:

Counterparty	Net Amounts Not Offset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities			Net Amount
	Net Amounts of Assets Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Securities Pledged as Collateral	Cash Collateral Received	
State Street Bank and Trust Co.	\$4,900	\$(90)	—	\$4,810
Counterparty	Net Amounts Not Offset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities			Net Amount
	Net Amounts of Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Securities Pledged as Collateral	Cash Collateral Pledged	
State Street Bank and Trust Co.	\$90	(90)	—	—

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 Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC). Pursuant to amendments by the CFTC 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. In addition, certain trading restrictions are now applicable to the Fund which 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 positions 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 not 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.

Securities Sold Short. The Fund entered into short sale transactions. Short selling involves selling securities that may or may not be owned and, at times, borrowing the same securities for delivery to the purchaser, with an obligation to replace such borrowed securities at a later date. The proceeds received from short sales are recorded as liabilities and the Fund records an unrealized gain or loss to the extent of the difference between

The GDL Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

the proceeds received and the value of an open short position on the day of determination. The Fund records a realized gain or loss when the short position is closed out. By entering into a short sale, the Fund bears the market risk of an unfavorable change in the price of the security sold short. Dividends on short sales are recorded as an expense by the Fund on the ex-dividend date and interest expense is recorded on the accrual basis. The broker retains collateral for the value of the open positions, which is adjusted periodically as the value of the position fluctuates. Securities sold short and details of collateral at December 31, 2024 are reflected within the Schedule of Investments. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Fund incurred \$14,941 in service fees related to its investment positions sold short and held by the broker. These amounts are included in the Statement of Operations under Expenses, Service fees for securities sold short.

Series C and Series E Cumulative Preferred Shares. For financial reporting purposes only, the liquidation value of preferred shares that have a mandatory call date is classified as a liability within the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and the dividends paid on these preferred shares are included as a component of “Interest expense on preferred shares” within the Statement of Operations. Offering costs are amortized over the life of the preferred shares.

Investments in Other Investment Companies. The Fund may invest, from time to time, in shares of other investment companies (or entities that would be considered investment companies but are excluded from the definition pursuant to certain exceptions under the 1940 Act) (the Acquired Funds) in accordance with the 1940 Act and related rules. Shareholders in the Fund would bear the pro rata portion of the periodic expenses of the Acquired Funds in addition to the Fund’s expenses. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Fund’s pro rata portion of the periodic expenses charged by the Acquired Funds was less than one basis point.

Foreign Currency Translations. The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Foreign currencies, investments, and other assets and liabilities are translated into U.S. dollars at current exchange rates. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income, and expenses are translated at the exchange rate prevailing on the respective dates of such transactions. Unrealized gains and losses that result from changes in foreign exchange rates and/or changes in market prices of securities have been included in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments and foreign currency translations. Net realized foreign currency gains and losses resulting from changes in exchange rates include foreign currency gains and losses between trade date and settlement date on investment securities transactions, foreign currency transactions, and the difference between the amounts of interest and dividends recorded on the books of the Fund and the amounts actually received. The portion of foreign currency gains and losses related to fluctuation in exchange rates between the initial purchase trade date and subsequent sale trade date is included in realized gain/(loss) on investments.

Foreign Securities. The Fund may directly purchase securities of foreign issuers. Investing in securities of foreign issuers involves special risks not typically associated with investing in securities of U.S. issuers. The risks include possible revaluation of currencies, the inability to repatriate funds, less complete financial information about companies, and possible future adverse political and economic developments. Moreover, securities of many foreign issuers and their markets may be less liquid and their prices more volatile than securities of comparable U.S. issuers.

Foreign Taxes. The Fund may be subject to foreign taxes on income, gains on investments, or currency repatriation, a portion of which may be recoverable. The Fund will accrue such taxes and recoveries as applicable, based upon its current interpretation of tax rules and regulations that exist in the markets in which it invests.

The GDL Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

Restricted Securities. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its net assets in securities for which the markets are restricted. Restricted securities include securities whose disposition is subject to substantial legal or contractual restrictions. The sale of restricted securities often requires more time and results in higher brokerage charges or dealer discounts and other selling expenses than 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. Securities freely saleable among qualified institutional investors under special rules adopted by the SEC may be treated as liquid if they satisfy liquidity standards established by the Board. 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. At December 31, 2024, the Fund did not hold restricted securities.

Securities Transactions and Investment Income. Securities transactions are accounted for on the trade date with realized gain/(loss) on investments determined by using the identified cost method. Interest income (including amortization of premium and accretion of discount) is recorded on an accrual basis. Premiums and discounts on debt securities are amortized using the effective yield to maturity method or amortized to earliest call date, if applicable. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date, except for certain dividends from foreign securities that are recorded as soon after the ex-dividend date as the Fund becomes aware of such dividends.

Custodian Fee Credits and Interest Expense. When cash balances are maintained in the custody account, the Fund receives credits which are used to offset custodian fees. The gross expenses paid under the custody arrangement are included in custodian fees in the Statement of Operations with the corresponding expense offset, if any, shown as "Custodian fee credits." When cash balances are overdrawn, the Fund is charged an overdraft fee of 110% of the 90 day U.S. Treasury Bill rate on outstanding balances. This amount, if any, would be included in the Statement of Operations.

Distributions to Shareholders. Distributions to common shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Distributions to shareholders are based on income and capital gains as determined in accordance with federal income tax regulations, which may differ from income and capital gains as determined under GAAP. See Series C Cumulative Preferred Shares and Series E Cumulative Preferred Shares (the Preferred Shares) above for discussion of GAAP treatment. The distributions on these Preferred Shares are treated as dividends for tax purposes. These differences are also due to differing treatments of income and gains on various investment securities and foreign currency transactions held by the Fund, timing differences, and differing characterizations of distributions made by the Fund. Distributions from net investment income for federal income tax purposes include net realized gains on foreign currency transactions. These book/tax differences are either temporary or permanent in nature. To the extent these differences are permanent, adjustments are made to the appropriate capital accounts in the period when the differences arise. Permanent differences were primarily due to disallowed expenses and the reclassification of prior year post financial statement adjustments. These reclassifications have no impact on the NAV of the Fund. For the year ended December 31, 2024, reclassifications were made to decrease paid-in capital by \$60,194, with an offsetting adjustment to total accumulated loss.

Under the Fund's current common share distribution policy, the Fund declared and paid quarterly distributions from net investment income, capital gains, and paid-in capital. The actual sources of the distribution are determined after the end of the year. To the extent such distributions were made from current earnings and profits, they are considered ordinary income or long term capital gains. Distributions during the year may be

The GDL Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

made in excess of required distributions. That portion of a distribution that is paid-in capital (and is not sourced from net investment income or realized gains) should not be considered as the yield or total return on an investment in the Fund.

Distributions to shareholders of the Fund's Series C and Series E Cumulative Preferred Shares are recorded on a daily basis and are determined as described in Note 7.

The tax character of distributions paid during the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, was as follows:

	<u>Year Ended December 31, 2024</u>	<u>Year Ended December 31, 2023</u>
	<u>Common</u>	<u>Common</u>
Distributions paid from:		
Ordinary income (inclusive of short term capital gains)	\$ 4,553,420	\$ 2,305,651
Net long term capital gains	-	518,763
Return of capital	1,051,722	3,066,974
Total distributions paid	<u>\$ 5,605,142</u>	<u>\$ 5,891,388</u>

Provision for Income Taxes. The Fund intends to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code). It is the policy of the Fund to comply with the requirements of the Code applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute substantially all of its net investment company taxable income and net capital gains. Therefore, no provision for federal income taxes is required.

At December 31, 2024, the components of accumulated earnings/losses on a tax basis were as follows:

Net unrealized depreciation on investments, forward foreign exchange contracts, and foreign currency translations	\$ (49,051)
Other temporary differences	(28,432)
Qualified late year loss deferrals	<u>(1,137,885)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (1,215,368)</u>

* Other temporary differences are due to preferred share class distributions payable.

At December 31, 2024, the temporary differences between book basis and tax basis net unrealized depreciation on investments were primarily due to deferral of losses from wash sales for tax purposes, tax basis adjustments on investments in partnerships, and mark-to-market adjustments on investments in passive foreign investment companies.

The following summarizes the tax cost of investments and derivatives and the related net unrealized depreciation at December 31, 2024:

	<u>Cost/ (Proceeds)</u>	<u>Gross Unrealized Appreciation</u>	<u>Gross Unrealized Depreciation</u>	<u>Net Unrealized Depreciation</u>
Investments and other derivative instruments	\$161,885,854	\$5,183,419	\$(5,216,636)	\$(33,217)

The GDL Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

The Fund is required to evaluate tax positions taken or expected to be taken in the course of preparing the Fund's tax returns to determine whether the tax positions are "more-likely-than-not" of being sustained by the applicable tax authority. Income tax and related interest and penalties would be recognized by the Fund as tax expense in the Statement of Operations if the tax positions were deemed not to meet the more-likely-than-not threshold. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Fund did not incur any income tax, interest, or penalties. As of December 31, 2024, the Adviser has reviewed all open tax years and concluded that there was no impact to the Fund's net assets or results of operations. The Fund's federal and state tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open, subject to examination. On an ongoing basis, the Adviser will monitor the Fund's tax positions to determine if adjustments to this conclusion are necessary.

3. Investment Advisory Agreement and Other Transactions. The Fund has entered into an investment advisory agreement (the Advisory Agreement) with the Adviser which provides that the Fund will pay the Adviser a base fee, computed weekly and paid monthly, equal on an annual basis to 0.50% of the value of the Fund's average weekly managed assets. Managed assets consist of all of the assets of the Fund without deduction for borrowings, repurchase transactions, and other leveraging techniques, the liquidation value of any outstanding preferred shares, or other liabilities except for certain ordinary course expenses. In addition, the Fund may pay the Adviser an annual performance fee at a calendar year end if the Fund's total return on its managed assets during the year exceeds the total return of the 3 Month U.S. Treasury Bill Index (the T-Bill Index) during the same period. For every four basis points that the Fund's total return exceeds the T-Bill Index, the Fund will accrue weekly and pay annually a one basis point performance fee up to a maximum performance fee of 150 basis points. Under the performance fee arrangement, the annual rate of the total fees paid to the Adviser can range from 0.50% to 2.00% of the average weekly managed assets. During the year ended December 31, 2024, the Fund accrued a performance fee of \$93,920. In accordance with the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser provides a continuous investment program for the Fund's portfolio and oversees the administration of all aspects of the Fund's business and affairs.

There was a reduction in the advisory fee paid to the Adviser relating to certain portfolio holdings, i.e., unsupervised assets, of the Fund with respect to which the Adviser transferred dispositive and voting control to the Fund's Proxy Voting Committee. During the year ended December 31, 2024, the Fund's Proxy Voting Committee exercised control and discretion over all rights to vote or consent, and exercised dispositive control, with respect to such securities (Bel Fuse), and the Adviser reduced its fee with respect to such securities by \$12,784.

4. Portfolio Securities. Purchases and sales of securities during the year ended December 31, 2024, other than short term securities and U.S. Government obligations, aggregated to \$354,287,493 and \$322,866,972, respectively. Purchases and sales of U.S. Government Obligations for the year ended December 31, 2024, aggregated \$301,568,713 and \$359,473,231, respectively.

5. Transactions with Affiliates and Other Arrangements. During the year ended December 31, 2024, the Fund paid \$76,129 in brokerage commissions on security trades to G.research, LLC, an affiliate of the Adviser.

During the year ended December 31, 2024, the Fund received credits from a designated broker who agreed to pay certain Fund operating expenses. The amount of such expenses paid through this directed brokerage arrangement during this period was \$3,180.

The GDL Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

The cost of calculating the Fund's NAV per share is a Fund expense pursuant to the Advisory Agreement between the Fund and the Adviser. Under the sub-administration agreement with Bank of New York Mellon, the fees paid include the cost of calculating the Fund's NAV. The Fund reimburses the Adviser for this service. During the year ended December 31, 2024, the Fund accrued \$45,000 in accounting fees in the Statement of Operations.

As per the approval of the Board, the Fund compensates officers of the Fund, who are employed by the Fund and are not employed by the Adviser (although the officers may receive incentive based variable compensation from affiliates of the Adviser). For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Fund accrued \$247,325 in payroll expenses in the Statement of Operations.

The Fund pays retainer and per meeting fees to independent Trustees and certain interested Trustees, plus specified amounts to the Lead Trustee and Audit Committee Chairman. Trustees are also reimbursed for out of pocket expenses incurred in attending meetings. Trustees who are directors or employees of the Adviser or an affiliated company receive no compensation or expense reimbursement from the Fund.

6. Line of Credit. The Fund participates in an unsecured and uncommitted line of credit, which expires on June 25, 2025 and may be renewed annually, of up to \$75,000,000 under which it may borrow up to one-third of its net assets from the bank for temporary borrowing purposes. Borrowings under this arrangement bear interest at a floating rate equal to the higher of the Overnight Federal Funds Rate plus 135 basis points or the Overnight Bank Funding Rate plus 135 basis points in effect on that day. This amount, if any, would be included in "Interest expense" in the Statement of Operations.

During the year ended December 31, 2024, there were no borrowings outstanding under the line of credit.

7. Capital. The Fund is authorized to issue an unlimited number of common shares of beneficial interest (par value \$0.001). The Board has authorized the repurchase of the Fund's common shares on the open market when its shares are trading at a discount of 7.5% or more (or such other percentage as the Board may determine from time to time) from the NAV per share. During the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, the Fund repurchased and retired 460,998 and 966,858 common shares in the open market at investments of \$3,652,383 and \$7,660,676, and an average discounts of approximately 22.53% and 21.68%, respectively, from its NAV.

As of December 31, 2024, the Fund has an effective shelf registration authorizing an additional \$200 million of common or preferred shares.

The Fund's Declaration of Trust, as amended, authorizes the issuance of an unlimited number of shares of \$0.001 par value Preferred Shares. The Preferred Shares are senior to the common shares and result in the financial leveraging of the common shares. Such leveraging tends to magnify both the risks and opportunities to common shareholders.

The Series C Preferred shares (Series C Preferred) paid distributions at an annualized rate of 4.00% on the \$50 per share liquidation preference for the quarterly dividend periods ended on or prior to March 26, 2019 (Year 1). On February 22, 2019, the Fund's Board announced a reset fixed dividend rate of 4.00% that will apply for the next eight quarterly dividend periods (Year 2 and Year 3). On March 1, 2021, the Board continued the 4.00% dividend rate for Series C Preferred through the mandatory redemption date of March 26, 2025. On March 26, 2020, 1,935,093 Series C Preferred were put back to the Fund at the liquidation value of \$96,754,650, plus accumulated and unpaid dividends. At December 31, 2024, there were 688,392 Series C Preferred outstanding

The GDL Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

and accrued distributions amounted to \$19,137. On March 28, 2022, the Fund issued 3,500,000 shares of Series E Cumulative Term Preferred Shares (Series E Preferred), receiving \$34,750,000 after the deduction of offering expenses of \$250,000. The Series E Preferred has a liquidation value of \$10 per share, and paid dividends at the rate of 4.00% per annum of the \$10 per share liquidation preference for the dividend period beginning with the date of original issuance and ending on June 26, 2022 and the three dividend periods thereafter, and 4.25% per annum of the \$10 per share liquidation preference for all subsequent dividend periods. The Board of Trustees increased the dividend rate on Series E Preferred to an annual rate of 5.20% effective January 19, 2023. Series E Preferred were callable at the Fund's option on March 26, 2024 and have a mandatory redemption date of March 26, 2025. On March 27, 2023, 667,500 shares of Series E Preferred were put back to the Fund at their liquidation preference of \$10 per share plus accrued and unpaid dividends. On March 27, 2024, 1,545,500 shares of Series E Preferred were put back to the Fund at their liquidation preference of \$10 per share plus accrued and unpaid dividends. At December 31, 2024, there were 1,287,000 Series E Preferred outstanding and accrued distributions amounted to \$9,295.

Dividends on the Preferred Shares are cumulative. The Fund is required by the 1940 Act and by the Fund's Statement of Preferences to meet certain asset coverage tests with respect to the Preferred Shares. If the Fund fails to meet these requirements and does not correct such failure, the Fund may be required to redeem, in part or in full, the Preferred Shares at the respective redemption prices per share plus an amount equal to the accumulated and unpaid dividends whether or not declared on such shares in order to meet these requirements. Additionally, failure to meet the foregoing asset coverage requirements could restrict the Fund's ability to pay dividends to common shareholders and could lead to sales of portfolio securities at inopportune times. The income received on the Fund's assets may vary in a manner unrelated to the fixed and variable rates, which could have either a beneficial or detrimental impact on net investment income and gains available to common shareholders.

The holders of Preferred Shares generally are entitled to one vote per share held on each matter submitted to a vote of shareholders of the Fund and will vote together with holders of common stock as a single class. The holders of Preferred Shares voting together as a single class also have the right currently to elect two Trustees and under certain circumstances are entitled to elect a majority of the Board of Trustees. In addition, the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of all outstanding shares of the preferred shares, voting as a single class, will be required to approve any plan of reorganization adversely affecting the preferred shares, and the approval of two-thirds of each class, voting separately, of the Fund's outstanding voting stock must approve the conversion of the Fund from a closed-end to an open-end investment company. The approval of a majority (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the outstanding preferred shares and a majority (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Fund's outstanding voting securities are required to approve certain other actions, including changes in the Fund's investment objectives or fundamental investment policies.

8. Indemnifications. The Fund enters into contracts that contain a variety of indemnifications. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown. However, the Fund has not had prior claims or losses pursuant to these contracts. Management has reviewed the Fund's existing contracts and expects the risk of loss to be remote.

9. Segment Reporting. In this reporting period, the Fund adopted FASB Accounting Standards Update 2023-07, Segment Reporting (Topic 280) - Improvements to Reportable Segment Disclosures (ASU 2023-07). Adoption of the new standard impacted financial statement disclosures only and did not affect the Fund's

The GDL Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

financial position or results of operations. The Fund's Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer act as the Fund's chief operating decision maker (CODM), as defined in Topic 280, assessing performance and making decisions about resource allocation. The CODM has determined that the Fund has a single operating segment based on the fact that the CODM monitors the operating results of the Fund as a whole and the Fund's long-term strategic asset allocation is guided by the Fund's investment objective and principal investment strategies, and executed by the Fund's portfolio management team, comprised of investment professionals employed by the Adviser. The financial information provided to and reviewed by the CODM is consistent with that presented in each Fund's Schedule of Investments, Statements of Operations and Changes in Net Assets and Financial Highlights.

10. Subsequent Events. Management has evaluated the impact on the Fund of all subsequent events occurring through the date the financial statements were issued and has determined that there were no subsequent events requiring recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

The GDL Fund

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and the Board of Trustees of
The GDL Fund

Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of GDL Fund (the “Fund”), including the schedule of investments, as of December 31, 2024, and the related statements of operations and cash flows for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets attributable to common shareholders for each of the two years in the period then ended, the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “financial statements”). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund at December 31, 2024, the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets attributable to common shareholders for each of the two years in the period then ended and its financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Fund’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Fund’s financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”) and are required to be independent with respect to the Fund in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Fund is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of the Fund’s internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits, we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund’s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of December 31, 2024 by correspondence with the custodian, brokers and others; when replies were not received from brokers or others, we performed other auditing procedures. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Ernst + Young LLP

We have served as the auditor of one or more Gabelli Funds investment companies since 1992.

New York, New York
March 1, 2025

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Unaudited)

Delaware Statutory Trust Act – Control Share Acquisitions

The Fund is organized as a Delaware statutory trust and thus is subject to the control share acquisition statute contained in Subchapter III of the Delaware Statutory Trust Act (the DSTA Control Share Statute). The DSTA Control Share Statute applies to any closed-end investment company organized as a Delaware statutory trust and listed on a national securities exchange, such as the Fund. The DSTA Control Share Statute became automatically applicable to the Fund on August 1, 2022.

The DSTA Control Share Statute defines “control beneficial interests” (referred to as “control shares” herein) by reference to a series of voting power thresholds and provides that a holder of control shares acquired in a control share acquisition has no voting rights under the Delaware Statutory Trust Act (DSTA) or the Fund’s Governing Documents (as used herein, “Governing Documents” means the Fund’s Agreement and Declaration of Trust and By-Laws, together with any amendments or supplements thereto, including any Statement of Preferences establishing a series of preferred shares) with respect to the control shares acquired in the control share acquisition, except to the extent approved by the Fund’s shareholders by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the votes entitled to be cast on the matter, excluding all interested shares (generally, shares held by the acquiring person and their associates and shares held by Fund insiders).

The DSTA Control Share Statute provides for a series of voting power thresholds above which shares are considered control shares. Whether one of these thresholds of voting power is met is determined by aggregating the holdings of the acquiring person as well as those of his, her or its “associates.” These thresholds are:

- 10% or more, but less than 15% of all voting power;
- 15% or more, but less than 20% of all voting power;
- 20% or more, but less than 25% of all voting power;
- 25% or more, but less than 30% of all voting power;
- 30% or more, but less than a majority of all voting power; or
- a majority or more of all voting power.

Under the DSTA Control Share Statute, once a threshold is reached, an acquirer has no voting rights with respect to shares in excess of that threshold (i.e., the “control shares”) until approved by a vote of shareholders, as described above, or otherwise exempted by the Fund’s Board of Trustees. The DSTA Control Share Statute contains a statutory process for an acquiring person to request a shareholder meeting for the purpose of considering the voting rights to be accorded control shares. An acquiring person must repeat this process at each threshold level. The DSTA Control Share Statute effectively allows non-interested shareholders to evaluate the intentions and plans of an acquiring person above each threshold level.

Under the DSTA Control Share Statute, an acquiring person’s “associates” are broadly defined to include, among others, relatives of the acquiring person, anyone in a control relationship with the acquiring person, any investment fund or other collective investment vehicle that has the same investment adviser as the acquiring person, any investment adviser of an acquiring person that is an investment fund or other collective investment vehicle and any other person acting or intending to act jointly or in concert with the acquiring person.

Voting power under the DSTA Control Share Statute is the power (whether such power is direct or indirect or through any contract, arrangement, understanding, relationship or otherwise) to directly or indirectly exercise

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

or direct the exercise of the voting power of shares of the Fund in the election of the Fund's Trustees (either generally or with respect to any subset, series or class of trustees, including any Trustees elected solely by a particular series or class of shares, such as the preferred shares). Thus, Fund preferred shares, including the Series C and Series E Preferred Shares, acquired in excess of the above thresholds would be considered control shares with respect to the preferred share class vote for two Trustees.

Any control shares of the Fund acquired before August 1, 2022 are not subject to the DSTA Control Share Statute; however, any further acquisitions on or after August 1, 2022 are considered control shares subject to the DSTA Control Share Statute.

The DSTA Control Share Statute requires shareholders to disclose to the Fund any control share acquisition within 10 days of such acquisition, and also permits the Fund to require a shareholder or an associate of such person to disclose the number of shares owned or with respect to which such person or an associate thereof can directly or indirectly exercise voting power. Further, the DSTA Control Share Statute requires a shareholder or an associate of such person to provide to the Fund within 10 days of receiving a request therefor from the Fund any information that the Fund's Trustees reasonably believe is necessary or desirable to determine whether a control share acquisition has occurred.

The DSTA Control Share Statute permits the Fund's Board of Trustees, through a provision in the Fund's Governing Documents or by Board action alone, to eliminate the application of the DSTA Control Share Statute to the acquisition of control shares in the Fund specifically, generally, or generally by types, as to specifically identified or unidentified existing or future beneficial owners or their affiliates or associates or as to any series or classes of shares. The DSTA Control Share Statute does not provide that the Fund can generally "opt out" of the application of the DSTA Control Share Statute; rather, specific acquisitions or classes of acquisitions may be exempted by the Fund's Board of Trustees, either in advance or retroactively, but other aspects of the DSTA Control Share Statute, which are summarized above, would continue to apply. The DSTA Control Share Statute further provides that the Board of Trustees is under no obligation to grant any such exemptions.

The Board of Trustees has considered the DSTA Control Share Statute. The Board of Trustees has adopted resolutions exempting from the application of the DSTA Control Share Statute acquisitions of preferred shares of beneficial interest of the Fund directly from the Fund or the Fund's distributor, underwriter, placement agent or selling agent, as applicable. As of the date hereof, the Board of Trustees has not received notice of the occurrence of any other control share acquisition nor has been requested to exempt any other acquisition. Therefore, the Board of Trustees has not determined whether the application of the DSTA Control Share Statute to any other acquisition of Fund shares is in the best interest of the Fund and its shareholders and has not exempted, and has no present intention to exempt, any other acquisition or class of acquisitions.

If the Board of Trustees receives a notice of a control share acquisition and/or a request to exempt any acquisition, it will consider whether the application of the DSTA Control Share Statute or the granting of such an exemption would be in the best interest of the Fund and its shareholders. The Fund should not be viewed as a vehicle for trading purposes. It is designed primarily for risk-tolerant long-term investors.

The foregoing is only a summary of the material terms of the DSTA Control Share Statute. Shareholders should consult their own counsel with respect to the application of the DSTA Control Share Statute to any particular circumstance. Some uncertainty around the general application under the 1940 Act of state control

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

share statutes exists as a result of recent federal and state court decisions that have found that certain control share bylaws and the opting into state control share statutes violated the 1940 Act. The Board of Trustees has considered the DSTA Control Share Statute and the uncertainty around the general application under the 1940 Act of state control share statutes and enforcement of state control share statutes. The Board of Trustees intends to continue to monitor developments relating to the DSTA Control Share Statute and state control share statutes generally. Additionally, in some circumstances uncertainty may also exist in how to enforce the control share restrictions contained in state control share statutes against beneficial owners who hold their shares through financial intermediaries.

The ownership restrictions set forth in the Fund's Governing Documents and the limitations of the DSTA Control Share Statute described above could have the effect of depriving shareholders of an opportunity to sell their shares at a premium over prevailing market prices by discouraging a third party from seeking to obtain control over the Fund and may reduce market demand for the Fund's common shares, which could have the effect of increasing the likelihood that the Fund's common shares trade at a discount to net asset value and increasing the amount of any such discount.

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Unaudited)

SUMMARY OF FUND EXPENSES

The following tables are intended to assist you in understanding the various costs and expenses directly or indirectly associated with investing in our common shares as a percentage of net assets attributable to common shares. The table is based on the capital structure of the Fund as of December 31, 2024.

<i>Shareholder Transaction Expenses</i>	
Sales Load (as a percentage of offering price)	-% (a)
Offering Expenses Borne by the Fund (as a percentage of offering price)	-% (a)
Dividend Reinvestment and Voluntary Cash Purchase Plan Fees	
Purchase Transactions	- (b)
Sales Transactions	\$1.00 (b)

<u>Annual Expenses</u>	<u>Percentages of Net Assets Attributable to Common Shares</u>
Base Management Fee	0.70% (c)
Performance Fee	0.08% (d)
Interest Expense	1.71% (e)
Other Expenses	0.72% (f)
Total Annual Expenses	3.06%

- (a) If common shares are sold to or through underwriters or deal managers, a prospectus or prospectus supplement will set forth any applicable sales load and the estimated offering expenses borne by the Fund.
- (b) Shareholders participating in the Fund's Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan do not incur any additional fees. Shareholders participating in the Voluntary Cash Purchase Plan would pay their pro rata share of brokerage commissions for transactions to purchase shares and \$1.00 plus their pro rata share of brokerage commissions per transaction to sell shares.
- (c) The base fee rate charged by the Investment Adviser is an annual rate of 0.50% of the Fund's average weekly managed assets payable monthly in arrears. In addition, the Investment Adviser will be entitled to receive an annual performance fee as of the end of each calendar year described below. The Fund's managed assets includes all of the assets of the Fund without deduction for borrowings, repurchase transactions and other leveraging techniques, the liquidation value of any outstanding preferred shares or other liabilities except for certain ordinary course expenses. Consequently, since the Fund has preferred shares outstanding, the investment management fees and other expenses as a percentage of net assets attributable to common shares may be higher than if the Fund does not utilize a leveraged capital structure.
- (d) Based on year ended December 31, 2024. In addition to the base fee, the Investment Adviser will be entitled to receive an annual performance fee as of the end of each calendar year if the total return of the Fund on its common shares during the calendar year in question exceeds the total return of an index of three-month U.S. Treasury bills (the "T-Bill Index") during the same period. If the Fund's total return for the

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

calendar year equals the total return of the T-Bill Index for the same period plus 3.0 percentage points (300 basis points), the Investment Adviser will receive a performance fee of 0.75% of the Fund's average weekly managed assets during the calendar year measurement period for the Fund's fulcrum fee. This performance fee will be increased by 0.01 percentage point (one basis point) for each 0.04 percentage point (four basis points) by which the Fund's total return during the period exceeds the T-Bill Index total return plus 3.0 percentage points (300 basis points), up to a maximum performance fee of 1.50% if the excess performance over the T-Bill Index is 6.0 percentage points (600 basis points) or greater and will be decreased at the same rate for the amount by which the Fund's total return during the period is less than the T-Bill Index total return plus 3.0 percentage points (300 basis points), until no performance fee is payable if the Fund's total return is less than or equal to the T-Bill Index total return. Under the performance fee arrangement, the annual rate of the total fees paid to the Investment Adviser can range from 0.50% to 2.00% of the Fund's average weekly managed assets.

- (e) The Series C Preferred Shares and the Series E Preferred Shares have a mandatory redemption date of March 26, 2025. Therefore, for financial reporting purposes only, the dividends paid on the Series C Preferred Shares and the Series E Preferred Shares are included as a component of "Interest Expense."
- (f) "Other Expenses" are based on estimated amounts for the current year.

For a more complete description of the various costs and expenses a common shareholder would bear in connection with the issuance and ongoing maintenance of any preferred shares or notes issued by the Fund, see "Risk Factors and Special Considerations-Special Risks to Holders of Common Shares-Leverage Risk."

Example

The following example illustrates the expenses you would pay on a \$1,000 investment in common shares, assuming a 5% annual portfolio total return.* The actual amounts in connection with any offering will be set forth in the Prospectus Supplement if applicable.

