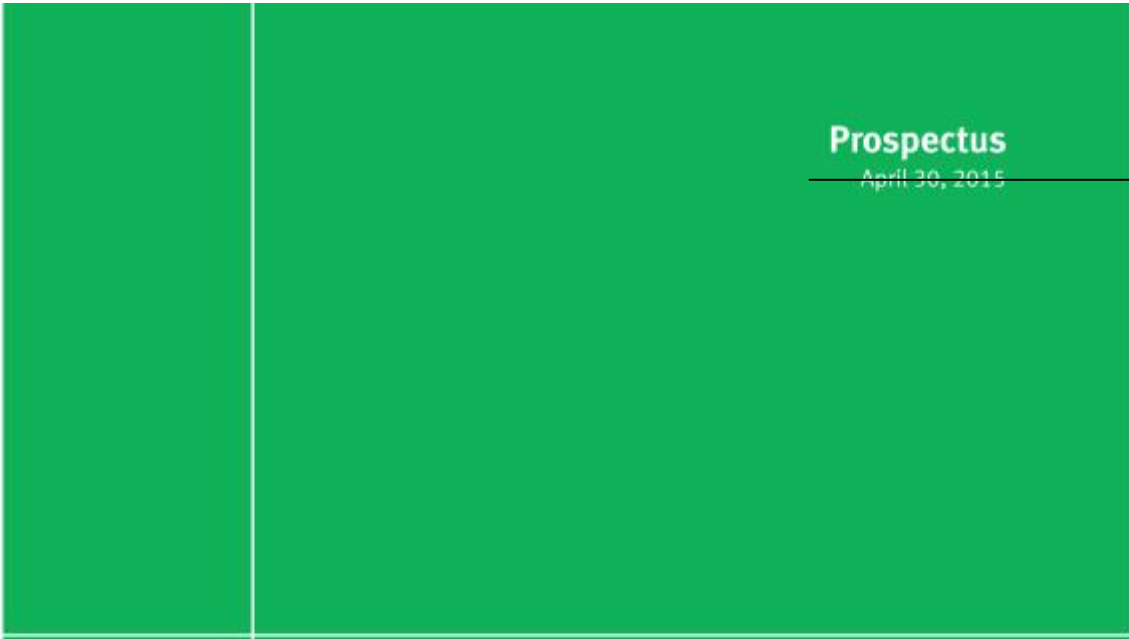


The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted.