	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>3 Year</u>	<u>5 Year</u>	<u>10 Year</u>
Total Expenses Incurred.	\$32	\$99	\$168	\$352

* The example should not be considered a representation of future expenses. The example is based on total Annual Expenses and Dividends on Preferred Shares shown in the table above and assumes that the amounts set forth in the table do not change and that all distributions are reinvested at net asset value. Actual expenses may be greater or less than those assumed. Moreover, the Fund's actual rate of return may be greater or less than the hypothetical 5% return shown in the example.

The example includes Dividends on Preferred Shares, which for financial reporting purposes only are included as a component of "Interest Expense." If Dividends on Preferred Shares were not included in "Interest Expense" and were not included in the example calculation, the expenses for the 1-, 3-, 5- and 10-year periods in the table above would be as follows (based on the same assumptions as above): \$15, \$47, \$82, and \$179.

Market and Net Asset Value Information

The GDL Fund is a diversified closed-end management investment company organized as a Delaware statutory trust on October 17, 2006, and registered under the 1940 Act. Investment operations commenced on January

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

31, 2007. The Fund's common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") under the symbol "GDL" and the Fund's Series C Preferred Shares are listed on the NYSE under the symbol "GDL Pr C." Over the past ten years, the Fund's common shares have traded at a discount to net asset value as high as (32.91)% and a discount to net asset value as low as (10.88)%. Any additional preferred shares or subscription rights issued in the future by the Fund pursuant to a Prospectus Supplement would also likely be listed on the NYSE.

The following table sets forth for the quarters indicated, the high and low sale prices on the NYSE American per share of our common shares and the net asset value and the premium or discount from net asset value per share at which the common shares were trading, expressed as a percentage of net asset value, at each of the high and low sale prices provided.

Quarter Ended	Common Share Market Price		Corresponding Net Asset Value ("NAV") Per Share		Corresponding Premium or Discount as a % of NAV	
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
	March 31, 2023	\$8.17	\$7.12	\$10.20	\$9.94	(19.90)%
June 30, 2023	\$7.94	\$7.71	\$10.16	\$10.06	(21.85)%	(23.86)%
September 30, 2023	\$7.99	\$7.71	\$10.20	\$10.02	(21.67)%	(23.05)%
December 31, 2023	\$8.08	\$7.68	\$10.20	\$10.02	(20.78)%	(23.35)%
March 31, 2024	\$8.01	\$7.81	\$10.17	\$10.08	(21.24)%	(21.52)%
June 30, 2024	\$7.78	\$7.77	\$10.25	\$10.06	(21.15)%	(22.76)%
September 30, 2024	\$8.20	\$7.85	\$10.43	\$10.18	(21.38)%	(22.89)%
December 31, 2024	\$8.25	\$7.94	\$10.47	\$10.21	(21.20)%	(22.23)%

The last reported price for our common shares on December 31, 2024 was \$8.02 per share. As of December 31, 2024, the net asset value per share of the Fund's common shares was \$10.26. Accordingly, the Fund's common shares traded at a discount to net asset value of (21.83)% on December 31, 2024.

Outstanding Securities

The following information regarding the Fund's outstanding securities is as of December 31, 2024.

Title of Class	Amount Authorized	Amount Held by Fund for its Account	Amount Outstanding Exclusive of Amount Held by Fund
Common Shares	Unlimited	–	11,501,987
Series C Cumulative Puttable and Callable Preferred Shares	2,624,025	–	688,932
Series E Cumulative Preferred Shares	3,500,000	–	1,287,000

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

Unresolved SEC Staff Comments

The Fund does not believe that there are any material unresolved written comments, received 180 days or more before December 31, 2024, from the Staff of the SEC regarding any of the Fund's periodic or current reports under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or the Investment Company Act of 1940, or its registration statement.

Selected data for a common share of beneficial interest outstanding throughout each year:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Operating Performance:					
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 10.99	\$ 11.59	\$ 11.88	\$ 11.93	\$ 12.10
Net investment loss	(0.42)	(0.14)	(0.22)	(0.36)	(0.44)
Net realized and unrealized gain/(loss) on investments, securities sold short, swap contracts, forward foreign exchange contracts, and foreign currency transactions	0.88	(0.15)	0.46	0.84	0.85
Total from investment operations	0.46	(0.29)	0.24	0.48	0.41
Distributions to Common Shareholders:					
Net investment income	—	(0.19)	—	—	—
Net realized gain	(0.07)	(0.18)	—	(0.59)	(0.56)
Return of capital	(0.33)	(0.03)	(0.58)	(0.05)	(0.08)
Total distributions to common shareholders	(0.40)	(0.40)	(0.58)	(0.64)	(0.64)
Common Share Transactions:					
Increase in net asset value from repurchase of common shares	0.10	0.09	0.05	0.11	0.06
Net Asset Value, End of Year	\$ 11.15	\$ 10.99	\$ 11.59	\$ 11.88	\$ 11.93
NAV total return †	5.15%	(1.76)%	2.50%	5.09%	3.95%
Market value, end of year	\$ 9.30	\$ 9.17	\$ 9.73	\$ 9.84	\$ 10.01
Investment total return ††	5.81%	(1.62)%	4.70%	4.79%	4.12%
Ratios to Average Net Assets and Supplemental Data:					
Net assets including liquidation value of preferred shares, end of year (in 000's)	\$305,887	\$314,633	\$335,299	\$347,980	\$364,160
Net assets attributable to common shares, end of year (in 000's)	\$174,686	\$183,431	\$204,098	\$216,779	\$232,959
Ratio of net investment loss to average net assets attributable to common shares including interest and offering costs(a)	(3.64)%	(1.18)%	(1.85)%	(2.94)%	(2.75)%
Ratio of operating expenses to average net assets attributable to common shares(b)(c)	5.76%(d)	4.04%	3.65%(e)	4.72%(e)(f)	4.23%(e)(f)
Portfolio turnover rate	380%	390%	233%	284%	268%

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

Selected data for a common share of beneficial interest outstanding throughout each year:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Cumulative Preferred Shares					
Series B Preferred					
Liquidation value, end of year (in 000's)	—	—	\$131,201	\$131,201	\$131,201
Total shares outstanding (in 000's)	—	—	2,624	2,624	2,624
Liquidation preference per share	—	—	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Average market value(g)	—	—	\$ 50.51	\$ 50.51	\$ 50.30
Asset coverage per share	—	—	\$ 127.78	\$ 132.61	\$ 138.78
Series C Preferred					
Liquidation value, end of year (in 000's)	\$131,201	\$131,201	—	—	—
Total shares outstanding (in 000's)	2,624	2,624	—	—	—
Liquidation preference per share	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	—	—	—
Average market value(g)	\$ 50.71	\$ 51.63	—	—	—
Asset coverage per share	\$ 116.57	\$ 119.90	—	—	—
Asset coverage	233%	240%	256%	265%	278%

† Based on net asset value per share, adjusted for reinvestment of distributions at the net asset value per share on the ex-dividend dates.

†† Based on market value per share, adjusted for reinvestment of distributions at prices determined under the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan.

- (a) The Fund incurred interest expense during all periods presented. Interest expense on Preferred Shares relates to the \$50 Series B Preferred Shares to May 29, 2018 and the \$50 Series C Preferred Shares from March 26, 2018 through December 31, 2019 (see Footnotes 2 and 5).
- (b) The Fund received credits from a designated broker who agreed to pay certain Fund operating expenses. For the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, and 2015, there was no impact on the expense ratios.
- (c) The ratio of operating expenses excluding interest, dividends and service fees on securities sold short, and offering costs to average net assets attributable to common shares for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, and 2015 would have been 2.41%, 1.28%, 1.75%, 2.92%, and 2.87%, respectively.
- (d) The ratio of operating expenses excluding the custodian fee credit for the year ended December 31, 2019 would have been 5.75%
- (e) The ratio of operating expenses does not include custodian fee credits. Including such custodian fee credits, the ratio of operating expenses to average net assets for the year ended December 31, 2017 would have been 3.64%. For the years ended December 31, 2016, and 2015, the effect was minimal.
- (f) For the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, the ratio of operating expenses excluded interest, dividends and service fees on securities sold short, and offering costs. Including these expenses, the ratio of operating expenses for the years ended December 31, 2016, and 2015, would have been 4.84%, and 4.43%, respectively.
- (g) Based on weekly prices.

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

CHANGES OCCURRING DURING THE PRIOR FISCAL PERIOD

The following information is a summary of certain changes during the most recent fiscal year ended December 31, 2024. This information may not reflect all of the changes that have occurred since you purchased shares of the Fund.

During the Fund's most recent fiscal year, there were no material changes to the Fund's investment objectives or policies that have not been approved by shareholders or in the principal risk factors associated with an investment in the Fund.

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Investment Objectives and Policies

The Fund's investment objective is to achieve absolute returns in various market conditions without excessive risk of capital. Absolute returns are defined as positive total returns, regardless of the direction of securities markets. To achieve its investment objective, the Fund, under normal market conditions, will invest primarily in securities of companies (both domestic and foreign) involved in publicly announced mergers, takeovers, tender offers and leveraged buyouts (i.e., merger arbitrage transitions) and, to a lesser extent, in corporate reorganizations involving stubs, spin-offs and liquidations. The key determinants of the profitability of a merger arbitrage transaction are the probability that the deal will close, the length of time to closing, the likelihood that the deal price will be increased or decreased and the level of short-term interest rates.

Merger arbitrage is a highly specialized investment approach generally designed to profit from the successful completion of proposed mergers, takeovers, tender offers and leveraged buyouts. Broadly speaking, an investor purchases the stock of a company in the process of being acquired by another company in anticipation of capturing the spread between the current market price and the acquisition price. A "stub" refers to a small stake in a target company division or subsidiary that is not purchased by an acquirer in a merger, takeover or leveraged buyout. The arbitrageur may buy the stub, and if the acquiring company is successful in boosting the target company's appeal, the shares will benefit from a boost in price and the arbitrageur will profit. A spin-off occurs when an independent company is created from an existing part of another company through a distribution of new shares. An arbitrageur may benefit from the share price differential in the same manner as in traditional merger arbitrage if, upon completion of the spin-off, the separate securities trade for more in the aggregate than the former single security. Finally, when a company makes the decision to liquidate, or sell all of its assets, it is often worth more in liquidation than as an ongoing entity. An arbitrageur benefits when the company is able to distribute more than the price at which the stock is trading at the time the arbitrageur acquires its position.

In order to minimize market exposure and volatility of such merger arbitrage strategies, the Fund may utilize hedging strategies, such as short selling and the use of options, futures, swaps, forward foreign exchange contracts and other derivatives. The Fund expects that it will invest in these types of instruments primarily for hedging and risk management purposes. The Fund may also invest in derivative instruments for the purposes of increasing the income of the Fund, hedging against changes in the value of its portfolio securities and in the value of securities it intends to purchase, or hedging against a specific transaction with respect to either the currency in which the transaction is denominated or another currency. There is no specific limit on the proportion

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

of its assets that the Fund may use to invest in derivatives and conduct short sales in connection with its investments in corporate transactions and reorganizations.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its assets in securities or hedging arrangements relating to companies involved in corporate transactions or reorganizations, giving rise to the possibility of realizing gains upon or within relatively short periods of time after the completion of such transactions, or reorganizations. This policy is not fundamental and may be changed by the Fund with notice of not less than 60 days to its shareholders. Securities in which the Fund may invest include both equity securities (e.g., common stocks and preferred stocks) and fixed-income securities. The Fund may make unlimited investments in securities rated below investment grade by recognized statistical rating agencies or unrated securities of comparable quality, including securities of issuers in default, which are likely to have the lowest rating. However, the Fund does not expect these investments to exceed 10% of its total assets. These securities, which may be preferred shares or debt, are predominantly speculative and involve major risk exposure to adverse conditions. Securities that are rated lower than “BBB” by S&P, or lower than “Baa” by Moody’s or unrated securities considered by the Investment Adviser to be of comparable quality, are commonly referred to as “junk bonds” or “high yield” securities. The Fund may also invest up to 15% of its assets in securities for which there is no readily available trading market or are otherwise illiquid. Illiquid securities include securities legally restricted as to resale, such as commercial paper issued pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the “Securities Act”) and securities eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A thereunder. Section 4(a)(2) and Rule 144A securities may, however, be treated as liquid by the Investment Adviser pursuant to procedures adopted by the Board, which require consideration of factors such as trading activity, availability of market quotations and number of dealers willing to purchase the security.

In applying the Fund’s investment policies, the Investment Adviser considers normal market conditions to exist when there are a substantial number of corporate transactions or reorganizations that, in the Investment Adviser’s judgment, have an attractive investment profile. Depending upon the level of merger activity and other economic and market conditions, and the availability of corporate transactions or reorganizations that, in the Investment Adviser’s judgment, have an attractive investment profile, the Fund may invest a substantial portion of its assets in other securities, including money market instruments such as U.S. Treasury bills and other short-term obligations of the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities; shares of one or more money market funds managed by the Investment Adviser or unaffiliated managers; negotiable bank certificates of deposit; prime commercial paper; and repurchase agreements with respect to the above securities. During periods in which a substantial portion of the Fund’s assets are invested in other securities, it is less likely that the Fund will achieve its investment objective or an attractive rate of return.

The Fund may invest without limitation in the securities of foreign and domestic issuers. The Fund’s investment strategy is to invest in merger arbitrage transactions and corporate reorganizations throughout the world. To the extent that the majority of mergers, takeovers, tender offers and leveraged buyouts and corporate reorganizations are concentrated in any given geographic region, such as Europe, North America or Asia, a relatively high proportion of the Fund’s assets may be invested in that particular region.

No assurances can be given that the Fund’s objective will be achieved. Neither the Fund’s investment objective nor, except as expressly stated herein or in the Fund’s prospectus or Statement of Additional Information, any of its policies are fundamental, and each may be modified by the Board without shareholder approval. The

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

percentage and ratings limitations stated herein apply only at the time of investment and are not considered violated as a result of subsequent changes to the value, or downgrades to the ratings, of the Fund's portfolio investments.

Gabelli Funds, LLC, a New York limited liability company, with offices at One Corporate Center, Rye, New York 10580-1422, serves as the investment adviser to the Fund.

Investment Methodology of the Fund

In selecting transactions in which the Fund will invest, the Investment Adviser normally considers the following factors, among others:

- the probability that the targeted acquisition or other transaction will close;
- the length of time to closing;
- the credibility, strategic motivation and financial resources of the participants;
- the liquidity of the securities involved in the transaction;
- the issuer's free cash flow and long term earnings trends;
- the likelihood of an overbid; and
- the presence of a catalyst: something indigenous to the issuer, its industry, or country to surface additional value.

The Investment Adviser believes that blending traditional merger arbitrage for announced deals with strategies that focus on stubs, spin-offs and liquidations will produce absolute returns in excess of short-term interest rates with less volatility than the returns typically associated with equity investing. A systematic and disciplined arbitrage program may produce attractive rates of return even in flat or down markets.

Certain Investment Practices

Merger Arbitrage. Merger arbitrage is a highly specialized investment approach generally designed to profit from the successful completion of proposed mergers, takeovers, tender offers and leveraged buyouts. Although a variety of strategies may be employed depending upon the nature of the reorganizations selected for investment, the most common merger arbitrage activity involves purchasing the shares of an announced acquisition target at a discount to their expected value upon completion of the acquisition. Although investors can utilize merger arbitrage techniques with respect to companies the investor believes may soon become subject to a merger proposal or negotiated transaction, the Fund intends to invest primarily in publicly announced transactions.

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 but at a discount to what the stated or appraised value of the securities would be if the contemplated transaction were completed. Investments in these securities may be advantageous when the discount overstates the risk of the contingencies involved; undervalues the securities, assets or cash to be received by shareholders of the prospective portfolio company as a result of the contemplated transaction; or fails adequately to 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 Investment 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

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

as a result of the contemplated transaction, but also the financial resources and business motivation of the offering party and/or the dynamics and business climate when the offer or proposal is in process. Since such investments are ordinarily short term in nature, they will tend to increase the portfolio turnover ratio of the Fund (which may exceed 300%), thereby increasing its brokerage and other transaction expenses. The Investment Adviser intends to select investments of this type which, in its view, have reasonable prospects of capital appreciation which are significant in relation to both the risk involved and the potential of available alternative investments.

Foreign Securities. The Fund may invest, without limit, in the equity securities of companies located outside the United States, which are generally denominated in foreign currencies.

The Investment Adviser believes that investing in foreign securities offers both enhanced investment opportunities and additional risks beyond those present in U.S. securities. Investing in foreign securities may provide increased diversification by adding securities from various foreign countries (i) that offer different investment opportunities, (ii) that generally are affected by different economic trends and (iii) whose stock markets may not be correlated with U.S. markets. At the same time, these opportunities and trends involve risks that may not be encountered in U.S. investments.

The following considerations comprise both risks and opportunities not typically associated with investing in U.S. securities: fluctuations in exchange rates of foreign currencies; possible imposition of exchange control regulations or currency restrictions that would prevent cash from being brought back to the United States; less public information with respect to issuers of securities; less government supervision of stock exchanges, securities brokers and issuers of securities; lack of uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards; lack of uniform settlement periods and trading practices; less liquidity and frequently greater price volatility in foreign markets than in the United States; possible imposition of foreign taxes; the possibility of expropriation or confiscatory taxation, seizure or nationalization of foreign bank deposits or other assets; the adoption of foreign government restrictions and other adverse political, social or diplomatic developments that could affect investment; sometimes less advantageous legal, operational and financial protections applicable to foreign sub-custodial arrangements; and the historically lower level of responsiveness of foreign management to shareholder concerns (such as dividends and return on investment).

The Fund may purchase sponsored American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs") or U.S. dollar denominated securities of foreign issuers, which will be considered foreign securities for purposes of the Fund's investment policies. ADRs are receipts issued by U.S. banks or trust companies in respect of securities of foreign issuers held on deposit for use in the U.S. securities markets. See "Risk Factors and Special Considerations-General Risks-Foreign Securities."

Emerging Market Countries. The risks described above for foreign securities, including the risks of nationalization and expropriation of assets, are typically increased to the extent that the Fund invests in companies headquartered in developing, or emerging market, countries. Investments in securities of companies headquartered in such countries may be considered speculative and subject to certain special risks. The political and economic structures in many of these countries may be in their infancy and developing rapidly, and such countries may lack the social, political and economic characteristics of more developed countries.

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

Certain of these countries have in the past failed to recognize private property rights and have at times nationalized and expropriated the assets of private companies. Some countries have inhibited the conversion of their currency to another. The currencies of certain emerging market countries have experienced devaluation relative to the U.S. dollar, and future devaluations may adversely affect the value of the Fund's assets denominated in such currencies. Some emerging market countries have experienced substantial rates of inflation for many years. Continued inflation may adversely affect the economies and securities markets of such countries. In addition, unanticipated political or social developments may affect the value of the Fund's investments in these countries and the availability of the Fund of additional investments in these countries. The small size, limited trading volume and relative inexperience of the securities markets in these countries may make the Fund's investments in such countries illiquid and more volatile than investments in more developed countries, and the Fund may be required to establish special custodial or other arrangements before making investments in these countries. There may be little financial or accounting information available with respect to companies located in these countries, and it may be difficult as a result to assess the value or prospects of an investment in such companies.

Equity Securities. The Fund invests in equity securities (such as common stock and preferred stock).

Common stocks represent the residual ownership interest in the issuer and holders of common stock are entitled to the income and increase in the value of the assets and business of the issuer after all of its debt obligations and obligations to preferred shareholders are satisfied. Common stocks generally have voting rights. Common stocks fluctuate in price in response to many factors including historical and prospective earnings of the issuer, the value of its assets, general economic conditions, interest rates, investor perceptions and market liquidity.

Equity securities also include preferred stock (whether or not convertible into common stock) and debt securities convertible into or exchangeable for common or preferred stock. Preferred stock has a preference over common stock in liquidation (and generally dividends as well) but is subordinated to the liabilities of the issuer in all respects. As a general rule the market value of preferred stock with a fixed dividend rate and no conversion element varies inversely with interest rates and perceived credit risk, while the market price of convertible preferred stock generally also reflects some element of conversion value. Because preferred stock is junior to debt securities and other obligations of the issuer, deterioration in the credit quality of the issuer will cause greater changes in the value of a preferred stock than in a more senior debt security with similarly stated yield characteristics. The market value of preferred stock will also generally reflect whether (and if so when) the issuer may force holders to sell their preferred stock back to the issuer and whether (and if so when) the holders may force the issuer to buy back their preferred stock. Generally speaking, the right of the issuer to repurchase the preferred stock tends to reduce any premium at which the preferred stock might otherwise trade due to interest rate or credit factors, while the right of the holders to require the issuer to repurchase the preferred stock tends to reduce any discount at which the preferred stock might otherwise trade due to interest rate or credit factors. In addition, some preferred stocks are non-cumulative, meaning that the dividends do not accumulate and need not ever be paid. A portion of the portfolio may include investments in non-cumulative preferred stocks, whereby the issuer does not have an obligation to make up any arrearages to its shareholders. There is no assurance that dividends or distributions on non-cumulative preferred stocks in which the Fund invests will be declared or otherwise made payable.

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

Securities that are convertible into or exchangeable for preferred or common stock are liabilities of the issuer but are generally subordinated to more senior elements of the issuer's balance sheet. Although such securities also generally reflect an element of conversion value, their market value also varies with interest rates and perceived credit risk. Many convertible securities are not investment grade, that is, not rated "BBB" or better by S&P or "Baa" or better by Moody's or considered by the Investment Adviser to be of similar quality. Preferred stocks and convertible securities may have many of the same characteristics and risks as nonconvertible debt securities. See "Risk Factors and Special Considerations-General Risks-Non-Investment Grade Securities."

Fixed Income Securities. Fixed income securities include securities such as bonds, debentures, notes, preferred stock, short-term discounted U.S. Treasury Bills or certain securities of the U.S. government sponsored instrumentalities, as well as money market open-end funds that invest in those securities, which, in the absence of an applicable exemptive order or rule, will not be affiliated with the Investment Adviser. Fixed income securities obligate the issuer to pay to the holder of the security a specified return, which may be either fixed or reset periodically in accordance with the terms of the security. Fixed income securities generally are senior to an issuer's common stock and their holders generally are entitled to receive amounts due before any distributions are made to common shareholders. Common stocks, on the other hand, generally do not obligate an issuer to make periodic distributions to holders.

The market value of fixed income securities, especially those that provide a fixed rate of return, may be expected to rise and fall inversely with interest rates and in general is affected by the credit rating of the issuer, the issuer's performance and perceptions of the issuer in the market place. The market value of callable or redeemable fixed income securities may also be affected by the issuer's call and redemption rights. In addition, it is possible that the issuer of fixed income securities may not be able to meet its interest or principal obligations to holders. Further, holders of nonconvertible fixed income securities do not participate in any capital appreciation of the issuer.

The Fund may also invest in obligations of government sponsored instrumentalities. Unlike non-U.S. government securities, obligations of certain agencies and instrumentalities of the U.S. government, such as the Government National Mortgage Association, are supported by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. government; others, such as those of the Export-Import Bank of the U.S., are supported by the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury; others, such as those of the Federal National Mortgage Association, are supported by the discretionary authority of the U.S. government to purchase the agency's obligations; and still others, such as those of the Student Loan Marketing Association, are supported only by the credit of the instrumentality. No assurance can be given that the U.S. government would provide financial support to U.S. government sponsored instrumentalities if it is not obligated to do so by law.

Non-Investment Grade Securities. The Fund may make unlimited investments in securities rated below investment grade by recognized statistical rating agencies or unrated securities of comparable quality, including securities of issuers in default, which are likely to have the lowest rating. However, the Fund does not expect these investments to exceed 10% of its total assets. These securities, which may be preferred shares or debt, are predominantly speculative and involve major risk exposure to adverse conditions. Securities that are rated lower than "BBB" by S&P, or lower than "Baa" by Moody's or unrated securities considered by the Investment Adviser to be of comparable quality, are commonly referred to in the financial press as "junk bonds" or "high yield" securities.

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

Generally, such non-investment grade securities and unrated securities of comparable quality offer a higher current yield than is offered by higher rated securities, but also (i) will likely have some quality and protective characteristics that, in the judgment of the rating organizations, are outweighed by large uncertainties or major risk exposures to adverse conditions and (ii) are predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal in accordance with the terms of the obligation. The market values of certain of these securities also tend to be more sensitive to individual corporate developments and changes in economic conditions than higher quality securities. In addition, such non-investment grade securities generally present a higher degree of credit risk. The risk of loss due to default by these issuers is significantly greater because such non-investment grade securities and unrated securities of comparable quality generally are unsecured and frequently are subordinated to the prior payment of senior indebtedness. In light of these risks, the Investment Adviser, in evaluating the creditworthiness of an issue, whether rated or unrated, will take various factors into consideration, which may include, as applicable, the issuer's operating history, financial resources and its sensitivity to economic conditions and trends, the market support for the facility financed by the issue, the perceived ability and integrity of the issuer's management and regulatory matters.

In addition, the market value of non-investment grade securities is more volatile than that of higher quality securities, and the markets in which such non-investment grade or unrated securities are traded are more limited than those in which higher rated securities are traded. The existence of limited markets may make it more difficult for the Fund to obtain accurate market quotations for purposes of valuing its portfolio and calculating its net asset value. Moreover, the lack of a liquid trading market may restrict the availability of securities for the Fund to purchase and may also have the effect of limiting the ability of the Fund to sell securities at their fair value in order to respond to changes in the economy or the financial markets.

Non-investment grade securities and unrated securities of comparable quality also present risks based on payment expectations. If an issuer calls the obligation for redemption (often a feature of fixed-income securities), the Fund may have to replace the security with a lower yielding security, resulting in a decreased return for investors. Also, as the principal value of nonconvertible bonds and preferred stocks moves inversely with movements in interest rates, in the event of rising interest rates the value of the securities held by the Fund may decline proportionately more than a portfolio consisting of higher rated securities. Investments in zero coupon bonds may be more speculative and subject to greater fluctuations in value due to changes in interest rates than bonds that pay interest currently. Any increases in inflation and/or interest rates in the future could cause the value of the Fund to decrease. As inflation increases, the real value of the Fund's common stock and distributions therefore may decline.

The Fund may purchase securities of companies that are experiencing significant financial or business difficulties, including companies involved in bankruptcy or other reorganization and liquidation proceedings. Although such investments may result in significant financial returns to the Fund, they involve a substantial degree of risk. The level of analytical sophistication, both financial and legal, necessary for successful investments in issuers experiencing significant business and financial difficulties is unusually high. There can be no assurance that the Fund will correctly evaluate the value of the assets collateralizing its investments or the prospects for a successful reorganization or similar action. In any reorganization or liquidation proceeding relating to a portfolio investment, the Fund may lose all or part of its investment or may be required to accept collateral with a value less than the amount of the Fund's initial investment.

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

As part of its investments in non-investment grade securities, the Fund may invest in securities of issuers in default. The Fund will make an investment in securities of issuers in default only when the Investment Adviser believes that such issuers will honor their obligations or emerge from bankruptcy protection and the value of these securities will appreciate. By investing in securities of issuers in default, the Fund bears the risk that these issuers will not continue to honor their obligations or emerge from bankruptcy protection or that the value of the securities will not otherwise appreciate.

In addition to using recognized rating agencies and other sources, the Investment Adviser also performs its own analysis of issues in seeking investments that it believes to be underrated (and thus higher yielding) in light of the financial condition of the issuer. Its analysis of issuers may include, among other things, current and anticipated cash flow and borrowing requirements, value of assets in relation to historical cost, strength of management, responsiveness to business conditions, credit standing and current anticipated results of operations. In selecting investments for the Fund, the Investment Adviser may also consider general business conditions, anticipated changes in interest rates and the outlook for specific industries.

Subsequent to its purchase by the Fund, an issue of securities may cease to be rated or its rating may be reduced. In addition, it is possible that statistical rating agencies may change their ratings of a particular issue to reflect subsequent events. Moreover, such ratings do not assess the risk of a decline in market value. None of these events will require the sale of the securities by the Fund, although the Investment Adviser will consider these events in determining whether the Fund should continue to hold the securities.

Fixed income securities, including non-investment grade securities, frequently have call or buy-back features that permit their issuers to call or repurchase the securities from their holders, such as the Fund. If an issuer exercises these rights during periods of declining interest rates, the Fund may have to replace the security with a lower yielding security, thus resulting in a decreased return for the Fund.

The market for non-investment grade and comparable unrated securities has experienced periods of significantly adverse price and liquidity several times, particularly at or around times of economic recessions. Past market recessions have adversely affected the value of such securities and the ability of certain issuers of such securities to repay principal and pay interest thereon or to refinance such securities. The market for those securities may react in a similar fashion in the future.

Short Sales. The Fund may make short sales of securities. 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. The market value of the securities sold short of any one issuer will not exceed either 25% of the Fund's total assets or 5% of such issuer's voting securities. The Fund also will not make a short sale, if, after giving effect to such sale, the market value of all securities sold short exceeds 50% of the value of its total assets. The Fund may also make short sales "against the box" without respect to such limitations. In this type of short sale, at the time of the sale, the Fund owns, or has the immediate and unconditional right to acquire at no additional cost, the identical security.

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.

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

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. The Fund may have to pay a fee to borrow particular securities and is often obligated to deliver any payments received on such borrowed securities, such as dividends.

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, and any loss will be increased, by the transaction costs incurred by the Fund, including the costs associated with providing collateral to the broker-dealer (usually cash, U.S. government securities or other highly liquid debt securities). Although the Fund's gain is limited to the price at which it sold the security short, its potential loss is theoretically unlimited.

Derivatives. Investments in options, futures and swaps are often referred to as derivatives transactions. The Fund expects that it will invest in these types of instruments primarily for hedging and risk management purposes. The Fund may also invest in derivative instruments for the purposes of increasing the income of the Fund, hedging against changes in the value of its portfolio securities and in the value of securities it intends to purchase, or hedging against a specific transaction with respect to either the currency in which the transaction is denominated or another currency.

There is no specific limit on the proportion of its assets that the Fund may use to invest in derivatives and conduct short sales in connection with its investments in corporate transactions and reorganizations.