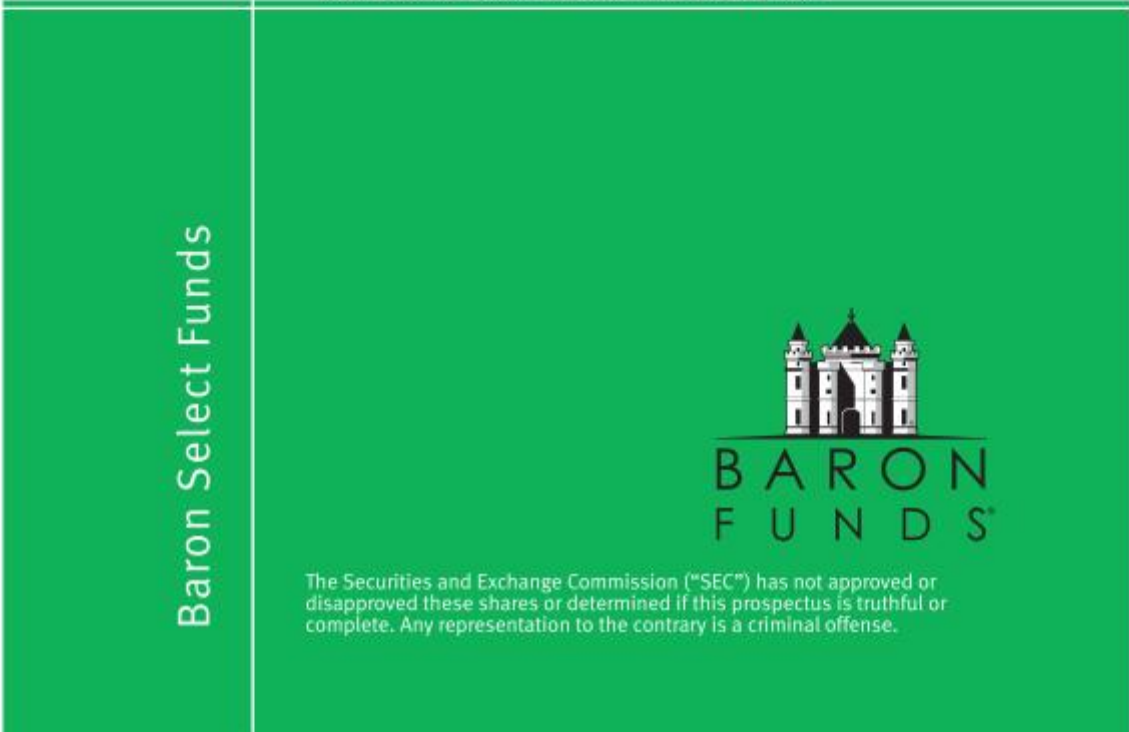


Prospectus  
April 30, 2015

[                      ], 2015

Baron Partners Fund  
*Retail Shares : BPTRX Institutional Shares : BPTIX*  
Baron Focused Growth Fund  
*Retail Shares : BFGFX Institutional Shares : BFGIX*  
Baron International Growth Fund  
*Retail Shares : BIGFX Institutional Shares : BINIX*  
Baron Real Estate Fund  
*Retail Shares : BREFX Institutional Shares : BREIX*  
Baron Emerging Markets Fund  
*Retail Shares : BEXFX Institutional Shares : BEXIX*  
Baron Energy and Resources Fund  
*Retail Shares : BENFX Institutional Shares : BENIX*  
Baron Global Advantage Fund  
*Retail Shares : BGAFX Institutional Shares : BGAIX*

R6 Shares:  
  
R6 Shares:



Baron Select Funds



The Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") has not approved or disapproved these shares or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

| April 30, 2015 | 1, 2015

Baron Partners Fund  
Baron Focused Growth Fund  
Baron International Growth Fund  
Baron Real Estate Fund  
Baron Emerging Markets Fund  
Baron Energy and Resources Fund  
Baron Global Advantage Fund

767 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10153  
1-800-99BARON  
212-583-2100

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## Investment Goal

The investment goal of Baron Partners Fund (the "Fund") is capital appreciation.

## Fees and Expenses of the Fund

The table below describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you bought and held shares of the Fund.

### Annual Fund Operating Expenses

(Expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

	Management Fee	Distribution (12b-1) Fee	Other Expenses		Total Other Expenses	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses <sup>2</sup>
			Operating Expenses	Interest Expense		
BARON PARTNERS FUND <sup>1</sup>						
Retail Shares	1.00%	0.25%	0.07%	0.19%	0.26%	1.51%
Institutional Shares	1.00%	0.00%	0.06%	0.20%	0.26%	1.26%

<sup>1</sup> Based on the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> BAMCO, Inc. ("BAMCO" or the "Adviser") has agreed that for so long as it serves as the adviser to the Fund, it will reimburse certain expenses of the Fund, limiting net annual operating expenses (expenses such as portfolio transaction costs, interest, dividend and extraordinary expenses are not subject to the operating expense limitation) to 1.45% of average daily net assets of Retail Shares and 1.20% of average daily net assets of Institutional Shares. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, no expense reimbursement was required for either share class.

## Example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year, and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same at 1.51% for the Retail Shares and 1.26% for the Institutional Shares. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

YEAR	1	3	5	10
BARON PARTNERS FUND				
Retail Shares	\$154	\$477	\$824	\$1,802
Institutional Shares	\$128	\$400	\$692	\$1,523

**Portfolio Turnover.** The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes for Fund shareholders. These costs, which are not reflected in Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses or in the example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 30.82% of the average value of its portfolio.

### Investments, Risks, and Performance

#### Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund is a non-diversified fund that invests for the long term primarily in equity securities in the form of common stock of U.S. growth companies of any size. The Adviser seeks to invest in businesses it believes have significant opportunities for growth, sustainable competitive advantages, exceptional management, and an attractive valuation. To take advantage of opportunities to invest, the Fund may borrow money from banks (leverage) in an amount up to one-third of its total assets, which include assets purchased with borrowed money.

#### Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

**General Stock Market.** Investing in the stock market is risky because securities fluctuate in value. These fluctuations may be due to political, economic or general market circumstances. Other factors may affect a single company or industry but not the broader market. Because the values of securities fluctuate, when you sell your investment in the Fund, you may lose money. Current and future portfolio holdings in the Fund are subject to risk.

**Small- and Mid-Sized Companies.** The Adviser believes there is more potential for capital appreciation in small- and mid-sized companies, but there also may be more risk. Securities of small- and mid-sized companies may not be well known to most investors, and the securities may be less actively traded than those of large businesses. The securities of small- and mid-sized companies may fluctuate in price more widely than the stock market generally, and they may be more difficult to sell during market downturns. Small- and mid-sized companies rely more on the skills of management and on their continued tenure. Investing in small- and mid-sized companies requires a long-term outlook and may require shareholders to assume more risk and to have more patience than investing in the securities of larger, more established companies.