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 Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC"). Pursuant to amendments by the CFTC to Rule 4.5 under the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"), the Investment Adviser has filed a notice of exemption from registration as a "commodity pool operator" with respect to the Fund. The Fund and the Investment Adviser are therefore not subject to registration or regulation as a commodity pool operator under the CEA. In addition, certain trading restrictions are applicable to the Fund as a result of this status. 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 positions 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. In addition to meeting one of the foregoing trading limitations, the Fund may not market itself as a commodity pool or otherwise as a vehicle for trading in the futures, options or swaps markets. 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, the Fund is more limited

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

in its ability to use these instruments than in the past, and these limitations may have a negative impact on the ability of the Investment Adviser to manage the Fund, and on the Fund's performance. If the Investment Adviser was required to register as a commodity pool operator with respect to the Fund, compliance with additional registration and regulatory requirements would increase Fund expenses. Other potentially adverse regulatory initiatives could also develop.

Options. The Fund may purchase or sell, i.e., write, options on securities, securities indices and foreign currencies which are listed on a national securities exchange or in the over-the-counter ("OTC") market as a means of achieving additional return or of hedging the value of the Fund's portfolio. A call option is a contract that, in return for a premium, gives the holder of the option the right to buy from the writer of the call option the security or currency underlying the option at a specified exercise price at any time during the term of the option. The writer of the call option has the obligation, upon exercise of the option, to deliver the underlying security or currency upon payment of the exercise price during the option period.

A put option is the reverse of a call option, giving the holder of the option the right, in return for a premium, to sell the underlying security to the writer, at a specified price, and obligating the writer to purchase the underlying security from the holder upon exercise of the exercise price.

The Fund will write covered call options in order to receive additional income in the form of premiums which it is paid for writing options, and for hedging purposes in order to protect against possible declines in the market values of the stocks or convertible securities held in its portfolio.

If the Fund has written 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 written. However, with respect to exchange-traded options, once the Fund has been assigned an exercise notice, the Fund will be unable to effect a closing purchase transaction. Similarly, if the Fund is the holder of an option it may liquidate its position by effecting a closing sale transaction on an exchange. This is accomplished by selling an option of the same series as the option previously purchased. There can be no assurance that either a closing purchase or sale transaction can be effected when the Fund so desires.

The Fund will realize a profit from a closing transaction if the price of the transaction is less than the premium received from writing the option or is more than the premium paid to purchase the option; the Fund will realize a loss from a closing transaction if the price of the transaction is more than the premium received from writing the option or is less than the premium paid to purchase the option. Since call option prices generally reflect increases in the price of the underlying security, any loss resulting from the repurchase of a call option may also be wholly or partially offset by unrealized appreciation of the underlying security. Other principal factors affecting the market value of a put or a call option include supply and demand, prevailing interest rates, the current market price and price volatility of the underlying security, and the time remaining until the expiration date of the option. Gains and losses on investments in options depend, in part, on the ability of the Investment Adviser to predict correctly the effect of these factors. The use of options cannot serve as a complete hedge since the price movement of securities underlying the options will not necessarily follow the price movements of the portfolio securities subject to the hedge.

An option position may be closed out only on an exchange which provides a secondary market for an option of the same series or in a private transaction. Although the Fund will generally purchase or write only those options

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

for which there appears to be an active secondary market, there is no assurance that a liquid secondary market on an exchange will persist for any particular option. In such event, it might not be possible to effect closing transactions in particular options, so that the Fund would have to exercise its options in order to realize any profit and would incur brokerage commissions upon the exercise of call options and upon the subsequent disposition of underlying securities for the exercise of put options. If the Fund, as a covered call option writer, is unable to effect a closing purchase transaction in a secondary market, it will not be able to sell the underlying security until the option expires or it delivers the underlying security upon exercise or otherwise covers the position.

The sale of covered call options may also be used by the Fund to reduce the risks associated with individual investments and to increase total investment return. A call option is “covered” if the Fund owns the underlying instrument covered by the call or has an absolute and immediate right to acquire that instrument without additional cash consideration (or for additional cash consideration held in a segregated account by its custodian) upon conversion or exchange of other instruments held in its portfolio. A call option is also covered if the Fund holds a call option on the same instrument as the call option written where the exercise price of the call option held is (i) equal to or less than the exercise price of the call option written or (ii) greater than the exercise price of the call option written if the difference is maintained by the Fund in cash, U.S. government securities or other high-grade short-term obligations in a segregated account with its custodian. A put option is “covered” if the Fund maintains cash or other liquid securities with a value equal to the exercise price in a segregated account with its custodian, or else holds a put option on the same instrument as the put option written where the exercise price of the put option held is equal to or greater than the exercise price of the put option written.

To the extent that the Fund purchases options pursuant to a hedging strategy, the Fund will be subject to the following additional risks. If a put or call option purchased by the Fund is not sold when it has remaining value, and if the market price of the underlying security remains equal to or greater than the exercise price (in the case of a put), or remains less than or equal to the exercise price (in the case of a call), the Fund will lose its entire investment in the option.

Where a put or call option on a particular security is purchased to hedge against price movements in that or a related security, the price of the put or call option may move more or less than the price of the security. If restrictions on exercise are imposed, the Fund may be unable to exercise an option it has purchased. If the Fund is unable to close out an option that it has purchased on a security, it will have to exercise the option in order to realize any profit, or the option may expire worthless.

Futures Contracts and Options on Futures. The Fund may purchase and sell financial futures contracts and options thereon which are traded on a commodities exchange or board of trade for certain hedging and risk management purposes. A financial futures contract is an agreement to purchase or sell an agreed amount of securities or currencies at a set price for delivery in the future. These futures contracts and related options may be on debt securities, financial indices, securities indices, U.S. government securities and foreign currencies.

Swaps. The Fund may enter into total rate of return, credit default or other types of swaps and related derivatives for the purpose of hedging and risk management. These transactions generally provide for the transfer from one counterparty to another of certain risks inherent in the ownership of a financial asset such as a common stock or debt instrument. Such risks include, among other things, the risk of default and insolvency of the obligor of such asset, the risk that the credit of the obligor or the underlying collateral will decline or the risk that the common

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

stock of the underlying issuer will decline in value. The transfer of risk pursuant to a derivative of this type may be complete or partial, and may be for the life of the related asset or for a shorter period. These derivatives may be used as a risk management tool for a pool of financial assets, providing the Fund with the opportunity to gain or reduce exposure to one or more reference securities or other financial assets (each, a "Reference Asset") without actually owning or selling such assets in order, for example, to increase or reduce a concentration risk or to diversify a portfolio. Conversely, these derivatives may be used by the Fund to reduce exposure to an owned asset without selling it.

Because the Fund would not own the Reference Assets, the Fund may not have any voting rights with respect to the Reference Assets, and in such cases all decisions related to the obligors or issuers of the Reference Assets, including whether to exercise certain remedies, will be controlled by the swap counterparties.

Total rate of return swap agreements are contracts in which one party agrees to make periodic payments to another party based on the change in market value of the assets underlying the contract, which may include a specified security, basket of securities or securities indices during the specified period, in return for periodic payments based on a fixed or variable interest rate or the total return from other underlying assets.

A credit default swap consists of an agreement between two parties in which the "buyer" agrees to pay to the "seller" a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract and the seller agrees to pay the buyer the par value (or other agreed-upon value) of a referenced debt obligation upon the occurrence of a credit event with respect to the issuer of the referenced debt obligation. Generally, a credit event means bankruptcy, failure to pay, obligation acceleration or modified restructuring. The Fund may be either the buyer or seller in a credit default swap. As the buyer in a credit default swap, the Fund would pay to the counterparty the periodic stream of payments. If no default occurs, the Fund would receive no benefit from the contract. As the seller in a credit default swap, the Fund would receive the stream of payments but would be subject to exposure on the notional amount of the swap, which it would be required to pay in the event of a credit event with respect to the issuer of the referenced debt obligation.

The Fund may also enter into equity contract for difference swap transactions for the purpose of increasing the income of the Fund. In an equity contract for difference swap, a set of future cash flows is exchanged between two counterparties. One of these cash flow streams will typically be based on a reference interest rate combined with the performance of a notional value of shares of a stock. The other will be based on the performance of the shares of a stock. Depending on the general state of short-term interest rates and the returns on the Fund's portfolio securities at the time an equity contract for difference swap transaction reaches its scheduled termination date, there is a risk that the Fund will not be able to obtain a replacement transaction or that the terms of the replacement will not be as favorable as on the expiring transaction.

Total rate of return swaps and similar derivatives are subject to many risks, including the possibility that the market will move in a manner or direction that would have resulted in gain for the Fund had the swap or other derivative not been utilized (in which case it would have been better had the Fund not engaged in the hedging transactions), the risk of imperfect correlation between the risk sought to be hedged and the derivative transactions utilized, the possible inability of the counterparty to fulfill its obligations under the swap and potential illiquidity of the hedging instrument utilized, which may make it difficult for the Fund to close out or unwind one or more hedging transactions.

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

Total rate of return swaps and related derivatives present certain legal, tax, and market uncertainties. There is currently little or no case law or litigation characterizing total rate of return swaps or related derivatives, interpreting their provisions, or characterizing their tax treatment.

There can be no assurance that future decisions construing similar provisions to those in any swap agreement or other related documents or additional regulations and laws will not have an adverse effect on the Fund if it utilizes these instruments. The Fund will monitor these risks and seek to utilize these instruments in a manner that does not lead to undue risk regarding the tax or other structural elements of the Fund. The Fund will not invest in these types of instruments if the Reference Assets are commodities except for bona fide hedging or risk management purposes. The Fund only will enter into swaps that are regulated by the CFTC if in doing so the Fund will continue to satisfy the restrictions imposed by the CFTC under Rule 4.5.

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts. There is no limit on the Fund's ability to invest in foreign currency exchange contracts, as the Fund may invest up to 100% of its assets in transactions involving securities denominated in foreign currencies. The Fund may hedge up to 100% of its currency exposure.

The Fund may enter into such contracts on a spot, i.e., cash, basis at the rate then prevailing in the currency exchange market or on a forward basis, by entering into a forward contract to purchase or sell currency. A forward contract on foreign currency is an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency at a future date, which may be any fixed number of days agreed upon by the parties from the date of the contract at a price set on the date of the contract. The Fund expects to invest in forward currency contracts for hedging or currency risk management purposes and not in order to speculate on currency exchange rate movements. The Fund will only enter into forward currency contracts with parties which the Investment Adviser believes to be creditworthy.

Repurchase Agreement Transactions. Repurchase agreements may be seen as loans by the Fund collateralized by underlying debt securities. Under the terms of a typical repurchase agreement, the Fund would acquire an underlying security for a relatively short period (usually not more than one week) subject to an obligation of the seller to repurchase, and the Fund to resell, the security at an agreed price and time. This arrangement results in a fixed rate of return to the Fund that is not subject to market fluctuations during the holding period. The Fund bears a risk of loss in the event that the other party to a repurchase agreement defaults on its obligations and the Fund is delayed in or prevented from exercising its rights to dispose of the collateral securities, including the risk of a possible decline in the value of the underlying securities during the period in which it seeks to assert these rights. The Investment Adviser, acting under the supervision of the Board, reviews the creditworthiness of those banks and dealers with which the Fund enters into repurchase agreements to evaluate these risks and monitors on an ongoing basis the value of the securities subject to repurchase agreements to ensure that the value is maintained at the required level. The Fund will not enter into repurchase agreements with the Investment Adviser or any of its affiliates.

Restricted and Illiquid Securities. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its assets in securities for which there is no readily available trading market or are otherwise illiquid. Illiquid securities include securities legally restricted as to resale, such as commercial paper issued pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act and securities eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A thereunder. Section 4(a)(2) and Rule 144A securities may, however, be treated as liquid by the Investment Adviser pursuant to procedures adopted by the Board, which require consideration of factors such as trading activity, availability of market quotations and number of dealers willing

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

to purchase the security. If the Fund invests in Rule 144A securities, the level of portfolio illiquidity may be increased to the extent that eligible buyers become uninterested in purchasing such securities.

It may be difficult to sell such securities at a price representing the fair value until such time as such securities may be sold publicly. Where registration is required, a considerable period may elapse between a decision to sell the securities and the time when it would be permitted to sell. Thus, the Fund may not be able to obtain as favorable a price as that prevailing at the time of the decision to sell. The Fund may also acquire securities through private placements under which it may agree to contractual restrictions on the resale of such securities. Such restrictions might prevent their sale at a time when such sale would otherwise be desirable.

Leverage. The provided in the 1940 Act and subject to certain exceptions, the Fund may issue senior securities (which may be additional classes of stock, such as preferred shares, or securities representing debt) so long as its total assets, less certain ordinary course liabilities, exceed 300% of the amount of the debt outstanding and exceed 200% of the amount of preferred shares and debt outstanding. Any such preferred shares may be convertible in accordance with the SEC staff guidelines, which may permit the Fund to obtain leverage at attractive rates.

The use of leverage magnifies the impact of changes in net asset value, which means that, all else being equal, the use of leverage results in outperformance on the upside and underperformance on the downside. In addition, if the cost of leverage exceeds the return on the securities acquired with the proceeds of leverage, the use of leverage will diminish rather than enhance the return to the Fund. The use of leverage generally increases the volatility of returns to the Fund. Such volatility may increase the likelihood of the Fund having to sell investments in order to meet its obligations to make distributions on the preferred shares or principal or interest payments on debt securities, or to redeem preferred shares or repay debt, when it may be disadvantageous to do so. The Fund's use of leverage may require it to sell portfolio investments at inopportune times in order to raise cash to redeem preferred shares or otherwise de-leverage so as to maintain required asset coverage amounts or comply with any mandatory redemption terms of any outstanding preferred shares. See "Risk Factors and Special Considerations-Special Risks to Holders of Common Shares-Leverage Risk."

In the event the Fund had both outstanding preferred shares and senior securities representing debt at the same time, the Fund's obligations to pay dividends or distributions and, upon liquidation of the Fund, liquidation payments in respect of its preferred shares would be subordinate to the Fund's obligations to make any principal and/or interest payments due and owing with respect to its outstanding senior debt securities. Accordingly, the Fund's issuance of senior securities representing debt would have the effect of creating special risks for the Fund's preferred shareholders that would not be present in a capital structure that did not include such securities.

Subject to the requirements of Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act ("Rule 18f-4"), the Fund may enter into derivative transactions including transactions that have economic leverage embedded in them. Rule 18f-4 defines "derivatives transactions" as (1) any swap, security-based swap, futures contract, forward contract, option, any combination of the foregoing, or any similar instrument, under which a fund is or may be required to make any payment or delivery of cash or other assets during the life of the instrument or at maturity or early termination, whether as margin or settlement payment or otherwise; and (2) any short sale borrowing. Derivatives transactions entered into by the Fund in compliance with Rule 18f-4 will not be considered senior securities for purposes

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

of computing the asset coverage requirements described above. Economic leverage exists when the Fund achieves the right to a return on a capital base that exceeds the investment which the Fund has contributed to the instrument achieving a return. Derivative transactions that the Fund may enter into and the risks associated with them are described elsewhere in this Annual Report. The Fund cannot assure you that investments in derivative transactions that have economic leverage embedded in them will result in a higher return on its common shares.

If the Fund enters into any reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions obligating the Fund to make future payments, the Fund must either treat all such transactions as derivatives transactions for all purposes under Rule 18f-4 or otherwise comply with the asset coverage requirements described above and combine the aggregate amount of indebtedness associated with all such transactions with the aggregate amount of any other senior securities representing indebtedness when calculating the Fund's asset coverage ratio limit requirements. The asset coverage requirements under section 18 of the 1940 Act and the limits and conditions imposed by Rule 18f-4 may limit or restrict portfolio management.

Investment Restrictions. The Fund has adopted certain investment limitations designed to limit investment risk and maintain portfolio diversification. These limitations are fundamental and may not be changed without the vote of a majority, as defined in the 1940 Act, of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund (voting together as a single class). In addition, pursuant to the Statement of Preferences of the Series C Preferred Shares, a majority, as defined in the 1940 Act, of the outstanding preferred shares of the Fund (voting separately as a single class) is also required to change a fundamental policy. The Fund may become subject to rating agency guidelines that are more limiting than its current investment restrictions in order to obtain and maintain a desired rating on its preferred shares, if any.

Portfolio Turnover. The Fund will buy and sell securities to accomplish its investment objective. The investment policies of the Fund may lead to frequent changes in investments, particularly in periods of rapidly fluctuating interest or currency exchange rates.

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). Higher portfolio turnover may decrease the after-tax return to individual investors in the Fund to the extent it results in a decrease of the long-term capital gains portion of distributions to shareholders.

For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2023 and 2024, the portfolio turnover rate of the Fund was 316% and 348%, respectively. The Fund anticipates that its portfolio turnover rate will be substantial and may exceed 300%.

Further information on the investment objective and policies of the Fund is set forth below.

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

RISK FACTORS AND SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Investors should consider the following risk factors and special considerations associated with investing in the Fund:

General Risks

Market Risk. The market price of securities owned by the Fund may go up or down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably. Securities may decline in value due to factors affecting securities markets generally or particular industries represented in the securities markets. The value of a security may decline due to general market conditions which are not specifically related to a particular company, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in interest or currency rates, adverse changes to credit markets or adverse investor sentiment generally. The value of a security may also decline due to factors which affect a particular industry or industries, such as labor shortages or increased production costs and competitive conditions within an industry. During a general downturn in the securities markets, multiple asset classes may decline in value simultaneously. Equity securities generally have greater price volatility than fixed income securities. Credit ratings downgrades may also negatively affect securities held by the Fund. Even when markets perform well, there is no assurance that the investments held by the Fund will increase in value along with the broader market.

In addition, market risk includes the risk that geopolitical and other events will disrupt the economy on a national or global level. For instance, war, terrorism, market manipulation, government defaults, government shutdowns, political changes or diplomatic developments, public health emergencies (such as the spread of infectious diseases, pandemics and epidemics) and natural/environmental disasters can all negatively impact the securities markets, which could cause the Fund to lose value. These events could reduce consumer demand or economic output, result in market closures, travel restrictions or quarantines, and significantly adversely impact the economy. The current contentious domestic political environment, as well as political and diplomatic events within the United States and abroad, such as the U.S. government's inability at times to agree on a long-term budget and deficit reduction plan, has in the past resulted, and may in the future result, in a government shutdown, which could have an adverse impact on the Fund's investments and operations. Additional and/or prolonged U.S. federal government shutdowns may affect investor and consumer confidence and may adversely impact financial markets and the broader economy, perhaps suddenly and to a significant degree. Governmental and quasi-governmental authorities and regulators throughout the world have previously responded to serious economic disruptions with a variety of significant fiscal and monetary policy changes, including, but not limited to, direct capital infusions into companies, new monetary programs and dramatically lower interest rates. An unexpected or sudden reversal of these policies, or the ineffectiveness of these policies, could increase volatility in securities markets, which could adversely affect the Fund's investments. Any market disruptions could also prevent the Fund from executing advantageous investment decisions in a timely manner. To the extent that the Fund focuses its investments in a region enduring geopolitical market disruption, it will face higher risks of loss, although the increasing interconnectivity between global economies and financial markets can lead to events or conditions in one country, region or financial market adversely impacting a different country, region or financial

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

market. Thus, investors should closely monitor current market conditions to determine whether the Fund meets their individual financial needs and tolerance for risk.

Exchanges and securities markets may close early, close late or issue trading halts on specific securities or generally, which may result in, among other things, the Fund being unable to buy or sell certain securities or financial instruments at an advantageous time or accurately price its portfolio investments.

Interest Rate Risk Generally. The primary risk associated with dividend-and interest-paying securities is interest rate risk. A decrease in interest rates will generally result in an increase in the investment value of such securities, while increases in interest rates will generally result in a decline in the investment value of such securities. This effect is generally more pronounced for fixed rate securities than for securities whose income rate is periodically reset.

General interest rate fluctuations may have a substantial negative impact on the Fund's investments, the value of the Fund and the Fund's rate of return. A reduction in the interest or dividend rates on new investments relative to interest or dividend rates on current investments could also have an adverse impact on the Fund's net investment income. An increase in interest rates could decrease the value of any investments held by the Fund that earn fixed interest or dividend rates, including debt securities, convertible securities, preferred stocks, loans and high-yield bonds, and also could increase interest or dividend expenses, thereby decreasing net income.

The magnitude of these fluctuations in the market price of bonds and other income- or dividend-paying securities is generally greater for those securities with longer maturities. Fluctuations in the market price of the Fund's investments will not affect interest income derived from instruments already owned by the Fund, but will be reflected in the Fund's net asset value. The Fund may lose money if short-term or long-term interest rates rise sharply in a manner not anticipated by Fund management. To the extent the Fund invests in securities that may be prepaid at the option of the obligor, the sensitivity of such securities to changes in interest rates may increase (to the detriment of the Fund) when interest rates rise. Moreover, because rates on certain floating rate securities typically reset only periodically, changes in prevailing interest rates (and particularly sudden and significant changes) can be expected to cause some fluctuations in the net asset value of the Fund to the extent that it invests in floating rate securities. These basic principles of bond prices also apply to U.S. government securities. A security backed by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. government is guaranteed only as to its stated interest rate and face value at maturity, not its current market price. Just like other income- or dividend-paying securities, government-guaranteed securities will fluctuate in value when interest rates change.

The Fund's use of leverage will tend to increase the Fund's interest rate risk. The Fund may invest in variable and floating rate instruments, which generally are less sensitive to interest rate changes than longer duration fixed rate instruments but may decline in value in response to rising interest rates if, for example, the rates at which they pay interest do not rise as much, or as quickly, as market interest rates in general. Conversely, variable and floating rate instruments generally will not increase in value if interest rates decline. The Fund also may invest in inverse floating rate securities, which may decrease in value if interest rates increase, and which also may exhibit greater price volatility than fixed rate obligations with similar credit quality. To the extent the Fund holds variable or floating rate instruments, a decrease (or, in the case of inverse floating rate securities, an increase) in market interest rates will adversely affect the income received from such securities, which may adversely affect the net asset value of the Fund's common shares.

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

There is a risk that heightened interest rates may cause the economy to enter a recession. Any such recession would negatively impact the Fund and the investments held by the Fund. These impacts may include:

- severe declines in the Fund's net asset values;
- inability of the Fund to accurately or reliably value its portfolio;
- inability of the Fund to pay any dividends or distributions;
- inability of the Fund to maintain its status as a registered investment company ("RIC") under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code");
- declines in the value of the Fund's investments;
- increased risk of default or bankruptcy by the companies in which the Fund invests;
- increased risk of companies in which the Fund invests being unable to weather an extended cessation of normal economic activity and thereby impairing their ability to continue functioning as a going concern; and
- limited availability of new investment opportunities.

Inflation Risk. Inflation risk is the risk that the value of assets or income from investments will be worth less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. Inflation rates may change frequently and significantly as a result of various factors, including unexpected shifts in the domestic or global economy and changes in economic policies, and the Fund's investments may not keep pace with inflation, which may result in losses to Fund shareholders. As inflation increases, the real value of the Fund's shares and dividends may decline. In addition, during any periods of rising inflation, interest rates of any debt securities held by the Fund would likely increase, which would tend to further reduce returns to shareholders. This risk is greater for fixed-income instruments with longer maturities.

Merger Arbitrage Risk. The Fund's investment strategy involves investment techniques and securities holdings that entail risks, in some cases different from the risks ordinarily associated with investments in equity securities. The principal risk associated with the Fund's arbitrage investments is that certain of the proposed reorganizations in which the Fund invests may be renegotiated, terminated or involve a longer time frame than originally contemplated, in which case the Fund may realize losses. Among the factors that affect the level of risk with respect to the completion of the transaction are the deal spread and number of bidders, the friendliness of the buyer and seller, the strategic rationale behind the transaction, the existence of regulatory hurdles, the level of due diligence completed on the target company and the ability of the buyer to finance the transaction. If the spread between the purchase price and the current price of the seller's stock is small, the risk that the transaction will not be completed may outweigh the potential return. If there is very little interest by other potential buyers in the target company, the risk of loss may be higher than where there are back-up buyers that would allow the arbitrageur to realize a similar return if the current deal falls through. Unfriendly management of the target company or change in friendly management in the middle of a deal increases the risk that the deal will not be completed even if the target company's board has approved the transaction and may involve the risk of litigation expense if the target company pursues litigation in an attempt to prevent the deal from occurring. The underlying strategy behind the deal is also a risk consideration because the less a target company will benefit from a merger or acquisition, the greater the risk. There is also a risk that an acquiring company may back out of an announced deal if, in the process of completing its due diligence of the target company, it discovers

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

something undesirable about such company. In addition, merger transactions are also subject to regulatory risk because a merger transaction often must be approved by a regulatory body or pass governmental antitrust review. All of these factors affect the timing and likelihood that the transaction will close. Even if the Investment Adviser selects announced deals with the goal of mitigating the risks that the transaction will fail to close, such risks may still delay the closing of such transaction to a date later than the Fund originally anticipated, reducing the level of desired return to the Fund.

In recapitalizations, a corporation may restructure its balance sheet by selling specific assets, significantly leveraging other assets and creating new classes of equity securities to be distributed, together with a substantial payment in cash or in debt securities, to existing shareholders. In connection with such transactions, there is a risk that the value of the cash and new securities distributed will not be as high as the cost of the Fund's original investment or that no such distribution will ultimately be made and the value of the Fund's investment will decline.

To the extent an investment in a company that has undertaken a recapitalization is retained by the Fund, the Fund's risks will generally be comparable to those associated with investments in highly leveraged companies, generally including higher than average sensitivity to (i) short-term interest rate fluctuations, (ii) downturns in the general economy or within a particular industry or (iii) adverse developments within the company itself.

Merger arbitrage positions are also subject to the risk of overall market movements. To the extent that a general increase or decline in equity values affects the stocks involved in a merger arbitrage position differently, the position may be exposed to loss.

Finally, merger arbitrage strategies depend for success on the overall volume of global merger activity, which has historically been cyclical in nature. During periods when merger activity is low, it may be difficult or impossible to identify opportunities for profit or to identify a sufficient number of such opportunities to provide balance among potential merger transactions. To the extent that the number of announced deals and corporate reorganizations decreases or the number of investors in such transactions increases, it is possible that merger arbitrage spreads will tighten, causing the profitability of investing in such transactions to diminish, which will in turn decrease the returns to the Fund from such investment activity.

Equity Risk. Investing in the Fund involves equity risk, which is the risk that the securities held by the Fund will fall in market value due to adverse market and economic conditions, perceptions regarding the industries in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate and the particular circumstances and performance of particular companies whose securities the Fund holds. An investment in the Fund represents an indirect economic stake in the securities owned by the Fund, which are for the most part traded on securities exchanges or in the OTC markets. The market value of these securities, like other market investments, may move up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. The net asset value of the Fund may at any point in time be worth less than the amount at the time the shareholder invested in the Fund, even after taking into account any reinvestment of distributions.

Common Stock Risk. Common stock of an issuer in the Fund's portfolio may decline in price for a variety of reasons, including if the issuer fails to make anticipated dividend payments because, among other reasons, the issuer of the security experiences a decline in its financial condition. Common stock in which the Fund invests is structurally subordinated as to income and residual value to preferred stock, bonds and other debt instruments

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

in a company's capital structure, in terms of priority to corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred stock or debt instruments of such issuers. In addition, while common stock has historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities, common stock has also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns.

Preferred Stock Risk. There are special risks associated with the Fund's investing in preferred securities, including:

- *Deferral.* Preferred securities may include provisions that permit the issuer, at its discretion, to defer dividends or distributions for a stated period without any adverse consequences to the issuer. If the Fund owns a preferred security that is deferring its dividends or distributions, the Fund may be required to report income for tax purposes although it has not yet received such income.
- *Non-Cumulative Dividends.* Some preferred securities are non-cumulative, meaning that the dividends do not accumulate and need not ever be paid. A portion of the portfolio may include investments in non-cumulative preferred securities, whereby the issuer does not have an obligation to make up any arrearages to its shareholders. Should an issuer of a non-cumulative preferred security held by the Fund determine not to pay dividends or distributions on such security, the Fund's return from that security may be adversely affected. There is no assurance that dividends or distributions on non-cumulative preferred securities in which the Fund invests will be declared or otherwise made payable.
- *Subordination.* Preferred securities are subordinated to bonds and other debt instruments in an issuer's capital structure in terms of priority to corporate income and liquidation payments, and therefore will be subject to greater credit risk than more senior debt security instruments.
- *Liquidity.* Preferred securities may be substantially less liquid than many other securities, such as common stocks or U.S. government securities.
- *Limited Voting Rights.* Generally, preferred security holders (such as the Fund) have no voting rights with respect to the issuing company unless preferred dividends have been in arrears for a specified number of periods, at which time the preferred security holders may be entitled to elect a number of directors to the issuer's board. Generally, once all the arrearages have been paid, the preferred security holders no longer have voting rights.
- *Special Redemption Rights.* In certain varying circumstances, an issuer of preferred securities may redeem the securities prior to a specified date. For instance, for certain types of preferred securities, a redemption may be triggered by a change in U.S. federal income tax or securities laws. A redemption by the issuer may negatively impact the return of the security held by the Fund.

Convertible Securities Risk. Convertible securities generally offer lower interest or dividend yields than non-convertible securities of similar quality. The market values of convertible securities tend to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, to increase as interest rates decline. In the absence of adequate anti-dilution provisions in a convertible security, dilution in the value of the Fund's holding may occur in the event the underlying stock is subdivided, additional equity securities are issued for below market value, a stock dividend is declared or the issuer enters into another type of corporate transaction that has a similar effect.

The value of a convertible security is influenced by the value of the underlying equity security. Convertible debt securities and preferred stocks may depreciate in value if the market value of the underlying equity security

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

declines or if rates of interest increase. In addition, although debt securities are liabilities of a corporation which the corporation is generally obligated to repay at a specified time, debt securities, particularly convertible debt securities, are often subordinated to the claims of some or all of the other creditors of the corporation.

Mandatory conversion securities (securities that automatically convert into equity securities at a future date) may limit the potential for capital appreciation and, in some instances, are subject to complete loss of invested capital. Other innovative convertibles include “equity-linked” securities, which are securities or derivatives that may have fixed, variable, or no interest payments prior to maturity, may convert (at the option of the holder or on a mandatory basis) into cash or a combination of cash and equity securities, and may be structured to limit the potential for capital appreciation. Equity-linked securities may be illiquid and difficult to value and may be subject to greater credit risk than that of other convertibles. Moreover, mandatory conversion securities and equity-linked securities have increased the sensitivity of the convertible securities market to the volatility of the equity markets and to the special risks of those innovations, which may include risks different from, and possibly greater than, those associated with traditional convertible securities.

Preferred stocks are equity securities in the sense that they do not represent a liability of the corporation. In the event of liquidation of the corporation, and after its creditors have been paid or provided for, holders of preferred stock are generally entitled to a preference as to the assets of the corporation before any distribution may be made to the holders of common stock. Debt securities normally do not have voting rights. Preferred stocks may have no voting rights or may have voting rights only under certain circumstances.

- *Credit Risk.* Credit risk is the risk that an issuer will fail to pay interest or dividends and principal in a timely manner. Companies that issue convertible securities may be small to medium-size, and they often have low credit ratings. In addition, the credit rating of a company’s convertible securities is generally lower than that of its conventional debt securities. Convertible securities are normally considered “junior” securities—that is, the company usually must pay interest on its conventional debt before it can make payments on its convertible securities. Credit risk could be high for the Fund, because it could invest in securities with low credit quality. The lower a debt security is rated, the greater its default risk. As a result, the Fund may incur cost and delays in enforcing its rights against the issuer.
- *Market Risk.* Although convertible securities do derive part of their value from that of the securities into which they are convertible, they are not considered derivative financial instruments. However, mandatory convertible securities include features which render them more sensitive to price changes of their underlying securities. Thus they expose the Fund to greater downside risk than traditional convertible securities, but generally less than that of the underlying common stock.
- *Interest Rate Risk for Convertible Securities.* The securities are particularly sensitive to interest rate changes when their predetermined conversion price is much higher than the issuing company’s common stock. See “- Fixed Income Securities Risks-Duration and Maturity Risk” and “- General Risks-Interest Rate Risks Generally.”
- *Sector Risk.* Sector risk is the risk that returns from the economic sectors in which convertible securities are concentrated will trail returns from other economic sectors. As a group, sectors tend to go through cycles of doing better-or-worse-than the convertible securities market in general. These periods have,

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

in the past, lasted for as long as several years. Moreover, the sectors that dominate this market change over time.

- *Dilution Risk.* In the absence of adequate anti-dilution provisions in a convertible security, dilution in the value of the Fund's holding may occur in the event the underlying stock is subdivided, additional equity securities are issued for below market value, a stock dividend is declared, or the issuer enters into another type of corporate transaction that has a similar effect.

Fixed Income Securities Risks (Principal). Fixed income securities in which the Fund may invest are generally subject to the following risks:

- *Interest Rate Risk.* The market value of bonds and other fixed-income or dividend paying securities changes in response to interest rate changes and other factors. Interest rate risk is the risk that prices of bonds and other income or dividend paying securities will increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise. See “- General Risks-Interest Rate Risks Generally.”
- *Issuer Risk.* Issuer risk is the risk that the value of an income or dividend paying security may decline for a number of reasons which directly relate to the issuer, such as management performance, financial leverage, reduced demand for the issuer's goods and services, historical and prospective earnings of the issuer and the value of the assets of the issuer.
- *Credit Risk.* Credit risk is the risk that one or more income or dividend paying securities in the Fund's portfolio will decline in price or fail to pay interest/distributions or principal when due because the issuer of the security experiences a decline in its financial status. Credit risk is increased when a portfolio security is downgraded or the perceived creditworthiness of the issuer deteriorates. To the extent the Fund invests in below investment grade securities, it will be exposed to a greater amount of credit risk than a fund which only invests in investment grade securities. See “Risk Factors and Special Considerations - General Risks - Non-Investment Grade Securities.” In addition, to the extent the Fund uses credit derivatives, such use will expose it to additional risk in the event that the bonds underlying the derivatives default. The degree of credit risk depends on the issuer's financial condition and on the terms of the securities.
- *Prepayment Risk.* Prepayment risk is the risk that during periods of declining interest rates, borrowers may exercise their option to prepay principal earlier than scheduled. For income or dividend paying securities, such payments often occur during periods of declining interest rates, forcing the Fund to re-invest in lower yielding securities, resulting in a possible decline in the Fund's income and distributions to shareholders. This is known as prepayment or “call” risk. Below investment grade securities frequently have call features that allow the issuer to redeem the security at dates prior to its stated maturity at a specified price (typically greater than par) only if certain prescribed conditions are met (“call protection”).

For premium bonds (bonds acquired at prices that exceed their par or principal value) purchased by the Fund, prepayment risk may be enhanced.

- *Reinvestment Risk.* Reinvestment risk is the risk that income from the Fund's portfolio will decline if the Fund invests the proceeds from matured, traded or called fixed income securities at market interest rates that are below the Fund portfolio's current earnings rate.
- *Duration and Maturity Risk.* The Fund has no set policy regarding portfolio maturity or duration of the fixed-income securities it may hold. The Investment Adviser may seek to adjust the duration or maturity

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

of the Fund's fixed-income holdings based on its assessment of current and projected market conditions and all other factors that the Investment Adviser deems relevant. In comparison to maturity (which is the date on which the issuer of a debt instrument is obligated to repay the principal amount), duration is a measure of the price volatility of a debt instrument as a result in changes in market rates of interest, based on the weighted average timing of the instrument's expected principal and interest payments. Specifically, duration measures the anticipated percentage change in NAV that is expected for every percentage point change in interest rates. The two have an inverse relationship.

Duration can be a useful tool to estimate anticipated price changes to a fixed pool of income securities associated with changes in interest rates. For example, a duration of five years means that a 1% decrease in interest rates will increase the NAV of the portfolio by approximately 5%; if interest rates increase by 1%, the NAV will decrease by 5%. However, in a managed portfolio of fixed income securities having differing interest or dividend rates or payment schedules, maturities, redemption provisions, call or prepayment provisions and credit qualities, actual price changes in response to changes in interest rates may differ significantly from a duration-based estimate at any given time. Actual price movements experienced by a portfolio of fixed income securities will be affected by how interest rates move (i.e., changes in the relationship of long-term interest rates to short-term interest rates), the magnitude of any move in interest rates, actual and anticipated prepayments of principal through call or redemption features, the extension of maturities through restructuring, the sale of securities for portfolio management purposes, the reinvestment of proceeds from prepayments on and from sales of securities, and credit quality-related considerations whether associated with financing costs to lower credit quality borrowers or otherwise, as well as other factors. Accordingly, while duration maybe a useful tool to estimate potential price movements in relation to changes in interest rates, investors are cautioned that duration alone will not predict actual changes in the net asset or market value of the Fund's shares and that actual price movements in the Fund's portfolio may differ significantly from duration-based estimates.

Duration differs from maturity in that it takes into account a security's yield, coupon payments and its principal payments in addition to the amount of time until the security matures. As the value of a security changes over time, so will its duration. Prices of securities with longer durations tend to be more sensitive to interest rate changes than securities with shorter durations. In general, a portfolio of securities with a longer duration can be expected to be more sensitive to interest rate changes than a portfolio with a shorter duration. Any decisions as to the targeted duration or maturity of any particular category of investments will be made based on all pertinent market factors at any given time. The Fund may incur costs in seeking to adjust the portfolio average duration or maturity. There can be no assurance that the Investment Adviser's assessment of current and projected market conditions will be correct or that any strategy to adjust duration or maturity will be successful at any given time.

Corporate Bonds Risk. The market value of a corporate bond generally may be expected to rise and fall inversely with interest rates. The market value of intermediate and longer-term corporate bonds is generally more sensitive to changes in interest rates than is the market value of shorter term corporate bonds. The market value of a corporate bond also may be affected by factors directly related to the issuer, such as investors' perceptions of the creditworthiness of the issuer, the issuer's financial performance, perceptions of the issuer in the market place, performance of management of the issuer, the issuer's capital structure and use of financial leverage

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and demand for the issuer's goods and services. Certain risks associated with investments in corporate bonds are described elsewhere in this Annual Report in further detail, including under "- Fixed Income Securities Risks - Credit Risk," "-Fixed Income Securities Risks - Interest Rate Risk," "- Fixed Income Securities Risks - Prepayment Risk," "- Inflation Risk" and "- Interest Rate Risk Generally." There is a risk that the issuers of corporate bonds may not be able to meet their obligations on interest or principal payments at the time called for by an instrument. Corporate bonds of below investment grade quality are often high risk and have speculative characteristics and may be particularly susceptible to adverse issuer-specific developments. Corporate bonds of below investment grade quality are subject to the risks described herein under "-Non- Investment Grade Securities."

Non-Investment Grade Securities. The Fund may invest in below investment-grade securities, also known as "high-yield" securities or "junk" bonds. These securities, which may be preferred stock or debt, are predominantly speculative and involve major risk exposure to adverse conditions. Securities that are rated lower than "BBB" by S&P or lower than "Baa" by Moody's (or unrated securities considered by the Investment Adviser to be of comparable quality) are referred to in the financial press as "junk bonds" or "high-yield" securities and generally pay a premium above the yields of U.S. government securities or securities of investment grade issuers because they are subject to greater risks than these securities. These risks, which reflect their speculative character, include the following:

- greater volatility;
- greater credit risk and risk of default;
- potentially greater sensitivity to general economic or industry conditions;
- potential lack of attractive resale opportunities (illiquidity); and
- additional expenses to seek recovery from issuers who default.

In addition, the market value of securities in non-investment grade categories is more volatile than that of higher quality securities, and the markets in which such lower rated or unrated securities are traded are more limited than those in which higher rated securities are traded. The existence of limited markets may make it more difficult for the Fund to obtain accurate market quotations for purposes of valuing its portfolio and calculating its net asset value. Moreover, the lack of a liquid trading market may restrict the availability of securities for the Fund to purchase and may also have the effect of limiting the ability of the Fund to sell securities at their fair value to respond to changes in the economy or the financial markets.

Ratings are relative and subjective and not absolute standards of quality. Securities ratings are based largely on the issuer's historical financial condition and the rating agencies' analysis at the time of rating. Consequently, the rating assigned to any particular security is not necessarily a reflection of the issuer's current financial condition.

The Fund may purchase securities of companies that are experiencing significant financial or business difficulties, including companies involved in bankruptcy or other reorganization and liquidation proceedings. Although such investments may result in significant financial returns to the Fund, they involve a substantial degree of risk. The level of analytical sophistication, both financial and legal, necessary for successful investments in issuers experiencing significant business and financial difficulties is unusually high. There can be no assurance that the Fund will correctly evaluate the value of the assets collateralizing its investments or the prospects for a successful reorganization or similar action. In any reorganization or liquidation proceeding relating to a portfolio

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

investment, the Fund may lose all or part of its investment or may be required to accept collateral with a value less than the amount of the Fund's initial investment.

As part of its investments in non-investment grade securities, the Fund may invest without limit in securities of issuers in default. The Fund will make an investment in securities of issuers in default only when the Investment Adviser believes that such issuers will honor their obligations or emerge from bankruptcy protection and the value of these securities will appreciate. By investing in securities of issuers in default, the Fund bears the risk that these issuers will not continue to honor their obligations or emerge from bankruptcy protection or that the value of the securities will not appreciate.

In addition to using statistical rating agencies and other sources, the Investment Adviser will also perform its own analysis of issuers in seeking investments that it believes to be underrated (and thus higher yielding) in light of the financial condition of the issuer. Its analysis of issuers may include, among other things, current and anticipated cash flow and borrowing requirements, value of assets in relation to historical cost, strength of management, responsiveness to business conditions, credit standing and current anticipated results of operations. In selecting investments for the Fund, the Investment Adviser may also consider general business conditions, anticipated changes in interest rates and the outlook for specific industries.

Subsequent to its purchase by the Fund, an issue of securities may cease to be rated or its rating may be reduced. In addition, it is possible that statistical rating agencies might change their ratings of a particular issue to reflect subsequent events on a timely basis. Moreover, such ratings do not assess the risk of a decline in market value. None of these events will require the sale of the securities by the Fund, although the Investment Adviser will consider these events in determining whether the Fund should continue to hold the securities.

Fixed income securities, including non-investment grade securities and comparable unrated securities, frequently have call or buy-back features that permit their issuers to call or repurchase the securities from their holders, such as the Fund. If an issuer exercises these rights during periods of declining interest rates, the Fund may have to replace the security with a lower yielding security, thus resulting in a decreased return for the Fund.

The market for non-investment grade and comparable unrated securities has experienced period of significantly adverse price and liquidity several times, particularly at or around times of economic recession. Past market recessions have adversely affected the value of such securities and the ability of certain issuers of such securities to repay principal and pay interest thereon or to refinance such securities. The market for those securities may react in a similar fashion in the future.

U.S. Government Securities and Credit Rating Downgrade Risk (Non-Principal). The Fund may invest in direct obligations of the government of the United States or its agencies. Obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government, its agencies, authorities and instrumentalities and backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. guarantee only that principal and interest will be timely paid to holders of the securities. These entities do not guarantee that the value of such obligations will increase, and, in fact, the market values of such obligations may fluctuate. In addition, not all U.S. government securities are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States; some are the obligation solely of the entity through which they are issued. There is no guarantee that the U.S. government would provide financial support to its agencies and instrumentalities if not required to do so by law.

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

In 2011, S&P lowered its long-term sovereign credit rating on the U.S. to “AA+” from “AAA.” The downgrade by S&P increased volatility in both stock and bond markets, resulting in higher interest rates and higher Treasury yields, and increased the costs of all kinds of debt. On August 1, 2023, Fitch Ratings lowered its long-term sovereign credit rating on the U.S. to “AA+” from “AAA.” This and any further downgrades of U.S. credit ratings could have significant adverse effects on the U.S. economy generally and could result in significant adverse impacts on issuers of securities held by the Fund itself. The Investment Adviser cannot predict the effects of similar events in the future on the U.S. economy and securities markets or on the Fund’s portfolio. The Investment Adviser monitors developments and seeks to manage the Fund’s portfolio in a manner consistent with achieving the Fund’s investment objective, but there can be no assurance that it will be successful in doing so and the Investment Adviser may not timely anticipate or manage existing, new or additional risks, contingencies or developments.

Significant Holdings Risk. The Fund may invest up to 25% of its total assets in securities of a single industry. Should the Fund choose to do so, the net asset value of the Fund will be more susceptible to factors affecting those particular types of companies, which, depending on the particular industry, may include, among others: governmental regulation; inflation; cost increases in raw materials, fuel and other operating expenses; technological innovations that may render existing products and equipment obsolete; and increasing interest rates resulting in high interest costs on borrowings needed for capital investment, including costs associated with compliance with environmental and other regulations. In such circumstances the Fund’s investments may be subject to greater risk and market fluctuation than a fund that had securities representing a broader range of industries.

Foreign Securities Risk. Investments in the securities of foreign issuers involve certain considerations and risks not ordinarily associated with investments in securities of domestic issuers and such securities may be more volatile than those of issuers located in the United States. Foreign companies are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial standards and requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies.

Foreign securities exchanges, brokers and listed companies may be subject to less government supervision and regulation than exists in the United States. Dividend and interest income may be subject to withholding and other foreign taxes, which may adversely affect the net return on such investments. There may be difficulty in obtaining or enforcing a court judgment abroad. In addition, it may be difficult to effect repatriation of capital invested in certain countries. In addition, with respect to certain countries, there are risks of expropriation, confiscatory taxation, political or social instability or diplomatic developments that could affect assets of the Fund held in foreign countries. Dividend income the Fund receives from foreign securities may not be eligible for the special tax treatment applicable to qualified dividend income. Moreover, certain equity investments in foreign issuers classified as passive foreign investment companies may be subject to additional taxation risk.

There may be less available information about a foreign company than a U.S. company, and foreign companies may not be subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements comparable to or as uniform as those of U.S. companies. Foreign securities markets may have substantially less volume than U.S. securities markets and some foreign company securities are less liquid and their prices more volatile than securities of otherwise comparable U.S. companies. A portfolio of foreign securities may also be adversely affected by fluctuations in the rates of exchange between the currencies of different nations and by exchange

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

control regulations, and there is generally less government supervision and regulation of exchanges, brokers, and issuers than there is in the U.S. The Fund might have greater difficulty taking appropriate legal action in non-U.S. courts and there may be less developed bankruptcy laws. Foreign markets also have different clearance and settlement procedures that could cause the Fund to encounter difficulties in purchasing and selling securities on such markets and may result in the Fund missing attractive investment opportunities or experiencing loss. In addition, a portfolio that includes foreign securities can expect to have a higher expense ratio because of the increased transaction costs on non-U.S. securities markets and the increased costs of maintaining the custody of foreign securities.

Investments in foreign securities will expose the Fund to the direct or indirect consequences of political, social or economic changes in the countries that issue the securities or in which the issuers are located. Certain countries in which the Fund may invest 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. Many of these countries are also characterized by political uncertainty and instability. The cost of servicing external debt will generally be adversely affected by rising international interest rates because many external debt obligations bear interest at rates which are adjusted based upon international interest rates.

The Fund also may purchase ADRs or U.S. dollar-denominated securities of foreign issuers. ADRs are receipts issued by U.S. banks or trust companies in respect of securities of foreign issuers held on deposit for use in the U.S. securities markets. While ADRs may not necessarily be denominated in the same currency as the securities into which they may be converted, many of the risks associated with foreign securities may also apply to ADRs. In addition, the underlying issuers of certain depository receipts, particularly unsponsored or unregistered depository receipts, are under no obligation to distribute shareholder communications to the holders of such receipts, or to pass through to them any voting rights with respect to the deposited securities.

The following provides more detail on certain pronounced risks with foreign investing:

- *Foreign Currency Risk.* The Fund may invest in companies whose securities are denominated or quoted in currencies other than U.S. dollars or have significant operations or markets outside of the United States. In such instances, the Fund will be exposed to currency risk, including the risk of fluctuations in the exchange rate between U.S. dollars (in which the Fund's shares are denominated) and such foreign currencies, the risk of currency devaluations and the risks of non-exchangeability and blockage. As non-U.S. securities may be purchased with and payable in currencies of countries other than the U.S. dollar, the value of these assets measured in U.S. dollars may be affected favorably or unfavorably by changes in currency rates and exchange control regulations. Fluctuations in currency rates may adversely affect the ability of the Investment Adviser to acquire such securities at advantageous prices and may also adversely affect the performance of such assets.

Certain non-U.S. currencies, primarily in developing countries, have been devalued in the past and might face devaluation in the future. Currency devaluations generally have a significant and adverse impact on the devaluing country's economy in the short and intermediate term and on the financial condition and results of companies' operations in that country. Currency devaluations may also be accompanied by significant declines in the values and liquidity of equity and debt securities of affected governmental and private sector entities generally. To the extent that affected companies have obligations denominated in

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currencies other than the devalued currency, those companies may also have difficulty in meeting those obligations under such circumstances, which in turn could have an adverse effect upon the value of the Fund's investments in such companies. There can be no assurance that current or future developments with respect to foreign currency devaluations will not impair the Fund's investment flexibility, its ability to achieve its investment objective or the value of certain of its foreign currency-denominated investments.

- *Tax Consequences of Foreign Investing.* The Fund's transactions in foreign currencies, foreign currency-denominated debt obligations and certain foreign currency options, futures contracts and forward contracts (and similar instruments) may give rise to ordinary income or loss to the extent such income or loss results from fluctuations in the value of the foreign currency concerned. This treatment could increase or decrease the Fund's ordinary income distributions to you, and may cause some or all of the Fund's previously distributed income to be classified as a return of capital. In certain cases, the Fund may make an election to treat gain or loss attributable to certain investments as capital gain or loss.
- *EMU and Redenomination Risk.* As the European debt crisis progressed, the possibility of one or more Eurozone countries exiting the European Monetary Union ("EMU"), or even the collapse of the Euro as a common currency, arose, creating significant volatility at times in currency and financial markets generally. The effects of the collapse of the Euro, or of the exit of one or more countries from the EMU, on the U.S. and global economies and securities markets are impossible to predict and any such events could have a significant adverse impact on the value and risk profile of the Fund's portfolio. Any partial or complete dissolution of the EMU could have significant adverse effects on currency and financial markets, and on the values of the Fund's portfolio investments. If one or more EMU countries were to stop using the Euro as its primary currency, the Fund's investments in such countries may be redenominated into a different or newly adopted currency. As a result, the value of those investments could decline significantly and unpredictably. In addition, securities or other investments that are redenominated may be subject to foreign currency risk, liquidity risk and valuation risk to a greater extent than similar investments currently denominated in Euros. To the extent a currency used for redenomination purposes is not specified in respect of certain EMU-related investments, or should the Euro cease to be used entirely, the currency in which such investments are denominated may be unclear, making such investments particularly difficult to value or dispose of. The Fund may incur additional expenses to the extent it is required to seek judicial or other clarification of the denomination or value of such securities.
- *Emerging Markets Risk.* The considerations noted above in "Foreign Securities Risk" are generally intensified for investments in emerging market countries. Emerging market countries typically have economic and political systems that are less fully developed, and can be expected to be less stable than those of more developed countries. Investing in securities of companies in emerging markets may entail special risks relating to potential political and economic instability and the risks of expropriation, nationalization, confiscation or the imposition of restrictions on foreign investment, the lack of hedging instruments and restrictions on repatriation of capital invested. Economies of such countries can be subject to rapid and unpredictable rates of inflation or deflation.

Emerging securities markets are substantially smaller, less developed, less liquid and more volatile than the major securities markets. The limited size of emerging securities markets and limited trading volume compared to the volume of trading in U.S. securities could cause prices to be erratic for reasons apart from factors that affect the quality of the securities. For example, limited market size may cause

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prices to be unduly influenced by traders who control large positions. Adverse publicity and investors' perceptions, whether or not based on fundamental analysis, may decrease the value and liquidity of portfolio securities, especially in these markets.

Other risks include high concentration of market capitalization and trading volume in a small number of issuers representing a limited number of industries, as well as a high concentration of investors and financial intermediaries; overdependence on exports, including gold and natural resources exports, making these economies vulnerable to changes in commodity prices; overburdened infrastructure and obsolete or unseasoned financial systems; environmental problems; less developed legal systems; and less reliable securities custodial services and settlement practices. Certain emerging markets may also face other significant internal or external risks, including the risk of war and civil unrest. For all of these reasons, investments in emerging markets may be considered speculative.

- *Eurozone Risk.* A number of countries in the EU have experienced, and may continue to experience, severe economic and financial difficulties, increasing the risk of investing in the European markets. In particular, many EU nations are susceptible to economic risks associated with high levels of debt, notably due to investments in sovereign debt of countries such as Greece, Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Ireland. As a result, financial markets in the EU have been subject to increased volatility and declines in asset values and liquidity. Responses to these financial problems by European governments, central banks, and others, including austerity measures and reforms, may not work, may result in social unrest, and may limit future growth and economic recovery or have other unintended consequences. Further defaults or restructurings by governments and others of their debt could have additional adverse effects on economies, financial markets, and asset valuations around the world. Greece, Ireland, and Portugal have already received one or more "bailouts" from other Eurozone member states, and it is unclear how much additional funding they will require or if additional Eurozone member states will require bailouts in the future. One or more other countries may also abandon the euro and/or withdraw from the EU, placing its currency and banking system in jeopardy. The impact of these actions, especially if they occur in a disorderly fashion, is not clear but could be significant and far-reaching.
- *Brexit Risk.* The United Kingdom ceased to be a member of the EU on January 31, 2020 ("Brexit"). A Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and the United Kingdom (the "TCA") took effect on May 1, 2021, and now governs the relationship between the EU and the United Kingdom. While the TCA regulates a number of important areas, significant parts of the United Kingdom economy are not addressed in detail by the TCA, including in particular the services sector, which represents the largest component of the United Kingdom's economy. As such, there remains uncertainty as to the scope, nature and terms of the relationship between the United Kingdom and the EU and the effect and implications of the TCA. Brexit may have a negative impact on the economy and currency of the United Kingdom and EU as a result of anticipated, perceived or actual changes to the United Kingdom's economic and political relations with the EU. Brexit may also have a destabilizing impact on the EU to the extent other member states similarly seek to withdraw from the union. Any further exits of member states from the EU, or the possibility of such exits, would likely cause additional market disruption globally and introduce new legal and regulatory uncertainties. Any or all of these challenges may affect the value of the Fund's

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investments that are economically tied to the United Kingdom or the EU, and could have an adverse impact on the Fund's performance.

- **Russia Risk.** As a result of Russia's military invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the United States and other countries imposed broad-reaching political and economic sanctions on Russia, certain Russian allies believed to be providing them military or financial support, on private and public companies domiciled in Russia, including public issuers and banking and financial institutions, and on a variety of individuals. These sanctions, combined with equivalent measures taken by foreign businesses ceasing operations in Russia, continue to adversely impact global financial markets, disrupt global supply chains, and impair the value and liquidity of issuers and funds that continue to maintain exposure to Russia and its allies, Russian investments, and sectors that can be impacted by restrictions on Russian imports and exports, such as the oil and gas industry.

It is not possible to predict the duration or extent of longer-term consequences of this conflict, which could include further sanctions, retaliatory measures taken by Russia, embargoes, regional instability, geopolitical shifts and adverse effects on macroeconomic conditions, security conditions, currency exchange rates, and financial markets around the globe. Any of the foregoing consequences, including those we cannot yet predict, may negatively impact the Fund's performance and the value of an investment in the Fund, even if the Fund does not have direct exposure to Russian issuers or issuers in other countries impacted by the invasion. In general terms, the overall negative impact to the Fund will depend on the extent to which the Fund is prohibited from selling or otherwise transacting in their investments at any given time and whether a fair market valuation can be readily obtained, particularly for any Russian currency-denominated investments and investments in US dollar-denominated American Depositary Receipts representing securities of Russian issuers.

Restricted and Illiquid Securities Risk. Unregistered securities are securities that cannot be sold publicly in the United States without registration under the Securities Act. An illiquid investment is a security or other investment that cannot be disposed of within seven days in the ordinary course of business at approximately the value at which the Fund has valued the investment. Unregistered securities often can be resold only in privately negotiated transactions with a limited number of purchasers or in a public offering registered under the Securities Act. Considerable delay could be encountered in either event and, unless otherwise contractually provided for, the Fund's proceeds upon sale may be reduced by the costs of registration or underwriting discounts. The difficulties and delays associated with such transactions could result in the Fund's inability to realize a favorable price upon disposition of unregistered securities, and at times might make disposition of such securities impossible. The Fund may be unable to sell illiquid investments when it desires to do so, resulting in the Fund obtaining a lower price or being required to retain the investment. Illiquid investments generally must be valued at fair value, which is inherently less precise than utilizing market values for liquid investments, and may lead to differences between the price at which a security is valued for determining the Fund's net asset value and the price the Fund actually receives upon sale.

Short Sales Risk. Short-selling involves selling securities which may or may not be owned and borrowing the same securities for delivery to the purchaser, with an obligation to replace the borrowed securities at a later date. 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

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a capital gain. Any gain will be decreased, and any loss will be increased, by the transaction costs incurred by the Fund, including the costs associated with providing collateral to the broker-dealer (usually cash and liquid securities). Although the Fund's gain is limited to the price at which it sold the security short, its potential loss is theoretically unlimited.

Short-selling necessarily involves certain additional risks. However, if the short seller does not own the securities sold short (an uncovered short sale), the borrowed securities must be replaced by securities purchased at market prices in order to close out the short position, and any appreciation in the price of the borrowed securities would result in a loss. Uncovered short sales expose the Fund to the risk of uncapped losses until a position can be closed out due to the lack of an upper limit on the price to which a security may rise. Purchasing securities to close out the short position can itself cause the price of the securities to rise further, thereby exacerbating the loss. There is the risk that the securities borrowed by the Fund in connection with a short-sale must be returned to the securities lender on short notice. If a request for return of borrowed securities occurs at a time when other short-sellers of the security are receiving similar requests, a "short squeeze" can occur, and the Fund may be compelled to replace borrowed securities previously sold short with purchases on the open market at the most disadvantageous time, possibly at prices significantly in excess of the proceeds received at the time the securities were originally sold short.

In September 2008, in response to spreading turmoil in the financial markets, the SEC temporarily banned short selling in the stocks of numerous financial services companies, and also promulgated new disclosure requirements with respect to short positions held by investment managers. The SEC's temporary ban on short selling of such stocks has since expired, but should similar restrictions and/or additional disclosure requirements be promulgated, especially if market turmoil occurs, the Fund may be forced to cover short positions more quickly than otherwise intended and may suffer losses as a result. Such restrictions may also adversely affect the ability of the Fund to execute its investment strategies generally. Similar emergency orders were also instituted in non-U.S. markets in response to increased volatility. The Fund's ability to engage in short sales is also restricted by various regulatory requirements relating to short sales.

Leverage Risk. The Fund currently uses financial leverage for investment purposes by issuing preferred shares and is also permitted to use other types of financial leverage, such as through the issuance of debt securities or additional preferred shares and borrowing from financial institutions. As provided in the 1940 Act and subject to certain exceptions, the Fund may issue additional senior securities (which may be stock, such as preferred shares, and/or securities representing debt) only if immediately after such issuance the value of the Fund's total assets, less certain ordinary course liabilities, exceeds 300% of the amount of the debt outstanding and exceeds 200% of the amount of preferred shares and debt outstanding. As of December 31, 2024, the amount of leverage represented approximately 29% of the Fund's assets.