**Leverage.** The Fund may borrow money from banks to buy securities and pledge its assets in connection with the borrowing. If the interest expense of the borrowing is

greater than the return on the securities bought, the use of leverage will decrease the return to shareholders in the Fund. Use of leverage also tends to magnify the volatility of the Fund's returns.

**Non-Diversified Portfolio.** The Fund is non-diversified, which means it may have a greater percentage of its assets in a single issuer than a diversified fund. Because of this, a non-diversified fund may invest a greater percentage of its assets in fewer issuers, and the performance of those issuers may have a greater effect on the performance of a non-diversified fund versus a diversified fund. Thus, a non-diversified fund is more likely to experience significant fluctuations in value, exposing the Fund to a greater risk of loss in any given period than a diversified fund.

**Growth Investing.** Growth stocks can react differently to issuer, political, market and economic developments than the market as a whole and other types of stocks. Growth stocks tend to be more expensive relative to their earnings or assets compared to other types of stocks. As a result, growth stocks tend to be sensitive to changes in their earnings and more volatile than other types of stocks.

## Performance

Although **Baron Partners Fund** was registered as a mutual fund on April 30, 2003, it has been managed in the same style and by the same portfolio manager since the predecessor partnership's inception on January 31, 1992, and since its conversion to a Delaware statutory trust structure on April 30, 2003. The Fund's investment goals, policies, guidelines and restrictions are, in all material respects, equivalent to the predecessor partnership's. The following information shows the Fund's annual returns and long-term performance reflecting the actual fees and expenses that were charged when the Fund was a partnership and since it converted to a mutual fund. The predecessor partnership charged a 20% performance fee after it reached a certain performance benchmark. If the annual returns for the Fund did not reflect the performance fee for the years the partnership charged a performance fee, the returns would have been higher. The Fund does not charge a performance fee. From its inception on January 31, 1992 through April 30, 2003, the predecessor partnership was not subject to certain investment restrictions, diversification requirements and other restrictions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") or the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), which if they had been applicable, might have adversely affected its performance. The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund (Retail Shares) by showing changes in the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for 1, 5 and 10 years compare with those of a broad measure of market performance. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated

## Baron Partners Fund

performance information is available online at [www.BaronFunds.com/performance](http://www.BaronFunds.com/performance) or by calling 1-800-99BARON (1-800-992-2766).

**Year by Year Total Return (%)** as of December 31 of Each Year (Retail Shares)



Best Quarter: 3/31/13: 18.65%

Worst Quarter: 12/31/08: (32.00)%

**Average Annual Total Returns** (for periods ended 12/31/14)

The table below shows the Fund's Retail Shares' annual returns and long-term performance (before and after taxes), which includes its predecessor partnership's average annual returns, and the change in value of broad-based market indexes over various periods ended December 31, 2014. The table also shows the average annual returns of the Fund's Institutional Shares, but it does not show after-tax returns.

After-tax returns are calculated using the highest individual federal marginal income tax rate in effect at the time of each distribution and assumed sale, but they do not include the impact of state and local taxes. Because the predecessor partnership did not have a distribution policy prior to May 1, 2003, the Fund is unable to show after-tax returns prior to that date.

Your actual after-tax returns depend on your own tax situation and may differ from those shown. After-tax returns reflect past tax effects and are not predictive of future tax effects. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold their Fund shares in a tax-deferred account (including a 401(k) or IRA or Coverdell account), or to investors that are tax-exempt.

## Average Annual Total Returns for the periods ended December 31, 2014

	1 year	5 years	10 years	Since Inception
<b>BARON PARTNERS FUND</b>				
<b>Retail Shares</b> (Inception date: 01-31-92)				
Return before taxes	10.26%	18.63%	9.53%	13.21%
Return after taxes on distributions	10.26%	18.63%	9.25%	N/A
Return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund shares	5.81%	15.19%	7.78%	N/A
<b>Institutional Shares*</b> (Inception date: 05-29-09)				
Return before taxes	10.56%	18.94%	9.69%	13.28%
Russell Midcap® Growth Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	11.90%	16.94%	9.43%	9.71%
S&P 500 Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	13.69%	15.45%	7.67%	9.50%

\* Performance for the Institutional Shares prior to May 29, 2009 is based on the performance of the Retail Shares, which have a distribution fee. The Institutional Shares do not have a distribution fee. If the annual returns for the Institutional Shares prior to May 29, 2009 did not reflect this fee, the returns would be higher.

The Russell Midcap® Growth Index is an unmanaged index of mid-cap growth companies. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of larger-cap companies.