The Fund's leveraged capital structure creates special risks not associated with unleveraged funds having a similar investment objective and policies. These include the possibility of greater loss and the likelihood of higher volatility of the net asset value of the Fund and the asset coverage for any preferred shares or debt outstanding. Such volatility may increase the likelihood of the Fund having to sell investments in order to meet its obligations to make distributions on the preferred shares or principal or interest payments on debt securities, or to redeem preferred shares or repay debt when it may be disadvantageous to do so. The Fund's use of leverage may require it to sell portfolio investments at inopportune times in order to raise cash to redeem preferred shares

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or otherwise de-leverage so as to maintain required asset coverage amounts or comply with the mandatory redemption terms of the outstanding preferred shares. The use of leverage magnifies both the favorable and unfavorable effects of price movements in the investments made by the Fund. To the extent that the Fund employs leverage in its investment operations, the Fund is subject to substantial risk of loss. The Fund cannot assure you that borrowings or the issuance of notes or preferred shares will result in a higher yield or return to the holders of the common shares. Also, to the extent the Fund utilizes leverage, a decline in net asset value could affect the ability of the Fund to make common share distributions and such a failure to make distributions could result in the Fund ceasing to qualify as a RIC under the Code.

For more information regarding the risks of a leverage capital structure to holders of the Fund's common shares, see "- Special Risks to Holder of Common Shares-Leverage Risk."

Special Risks Related to Investment in Derivatives. The Fund may participate in certain derivatives transactions, as described herein. Such transactions entail certain execution, market, liquidity, counterparty, correlation, volatility, hedging and tax risks. Participation in derivatives transactions involves investment risks and transaction costs to which the Fund would not be subject absent the use of these strategies. If the Investment Adviser's prediction of movements in the direction of the securities other referenced instruments or markets is inaccurate, the consequences to the Fund may leave the Fund in a worse position than if it had not used such strategies. Risks inherent in the use of derivatives transactions include:

- dependence on the Investment Adviser's ability to predict correctly movements in the direction of the relevant measure;
- imperfect correlation between the price of the derivative instrument and movements in the prices of the referenced assets;
- the fact that skills needed to use these strategies are different from those needed to select portfolio securities;
- the possible absence of a liquid secondary market for any particular instrument at any time;
- the possible need to defer closing out certain positions to avoid adverse tax consequences;
- the possible inability of the Fund to purchase or sell a security or instrument at a time that otherwise would be favorable for it to do so, or the possible need for the Fund to sell a security or instrument at a disadvantageous time due to a need for the Fund to remain in compliance with the 1940 Act restrictions regarding derivatives transactions; and
- the creditworthiness of counterparties.

Certain derivatives may be traded on foreign exchanges. Such transactions may not be regulated as effectively as similar transactions in the United States, may not involve a clearing mechanism and related guarantees, and are subject to the risk of governmental actions affecting trading in, or the prices of, foreign securities. The value of such positions also could be adversely affected by (i) other complex foreign political, legal and economic factors, (ii) lesser availability than in the United States of data on which to make trading decisions, (iii) delays in the ability of the Fund to act upon economic events occurring in the foreign markets during non-business hours in the United States, (iv) the imposition of different exercise and settlement terms and procedures and margin requirements than in the United States and (v) less trading volume. Exchanges on which derivatives are traded may impose limits on the positions that the Fund may take in certain circumstances.

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Many OTC derivatives are valued on the basis of dealers' pricing of these instruments. However, the price at which dealers value a particular derivative and the price which the same dealers would actually be willing to pay for such derivative should the Fund wish or be forced to sell such position may be materially different. Such differences can result in an overstatement of the Fund's net asset value and may materially adversely affect the Fund in situations in which the Fund is required to sell derivative instruments.

While hedging can reduce or eliminate losses, it can also reduce or eliminate gains. Hedges are sometimes subject to imperfect matching between the derivative and the underlying security, and there can be no assurance that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. Derivatives may give rise to a form of leverage and may expose the Fund to greater risk and increase its costs. Recent legislation calls for new regulation of the derivatives markets. The extent and impact of the regulation is not yet known and may not be known for some time. New regulation may make derivatives more costly, may limit the availability of derivatives, or may otherwise adversely affect the value or performance of derivatives.

Counterparty Risk. The Fund will be subject to credit risk with respect to the counterparties to the derivative contracts purchased by the Fund. If a counterparty becomes bankrupt or otherwise fails to perform its obligations under a derivative contract due to financial difficulties, the Fund may experience significant delays in obtaining any recovery under the derivative contract in bankruptcy or other reorganization proceeding. The Fund may obtain only a limited recovery or may obtain no recovery in such circumstances.

The counterparty risk for cleared derivatives is generally lower than for uncleared OTC derivative transactions since generally a clearing organization becomes substituted for each counterparty to a cleared derivative contract and, in effect, guarantees the parties' performance under the contract as each party to a trade looks only to the clearing organization for performance of financial obligations under the derivative contract. However, there can be no assurance that a clearing organization, or its members, will satisfy its obligations to the Fund, or that the Fund would be able to recover the full amount of assets deposited on its behalf with the clearing organization in the event of the default by the clearing organization or the Fund's clearing broker. In addition, cleared derivative transactions benefit from daily marking-to-market and settlement, and segregation and minimum capital requirements applicable to intermediaries. Uncleared OTC derivative transactions generally do not benefit from such protections. This exposes the Fund to the risk that a counterparty will not settle a transaction in accordance with its terms and conditions because of a dispute over the terms of the contract (whether or not bona fide) or because of a credit or liquidity problem, thus causing the Fund to suffer a loss. Such "counterparty risk" is accentuated for contracts with longer maturities where events may intervene to prevent settlement, or where the Fund has concentrated its transactions with a single or small group of counterparties.

Failure of Futures Commission Merchants and Clearing Organizations Risk. The Fund may deposit funds required to margin open positions in the derivative instruments subject to the CEA with a clearing broker registered as a "futures commission merchant" ("FCM"). The CEA requires an FCM to segregate all funds received from customers with respect to any orders for the purchase or sale of U.S. domestic futures contracts and cleared swaps from the FCM's proprietary assets. Similarly, the CEA requires each FCM to hold in a separate secure account all funds received from customers with respect to any orders for the purchase or sale of foreign futures contracts and segregate any such funds from the funds received with respect to domestic futures contracts. However, all funds and other property received by a clearing broker from its customers are held by the clearing broker on a commingled basis in an omnibus account and may be invested by the clearing

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broker in certain instruments permitted under the applicable regulation. There is a risk that assets deposited by the Fund with any swaps or futures clearing broker as margin for futures contracts may, in certain circumstances, be used to satisfy losses of other clients of the Fund's clearing broker. In addition, the assets of the Fund may not be fully protected in the event of the clearing broker's bankruptcy, as the Fund would be limited to recovering only a pro rata share of all available funds segregated on behalf of the clearing broker's combined domestic customer accounts.

Similarly, the CEA requires a clearing organization approved by the CFTC as a derivatives clearing organization to segregate all funds and other property received from a clearing member's clients in connection with domestic futures, swaps and options contracts from any funds held at the clearing organization to support the clearing member's proprietary trading. Nevertheless, with respect to futures contracts and options on futures, a clearing organization may use assets of a non-defaulting customer held in an omnibus account at the clearing organization to satisfy losses in that account resulting from the default by another customer on its payment obligations that leads to the clearing member's default to the clearing organization. As a result, in the situation of a double default by a customer of the Fund's clearing member and the clearing member itself with respect to payment obligations on the customer's futures or options on futures, there is a risk that the Fund's assets in an omnibus account with the clearing organization may be used to satisfy losses from the double default and that the Fund may not recover the full amount of any such assets.

Swaps Risk. Swap agreements are two-party contracts entered into primarily by institutional investors for periods ranging from a few weeks to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) earned or realized on particular predetermined investments or instruments. The gross returns to be exchanged or "swapped" between the parties are calculated with respect to a "notional amount," i.e., the return on or increase in value of a particular dollar amount invested at a particular interest rate, in a particular foreign currency, or in a "basket" of securities representing a particular index. The "notional amount" of the swap agreement is only a fictive basis on which to calculate the obligations that the parties to a swap agreement have agreed to exchange.

Historically, swap transactions have been individually negotiated non-standardized transactions entered into in the OTC markets and have not been subject to the same type of government regulation as exchange-traded instruments. However, in the U.S., the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the "Dodd-Frank Act") has made broad changes to the derivatives market, granted significant new authority to the CFTC and the SEC to regulate derivatives (swaps and security-based swaps) and participants in these markets. The Dodd-Frank Act is intended to regulate the derivatives market by requiring many derivative transactions to be cleared and traded on an exchange, expanding entity registration requirements, imposing business conduct requirements on dealers and requiring banks to move some derivatives trading units to a non-guaranteed affiliate separate from the deposit-taking bank or divest them altogether. See "Risk Factors and Special Considerations-General Risks - Derivatives Regulation Risk."

Swap agreements will tend to shift the Fund's investment exposure from one type of investment to another. For example, if the Fund agreed to pay fixed rates in exchange for floating rates while holding fixed-rate bonds, the swap would tend to decrease the Fund's exposure to long-term interest rates. Caps and floors have an effect similar to buying or writing options. Depending on how they are used, swap agreements may increase or decrease the overall volatility of the Fund's investments and its share price and yield. The most significant factor

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in the performance of swap agreements is the change in the specific interest rate, currency, or other factors that determine the amounts of payments due to and from the Fund. If a swap agreement calls for payments by the Fund, the Fund must be prepared to make such payments when due.

The Fund may enter into swap agreements that would calculate the obligations of the parties to the agreements on a “net” basis. Consequently, the Fund’s obligations (or rights) under a swap agreement will generally be equal only to the net amount to be paid or received under the agreement based on the relative values of the positions held by each party to the agreement (the “net amount”).

The Fund’s use of swap agreements may not be successful in furthering its investment objective, as the Investment Adviser may not accurately predict whether certain types of investments are likely to produce greater returns than other investments. Moreover, swap agreements involve the risk that the party with whom a Fund has entered into the swap will default on its obligation to pay a Fund and the risk that a Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to pay the other party to the agreement. The Fund may be able to eliminate its exposure under a swap agreement either by assignment or other disposition, or by entering into an offsetting swap agreement with the same party or a similarly creditworthy party.

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts. The Fund may enter into forward foreign currency exchange contracts to protect the value of its portfolio against uncertainty in the level of future currency exchange rates between a particular foreign currency and the U.S. dollar or between foreign currencies in which its securities are or may be denominated. The Fund may enter into such contracts on a spot (i.e., cash) basis at the rate then prevailing in the currency exchange market or on a forward basis by entering into a forward contract to purchase or sell currency. A forward contract on foreign currency is an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency at a future date, which may be any fixed number of days agreed upon by the parties from the date of the contract at a price set on the date of the contract. Forward currency contracts (i) are traded in a market conducted directly between currency traders (typically, commercial banks or other financial institutions) and their customers, (ii) generally have no deposit requirements and (iii) are typically consummated without payment of any commissions. The Fund, however, may enter into forward currency contracts requiring deposits or involving the payment of commissions.

The dealings of the Fund in forward foreign exchange are limited to hedging involving either specific transactions or portfolio positions. Transaction hedging is the purchase or sale of one forward foreign currency for another currency with respect to specific receivables or payables of the Fund accruing in connection with the purchase and sale of its portfolio securities or its payment of distributions. Position hedging is the purchase or sale of one forward foreign currency for another currency with respect to portfolio security positions denominated or quoted in the foreign currency to offset the effect of an anticipated substantial appreciation or depreciation, respectively, in the value of the currency relative to the U.S. dollar. In this situation, the Fund also may, for example, enter into a forward contract to sell or purchase a different foreign currency for a fixed U.S. dollar amount when it is believed that the U.S. dollar value of the currency to be sold or bought pursuant to the forward contract will fall or rise, as the case may be, whenever there is a decline or increase, respectively, in the U.S. dollar value of the currency in which its portfolio securities are denominated (this practice being referred to as a “cross-hedge”).

In hedging a specific transaction, the Fund may enter into a forward contract with respect to either the currency in which the transaction is denominated or another currency deemed appropriate by the Investment Adviser. The

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amount the Fund may invest in forward currency contracts is limited to the amount of its aggregate investments in foreign currencies.

The use of forward currency contracts may involve certain risks, including the failure of the counterparty to perform its obligations under the contract, and such use may not serve as a complete hedge because of an imperfect correlation between movements in the prices of the contracts and the prices of the currencies hedged or used for cover. The Fund will only enter into forward currency contracts with parties that the Investment Adviser believes to be creditworthy institutions.

Futures Contracts and Options on Futures. Futures and options on futures entail certain risks, including, but not limited to, the following: no assurance that futures contracts or options on futures can be offset at favorable prices; possible reduction of the yield of the Fund 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 fluctuations; imperfect correlation between the contracts and the securities being hedged; and losses from investing in futures transactions that are potentially unlimited.

Options Risk. To the extent that the Fund purchases options pursuant to a hedging strategy, the Fund will be subject to the following additional risks. If a put or call option purchased by the Fund is not sold when it has remaining value, and if the market price of the underlying security remains equal to or greater than the exercise price (in the case of a put), or remains less than or equal to the exercise price (in the case of a call), the Fund will lose its entire investment in the option.

Where a put or call option on a particular security is purchased to hedge against price movements in that or a related security, the price of the put or call option may move more or less than the price of the security. If restrictions on exercise are imposed, the Fund may be unable to exercise an option it has purchased. If the Fund is unable to close out an option that it has purchased on a security, it will have to exercise the option in order to realize any profit or the option may expire worthless.

Derivatives Regulation Risk. The Dodd-Frank Act has made broad changes to the derivatives market, granted significant new authority to the CFTC and the SEC to regulate derivatives (swaps and security-based swaps) and participants in these markets. The Dodd-Frank Act is intended to regulate the derivatives market by requiring many derivative transactions to be cleared and traded on an exchange, expanding entity registration requirements, imposing business conduct requirements on dealers and requiring banks to move some derivatives trading units to a non-guaranteed affiliate separate from the deposit-taking bank or divest them altogether. The CFTC has implemented mandatory clearing and exchange-trading of certain derivatives contracts including many standardized interest rate swaps and credit default index swaps. The CFTC continues to approve contracts for central clearing. Exchange-trading and central clearing are expected to reduce counterparty credit risk by substituting the clearinghouse as the counterparty to a swap and increase liquidity, but exchange-trading and central clearing do not make swap transactions risk-free. Uncleared swaps, such as non-deliverable foreign currency forwards, are subject to certain margin requirements that mandate the posting and collection of minimum margin amounts. This requirement may result in the Fund and its counterparties posting higher margin amounts for uncleared swaps than would otherwise be the case. Certain rules require centralized reporting of detailed information about many types of cleared and uncleared swaps. Reporting of swap data may result in

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greater market transparency, but may subject the Fund to additional administrative burdens, and the safeguards established to protect trader anonymity may not function as expected.

Market Discount Risk. Whether investors will realize gains or losses upon the sale of securities of the Fund will depend upon the market price of the securities at the time of sale, which may be less or more than the Fund's net asset value per share or the liquidation value of any Fund preferred shares issued. Since the market price of any additional securities the Fund may issue will be affected by such factors as the Fund's dividend and distribution levels (which are in turn affected by expenses), dividend and distribution stability, net asset value, market liquidity, the relative demand for and supply of such securities in the market, general market and economic conditions and other factors beyond the control of the Fund, we cannot predict whether any such securities will trade at, below or above net asset value or at, below or above their public offering price or at, below or above their liquidation value, as applicable. For example, common shares of closed-end funds often trade at a discount to their net asset values and the Fund's common shares may trade at such a discount. This risk may be greater for investors expecting to sell their securities of the Fund soon after the completion of a public offering for such securities. The risk of a market price discount from net asset value is separate and in addition to the risk that net asset value itself may decline. The Fund's securities are designed primarily for long-term investors, and investors in the shares should not view the Fund as a vehicle for trading purposes.

Long Term Objective; Not a Complete Investment Program. The Fund is intended for investors seeking long-term growth of capital. The Fund is not meant to provide a vehicle for those who wish to exploit short-term swings in the stock market. An investment in shares of the Fund should not be considered a complete investment program. Each shareholder should take into account the Fund's investment objective as well as the shareholder's other investments when considering an investment in the Fund.

Management Risk. The Fund is subject to management risk because it is an actively managed portfolio. The Investment Adviser will apply investment techniques and risk analyses in making investment decisions for the Fund, but there can be no guarantee that these will produce the desired results.

Decision-Making Authority Risk. Investors have no authority to make decisions or to exercise business discretion on behalf of the Fund, except as set forth in the Fund's governing documents. The authority for all such decisions is generally delegated to the Board, who in turn, has delegated the day-to-day management of the Fund's investment activities to the Investment Adviser, subject to oversight by the Board.

Dependence on Key Personnel. The Investment Adviser is dependent upon the expertise of Mr. Mario J. Gabelli in providing advisory services with respect to the Fund's investments. If the Investment Adviser were to lose the services of Mr. Gabelli, its ability to service the Fund could be adversely affected. There can be no assurance that a suitable replacement could be found for Mr. Gabelli in the event of his death, resignation, retirement or inability to act on behalf of the Investment Adviser.

Market Disruption and Geopolitical Risk. The occurrence of events similar to those in recent years, such as localized wars, instability, new and ongoing pandemics, epidemics or outbreaks of infectious diseases in certain parts of the world, natural/environmental disasters in certain parts of the world, terrorist attacks in the United States and around the world, trade or tariff arrangements, social and political discord, debt crises, sovereign debt downgrades, increasingly strained relations between the United States and a number of foreign countries, including traditional allies, historical adversaries and the international community generally, new and continued

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

political unrest in various countries, the exit or potential exit of one or more countries from the EU or the EMU, continued changes in the balance of political power among and within the branches of the U.S. government, and government shutdowns, among others, may result in market volatility, may have long-term effects on the United States and worldwide financial markets, and may cause further economic uncertainties in the United States and worldwide.

The consequences of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, the potential impact on inflation and increased disruption to supply chains may impact our portfolio companies, result in an economic downturn or recession either globally or locally in the U.S. or other economies, reduce business activity, spawn additional conflicts (whether in the form of traditional military action, reignited “cold” wars or in the form a virtual warfare such as cyberattacks) with similar and perhaps wider ranging impacts and consequences and have an adverse impact on the Fund’s returns and net asset value. The current contentious domestic political environment, as well as political and diplomatic events within the United States and abroad, such as the U.S. government’s inability at times to agree on a long-term budget and deficit reduction plan, may in the future result in additional government shutdowns, which could have a material adverse effect on the Funds’ investments and operations. In addition, the Funds’ ability to raise additional capital in the future through the sale of securities could be materially affected by a government shutdown. Additional and/or prolonged U.S. government shutdowns may affect investor and consumer confidence and may adversely impact financial markets and the broader economy, perhaps suddenly and to a significant degree.

The current political climate has intensified concerns about a potential trade war between China and the U.S., as each country has imposed tariffs on the other country’s products. These actions may trigger a significant reduction in international trade, the oversupply of certain manufactured goods, substantial price reductions of goods and possible failure of individual companies and/or large segments of China’s export industry, which could have a negative impact the Fund’s performance. U.S. companies that source material and goods from China and those that make large amounts of sales in China would be particularly vulnerable to an escalation of trade tensions. Uncertainty regarding the outcome of the trade tensions and the potential for a trade war could cause the U.S. dollar to decline against safe haven currencies, such as the Japanese yen and the euro. Events such as these and their consequences are difficult to predict and it is unclear whether further tariffs may be imposed or other escalating actions may be taken in the future. Any of these effects could have a material adverse effect on the Fund.

Uncertainty and periods of volatility still remain, and risks to a robust resumption of growth persist. Federal Reserve policy, including with respect to certain interest rates, may adversely affect the value, volatility and liquidity of dividend and interest paying securities. Market volatility, dramatic changes to interest rates and/or a return to unfavorable economic conditions may lower the Fund’s performance or impair the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.

The occurrence of any of the above events could have a significant adverse impact on the value and risk profile of the Fund’s portfolio. It is not known how long the securities markets may be affected by similar events, and the effects of similar events in the future on the U.S. economy and securities markets cannot be predicted. There can be no assurance that similar events and other market disruptions will not have other material and adverse implications.

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

The rules dealing with U.S. federal income taxation are constantly under review by persons involved in the legislative process and by the IRS and the U.S. Treasury Department. The effect of any changes to the Code on the value of our assets or the Fund's common shares or market conditions generally is uncertain.

Economic Events and Market Risk. Periods of market volatility remain, and may continue to occur in the future, in response to various political, social and economic events both within and outside of the United States. These conditions have resulted in, and in many cases continue to result in, greater price volatility, less liquidity, widening credit spreads and a lack of price transparency, with many securities remaining illiquid and of uncertain value. Such market conditions may adversely affect the Fund, including by making valuation of some of the Fund's securities uncertain and/or result in sudden and significant valuation increases or declines in the Fund's holdings. If there is a significant decline in the value of the Fund's portfolio, this may impact the asset coverage levels for the Fund's outstanding leverage.

In addition, local, regional or global events such as war, including Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the Hamas terrorist attacks and resulting conflict, the spread of infectious disease or other public health issues, recessions, rising inflation, or other events could have a significant negative impact on the Fund and its investments. Such events may affect certain geographic regions, countries, sectors and industries more significantly than others.

Risks resulting from any future debt or other economic crisis could also have a detrimental impact on the global economic recovery, the financial condition of financial institutions and our business, financial condition and results of operation. Market and economic disruptions have affected, and may in the future affect, consumer confidence levels and spending, personal bankruptcy rates, levels of incurrence and default on consumer debt and home prices, among other factors. To the extent uncertainty regarding the U.S. or global economy negatively impacts consumer confidence and consumer credit factors, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be significantly and adversely affected. Downgrades to the credit ratings of major banks could result in increased borrowing costs for such banks and negatively affect the broader economy. Moreover, Federal Reserve policy, including with respect to certain interest rates, may also adversely affect the value, volatility and liquidity of dividend- and interest-paying securities. Market volatility, tariffs, rising interest rates and/or a return to unfavorable economic conditions could impair the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objectives.

Regulation and Government Intervention Risk. Changes enacted by the current or future presidential administration could significantly impact the regulation of financial markets in the U.S. Areas subject to potential change, amendment or repeal include trade and foreign policy, corporate tax rates, energy and infrastructure policies, the environment and sustainability, criminal and social justice initiatives, immigration, healthcare and the oversight of certain federal financial regulatory agencies and the Federal Reserve. Certain of these changes can, and have, been effectuated through executive order. Potential changes that could be pursued by current or future presidential administrations could include changes to the corporate income tax rate and changes to regulatory enforcement priorities. It is not possible to predict which, if any, actions will be taken or, if taken, their effect on the economy, securities markets or the financial stability of the U.S. The 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 the Fund and the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objectives.

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

Additional risks arising from the differences in expressed policy preferences among the various constituencies in the branches of the U.S. government has led in the past, and may lead in the future, to short-term or prolonged policy impasses, which could, and has, resulted in shutdowns of the U.S. federal government. U.S. federal government shutdowns, especially prolonged shutdowns, could have a significant adverse impact on the economy in general and could impair the ability of issuers to raise capital in the securities markets. Any of these effects could have a material adverse effect on the Fund's net asset value.

In addition, the rules dealing with the U.S. federal income taxation are constantly under review by persons involved in the legislative process and by the IRS and the U.S. Treasury Department. The effect of any changes to the Code is uncertain, both in terms of the direct effect on the taxation of an investment in the Fund's shares and their indirect effect on the value of the Fund's assets, Fund shares or market conditions generally.

In addition, the U.S. government has proposed and adopted multiple regulations that could have a long-lasting impact on the Fund and on the closed-end fund industry in general. The SEC's final rules and amendments that modernize reporting and disclosure, along with other potential upcoming regulations, could, among other things, restrict the Fund's ability to engage in transactions, and/or increase overall expenses of the Fund.

The 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 the Fund and its ability to achieve its investment objective.

SOFR Risk. As of June 30, 2023, overnight and 12-month US dollar London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") settings permanently ceased. 1-, 3-, and 6-month U.S. dollar LIBOR settings ceased to be published as of September 2024. As an alternative to LIBOR, the Financial Reporting Council, in conjunction with the Alternative Reference Rates Committee, a steering committee comprised of large U.S. financial institutions, recommended replacing U.S. dollar LIBOR with the Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("SOFR"), a new index calculated by reference to short-term repurchase agreements, backed by Treasury securities.

SOFR is intended to be a broad measure of the cost of borrowing funds overnight in transactions that are collateralized by U.S. Treasury securities. SOFR is calculated based on transaction-level data collected from various sources. For each trading day, SOFR is calculated as a volume-weighted median rate derived from such data. SOFR is calculated and published by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York ("FRBNY"). If data from a given source required by the FRBNY to calculate SOFR is unavailable for any day, then the most recently available data for that segment will be used, with certain adjustments. If errors are discovered in the transaction data or the calculations underlying SOFR after its initial publication on a given day, SOFR may be republished at a later time that day. Rate revisions will be effected only on the day of initial publication and will be republished only if the change in the rate exceeds one basis point.

Because SOFR is a financing rate based on overnight secured funding transactions, it differs fundamentally from LIBOR. LIBOR was intended to be an unsecured rate that represents interbank funding costs for different short-term maturities or tenors. It was a forward-looking rate reflecting expectations regarding interest rates for the applicable tenor. Thus, LIBOR was intended to be sensitive, in certain respects, to bank credit risk and to term interest rate risk. In contrast, SOFR is a secured overnight rate reflecting the credit of U.S. Treasury securities as collateral. Thus, it is largely insensitive to credit-risk considerations and to short-term interest rate risks. SOFR is a transaction-based rate, and it has been more volatile than other benchmark or market rates

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

during certain periods. For these reasons, among others, there is no assurance that SOFR, or rates derived from SOFR, will perform in the same or similar way as LIBOR would have performed at any time, and there is no assurance that SOFR-based rates will be a suitable substitute for LIBOR. SOFR has a limited history, having been first published in April 2018. The future performance of SOFR, and SOFR-based reference rates, cannot be predicted based on SOFR's history or otherwise. Levels of SOFR in the future may bear little or no relation to historical levels of SOFR, LIBOR or other rates.

Deflation Risk. Deflation risk is the risk that prices throughout the economy decline over time, which may have an adverse effect on the market valuation of companies, their assets and their revenues. In addition, deflation may have an adverse effect on the creditworthiness of issuers and may make issuer default more likely, which may result in a decline in the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Legislation Risk. At any time after the date of this Annual Report, legislation may be enacted that could negatively affect the assets of the Fund. Legislation or regulation may change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. The Investment Adviser cannot predict the effects of any new governmental regulation that may be implemented and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Reliance on Service Providers Risk. The Fund must rely upon the performance of service providers to perform certain functions, which may include functions that are integral to the Fund's operations and financial performance. Failure by any service provider to carry out its obligations to the Fund in accordance with the terms of its appointment, to exercise due care and skill or to perform its obligations to the Fund at all as a result of insolvency, bankruptcy or other causes could have a material adverse effect on the Fund's performance and returns to shareholders. The termination of the Fund's relationship with any service provider, or any delay in appointing a replacement for such service provider, could materially disrupt the business of the Fund and could have a material adverse effect on the Fund's performance and returns to shareholders.

Cyber Security Risk. 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 stockholders, potentially resulting in, among other things, financial losses; the inability of Fund stockholders to transact business and the Fund to process transactions; inability to calculate the Fund's net asset value; 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 have been a number of recent highly publicized cases of companies reporting the unauthorized disclosure of client or customer information, as well as cyberattacks involving the dissemination, theft and destruction of corporate information or other assets, as a result of failure to follow procedures by employees or contractors

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

or as a result of actions by third parties, including actions by terrorist organizations and hostile foreign governments. Although service providers typically have policies and procedures, business continuity plans and/or risk management systems intended to identify and mitigate cyber incidents, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems including the possibility that certain risks have not been identified. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cyber security policies, plans and systems put in place by its service providers or any other third parties whose operations may affect the Fund or its shareholders. 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.

Because technology is consistently changing, new ways to carry out cyber attacks are always developing. Therefore, there is a chance that some risks have not been identified or prepared for, or that an attack may not be detected, which puts limitations on the Fund's ability to plan for or respond to a cyber attack. In addition to deliberate cyber attacks, unintentional cyber incidents can occur, such as the inadvertent release of confidential information by the Fund or its service providers. Like other funds and business enterprises, the Fund and its service providers are subject to the risk of cyber incidents occurring from time to time.

Misconduct of Employees and of Service Providers Risk. Misconduct or misrepresentations by employees of the Investment Adviser or the Fund's service providers could cause significant losses to the Fund. Employee misconduct may include binding the Fund to transactions that exceed authorized limits or present unacceptable risks and unauthorized trading activities, concealing unsuccessful trading activities (which, in any case, may result in unknown and unmanaged risks or losses) or making misrepresentations regarding any of the foregoing. Losses could also result from actions by the Fund's service providers, including, without limitation, failing to recognize trades and misappropriating assets. In addition, employees and service providers may improperly use or disclose confidential information, which could result in litigation or serious financial harm, including limiting the Fund's business prospects or future marketing activities. Despite the Investment Adviser's due diligence efforts, misconduct and intentional misrepresentations may be undetected or not fully comprehended, thereby potentially undermining the Investment Adviser's due diligence efforts. As a result, no assurances can be given that the due diligence performed by the Investment Adviser will identify or prevent any such misconduct.

Portfolio Turnover Risk. The Fund's annual portfolio turnover rate may vary greatly from year to year, as well as within a given year. Portfolio turnover rate is not considered a limiting factor in the execution of investment decisions for the Fund. A higher portfolio turnover rate results in correspondingly greater brokerage commissions and other transactional expenses that are borne by the Fund. High portfolio turnover may result in an increased realization of net short-term capital gains by the Fund which, when distributed to common shareholders, will be taxable as ordinary income. Additionally, in a declining market, portfolio turnover may create realized capital losses.

Investment Dilution Risk. The Fund's investors do not have preemptive rights to any shares the Fund may issue in the future. The Fund's Declaration of Trust authorizes it to issue an unlimited number of shares. The Board may make certain amendments to the Declaration of Trust. After an investor purchases shares, the Fund may sell additional shares or other classes of shares in the future or issue equity interests in private offerings. To the extent the Fund issues additional equity interests after an investor purchases its shares, such investor's percentage ownership interest in the Fund will be diluted.

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

Legal, Tax and Regulatory Risks. Legal, tax and regulatory changes could occur that may have material adverse effects on the Fund or its shareholders. For example, the regulatory and tax environment for derivative instruments in which the Fund may participate is evolving, and such changes in the regulation or taxation of derivative instruments may have material adverse effects on the value of derivative instruments held by the Fund and the ability of the Fund to pursue its investment strategies. Similarly, the Biden administration has indicated that it intends to modify key aspects of the Code, including by increasing corporate and individual tax rates. Changes to the U.S. federal tax laws and interpretations thereof could adversely affect an investment in the Fund.

We cannot assure you what percentage of the distributions paid on the Fund's shares, if any, will consist of tax-advantaged qualified dividend income or long-term capital gains or what the tax rates on various types of income will be in future years.

The Fund has elected to qualify as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. Qualification requires, among other things, compliance by the Fund with certain distribution requirements. Statutory limitations on distributions on the common shares if the Fund fails to satisfy the 1940 Act's asset coverage requirements could jeopardize the Fund's ability to meet such distribution requirements. To qualify and maintain its status as a RIC, the Fund must, among other things, derive in each taxable year at least 90% of its gross income from certain prescribed sources and distribute for each taxable year at least 90% of its "investment company taxable income" (generally, ordinary income plus excess, if any, of net short-term capital gain over net long-term capital loss). While the Fund presently intends to purchase or redeem notes or preferred shares, if any, to the extent necessary in order to maintain compliance with such asset coverage requirements, there can be no assurance that such actions can be effected in time to meet the Code requirements. If the Fund fails to qualify as a RIC for any reason, it will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at regular corporate rates on all of its taxable income and gains. The resulting corporate taxes would materially reduce the Fund's net assets and the amount of cash available for distribution to shareholders.

Anti-Takeover Provisions. The Agreement and Declaration of Trust and By-Laws of the Fund include provisions that could limit the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund or convert the Fund to an open-end fund. See also "Delaware Statutory Trust Act - Control Share Acquisitions."

Special Risks to Holders of Notes

An investment in our notes is subject to special risks. Our notes are not likely to be listed on an exchange or automated quotation system. We cannot assure you that any market will exist for our notes or if a market does exist, whether it will provide holders with liquidity. Broker-dealers that maintain a secondary trading market for the notes are not required to maintain this market, and the Fund is not required to redeem notes if an attempted secondary market sale fails because of a lack of buyers. To the extent that our notes trade, they may trade at a price either higher or lower than their principal amount depending on interest rates, the rating (if any) on such notes and other factors.

Special Risks to Holders of Fixed Rate Preferred Shares

Illiquidity Prior to Exchange Listing. Prior to an offering, there will be no public market for any series of fixed rate preferred shares. In the event any additional series of fixed rate preferred shares are issued, we expect to

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

apply to list such shares on a national securities exchange, which will likely be the NYSE. However, during an initial period, which is not expected to exceed 30 days after the date of initial issuance, such shares may not be listed on any securities exchange. During such period, the underwriters may make a market in such shares, though they will have no obligation to do so. Consequently, an investment in such shares may be illiquid during such period.

Market Price Fluctuation. Fixed rate preferred shares may trade at a premium to or discount from liquidation value for various reasons, including changes in interest rates, perceived credit quality and other factors.

Special Risks to Holders of Notes and Preferred Shares

Common Share Repurchases. Repurchases of common shares by the Fund may reduce the net asset coverage of the notes and preferred shares, which could adversely affect their liquidity or market prices.

Common Share Distribution Policy. In the event the Fund does not generate a total return from dividends and interest received and net realized capital gains in an amount at least equal to its distributions for a given year, the Fund may return capital as part of its distribution. This would decrease the asset coverage per share with respect to the Fund's notes or preferred shares, which could adversely affect their liquidity or market prices.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024, the Fund made distributions of \$0.48 per common share, approximately \$0.09 of which constituted a return of capital. The composition of each distribution is estimated based on earnings as of the record date for the distribution. The actual composition of each distribution may change based on the Fund's investment activity through the end of the calendar year.

Credit Quality Ratings. The Fund may obtain credit quality ratings for its preferred shares or notes, if desired; however, it is not required to do so and may issue preferred shares or notes without any rating. If rated, the Fund does not impose any minimum rating necessary to issue such preferred shares or notes. In order to obtain and maintain attractive credit quality ratings for preferred shares or borrowings, if desired, the Fund's portfolio must satisfy over-collateralization tests established by the relevant rating agencies. These tests are more difficult to satisfy to the extent the Fund's portfolio securities are of lower credit quality, longer maturity or not diversified by issuer and industry.

These guidelines could affect portfolio decisions and may be more stringent than those imposed by the 1940 Act. A rating (if any) by a rating agency does not eliminate or necessarily mitigate the risks of investing in our preferred shares or notes, and a rating may not fully or accurately reflect all of the securities' credit risks. A rating (if any) does not address liquidity or any other market risks of the securities being rated. A rating agency could downgrade the rating of our notes or preferred shares, which may make such securities less liquid in the secondary market. If a rating agency downgrades the rating assigned to notes or preferred shares, we may alter our portfolio or redeem the preferred securities or notes under certain circumstances.

Special Risks of Notes to Holders of Preferred Shares

As provided in the 1940 Act, and subject to compliance with the Fund's investment limitations, the Fund may issue notes. In the event the Fund were to issue such securities, the Fund's obligations to pay dividends or make distributions and, upon liquidation of the Fund, liquidation payments in respect of its preferred shares would be subordinate to the Fund's obligations to make any principal and interest payments due and owing with respect

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

to its outstanding notes. Accordingly, the Fund's issuance of notes would have the effect of creating special risks for the Fund's preferred shareholders that would not be present in a capital structure that did not include such securities.

Special Risks to Holders of Common Shares

Dilution Risk. If the Fund determines to conduct a rights offering to subscribe for common shares, holders of common shares may experience dilution or accretion of the aggregate net asset value of their common shares. Such dilution or accretion will depend upon whether (i) such shareholders participate in the rights offering and (ii) the Fund's net asset value per common share is above or below the subscription price on the expiration date of the rights offering.

Shareholders who do not exercise their subscription rights may, at the completion of such an offering, own a smaller proportional interest in the Fund than if they exercised their subscription rights. As a result of such an offering, a shareholder may experience dilution in net asset value per share if the subscription price per share is below the net asset value per share on the expiration date. If the subscription price per share is below the net asset value per share of the Fund's shares on the expiration date, a shareholder will experience an immediate dilution of the aggregate net asset value of such shareholder's shares if the shareholder does not participate in such an offering and the shareholder will experience a reduction in the net asset value per share of such shareholder's shares whether or not the shareholder participates in such an offering. The Fund cannot state precisely the extent of this dilution (if any) if the shareholder does not exercise such shareholder's subscription rights because the Fund does not know what the net asset value per share will be when the offer expires or what proportion of the subscription rights will be exercised.

Leverage Risk. The Fund currently uses financial leverage for investment purposes by issuing preferred shares and is also permitted to use other types of financial leverage, such as through the issuance of debt securities or additional preferred shares and borrowing from financial institutions. As provided in the 1940 Act and subject to certain exceptions, the Fund may issue additional senior securities (which may be stock, such as preferred shares, and/or securities representing debt) only if immediately after such issuance the value of the Fund's total assets, less certain ordinary course liabilities, exceeds 300% of the amount of the debt outstanding and exceeds 200% of the amount of preferred shares and debt outstanding. As of December 31, 2024, the amount of leverage represented approximately 29% of the Fund's assets.

The Fund's leveraged capital structure creates special risks not associated with unleveraged funds having a similar investment objective and policies. These include the possibility of greater loss and the likelihood of higher volatility of the net asset value of the Fund and the asset coverage for the preferred shares. Such volatility may increase the likelihood of the Fund having to sell investments in order to meet its obligations to make distributions on the preferred shares or principal or interest payments on debt securities, or to redeem preferred shares or repay debt, when it may be disadvantageous to do so. The Fund's use of leverage may require it to sell portfolio investments at inopportune times in order to raise cash to redeem preferred shares or otherwise de-leverage so as to maintain required asset coverage amounts or comply with the mandatory redemption terms of any outstanding preferred shares. The use of leverage magnifies both the favorable and unfavorable effects of price movements in the investments made by the Fund. To the extent that the Fund employs leverage in its investment operations, the Fund is subject to substantial risk of loss. The Fund cannot assure you that

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

borrowings or the issuance of preferred shares will result in a higher yield or return to the holders of the common shares. Also, since the Fund utilizes leverage, a decline in net asset value could affect the ability of the Fund to make common share distributions and such a failure to make distributions could result in the Fund ceasing to qualify as a RIC under the Code.

Any decline in the net asset value of the Fund's investments would be borne entirely by the holders of common shares. Therefore, if the market value of the Fund's portfolio declines, the leverage will result in a greater decrease in net asset value to the holders of common shares than if the Fund were not leveraged. This greater net asset value decrease will also tend to cause a greater decline in the market price for the common shares. The Fund might be in danger of failing to maintain the required asset coverage of its borrowings, notes or preferred shares or of losing its ratings on its notes or preferred shares or, in an extreme case, the Fund's current investment income might not be sufficient to meet the distribution or interest requirements on the borrowings, preferred shares or notes. In order to counteract such an event, the Fund might need to liquidate investments in order to fund a redemption or repayment of some or all of the borrowings, preferred shares or notes.

Preferred Share and Note Risk. The issuance of preferred shares or notes causes the net asset value and market value of the common shares to become more volatile. If the dividend rate on the preferred shares or the interest rate on the notes approaches the net rate of return on the Fund's investment portfolio, the benefit of leverage to the holders of the common shares would be reduced. If the dividend rate on the preferred shares or the interest rate on the notes plus the management fee rate exceeds the net rate of return on the Fund's portfolio, the leverage will result in a lower rate of return to the holders of common shares than if the Fund had not issued preferred shares or notes. If the Fund has insufficient investment income and gains, all or a portion of the distributions to preferred shareholders or interest payments to note holders would come from the common shareholders' capital. Such distributions and interest payments reduce the net assets attributable to common shareholders and do not reduce the principal due to noteholders on maturity or the liquidation preference to which preferred shareholders are entitled. The Prospectus Supplement relating to any sale of preferred shares will set forth dividend rate on such preferred shares.

In addition, the Fund would pay (and the holders of common shares will bear) all costs and expenses relating to the issuance and ongoing maintenance of the preferred shares or notes, including the advisory fees on the incremental assets attributable to the preferred shares or notes.

Holders of preferred shares and notes may have different interests than holders of common shares and may at times have disproportionate influence over the Fund's affairs. As provided in the 1940 Act and subject to certain exceptions, the Fund may issue senior securities (which may be stock, such as preferred shares, and/or securities representing debt, such as notes) only if immediately after the issuance the value of the Fund's total assets, less certain ordinary course liabilities, exceeds 300% of the amount of the debt outstanding (i.e., for every dollar of indebtedness outstanding, the Fund is required to have at least three dollars of assets) and exceeds 200% of the amount of preferred shares and debt outstanding (i.e., for every dollar in liquidation preference of preferred stock outstanding, the Fund is required to have two dollars of assets), which is referred to as the "asset coverage" required by the 1940 Act. In the event the Fund fails to maintain an asset coverage of 100% for any notes outstanding for certain periods of time, the 1940 Act requires that either an event of default be declared or that the holders of such notes have the right to elect a majority of the Fund's Trustees until asset coverage recovers to 110%. In addition, holders of preferred shares, voting separately as a single class, have the right

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

(subject to the rights of noteholders) to elect two members of the Board at all times and in the event dividends become two full years in arrears would have the right to elect a majority of the Trustees until such arrearage is completely eliminated. In addition, preferred shareholders have class voting rights on certain matters, including changes in fundamental investment restrictions and conversion of the Fund to open-end status, and accordingly can veto any such changes. Further, interest on notes will be payable when due as described in a Prospectus Supplement and if the Fund does not pay interest when due, it will trigger an event of default and the Fund expects to be restricted from declaring dividends and making other distributions with respect to common shares and preferred shares. Upon the occurrence and continuance of an event of default, the holders of a majority in principal amount of a series of outstanding notes or the Trustee will be able to declare the principal amount of that series of notes immediately due and payable upon written notice to the Fund. The 1940 Act also generally restricts the Fund from declaring distributions on, or repurchasing, common or preferred shares unless notes have an asset coverage of 300% (200% in the case of declaring distributions on preferred shares). The Fund's common shares are structurally subordinated as to income and residual value to any preferred shares or notes in the Fund's capital structure, in terms of priority to income and payment in liquidation. See "Description of the Securities-Preferred Shares" and "Description of the Securities-Notes."

Restrictions imposed on the declarations and payment of dividends or other distributions to the holders of the Fund's common shares and preferred shares, both by the 1940 Act and by requirements imposed by rating agencies, might impair the Fund's ability to maintain its qualification as a RIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes. While the Fund intends to redeem its preferred shares or notes to the extent necessary to enable the Fund to distribute its income as required to maintain its qualification as a RIC under the Code, there can be no assurance that such actions can be effected in time to meet the Code requirements.

Portfolio Guidelines of Rating Agencies for Preferred Shares and/or Credit Facility. In order to obtain and maintain attractive credit quality ratings for preferred shares or notes, the Fund must comply with investment quality, diversification and other guidelines established by the relevant rating agencies. These guidelines could affect portfolio decisions and may be more stringent than those imposed by the 1940 Act. In the event that a rating on the Fund's preferred shares or notes is lowered or withdrawn by the relevant rating agency, the Fund may also be required to redeem all or part of its outstanding preferred shares or notes, and the common shares of the Fund will lose the potential benefits associated with a leveraged capital structure.

Impact on Common Shares. Assuming that leverage will (1) be equal in amount to approximately 28% of the Fund's total net assets (the Fund's amount of outstanding financial leverage as of December 31, 2024), and (2) charge interest or involve dividend payments at a projected blended annual average leverage dividend or interest rate of 4.33%, (the average dividend rate on the Fund's outstanding financial leverage as of December 31, 2024) then the total return generated by the Fund's portfolio (net of estimated expenses) must exceed approximately 1.23% in order to cover such interest or dividend payments and other expenses specifically related to leverage. Of course, these numbers are merely estimates, used for illustration. Actual dividend rates, interest or payment rates may vary frequently and may be significantly higher or lower than the rate estimated above. The following table is furnished in response to requirements of the SEC.

It is designed to illustrate the effect of leverage on common share total return, assuming investment portfolio total returns (comprised of net investment income of the Fund, realized gains or losses of the Fund and changes in the value of the securities held in the Fund's portfolio) of -10%, -5%, 0%, 5% and 10%. These assumed

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investment portfolio returns are hypothetical figures and are not necessarily indicative of the investment portfolio returns experienced or expected to be experienced by the Fund. The table further reflects leverage representing 29% of the Fund's total assets (the Fund's amount of outstanding financial leverage as of December 31, 2024), the Fund's current projected blended annual average leverage dividend or interest rate of 4.33% (the average dividend rate on the Fund's outstanding financial leverage as of December 31, 2024), a base management fee at an annual rate of 0.50% and a performance fee at an annual rate of 0.08% and estimated annual incremental expenses attributable to any outstanding preferred shares of 0.01% of the Fund's net assets attributable to common shares. These assumed investment portfolio returns are hypothetical figures and are not necessarily indicative of the investment portfolio returns experienced or expected to be experienced by the Fund.

Assumed Return on Portfolio (Net of Expenses)	(10)%	(5)%	0%	5%	10%
Corresponding Return to Common Shareholder	(16.07)%	(9.09)%	(2.11)%	4.87%	11.85%

Common share total return is composed of two elements—the common share distributions paid by the Fund (the amount of which is largely determined by the taxable income of the Fund (including realized gains or losses) after paying interest on any debt and/or dividends on any preferred shares) and unrealized gains or losses on the value of the securities the Fund owns. As required by SEC rules, the table assumes that the Fund is more likely to suffer capital losses than to enjoy total return. For example, to assume a total return of 0% the Fund must assume that the income it receives on its investments is entirely offset by expenses and losses in the value of those investments.

Market Discount Risk. As described above in “-General Risks-Market Discount Risk,” common shares of closed-end funds often trade at a discount to their net asset values and the Fund's common shares may trade at such a discount. This risk may be greater for investors expecting to sell their common shares of the Fund soon after completion of a public offering. The common shares of the Fund are designed primarily for long-term investors and investors in the shares should not view the Fund as a vehicle for trading purposes.

Special Risk to Holders of Subscription Rights

There is a risk that changes in market conditions may result in the underlying common or preferred shares purchasable upon exercise of the subscription rights being less attractive to investors at the conclusion of the subscription period. This may reduce or eliminate the value of the subscription rights. Investors who receive subscription rights may find that there is no market to sell rights they do not wish to exercise. If investors exercise only a portion of the rights, the number of common or preferred shares issued may be reduced, and the common or preferred shares may trade at less favorable prices than larger offerings for similar securities.

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INVESTMENT POLICIES

Additional Investment Policies

Options. The Fund may purchase or write call or put options on securities or indices.

In the case of call options, the exercise prices are referred to as “in-the-money,” “at-the-money,” and “out-of-the-money,” respectively. The Fund may write (a) in-the-money call options when the Investment Adviser expects that the price of the underlying security will remain stable or decline during the option period, (b) at-the-money call options when the Investment Adviser expects that the price of the underlying security will remain stable, decline, or advance moderately during the option period, and (c) out-of-the-money call options when the Investment Adviser expects that the premiums received from writing the call option will be greater than the appreciation in the price of the underlying security above the exercise price. By writing a call option, the Fund limits its opportunity to profit from any increase in the market value of the underlying security above the exercise price of the option. Out-of-the-money, at-the-money, and in-the-money put options (the reverse of call options as to the relation of exercise price to market price) may be utilized in the same market environments that such call options are used in equivalent transactions.

Options on Securities Indices. The Fund may purchase and sell securities index options. One effect of such transactions may be to hedge all or part of the Fund’s securities holdings against a general decline in the securities market or a segment of the securities market. Options on securities indices are similar to options on stocks except that, rather than the right to take or make delivery of stock at a specified price, an option on a securities index gives the holder the right to receive, upon exercise of the option, an amount of cash if the closing level of the securities index upon which the option is based is greater than, in the case of a call option, or less than, in the case of a put option, the exercise price of the option.

The Fund’s successful use of options on indices depends upon its ability to predict the direction of the market and is subject to various additional risks. The correlation between movements in the index and the price of the securities being hedged against is imperfect and the risk from imperfect correlation increases as the composition of the Fund diverges from the composition of the relevant index. Accordingly, a decrease in the value of the securities being hedged against may not be wholly offset by a gain on the exercise or sale of a securities index put option held by the Fund.

Options on Foreign Currencies. Instead of purchasing or selling currency futures (as described below), the Fund may attempt to accomplish similar objectives by purchasing put or call options on currencies or by writing put options or call options on currencies either on exchanges or in over-the-counter (“OTC”) markets. A put option gives the Fund the right to sell a currency at the exercise price until the option expires. A call option gives the Fund the right to purchase a currency at the exercise price until the option expires. Both types of options serve to insure against adverse currency price movements in the underlying portfolio assets designated in a given currency. The Fund’s use of options on currencies will be subject to the same limitations as its use of options on securities, described above and in the Prospectus. Currency options may be subject to position limits which may limit the ability of the Fund to fully hedge its positions by purchasing the options.

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

As in the case of interest rate futures contracts and options thereon, described below, the Fund may hedge against the risk of a decrease or increase in the U.S. dollar value of a foreign currency denominated debt security which the Fund owns or intends to acquire by purchasing or selling options contracts, futures contracts or options thereon with respect to a foreign currency other than the foreign currency in which such debt security is denominated, where the values of such different currencies (vis-à-vis the U.S. dollar) historically have a high degree of positive correlation.

Futures Contracts and Options on Futures. The Fund may purchase and sell financial futures contracts and options thereon which are traded on a commodities exchange or board of trade for certain hedging and risk management purposes. A financial futures contract is an agreement to purchase or sell an agreed amount of securities or currencies at a set price for delivery in the future. These futures contracts and related options may be on debt securities, financial indices, securities indices, U.S. government securities and foreign currencies.

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, including stock and bond index futures, are settled on a net cash payment basis rather than by the sale and delivery of the securities underlying the futures contracts.

No consideration will be paid or received by the Fund upon the purchase or sale of a futures contract. Initially, the Fund will be required to deposit with the broker an amount of cash or cash equivalents equal to approximately 1% to 10% of the contract amount (this amount is subject to change by the exchange or board of trade on which the contract is traded and brokers or members of such board of trade may charge a higher amount). This amount is known as the “initial margin” and is in the nature of a performance bond or good faith deposit on the contract. Subsequent payments, known as “variation margin,” to and from the broker will be made daily as the price of the index or security underlying the futures contract fluctuates. At any time prior to the expiration of the futures contract, the Fund may elect to close the position by taking an opposite position, which will operate to terminate its existing position in the contract.

An option on a futures contract gives the purchaser the right, in return for the premium paid, to assume a position in a futures contract at a specified exercise price at any time prior to the expiration of the option. Upon exercise of an option, the delivery of the futures position by the writer of the option to the holder of the option will be accompanied by delivery of the accumulated balance in the writer’s futures margin account attributable to that contract, which represents the amount by which the market price of the futures contract exceeds, in the case of a call option, or is less than, in the case of a put option, the exercise price of the option on the futures contract. The potential loss related to the purchase of an option on a futures contract is limited to the premium paid for the option (plus transaction costs). Because the value of the option purchased is fixed at the point of sale, there are no daily cash payments by the purchaser to reflect changes in the value of the underlying contract; however, the value of the option does change daily and that change would be reflected in the net assets of the Fund.

Futures and options on futures entail certain risks, including, but not limited to, the following: no assurance that futures contracts or options on futures can be offset at favorable prices, possible reduction of the yield of the Fund due to the use of hedging, possible reduction in value of both the securities hedged and the hedging

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

instrument, possible lack of liquidity due to daily limits on price fluctuations, imperfect correlation between the contracts and the securities being hedged and losses from investing in futures transactions that are potentially unlimited.

Interest Rate Futures Contracts and Options Thereon. The Fund may purchase or sell interest rate futures contracts to take advantage of or to protect the Fund against fluctuations in interest rates affecting the value of debt securities which the Fund holds or intends to acquire. For example, if interest rates are expected to increase, the Fund might sell futures contracts on debt securities, the values of which historically have a high degree of positive correlation to the values of the Fund's portfolio securities. Such a sale would have an effect similar to selling an equivalent value of the Fund's portfolio securities. If interest rates increase, the value of the Fund's portfolio securities will decline, but the value of the futures contracts to the Fund will increase at approximately an equivalent rate thereby keeping the net asset value of the Fund from declining as much as it otherwise would have. The Fund could accomplish similar results by selling debt securities with longer maturities and investing in debt securities with shorter maturities when interest rates are expected to increase. However, since the futures market may be more liquid than the cash market, the use of futures contracts as a risk management technique allows the Fund to maintain a defensive position without having to sell its portfolio securities.

Similarly, the Fund may purchase interest rate futures contracts when it is expected that interest rates may decline. The purchase of futures contracts for this purpose constitutes a hedge against increases in the price of debt securities (caused by declining interest rates) which the Fund intends to acquire. Since fluctuations in the value of appropriately selected futures contracts should approximate that of the debt securities that will be purchased, the Fund can take advantage of the anticipated rise in the cost of the debt securities without actually buying them. Subsequently, the Fund can make its intended purchase of the debt securities in the cash market and liquidate its futures position.

The purchase of a call option on a futures contract is similar in some respects to the purchase of a call option on an individual security. Depending on the pricing of the option compared to either the price of the futures contract upon which it is based or the price of the underlying debt securities, it may or may not be less risky than ownership of the futures contract or underlying debt securities. As with the purchase of futures contracts, when the Fund is not fully invested it may purchase a call option on a futures contract to hedge against a market advance due to declining interest rates.

The purchase of a put option on a futures contract is similar to the purchase of protective put options on portfolio securities. The Fund will purchase a put option on a futures contract to hedge the Fund's portfolio against the risk of rising interest rates and a consequent reduction in the value of portfolio securities.

The writing of a call option on a futures contract constitutes a partial hedge against declining prices of the securities which are deliverable upon exercise of the futures contract. If the futures price at expiration of the option is below the exercise price, the Fund will retain the full amount of the option premium which provides a partial hedge against any decline that may have occurred in the Fund's portfolio holdings. The writing of a put option on a futures contract constitutes a partial hedge against increasing prices of the securities that are deliverable upon exercise of the futures contract. If the futures price at expiration of the option is higher than the exercise price, the Fund will retain the full amount of the option premium, which provides a partial hedge against

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

any increase in the price of debt securities that the Fund intends to purchase. If a put or call option the Fund has written is exercised, the Fund will incur a loss which will be reduced by the amount of the premium it received.

Depending on the degree of correlation between changes in the value of its portfolio securities and changes in the value of its futures positions, the Fund's losses from options on futures it has written may to some extent be reduced or increased by changes in the value of its portfolio securities.

Currency Futures and Options Thereon. Generally, foreign currency futures contracts and options thereon are similar to the interest rate futures contracts and options thereon discussed previously. By entering into currency futures and options thereon, the Fund will seek to establish the rate at which it will be entitled to exchange U.S. dollars for another currency at a future time. By selling currency futures, the Fund will seek to establish the number of dollars it will receive at delivery for a certain amount of a foreign currency. In this way, whenever the Fund anticipates a decline in the value of a foreign currency against the U.S. dollar, the Fund can attempt to "lock in" the U.S. dollar value of some or all of the securities held in its portfolio that are denominated in that currency. By purchasing currency futures, the Fund can establish the number of dollars it will be required to pay for a specified amount of a foreign currency in a future month. Thus, if the Fund intends to buy securities in the future and expects the U.S. dollar to decline against the relevant foreign currency during the period before the purchase is effected, the Fund can attempt to "lock in" the price in U.S. dollars of the securities it intends to acquire.

The purchase of options on currency futures will allow the Fund, for the price of the premium and related transaction costs it must pay for the option, to decide whether or not to buy (in the case of a call option) or to sell (in the case of a put option) a futures contract at a specified price at any time during the period before the option expires. If the Investment Adviser, in purchasing an option, has been correct in its judgment concerning the direction in which the price of a foreign currency would move against the U.S. dollar, the Fund may exercise the option and thereby take a futures position to hedge against the risk it had correctly anticipated or close out the option position at a gain that will offset, to some extent, currency exchange losses otherwise suffered by the Fund. If exchange rates move in a way the Fund did not anticipate, however, the Fund will have incurred the expense of the option without obtaining the expected benefit; any such movement in exchange rates may also thereby reduce rather than enhance the Fund's profits on its underlying securities transactions.

Securities Index Futures Contracts and Options Thereon. Purchases or sales of securities index futures contracts are used for hedging purposes to attempt to protect the Fund's current or intended investments from broad fluctuations in stock or bond prices. For example, the Fund may sell securities index futures contracts in anticipation of or during a market decline to attempt to offset the decrease in market value of the Fund's securities portfolio that might otherwise result. If such decline occurs, the loss in value of portfolio securities may be offset, in whole or part, by gains on the futures position. When the Fund is not fully invested in the securities market and anticipates a significant market advance, it may purchase securities index futures contracts in order to gain rapid market exposure that may, in part or entirely, offset increases in the cost of securities that the Fund intends to purchase. As such purchases are made, the corresponding positions in securities index futures contracts will be closed out. The Fund may write put and call options on securities index futures contracts for hedging purposes.

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

Traditional Preferred Securities. Traditional preferred securities generally pay fixed or adjustable rate dividends to investors and generally have a “preference” over common stock in the payment of dividends and the liquidation of a company’s assets. This means that a company must pay dividends on preferred stock before paying any dividends on its common stock. In order to be payable, distributions on such preferred securities must be declared by the issuer’s board of directors. Income payments on typical preferred securities currently outstanding are cumulative, causing dividends and distributions to accumulate even if not declared by the board of directors or otherwise made payable. In such a case all accumulated dividends must be paid before any dividend on the common stock can be paid. However, some traditional preferred stocks are non-cumulative, in which case dividends do not accumulate and need not ever be paid. A portion of the portfolio may include investments in non-cumulative preferred securities, whereby the issuer does not have an obligation to make up any arrearages to its shareholders. Should an issuer of a non-cumulative preferred stock held by the Fund determine not to pay dividends on such stock, the amount of dividends the Fund pays may be adversely affected. There is no assurance that dividends or distributions on the preferred securities in which the Fund invests will be declared or otherwise made payable.

Preferred shareholders usually have no right to vote for corporate directors or on other matters. Shares of preferred stock have a liquidation value that generally equals the original purchase price at the date of issuance. The market value of preferred securities may be affected by favorable and unfavorable changes impacting companies in which the Fund invests and by actual and anticipated changes in tax laws, such as changes in corporate income tax rates or the “Dividends Received Deduction.” Because the claim on an issuer’s earnings represented by preferred securities may become onerous when interest rates fall below the rate payable on such securities, the issuer may redeem the securities. Thus, in declining interest rate environments in particular, the Fund’s holdings, if any, of higher rate-paying fixed rate preferred securities may be reduced and the Fund may be unable to acquire securities of comparable credit quality paying comparable rates with the redemption proceeds.

Trust Preferred Securities. The Fund may invest in trust preferred securities. Trust preferred securities are typically issued by corporations, generally in the form of interest bearing notes with preferred securities characteristics, or by an affiliated business trust of a corporation, generally in the form of beneficial interests in subordinated debentures or similarly structured securities. The trust preferred securities market consists of both fixed and adjustable coupon rate securities that are either perpetual in nature or have stated maturity dates.

Trust preferred securities are typically junior and fully subordinated liabilities of an issuer and benefit from a guarantee that is junior and fully subordinated to the other liabilities of the guarantor. In addition, trust preferred securities typically permit an issuer to defer the payment of income for five years or more without triggering an event of default. Because of their subordinated position in the capital structure of an issuer, the ability to defer payments for extended periods of time without default consequences to the issuer, and certain other features (such as restrictions on common dividend payments by the issuer or ultimate guarantor when full cumulative payments on the trust preferred securities have not been made), these trust preferred securities are often treated as close substitutes for traditional preferred securities, both by issuers and investors. Trust preferred securities have many of the key characteristics of equity due to their subordinated position in an issuer’s capital structure and because their quality and value are heavily dependent on the profitability of the issuer rather than on any legal claims to specific assets or cash flows.

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Trust preferred securities include but are not limited to trust originated preferred securities ("TOPRS®"); monthly income preferred securities ("MIPS®"); quarterly income bond securities ("QUIBS®"); quarterly income debt securities ("QUIDS®"); quarterly income preferred securities ("QUIPSSM"); corporate trust securities ("CORTS®"); public income notes ("PINES®"); and other trust preferred securities.

Trust preferred securities are typically issued with a final maturity date, although some are perpetual in nature. In certain instances, a final maturity date may be extended and/or the final payment of principal may be deferred at the issuer's option for a specified time without default. No redemption can typically take place unless all cumulative payment obligations have been met, although issuers may be able to engage in open-market repurchases without regard to whether all payments have been paid.

Many trust preferred securities are issued by trusts or other special purpose entities established by operating companies and are not a direct obligation of an operating company. At the time the trust or special purpose entity sells such preferred securities to investors, it purchases debt of the operating company (with terms comparable to those of the trust or special purpose entity securities), which enables the operating company to deduct for tax purposes the interest paid on the debt held by the trust or special purpose entity. The trust or special purpose entity is generally required to be treated as transparent for Federal income tax purposes such that the holders of the trust preferred securities are treated as owning beneficial interests in the underlying debt of the operating company. Accordingly, payments on the trust preferred securities are treated as interest rather than dividends for Federal income tax purposes. The trust or special purpose entity in turn would be a holder of the operating company's debt and would have priority with respect to the operating company's earnings and profits over the operating company's common shareholders, but would typically be subordinated to other classes of the operating company's debt. Typically a preferred share has a rating that is slightly below that of its corresponding operating company's senior debt securities.

Convertible Securities. A convertible security entitles the holder to exchange such 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 and to receive the fixed income of a bond or the dividend preference of a preferred stock until the holder elects to exercise the conversion privilege. The fixed income or dividend component of a convertible security is referred to as the security's "investment value."

A convertible security's position in a company's capital structure depends upon its particular provisions. In the case of subordinated convertible debentures, the holder's claims on assets and earnings are subordinated to the claims of others and are senior to the claims of common stockholders.

To the degree that the price of a convertible security rises above its investment value because of a rise in price of the underlying common stock, the value of such security is influenced more by price fluctuations of the underlying common stock and less by its investment value. The price of a convertible security that is supported principally by its conversion value will rise along with any increase in the price of the common stock, and such price generally will decline along with any decline in the price of the common stock except that the security will receive additional support as its price approaches investment value. A convertible security purchased or held at a time when its price is influenced by its conversion value will produce a lower yield than nonconvertible senior securities with comparable investment values. Convertible securities may be purchased by the Fund at varying

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price levels above their investment values and/or their conversion values in keeping with the Fund's investment objective.

Many convertible securities in which the Fund will invest have call provisions entitling the issuer to redeem the security at a specified time and at a specified price. This is one of the features of a convertible security which affects valuation. Calls may vary from absolute calls to provisional calls. Convertible securities with superior call protection usually trade at a higher premium. If long-term interest rates decline, the interest rates of new convertible securities will also decline. Therefore, in a falling interest rate environment, companies may be expected to call convertible securities with high coupons and the Fund would have to invest the proceeds from such called issues in securities with lower coupons. Thus, convertible securities with superior call protection will permit the Fund to maintain a higher yield than with issues without call protection.

Dilution Risk for Convertible Securities. In the absence of adequate anti-dilution provisions in a convertible security, dilution in the value of the Fund's holding may occur in the event the underlying stock is subdivided, additional equity securities are issued for below market value, a stock dividend is declared, or the issuer enters into another type of corporate transaction that has a similar effect.

Contingent Convertible Securities. One type of convertible security in which the Fund may invest is contingent convertible securities, sometimes referred to as "CoCos." CoCos are a form of hybrid debt security issued by banking institutions that are intended to either automatically convert into equity or have their principal written down upon the occurrence of certain "trigger events," which may include a decline in the issuer's capital below a specified threshold level, increase in the issuer's risk weighted assets, the share price of the issuer falling to a particular level for a certain period of time and certain regulatory events. CoCos' unique equity conversion or principal write-down features are tailored to the issuing banking institution and its regulatory requirements.

CoCos are a newer form of instrument and the regulatory environment for these instruments continues to evolve. Because the market for such securities is evolving, it is uncertain how the larger market for CoCos would react to a trigger event, coupon cancellation, write-down of par value or coupon suspension (as described below) applicable to a single issuer. Following conversion of a CoCo, because the common stock of the issuer may not pay a dividend, investors in such securities could experience reduced yields or no yields at all.

Loss Absorption Risk. CoCos have fully discretionary coupons. This means coupons can potentially be canceled at the banking institution's discretion or at the request of the relevant regulatory authority in order to help the bank absorb losses. The liquidation value of a CoCo may be adjusted downward to below the original par value or written off entirely under certain circumstances. The write-down of the security's par value may occur automatically and would not entitle holders to institute bankruptcy proceedings against the issuer. In addition, an automatic write-down could result in a reduced income rate if the dividend or interest payment associated with the security is based on the security's par value. Coupon payments may also be subject to approval by the issuer's regulator and may be suspended in the event there are insufficient distributable reserves. Due to uncertainty surrounding coupon payments, CoCos may be volatile and their price may decline rapidly in the event that coupon payments are suspended.

Subordinated Instruments. CoCos will, in the majority of circumstances, be issued in the form of subordinated debt instruments in order to provide the appropriate regulatory capital treatment prior to a conversion. Accordingly, in the event of liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of an issuer prior to a conversion having occurred, the rights

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and claims of the holders of the CoCos, such as the Fund, against the issuer in respect of or arising under the terms of the CoCos shall generally rank junior to the claims of all holders of unsubordinated obligations of the issuer. In addition, if the CoCos are converted into the issuer's underlying equity securities following a conversion event (i.e., a "trigger"), each holder will be subordinated due to their conversion from being the holder of a debt instrument to being the holder of an equity instrument. Such conversion may be automatic.

Unpredictable Market Value Fluctuate. The value of CoCos is unpredictable and will be influenced by many factors including, without limitation: (i) the creditworthiness of the issuer and/or fluctuations in such issuer's applicable capital ratios; (ii) supply and demand for the CoCos; (iii) general market conditions and available liquidity; and (iv) economic, financial and political events that affect the issuer, its particular market or the financial markets in general.

Warrants and Rights. The Fund may invest in warrants and rights (including 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 Investment 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 riskier 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 Fund whose equity underlies the warrant, 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.

Investing in Japan. There are special risks associated with investments in Japan. If the Fund invests in Japan, the value of the Fund's shares may vary widely in response to political and economic factors affecting companies in Japan. Political, social or economic disruptions in Japan or in other countries in the region may adversely affect the values of Japanese securities and thus the Fund's holdings. Additionally, since securities in Japan are denominated and quoted in yen, the value of the Fund's Japanese securities as measured in U.S. dollars may be affected by fluctuations in the value of the Japanese yen relative to the U.S. dollar. Japanese securities are also subject to the more general risks associated with foreign securities.

Investing in Latin America. The economies of Latin American countries have in the past experienced considerable difficulties, including high inflation rates and high interest rates. The emergence of the Latin American economies and securities markets will require continued economic and fiscal discipline that has been lacking at times in the past, as well as stable political and social conditions. International economic conditions, particularly those in the United States, as well as world prices for oil and other commodities may also influence the development of the Latin American economies.

Some Latin American currencies have experienced steady devaluations relative to the U.S. dollar and certain Latin American countries have had to make major adjustments in their currencies from time to time. In addition, governments of many Latin American countries have exercised and continue to exercise substantial influence over many aspects of the private sector. Governmental actions in the future could have a significant effect on economic conditions in Latin American countries, which could affect the companies in which the Fund invests and, therefore, the value of the Fund's shares. As noted, in the past, many Latin American countries have

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experienced substantial, and in some periods extremely high, rates of inflation for many years. For companies that keep accounting records in the local currency, inflation accounting rules in some Latin American countries require, for both tax and accounting purposes, that certain assets and liabilities be restated on the company's balance sheet in order to express items in terms of currency of constant purchasing power. Inflation accounting may indirectly generate losses or profits for certain Latin American companies. Inflation and rapid fluctuations in inflation rates have had, and could, in the future, have very negative effects on the economies and securities markets of certain Latin American countries.

Substantial limitations may exist in certain countries with respect to the Fund's ability to repatriate investment income, capital or the proceeds of sales of securities. The Fund could be adversely affected by delays in, or a refusal to grant, any required governmental approval for repatriation of capital, as well as by the application to the Fund of any restrictions on investments.

Certain Latin American countries have entered into regional trade agreements that are designed to, among other things, reduce barriers between countries, increase competition among companies and reduce government subsidies in certain industries. No assurances can be given that these changes will be successful in the long term, or that these changes will result in the economic stability intended. There is a possibility that these trade arrangements will not be fully implemented, or will be partially or completely unwound. It is also possible that a significant participant could choose to abandon a trade agreement, which could diminish its credibility and influence. Any of these occurrences could have adverse effects on the markets of both participating and non-participating countries, including sharp appreciation or depreciation of participants' national currencies and a significant increase in exchange rate volatility, a resurgence in economic protectionism, an undermining of confidence in the Latin American markets, an undermining of Latin American economic stability, the collapse or slowdown of the drive towards Latin American economic unity, and/or reversion of the attempts to lower government debt and inflation rates that were introduced in anticipation of such trade agreements. Such developments could have an adverse impact on the Fund's investments in Latin America generally or in specific countries participating in such trade agreements.

Other Latin American market risks include foreign exchange controls, difficulties in pricing securities, defaults on sovereign debt, difficulties in enforcing favorable legal judgments in local courts and political and social instability. Legal remedies available to investors in certain Latin American countries may be less extensive than those available to investors in the United States or other foreign countries.

Investing in Asia-Pacific Countries. In addition to the risks of investing in foreign securities and the risks of investing in emerging markets, the developing market Asia-Pacific countries are subject to certain additional or specific risks. In many of these markets, there is a high concentration of market capitalization and trading volume in a small number of issuers representing a limited number of industries, as well as a high concentration of investors and financial intermediaries. Many of these markets also may be affected by developments with respect to more established markets in the region such as in Japan and Hong Kong. Brokers in developing market Asia-Pacific countries typically are fewer in number and less well capitalized than brokers in the United States.

Many of the developing market Asia-Pacific countries may be subject to a greater degree of economic, political and social instability than is the case in the United States and Western European countries. Such instability may

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Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

result from, among other things: (i) authoritarian governments or military involvement in political and economic decision-making, including changes in government through extra-constitutional means; (ii) popular unrest associated with demands for improved political, economic and social conditions; (iii) internal insurgencies; (iv) hostile relations with neighboring countries; and (v) ethnic, religious and racial disaffection. In addition, the governments of many of such countries, such as Indonesia, have a substantial role in regulating and supervising the economy.

Another risk common to most such countries is that the economy is heavily export oriented and, accordingly, is dependent upon international trade. The existence of overburdened infrastructure and obsolete financial systems also presents risks in certain countries, as do environmental problems. Certain economies also depend to a significant degree upon exports of primary commodities and, therefore, are vulnerable to changes in commodity prices that, in turn, may be affected by a variety of factors.

The rights of investors in developing market Asia-Pacific companies may be more limited than those of shareholders of U.S. corporations. It may be difficult or impossible to obtain and/or enforce a judgment in a developing market Asia-Pacific country.

Some developing Asia-Pacific countries prohibit or impose substantial restrictions on investments in their capital markets, particularly their equity markets, by foreign entities. For example, certain countries may require governmental approval prior to investments by foreign persons or limit the amount of investment by foreign persons in a particular company.

Loans of Portfolio Securities Risk. Consistent with applicable regulatory requirements and the Fund's investment restrictions, the Fund may lend its portfolio securities to securities broker-dealers or financial institutions; provided that such loans are callable at any time by the Fund (subject to notice provisions described below), and are at all times collateralized by cash or cash equivalents, which are maintained at all times in an amount equal to at least 100% of the market value, determined daily, of the loaned securities. The advantage of such loans is that the Fund continues to receive the income on the loaned securities while at the same time earning interest on the cash amounts deposited as collateral, which will be invested in short-term highly liquid obligations. The Fund will not lend its portfolio securities if such loans are not permitted by the laws or regulations of any state in which its shares are qualified for sale. The Fund's loans of portfolio securities will be collateralized in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements, which means that "cash equivalents" accepted as collateral will be limited to securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or its agencies or instrumentalities or irrevocable letters of credit issued by a bank (other than the Fund's bank lending agent, if any, or a borrower of the Fund's portfolio securities or any affiliate of such bank or borrower) which qualifies as a custodian bank for an investment company under the 1940 Act, and no loan will cause the value of all loaned securities to exceed 20% of the value of the Fund's total assets. The Fund's ability to lend portfolio securities may be limited by rating agency guidelines (if any).

A loan may generally be terminated by the borrower on one business days' notice, or by the Fund at any time thereby requiring the borrower to redeliver the borrowed securities within the normal and customary settlement time for securities transactions. If the borrower fails to deliver the loaned securities within the normal and customary settlement time for securities transactions, the Fund could use the collateral to replace the securities while holding the borrower liable for any excess of replacement cost over the value of the collateral pledged

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

by the borrower. As with any extensions of credit, there are risks of delay in recovery and in some cases even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities violate the terms of the loan or fail financially. However, these loans of portfolio securities will only be made to firms deemed by the Investment Adviser to be creditworthy and when the income which can be earned from such loans justifies the attendant risks. The Board will oversee the creditworthiness of the contracting parties on an ongoing basis. Upon termination of the loan, the borrower is required to return the securities to the Fund. Any gain or loss in the market price during the loan period would inure to the Fund.

The risks associated with loans of portfolio securities are substantially similar to those associated with repurchase agreements. Thus, if the counterparty to the loan petitions for bankruptcy or becomes subject to the United States Bankruptcy Code, the law regarding the rights of the Fund is unsettled. As a result, under extreme circumstances, there may be a restriction on the Fund's ability to sell the collateral and the Fund would suffer a loss. Moreover, because the Fund will reinvest any cash collateral it receives, as described above, the Fund is subject to the risk that the value of the investments it makes will decline and result in losses to the Fund. These losses, in extreme circumstances such as the 2007-2009 financial crisis, could be substantial and have a significant adverse impact on the Fund and its shareholders.

When voting or consent rights which accompany loaned securities pass to the borrower, the Fund will follow the policy of calling the loaned securities, to be delivered within one day after notice, to permit the exercise of such rights if the matters involved would have a material effect on the Fund's investment in such loaned securities. The Fund will pay reasonable finder's, administrative and custodial fees in connection with a loan of its securities, and may also pay fees to one or more securities lending agents and/or pay other fees or rebates to borrowers.

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 excess of customary settlement periods for the type of security involved. 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 it 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 by the Investment Adviser.

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.

Additional Risks Relating to Derivative Investments

Derivatives Transactions Subject to Rule 18f-4. Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act governs the Fund's use of derivative instruments and certain other transactions that create future payment and/or delivery obligations by the Fund. Rule 18f-4 permits the Fund to enter into Derivatives Transactions (as defined below) and certain other transactions notwithstanding the restrictions on the issuance of "senior securities" under Section 18 of the 1940 Act. Section 18 of the 1940 Act, among other things, prohibits closed-end funds, including the Fund, from (i) issuing or selling any "senior security" representing indebtedness unless, immediately after such issuance or

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

sale, the fund will have asset coverage of at least 300%, and (ii) issuing or selling any “senior security” which is stock unless, immediately after such issuance or sale, the fund will have asset coverage of at least 200%. In connection with the adoption of Rule 18f-4, the SEC eliminated the asset segregation framework arising from prior SEC guidance for covering Derivatives Transactions and certain financial instruments.

Under Rule 18f-4, “Derivatives Transactions” include the following: (i) any swap, security-based swap (including a contract for differences), futures contract, forward contract, option (excluding purchased options), any combination of the foregoing, or any similar instrument, under which a Fund is or may be required to make any payment or delivery of cash or other assets during the life of the instrument or at maturity or early termination, whether as margin or settlement payment or otherwise; (ii) any short sale borrowing; (iii) reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions, if a Fund elects to treat these transactions as Derivatives Transactions under Rule 18f-4; and (iv) when-issued or forward-settling securities (e.g., firm and standby commitments, including to-be-announced (“TBA”) commitments, and dollar rolls) and non-standard settlement cycle securities, unless the Fund intends to physically settle the transaction and the transaction will settle within 35 days of its trade date.

Unless a fund is relying on the Limited Derivatives User Exception (as defined below), the fund must comply with Rule 18f-4 with respect to its Derivatives Transactions. Rule 18f-4, among other things, requires a fund to (i) appoint a Derivatives Risk Manager, (ii) maintain a Derivatives Risk Management Program designed to identify, assess, and reasonably manage the risks associated with Derivatives Transactions; (iii) comply with certain value-at-risk (VaR)-based leverage limits (VaR is an estimate of an instrument’s or portfolio’s potential losses over a given time horizon and at a specified confidence level); and (iv) comply with certain reporting and recordkeeping requirements of the fund’s board of directors.

Rule 18f-4 provides an exception from the requirements to appoint a Derivatives Risk Manager, adopt a Derivatives Risk Management Program, comply with certain VaR-based leverage limits, and comply with certain Board oversight and reporting requirements if a fund’s “derivatives exposure” (as defined in Rule 18f-4) is limited to 10% of its net assets (as calculated in accordance with Rule 18f-4) and the fund adopts and implements written policies and procedures reasonably designed to manage its derivatives risks (the “Limited Derivatives User Exception”).

Pursuant to Rule 18f-4, if the Fund enters into reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions, the Fund will (i) aggregate the amount of indebtedness associated with all of its reverse repurchase agreements or similar financing transactions with the amount of any other “senior securities” representing indebtedness (e.g., bank borrowings, if applicable) when calculating the Fund’s asset coverage ratio or (ii) treat all such transactions as Derivatives Transactions.

The requirements of Rule 18f-4 may limit the Fund’s ability to engage in Derivatives Transactions as part of its investment strategies. These requirements may also increase the cost of the Fund’s investments and cost of doing business, which could adversely affect the value of the Fund’s investments and/or the performance of the Fund.

Special Risk Considerations Relating to Futures and Options Thereon. The Fund’s ability to establish and close out positions in futures contracts and options thereon will be subject to the development and maintenance of liquid markets. Although the Fund generally will purchase or sell only those futures contracts and options

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

thereon for which there appears to be a liquid market, there is no assurance that a liquid market on an exchange will exist for any particular futures contract or option thereon at any particular time. In the event no liquid market exists for a particular futures contract or option thereon in which the Fund maintains a position, it will not be possible to effect a closing transaction in that contract or to do so at a satisfactory price and the Fund would have to either make or take delivery under the futures contract or, in the case of a written option, wait to sell the underlying securities until the option expires or is exercised or, in the case of a purchased option, exercise the option. In the case of a futures contract or an option thereon which the Fund has written and which the Fund is unable to close, the Fund would be required to maintain margin deposits on the futures contract or option thereon and to make variation margin payments until the contract is closed.

Successful use of futures contracts and options thereon and forward contracts by the Fund is subject to the ability of the Investment Adviser to predict correctly movements in the direction of interest and foreign currency rates. If the Investment Adviser's expectations are not met, the Fund will be in a worse position than if a hedging strategy had not been pursued. For example, if the Fund has hedged against the possibility of an increase in interest rates that would adversely affect the price of securities in its portfolio and the price of such securities increases instead, the Fund will lose part or all of the benefit of the increased value of its securities because it will have offsetting losses in its futures positions. In addition, in such situations, if the Fund has insufficient cash to meet daily variation margin requirements, it may have to sell securities to meet the requirements. These sales may be, but will not necessarily be, at increased prices which reflect the rising market. The Fund may have to sell securities at a time when it is disadvantageous to do so.

Additional Risks of Foreign Options, Futures Contracts, Options on Futures Contracts and Forward Contracts. Options, futures contracts and options thereon and forward contracts on securities and currencies may be traded on foreign exchanges. Such transactions may not be regulated as effectively as similar transactions in the United States, may not involve a clearing mechanism and related guarantees, and are subject to the risk of governmental actions affecting trading in, or the prices of, foreign securities. The value of such positions also could be adversely affected by (i) other complex foreign political, legal and economic factors, (ii) lesser availability than in the United States of data on which to make trading decisions, (iii) delays in the Fund's ability to act upon economic events occurring in the foreign markets during non-business hours in the United States, (iv) the imposition of different exercise and settlement terms and procedures and margin requirements than in the United States and (v) less trading volume.

Exchanges on which options, futures and options on futures are traded may impose limits on the positions that the Fund may take in certain circumstances.

Risks of Currency Transactions. Currency transactions are also subject to risks different from those of other portfolio transactions. Because currency control is of great importance to the issuing governments and influences economic planning and policy, purchases and sales of currency and related instruments can be adversely affected by government exchange controls, limitations or restrictions on repatriation of currency, and manipulation, or exchange restrictions imposed by governments. These forms of governmental action can result in losses to the Fund if it is unable to deliver or receive currency or monies in settlement of obligations and

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

could also cause hedges it has entered into to be rendered useless, resulting in full currency exposure as well as incurring transaction costs.

INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS

The Fund operates under the following restrictions that constitute fundamental policies under the 1940 Act and that, except as otherwise noted, cannot be changed without the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund voting together as a single class (which for this purpose and under the 1940 Act means the lesser of (i) 67% of the shares represented at a meeting at which more than 50% of the outstanding shares are represented or (ii) more than 50% of the outstanding shares). In addition, pursuant to the Statements of Preferences of the Series C Preferred Shares and the Series E Preferred Shares, the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding preferred shares of the Fund voting as a separate class (which for this purpose and under the 1940 Act means the lesser of (i) 67% of the preferred shares, as a single class, represented at a meeting at which more than 50% of the Fund's outstanding preferred shares are represented or (ii) more than 50% of the outstanding preferred shares), is also required to change a fundamental policy. Except as otherwise noted, all percentage limitations set forth below apply immediately after a purchase or initial investment and any subsequent change in any applicable percentage resulting from market fluctuations does not require any action. The Fund may not:

- (1) invest more than 25% of its total assets, taken at market value at the time of each investment, in the securities of issuers in any particular industry. This restriction does not apply to investments in U.S. government securities;
- (2) purchase commodities or commodity contracts if such purchase would result in regulation of the Fund as a commodity pool operator;
- (3) purchase or sell real estate, provided the Fund may invest in securities and other instruments secured by real estate or interests therein or issued by companies that invest in real estate or interests therein;
- (4) make loans of money or other property, except that (i) the Fund may acquire debt obligations of any type (including through extensions of credit), enter into repurchase agreements and lend portfolio assets and (ii) the Fund may, with respect to up to 20% of the Fund's total assets, lend money or other property to other investment companies advised by the Investment Adviser pursuant to a common lending program to the extent permitted by applicable law;
- (5) borrow money, except to the extent permitted by applicable law;
- (6) issue senior securities, except to the extent permitted by applicable law; or
- (7) underwrite securities of other issuers, except insofar as the Fund may be deemed an underwriter under applicable law in selling portfolio securities; provided, however, this restriction shall not apply to securities of any investment company organized by the Fund that are to be distributed pro rata as a dividend to its shareholders.

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Unaudited) (Continued)

MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND

Trustees and Officers

The business and affairs of the Fund are managed under the direction of the Fund's Board of Trustees. Information pertaining to the Trustees and Officers of the Fund is set forth below. The Fund's Statement of Additional Information includes additional information about the Fund's Trustees and is available without charge, upon request, by calling 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554) or by writing to The GDL Fund at One Corporate Center, Rye, NY 10580-1422.

<u>Name, Position(s) Address¹ and Year of Birth</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served²</u>	<u>Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee³</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</u>	<u>Other Directorships Held by Trustee³</u>
<u>INTERESTED TRUSTEES⁴:</u>				
Mario J. Gabelli, CFA Chairman and Chief Investment Officer 1942	Since 2006***	31	Chairman, Co-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 Fund Complex; Chief Executive Officer of GGCP, Inc.; Executive Chair of Associated Capital Group, Inc.	Director of Morgan Group Holding Co. (holding company) (2001-2019); 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) (2013-2018)
Agnes Mullady Trustee 1958	Since 2021*	14	Senior Vice President of GAMCO Investors, Inc. (2008 - 2019); Executive Vice President of Associated Capital Group, Inc. (November 2016 - 2019); President and Chief Operating Officer of the Fund Division of Gabelli Funds, LLC (2010 - 2019); Vice President of Gabelli Funds, LLC (2006 - 2019); Chief Executive Officer of G.distributors, LLC (2011 - 2019); and an officer of all of the Gabelli/ Teton Funds (2006 - 2019)	GAMCO Investors, Inc.
<u>INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES⁵:</u>				
Anthony S. Colavita^{6,7} Trustee 1961	Since 2018*	23	Attorney, Anthony S. Colavita, P.C., Supervisor, Town of Eastchester, NY	—
James P. Conn⁶ Trustee 1938	Since 2006**	23	Former Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer of Financial Security Assurance Holdings Ltd. (1992-1998)	—

The GDL Fund
Additional Fund Information (Unaudited) (Continued)

<u>Name, Position(s) Address¹ and Year of Birth</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served²</u>	<u>Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee³</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</u>	<u>Other Directorships Held by Trustee³</u>
Leslie F. Foley ⁷ Trustee 1968	Since 2017***	16	Attorney; Serves on the Board of the Addison Gallery of American Art at Phillips Academy Andover; Vice President, Global Ethics & Compliance and Associate General Counsel for News Corporation (2008-2010)	—
Michael J. Melarkey Trustee 1949	Since 2006***	24	Of Counsel in the law firm of McDonald Carano Wilson LLP; Partner in the law firm of Avansino, Melarkey, Knobel, Mulligan & McKenzie (1980-2015)	Chairman of Southwest Gas Corporation (natural gas utility) (2004 - 2022)
Salvatore J. Zizza ⁸ Trustee 1945	Since 2006*	35	President, Zizza & Associates Corp. (private holding company); Chairman of Bergen Cove Realty Inc. (residential real estate)	Director of Nine West, Inc. (consumer products) (2002-2014); Director of LICT Corp. (Telecommunications)

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Unaudited) (Continued)

<u>Name, Position(s) Address¹ and Year of Birth</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served²</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</u>
OFFICERS:		
John C. Ball President, Treasurer, Principal Financial & Accounting Officer 1976	Since 2017	Senior Vice President (since 2018) of GAMCO Investors, Inc.; Chief Executive Officer, G. Distributors, LLC since 2020; Officer of registered investment companies within the Gabelli Fund Complex since 2017
Peter Goldstein Secretary & Vice President 1953	Since 2020	General Counsel, GAMCO Investors, Inc. and Chief Legal Officer, Associated Capital Group, Inc. since 2021; General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer, Buckingham Capital Management, Inc. (2012-2020); Chief Legal Officer and Chief Compliance Officer, The Buckingham Research Group, Inc. (2012-2020)
Richard J. Walz Chief Compliance Officer 1959	Since 2013	Chief Compliance Officer of registered investment companies within the Gabelli Fund Complex since 2013
Laurissa M. Martire Vice President and Ombudsman 1976	Since 2018	Vice President and/or Ombudsman of closed-end funds within the Gabelli Fund Complex; Senior Vice President (since 2019) of GAMCO Investors, Inc.
Carter W. Austin Vice President 1966	Since 2006	Vice President and/or Ombudsman of closed-end funds within the Gabelli Fund Complex; Senior Vice President (since 2015) of Gabelli Funds, LLC
David I. Schachter Vice President 1953	Since 2006	Vice President and/or Ombudsman of closed-end funds within the Gabelli Fund Complex; Senior Vice President (since 2015) of G.research, LLC

¹ Address: One Corporate Center, Rye, NY 10580-1422, unless otherwise noted.

² The Fund's Board of Trustees is divided into three classes, each class having a term of three years. Each year the term of office of one class expires and the successor or successors elected to such class serve for a three year term. The three year term for each class expires as follows:

* Term expires at the Fund's 2025 Annual Meeting of Shareholders or until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

** Term expires at the Fund's 2026 Annual Meeting of Shareholders or until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

*** Term expires at the Fund's 2027 Annual Meeting of Shareholders or until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

Each officer will hold office for an indefinite term until the date he or she resigns or retires or until his or her successor is elected and qualified.

³ This column includes directorships of companies required to report to the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, i.e., public companies, or other investment companies registered under the 1940 Act, and other noteworthy directorships.

⁴ "Interested person" of the Fund, as defined in the 1940 Act. Mr. Gabelli and Ms. Mullady are each considered an "interested person" because of their affiliation with Gabelli Funds, LLC, which acts as the Fund's investment adviser".

⁵ Trustees who are not interested persons are considered "Independent" Trustees.

⁶ This Trustee is elected solely by and represents the shareholders of the preferred shares issued by the Fund.

⁷ Ms. Foley's father, Frank J. Fahrenkopf, Jr., serves as director of other funds in the Fund Complex.

⁸ Mr. Zizza is an independent director of Gabelli International Ltd., which may be deemed to be controlled by Mario J. Gabelli and/or affiliates

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Unaudited) (Continued)

and in that event would be deemed to be under common control with the Fund's Adviser. 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 Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The Board has discussed this matter and has determined that it does not disqualify Mr. Zizza from serving as an independent director.

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

General

The Board (who, with the Fund's officers (the "Officers")) has overall responsibility for the management of the Fund. The Board decides upon matters of general policy and reviews the actions of the Investment Adviser, Gabelli Funds, LLC, One Corporate Center, Rye, New York 10580-1422, and the Sub-Administrator (as defined below). Pursuant to an investment advisory agreement with the Fund (the "Investment Advisory Agreement"), the Investment Adviser, under the supervision of the Board, provides a continuous investment program for the Fund's portfolio; provides investment research and makes and executes recommendations for the purchase and sale of securities; and provides all facilities and personnel, including officers required for its administrative management, and pays the compensation of Trustees of the Fund who are officers or employees of the Investment Adviser or its affiliates.

The Investment Adviser

The Investment Adviser, a New York limited liability company and registered investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, serves as an investment adviser to registered investment companies with combined aggregate net assets of approximately \$21.0 billion as of December 31, 2024. The Investment Adviser is a wholly owned subsidiary of GAMCO Investors, Inc. ("GAMI"), a New York corporation, whose Class A Common Stock is traded on the OTCQX under the symbol, "GAMI." Mr. Mario J. Gabelli may be deemed a "controlling person" of the Investment Adviser on the basis of his controlling interest in GAMI. Mr. Gabelli owns a majority of the stock of GGCP, Inc. ("GGCP"), which holds a majority of the capital stock and voting power of GAMI. The Investment Adviser has several affiliates that provide investment advisory services: GAMCO Asset Management, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of GAMI, acts as investment adviser for individuals, pension trusts, profit sharing trusts, and endowments, and as a sub-adviser to certain third party investment funds, which include registered investment companies, having assets under management of approximately \$10.7 billion as of December 31, 2024; Teton Advisors, Inc. and its wholly owned investment adviser, Keeley Teton Advisors, LLC, with assets under management of approximately \$1.4 billion as of March 31, 2024, acts 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 wholly-owned subsidiary of Associated Capital Group, Inc. ("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 \$1.2 billion as of December 31, 2024; Teton Advisors, Inc. was spun off by GAMI in March 2009 and is an affiliate of GAMI by virtue of Mr. Gabelli's ownership of GGCP, the principal stockholder of Teton Advisors, Inc., as of December 31, 2024. Effective December 31, 2021, Teton Advisors, Inc. completed a reorganization by transferring its entire advisory business, operations and personnel to a new wholly-owned subsidiary, Teton Advisors, LLC. Teton Advisors, Inc. is now the holding company and parent of the new adviser. The ownership of the parent company is unchanged and the consummation of the reorganization did not result in a change of its control. Associated Capital was spun off from GAMI on November 30, 2015, and is an affiliate of GAMI by virtue of Mr. Gabelli's ownership of GGCP, the principal stockholder of Associated Capital.

A discussion regarding the basis for the Fund's Board approval of the Investment Advisory Agreement with the Investment Adviser is included in this report.

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

Fees of the Investment Adviser

Gabelli Funds, LLC serves as the Fund's investment adviser. Pursuant to the terms of the Investment Advisory Agreement, the Fund pays the Investment Adviser an annual base fee equal to 0.50% of the Fund's average weekly managed assets payable monthly in arrears. Managed assets consist of all of the assets of the Fund without deduction for borrowings, repurchase transactions and other leveraging techniques, the liquidation value of any outstanding preferred shares or other liabilities except for certain ordinary course expenses. The Investment Advisory Agreement provides that, in addition to the base fee described above, the Investment Adviser will be entitled to receive an incremental performance fee as of the end of each calendar year if the total return of the Fund on its common shares during the calendar year in question exceeds the total return of the T-Bill Index compounded quarterly on the same dates as the Fund's quarterly ex-dividend dates (or at the end of the quarter if no dividend is paid) during the same period. If the Fund's total return for the calendar year equals the total return of the T-Bill Index for the same period plus 3.0 percentage points (300 basis points), the Investment Adviser will receive a baseline performance fee of 0.75% of the Fund's average weekly managed assets during the calendar year measurement period for the fund's fulcrum fee. This baseline performance fee will be increased by 0.01 percentage point (one basis point) for each 0.04 percentage points (four basis points) by which the Fund's total return during the period exceeds the T-Bill Index total return plus 3.0 percentage points (300 basis points), up to a maximum performance fee of 1.50% if the excess performance over the T-Bill Index is 6.0 percentage points (600 basis points) or greater. The Investment Advisory Agreement also provides that the baseline performance fee will be decreased by 0.01 percentage point (one basis point) for each 0.04 percentage points (four basis points) by which the Fund's total return during the period is less than the T-Bill Index total return plus 3.0 percentage points (300 basis points), until no performance fee is payable if the Fund's total return is less than or equal to the T-Bill Index total return.

The base fee and performance (fulcrum) fee payable to the Investment Adviser under the Investment Advisory Agreement can also be described as an annual combined fulcrum fee equal to 1.25% of the Fund's average weekly managed assets if the Fund's total return for the calendar year equals the total return of the T-Bill Index for the same period plus 3.0 percentage points (300 basis points). This annual combined fulcrum fee is reduced by 0.01 percentage point (one basis point) for each 0.04 percentage points (four basis points) by which the Fund's total return during the calendar year is less than the T-Bill Index total return plus 3.0 percentage points (300 basis points), until such annual combined fulcrum fee equals 0.50% of the Fund's average weekly managed assets for the calendar year (a 0.75%, or 75 basis point, reduction, which would occur should the Fund's total return for the calendar year be less than or equal to the T-Bill Index total return for the calendar year), and is increased by 0.01 percentage point (one basis point) for each 0.04 percentage points (four basis points) by which the Fund's total return during the calendar year exceeds the T-Bill Index total return plus 3.0 percentage points (300 basis points), until such annual combined fulcrum fee equals 2.00% of the Fund's average weekly managed assets for the calendar year (a 0.75%, or 75 basis point, increase, which would occur should the Fund's total return for the calendar year be equal to or in excess of the T-Bill Index total return for the calendar year plus 6.0 percentage points, or 600 basis points).

For purposes of calculating the Fund's performance fee, the Fund's total return will be calculated as the sum of the Fund's change in net asset value per common share from January 1 (or the date of the Fund's commencement of investment operations, in the case of the Fund's first year of investment operations), through December 31 of

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

each year plus the amount of distributions per common share in respect of such period (calculating the number of shares outstanding on a daily average weighted basis assuming reinvestment of such distributions at net asset value per share on the ex-dividend date and assuming solely for purposes of the Fund's performance fee that all issuances and repurchases of shares are at net asset value). Increases and decreases in the investment management fee will be accrued as often as net asset value per common share is calculated and accordingly will affect the total return on which the rate of the fee is determined.

For purposes of calculating the Fund's performance fee, the T-Bill Index's total return will be calculated as the sum of the change in the discount price of the three-month Treasury bill from the first business day after January 1 of each year (or the date of the Fund's commencement of investment operations, in the case of the Fund's first year of investment operations) to the last business day of each year plus the weekly yield to maturity interest payments thereon implied by the discount price thereof and compounded quarterly on the same dates as the Fund's quarterly ex-dividend dates (or at the end of the quarter if no dividend is paid).

The table below illustrates the total combined fulcrum fee that would be applicable based on the relative performance of the Fund and the T-Bill Index during a 12-month period.

Difference between the Fund Performance and the T-Bill Index plus 3% (%)	<u>Underperformance</u>			<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Overperformance</u>		
	-3.0 or more	-2.0	-1.0	0	1.0	2.0	3.0 or more
Total Combined Fulcrum Fee (annualized) (%)	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00

The following chart illustrates the variability of the Fund's investment management fees in various circumstances.

<u>T-Bill Index Total Return</u>	<u>The Fund's Total Return</u>								
	<u>0% or less</u>	<u>1%</u>	<u>2%</u>	<u>3%</u>	<u>4%</u>	<u>5%</u>	<u>6%</u>	<u>7%</u>	<u>8%</u>
0%	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.00	2.00
1%	0.50	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.00
2%	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00
3%	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.25	1.50	1.75
4%	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.25	1.50
5%	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.25
6%	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75	1.00
7%	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75
8%	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50

Because the investment advisory fees are based on a percentage of managed assets, which includes assets attributable to the Fund's use of leverage, the Investment Adviser may have a conflict of interest in the input it provides to the Board regarding whether to use or increase the Fund's use of leverage. The Board bases its decision, with input from the Investment Adviser, regarding whether and how much leverage to use for the Fund

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

on its assessment of whether such use of leverage is in the best interests of the Fund, and the Board seeks to manage the Investment Adviser's potential conflict of interest by retaining the final decision on these matters and by periodically reviewing the Fund's performance and use of leverage. A discussion regarding the basis for the Board approval of the Investment Advisory Agreement with the Investment Adviser is available in this Annual Report.

Payment of Expenses

The Investment Adviser is obligated to pay expenses associated with providing the services contemplated by the Investment Advisory Agreement, including compensation of and office space for its officers and employees connected with investment and economic research, trading and investment management and administration of the Fund (but excluding costs associated with the calculation of the net asset value and allocated costs of the chief compliance officer function and officers of the Fund who are employed by the Fund and are not employed by the Investment Adviser although such officers may receive incentive-based variable compensation from affiliates of the Investment Adviser), as well as the fees of all Trustees of the Fund who are officers or employees of the Investment Adviser or its affiliates.

In addition to the fees of the Investment Adviser, the Fund, and indirectly the holders of its common shares, is responsible for the payment of all its other expenses incurred in the operation of the Fund, which include, among other things, underwriting compensation and reimbursements in connection with sales of the Fund's securities, expenses for legal and the independent registered public accounting firm's services, stock exchange listing fees and expenses, costs of printing proxies, share certificates and shareholder reports, charges of the Fund's Custodian, any sub-custodian and any custodian, charges of the transfer agent and dividend disbursing agent, expenses in connection with the Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan and the Voluntary Cash Purchase Plan, SEC fees and the preparation of filings with the SEC, fees and expenses of Trustees who are not officers or employees of the Investment Adviser or its affiliates, accounting and printing costs, the Fund's pro rata portion of membership fees in trade organizations, compensation and other expenses of officers and employees of the Fund (including, but not limited to, the Chief Compliance Officer, Vice Presidents, and Ombudsman) as approved by the Fund's Trustees, fidelity bond coverage for the Fund's officers and employees, Trustees' and Officers' errors and omissions insurance coverage, interest, brokerage costs, taxes, expenses of qualifying the Fund's shares for sale in various states, expenses of personnel performing shareholder servicing functions, rating agency fees, organizational expenses, litigation and other extraordinary or non-recurring expenses and other expenses properly payable by the Fund.

Selection of Securities Brokers

The Investment Advisory Agreement contains provisions relating to the selection of securities brokers to effect the portfolio transactions of the Fund. Under those provisions, the Investment Adviser may (i) direct Fund portfolio brokerage to G.research, LLC, an affiliate of the Investment Adviser, or other broker-dealer affiliates of the Investment Adviser and (ii) pay commissions to brokers other than G.research, LLC that are higher than might be charged by another qualified broker to obtain brokerage and/or research services considered by the Investment Adviser to be useful or desirable for its investment management of the Fund and/or its other investment advisory accounts or those of any investment adviser affiliated with it. The Fund's Statement

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

of Additional Information contains further information about the Investment Advisory Agreement, including a more complete description of the investment advisory and expense arrangements, exculpatory and brokerage provisions, and information on the brokerage practices of the Fund. The Fund expects that a substantial portion of its portfolio transactions may be executed through G.research, LLC so long as the Investment Adviser and the Board conclude that G.research, LLC is able to provide best execution at a favorable cost.

Portfolio Management

Mario J. Gabelli, CFA (the “Portfolio Manager”), is currently and has been responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund since its inception. Mr. Gabelli serves as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of GAMI and Associated Capital, Chief Investment Officer - Value Portfolios for GAMI, the Investment Adviser and GAMCO, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer of GGCP, and a director or officer of other companies affiliated with GAMI. Mr. Gabelli serves as portfolio manager for and is a director of several funds in the Gabelli fund family. Because of the diverse nature of Mr. Gabelli’s responsibilities, he will devote less than all of his time to the day-to-day management of the Fund. Mr. Gabelli is a summa cum laude graduate of Fordham University and holds an MBA degree from Columbia Business School and Honorary Doctorates from Fordham University and Roger Williams University.

Regina M. Pitaro is a Managing Director and Head of Institutional Marketing at GAMCO Investors, Inc. Ms. Pitaro joined the Firm in 1984 and coordinates the organization’s focus with consultants and plan sponsors. She also serves as a Managing Director and Director of GAMCO Asset Management, Inc., and serves as a portfolio manager for Gabelli Funds, LLC. Ms. Pitaro holds an MBA in Finance from the Columbia University Graduate School of Business, a Master’s degree in Anthropology from Loyola University of Chicago, and a Bachelor’s degree from Fordham University.

Willis M. Brucker is a portfolio manager of Gabelli Funds, LLC and global merger arbitrage analyst with 15 years’ experience analyzing and investing in global merger transactions and special situations. He joined GAMCO Investors, Inc. in 2004 as a research analyst after graduating from the Boston College Carroll School of Management with a B.S. in Finance and Corporate Reporting and Analysis.

Christopher Matthiessen is a vice president and lead portfolio analyst for the Gabelli merger arbitrage funds. He monitors global mergers and acquisitions transactions for inclusion in the firm’s portfolios, while working closely with internal research analysts to track deal progress. Mr. Matthiessen joined the firm in 2017 after graduating with a B.S. in finance from Fairfield University.

Sub-Administrator

The Investment Adviser has entered into a sub-administration agreement with BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc. (the “Sub-Administrator”) pursuant to which the Sub-Administrator provides certain administrative services necessary for the Fund’s operations which do not include the investment and portfolio management services provided by the Investment Adviser. For these services and the related expenses borne by the Sub-Administrator, the Investment Adviser pays an annual fee based on the value of the aggregate average daily net assets of all funds under its administration managed by the Investment Adviser, GAMCO and Teton Advisors, Inc. as follows: 0.0275% - first \$10 billion, 0.0125% - exceeding \$10 billion but less than \$15 billion, 0.01% - over

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

\$15 billion but less than \$20 billion and 0.008% - over \$20 billion. The Sub-Administrator has its principal office at 301 Bellevue Parkway, Wilmington, Delaware, 19809.

NET ASSET VALUE

The net asset value of the Fund's shares is computed based on the market value of the securities it holds and is determined daily as of the close of the regular trading day on the NYSE. For purposes of determining the Fund's net asset value per share, portfolio securities listed or traded on a nationally recognized securities exchange or traded in the U.S. over-the-counter 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 mean of the closing bid and asked prices, or, if there were no asked prices quoted on that day, then the security is valued at the closing bid price on that day. If no bid or ask prices are quoted on such day, the security will be valued based on written or standing instructions from the Investment Adviser, which has been appointed Valuation Designee pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the 1940 Act ("Rule 2a-5") by the Board. 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 Valuation Designee.

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 by the Valuation Designee under procedures adopted pursuant to Rule 2a-5 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 with remaining maturities of 60 days or less that are not credit impaired are valued at amortized cost, unless the Valuation Designee determines such amount does not reflect the securities' fair value, in which case these securities will be fair valued as determined by the Valuation Designee. Debt instruments having a maturity greater than 60 days for which market quotations are readily available are valued at the average of the latest bid and asked prices. If there were no asked prices quoted on such day, the security is valued using the closing bid price. Futures contracts are valued at the closing settlement price of the exchange or board of trade on which the applicable contract is traded.

Options are valued using market quotations. When market quotations are not readily available, options are valued from broker quotes. In limited circumstances when neither market quotations nor broker quotes are readily available, options are valued using a Black Scholes model.

Securities and assets for which market quotations are not readily available are fair valued as determined by the Valuation Designee. 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 to the valuation and changes in valuation of similar securities, including a comparison of foreign securities to the equivalent U.S. dollar value ADR securities at the close of the U.S. exchange; and evaluation of any other information that could be indicative of the value of the security.

The Fund obtains valuations on the basis of prices provided by a pricing service monitored by the Valuation Designee. All other investment assets, including restricted and not readily marketable securities, are valued in good faith at fair value by the Valuation Designee under procedures adopted pursuant to Rule 2a-5.

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

In addition, whenever developments in one or more securities markets after the close of the principal markets for one or more portfolio securities and before the time as of which the Fund determines its net asset value would, if such developments had been reflected in such principal markets, likely have more than a minimal effect on the Fund's net asset value per share, the Valuation Designee may fair value such portfolio securities based on available market information as of the time the Fund determines its net asset value.

NYSE Closings. The holidays (as observed) on which the NYSE is closed, and therefore days upon which shareholders will not be able to purchase or sell common shares currently are: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth National Independence 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.

AUTOMATIC DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT AND VOLUNTARY CASH PURCHASE PLAN

Enrollment in the Plan

It is the policy of The GDL Fund to automatically reinvest dividends payable to common shareholders. As a "registered" shareholder you automatically become a participant in the Fund's Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan (the "Plan"). The Plan authorizes the Fund to credit common shares to participants upon an income dividend or a capital gains distribution regardless of whether the shares are trading at a discount or a premium to net asset value. All distributions to shareholders whose shares are registered in their own names will be automatically reinvested pursuant to the Plan in additional shares of the Fund. Plan participants may send their share certificates to Equiniti Trust Company, LLC (Equiniti) to be held in their dividend reinvestment account. Registered shareholders wishing to receive their distributions in cash must submit this request in writing to:

The GDL Fund
c/o Equiniti Trust Company, LLC
P.O. Box 500
Newark, NJ 07101

Shareholders requesting this cash election must include the shareholder's name and address as they appear on the share certificate. Shareholders with additional questions regarding the Plan or requesting a copy of the terms of the Plan, may contact Equinity at (888) 937-5549.

If your shares are held in the name of a broker, bank, or nominee, you should contact such institution. If such institution is not participating in the Plan, your account will be credited with a cash dividend. In order to participate in the Plan through such institution, it may be necessary for you to have your shares taken out of "street name" and re-registered in your own name. Once registered in your own name your distributions will be

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

automatically reinvested. Certain brokers participate in the Plan. Shareholders holding shares in “street name” at participating institutions will have dividends automatically reinvested. Shareholders wishing a cash dividend at such institution must contact their broker to make this change.

The number of common shares distributed to participants in the Plan in lieu of cash dividends is determined in the following manner. Under the Plan, whenever the market price of the Fund’s common shares is equal to or exceeds net asset value at the time shares are valued for purposes of determining the number of shares equivalent to the cash dividends or capital gains distribution, participants are issued common shares valued at the greater of (i) the net asset value as most recently determined or (ii) 95% of the then current market price of the Fund’s common shares. The valuation date is the dividend or distribution payment date or, if that date is not a NYSE trading day, the next trading day. If the net asset value of the common shares at the time of valuation exceeds the market price of the common shares, participants will receive common shares from the Fund valued at market price. If the Fund should declare a dividend or capital gains distribution payable only in cash, Equinity will buy common shares in the open market, or on the NYSE, or elsewhere, for the participants’ accounts, except that Equinity will endeavor to terminate purchases in the open market and cause the Fund to issue shares at net asset value if, following the commencement of such purchases, the market value of the common shares exceeds the then current net asset value.

The automatic reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions will not relieve participants of any income tax which may be payable on such distributions. A participant in the Plan will be treated for federal income tax purposes as having received, on a dividend payment date, a dividend or distribution in an amount equal to the cash the participant could have received instead of shares.

Voluntary Cash Purchase Plan

The Voluntary Cash Purchase Plan is yet another vehicle for our shareholders to increase their investment in the Fund. In order to participate in the Voluntary Cash Purchase Plan, shareholders must have their shares registered in their own name.

Participants in the Voluntary Cash Purchase Plan have the option of making additional cash payments to Equinity for investments in the Fund’s common shares at the then current market price. Shareholders may send an amount from \$250 to \$10,000. Equinity will use these funds to purchase shares in the open market on or about the 1st and 15th of each month. Equinity will charge each shareholder who participates a pro rata share of the brokerage commissions. Brokerage charges for such purchases are expected to be less than the usual brokerage charge for such transactions. It is suggested that any voluntary cash payments be sent to American Stock Transfer, 6201 15th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11219 such that Equinity receives such payments approximately 10 days before the investment date. Funds not received at least five days before the investment date shall be held for investment until the next purchase date. A payment may be withdrawn without charge if notice is received by Equinity at least 48 hours before such payment is to be invested.

Shareholders wishing to liquidate shares held at Equinity must do so in writing or by telephone. Please submit your request to the above mentioned address or telephone number. Include in your request your name, address, and account number. The cost to liquidate shares is \$1.00 per transaction as well as the brokerage commission incurred. Brokerage charges are expected to be less than the usual brokerage charge for such transactions.

The GDL Fund

Additional Fund Information (Continued) (Unaudited)

For more information regarding the Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan and Voluntary Cash Purchase Plan, brochures are available by calling (914) 921-5070 or by writing directly to the Fund.

The Fund reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan as applied to any voluntary cash payments made and any dividend or distribution paid subsequent to written notice of the change sent to the members of the Plan at least 90 days before the record date for such dividend or distribution. The Plan also may be amended or terminated by Equinity on at least 90 days written notice to participants in the Plan.

THE GDL FUND AND YOUR PERSONAL PRIVACY

Who are we?

The GDL Fund is a closed-end management investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Investment Company Act of 1940. We are managed by Gabelli Funds, LLC, which is affiliated with GAMCO Investors, Inc., a publicly held company that has subsidiaries that provide investment advisory services for a variety of clients.

What kind of non-public information do we collect about you if you become a fund shareholder?

When you purchase shares of the Fund on the New York Stock Exchange, you have the option of registering directly with our transfer agent in order, for example, to participate in our dividend reinvestment plan.

- *Information you give us on your application form.* This could include your name, address, telephone number, social security number, bank account number, and other information.
- *Information about your transactions with us.* This would include information about the shares that you buy or sell; it may also include information about whether you sell or exercise rights that we have issued from time to time. If we hire someone else to provide services — like a transfer agent — we will also have information about the transactions that you conduct through them.

What information do we disclose and to whom do we disclose it?

We do not disclose any non-public personal information about our customers or former customers to anyone other than our affiliates, our service providers who need to know such information, and as otherwise permitted by law. If you want to find out what the law permits, you can read the privacy rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission. They are in volume 17 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 248. The Commission often posts information about its regulations on its website, www.sec.gov.

What do we do to protect your personal information?

We restrict access to non-public personal information about you to the people who need to know that information in order to provide services to you or the fund and to ensure that we are complying with the laws governing the securities business. We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards to keep your personal information confidential.

THE GDL FUND
INCOME TAX INFORMATION (Unaudited)
December 31, 2024

Cash Dividends and Distributions

	Payable Date	Record Date	Ordinary Investment Income (a)	Long Term Capital Gains	Return of Capital (b)	Total Amount Paid Per Share (c)	Dividend Reinvestment Price
Common Stock							
	03/21/24	03/14/24	\$0.09720	—	\$0.02280	\$0.12000	\$7.99770
	06/21/24	06/13/24	0.09720	—	0.02280	0.12000	7.85460
	09/23/24	09/16/24	0.09720	—	0.02280	0.12000	8.16110
	12/20/24	12/13/24	0.09720	—	0.02280	0.12000	8.06730
			\$0.38880	—	\$0.09120	\$0.48000	
Series C Cumulative Preferred Shares							
	03/26/24	03/19/24	\$0.5000000	—	—	\$0.5000000	
	06/26/24	06/18/24	0.5000000	—	—	0.5000000	
	09/26/24	09/19/24	0.5000000	—	—	0.5000000	
	12/26/24	12/18/24	0.5000000	—	—	0.5000000	
			\$2.0000000	—	—	\$2.0000000	
Series E Cumulative Preferred Shares							
	03/26/24	03/19/24	\$0.1300000	—	—	\$0.1300000	
	06/26/24	06/18/24	0.1300000	—	—	0.1300000	
	09/26/24	09/19/24	0.1300000	—	—	0.1300000	
	12/26/24	12/18/24	0.1300000	—	—	0.1300000	
			\$0.5200000	—	—	\$0.5200000	

A Form 1099-DIV has been mailed to all shareholders of record for the distributions mentioned above, setting forth specific amounts to be included in the 2024 tax returns.

U.S. Government Securities Income

In 2024, the Fund paid to common, Series C Cumulative Preferred and Series E Cumulative Preferred shareholders ordinary income dividends (comprised of net investment income and short term capital gains) of \$0.388800, \$2.000000, and \$0.520000 per share. For the year ended December 31, 2024, 9.89% of the ordinary dividend qualified for the dividend received deduction available to corporations, 14.83% of the ordinary income distribution was qualified dividend income, and 83.87% of the ordinary dividend distribution was qualified interest income. The percentage of ordinary income dividends paid by the Fund during 2024 derived from U.S. Government securities was 43.48%. Such income is exempt from state and local taxes in all states. The Fund designates 100% of the ordinary income distribution as qualified short term gain pursuant to the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004. However, many states, including New York and California, allow a tax exemption for a portion of the income earned only if a mutual fund has invested at least 50% of its assets at the end of each quarter of its year in U.S. Government securities. The percentage of U.S. Government securities held as of December 31, 2024 was 43.2% of total investments. The GDL Fund met this strict requirement in the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024. Due to the diversity in state and local tax law, it is recommended that you consult your personal tax adviser as to the applicability of the information provided to your specific situation.

THE GDL FUND
INCOME TAX INFORMATION (Unaudited) (Continued)
December 31, 2024

Historical Distribution Summary

	Investment Income (a)	Short Term Capital Gains (a)	Long Term Capital Gains	Return of Capital (b)	Total Distributions (c)	Adjustment to Cost Basis (d)
Common Shares						
2024	\$0.23000	\$0.15880	—	\$0.09120	\$0.48000	\$0.09120
2023	0.16820	0.03320	\$0.02900	0.24960	0.48000	0.24960
2022	—	—	—	0.48000	0.48000	0.48000
2021	—	0.20080	—	0.27920	0.48000	0.27920
2020	—	—	—	0.46000	0.46000	0.46000
2019	—	0.06680	—	0.33320	0.40000	0.33320
2018	0.26620	0.03960	0.06540	0.02880	0.40000	0.02880
2017	—	—	—	0.58000	0.58000	0.58000
2016	0.01280	0.29120	0.28200	0.05400	0.64000	0.05400
2015	0.09700	0.18040	0.28120	0.08140	0.64000	0.08140
Series B Cumulative Preferred Shares						
2018	\$0.55500	\$0.08250	—	—	\$0.63750	—
2017	—	0.62900	\$0.64780	\$0.22320	1.50000	\$0.22320
2016	0.03340	0.75580	0.71080	—	1.50000	—
2015	0.26220	0.48780	0.75000	—	1.50000	—
Series C Cumulative Preferred Shares						
2024	\$1.18320	\$0.81680	—	—	\$2.00000	—
2023	1.56990	0.30970	\$0.12040	—	2.00000	—
2022	0.76800	—	—	\$1.23200	2.00000	\$1.23200
2021	—	2.00000	—	—	2.00000	—
2020	—	—	—	2.00000	2.00000	2.00000
2019	—	2.00000	—	—	2.00000	—
2018	1.01810	0.15130	0.33060	—	1.50000	—
Series E Cumulative Preferred Shares						
2024	\$0.30760	\$0.21240	—	—	\$0.52000	—
2023	0.40173	0.07931	\$0.03129	—	0.51233	—
2022	0.11479	—	—	\$0.18410	0.29889	\$0.18410

(a) Taxable as ordinary income for Federal tax purposes.

(b) Non-taxable.

(c) Total amounts may differ due to rounding.

(d) Decrease in cost basis.

All designations are based on financial information available as of the date of this annual report and, accordingly, are subject to change. For each item, it is the intention of the Fund to designate the maximum amount permitted under the Internal Revenue Code and the regulations thereunder.

THE GDL FUND
One Corporate Center
Rye, NY 10580-1422

Portfolio Management Team Biographies

Mario J. Gabelli, CFA, is Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and Chief Investment Officer - Value Portfolios of GAMCO Investors, Inc. that he founded in 1977, and Chief Investment Officer - Value Portfolios of Gabelli Funds, LLC and GAMCO Asset Management, Inc. He is also Executive Chairman of Associated Capital Group, Inc. Mr. Gabelli is a summa cum laude graduate of Fordham University and holds an MBA degree from Columbia Business School and Honorary Doctorates from Fordham University and Roger Williams University.

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Christopher Matthiessen is a vice president and lead portfolio analyst for the Gabelli merger arbitrage funds. He monitors global mergers and acquisitions transactions for inclusion in the Firm's portfolios, while working closely with internal research analysts to track deal progress. Mr. Matthiessen joined the Firm in 2017 after graduating with a BS in finance from Fairfield University.

The Net Asset Value per share appears in the Publicly Traded Funds column, under the heading "Specialized Equity Funds," in Monday's The Wall Street Journal. It is also listed in Barron's Mutual Funds/Closed End Funds section under the heading "Specialized Equity Funds."

The Net Asset Value per share may be obtained each day by calling (914) 921-5070 or visiting www.gabelli.com.

The NASDAQ symbol for the Net Asset Value is "XGDLX."

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 23(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, that the Fund may from time to time purchase its common shares in the open market when the Fund's shares are trading at a discount of 7.5% or more from the net asset value of the shares. The Fund may also from time to time purchase its preferred shares in the open market when the preferred shares are trading at a discount to the liquidation value.

THE GDL FUND

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TRUSTEES

Mario J. Gabelli, CFA
Chairman and
Chief Executive Officer,
GAMCO Investors, Inc.
Executive Chairman,
Associated Capital Group Inc.

Anthony S. Colavita
Attorney,
Anthony S. Colavita, P.C.

James P. Conn
Former Managing Director &
Chief Investment Officer,
Financial Security Assurance
Holdings LTD.

Leslie F. Foley
Attorney,
Addison Gallery of American Art

Michael J. Melarkey
Of Counsel,
McDonald Carano Wilson LLP

Agnes Mullady
Former Senior Vice President
of GAMCO Investors, Inc.

Salvatore J. Zizza
Chairman,
Zizza & Associates Corp.

OFFICERS

John C. Ball
President, Treasurer, Principal
Financial and Accounting Officer

Peter Goldstein
Secretary & Vice President

Richard J. Walz
Chief Compliance Officer

Laurissa M. Matire
Vice President & Ombudsman

Carter W. Austin
Vice President

David I. Schachter
Vice President

INVESTMENT ADVISER

Gabelli Funds, LLC

CUSTODIAN

The Bank of New York
Mellon

COUNSEL

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher
& Flom LLP

TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR

Equiniti Trust Company, LLC



GABELLI
FUNDS

THE GDL FUND

GDL

Annual Report
December 31, 2024