## Management

**Investment Adviser.** BAMCO is the investment adviser of the Fund.

**Portfolio Manager.** Ronald Baron has been the portfolio manager of the Fund since its inception on April 30, 2003. Prior to that, he was the portfolio manager of the predecessor partnership from its inception on January 31, 1992 to April 30, 2003. Mr. Baron founded the Adviser in 1987.



## Baron Partners Fund

### Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares may be purchased only on days that the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading.

	Minimum Initial Investment	Subsequent Investments
<b>Retail Shares</b>	\$2,000	No Minimum
Baron Automatic Investment Plan	\$500	\$50 per month
Baron Funds® website purchases	\$2,000	\$10
<b>Institutional Shares</b>	\$1,000,000. (Employees and Trustees of the Baron Funds® and employer sponsored retirement plans (qualified and non-qualified) are not subject to the eligibility requirements for Institutional Shares.)	No Minimum
Baron Funds® website purchases	You may not make an initial purchase through the Baron Funds® website.	Up to \$25,000

#### You Can Purchase or Redeem Shares By:

1. Mailing a request to Baron Funds®, P.O. Box 219946, Kansas City, MO 64121-9946 or by overnight mail to: Baron Funds®, 430 West 7th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105-1514;
2. Wire (Purchase Only);
3. Calling 1-800-442-3814;
4. Visiting the Baron Funds® website [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com); or
5. Through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary that may charge you a fee.

The Fund is not for short-term traders who intend to purchase and then sell their Fund shares within a 90 day period. If the Adviser reasonably believes that a person is not a long-term investor, it will attempt to prohibit that person from making additional investments in the Fund.

### Tax Information

Distributions of the Fund's net investment income (other than "qualified dividend income") and distributions of net short-term capital gains will be taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions of the Fund's net capital gains reported as capital gain dividends by the Fund will be taxable to you as long-term capital gains, regardless of the length of time you have held shares of the Fund. If you are investing through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account, you may be subject to federal income tax on withdrawals from tax-deferred arrangement at a later date.

### Financial Intermediary Compensation

If you purchase shares of the Fund through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank or financial adviser), the Fund, Baron Capital, Inc., the Fund's distributor, BAMCO or their affiliates may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker, dealer or other financial intermediary, including your salesperson, to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

## Baron Focused Growth Fund

### Investment Goal

The investment goal of Baron Focused Growth Fund (the "Fund") is capital appreciation.

### Fees and Expenses of the Fund

The table below describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you bought and held shares of the Fund.

#### Annual Fund Operating Expenses

(Expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

	Management Fee	Distribution (12b-1) Fee	Other Expenses	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	Expense Waivers	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses after Expense Waivers <sup>2</sup>
BARON FOCUSED GROWTH FUND <sup>1</sup>						
Retail Shares	1.00%	0.25%	0.14%	1.39%	(0.04)%	1.35%
Institutional Shares	1.00%	0.00%	0.09%	1.09%	0.00%	1.09%

<sup>1</sup> Based on the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> BAMCO, Inc. ("BAMCO" or the "Adviser") has agreed that for so long as it serves as the adviser to the Fund, it will reimburse certain expenses of the Fund, limiting net annual operating expenses (expenses such as portfolio transaction costs, interest, dividend and extraordinary expenses are not subject to the operating expense limitation) to 1.35% of average daily net assets of Retail Shares and 1.10% of average daily net assets of Institutional Shares.

### Example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same at 1.35% for the Retail Shares and 1.09% for the Institutional Shares. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

YEAR	1	3	5	10
BARON FOCUSED GROWTH FUND				
Retail Shares	\$ 137	\$428	\$739	\$1,624
Institutional Shares	\$ 111	\$347	\$601	\$1,329

**Portfolio Turnover.** The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes for Fund shareholders. These costs, which are not reflected in Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses or in the example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 36.92% of the average value of its portfolio.

## Investments, Risks, and Performance

### Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund is a non-diversified fund that invests for the long term primarily in equity securities in the form of common stock of small- and mid-sized growth companies. The Adviser defines small- and mid-sized companies as those, at the time of purchase, with market capitalizations up to the largest market cap stock in the Russell Midcap Growth Index at reconstitution. At the last reconstitution by Russell on June 30, 2014, the largest market cap stock in the Russell Midcap Growth Index was \$29.87 billion. The Adviser seeks to invest in businesses it believes have significant opportunities for growth, sustainable competitive advantages, exceptional management, and an attractive valuation. Because of its long-term approach, the Fund could have a significant percentage of its assets invested in securities that have appreciated beyond their original market cap ranges.

### Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

**General Stock Market.** Investing in the stock market is risky because securities fluctuate in value. These fluctuations may be due to political, economic or general market circumstances. Other factors may affect a single company or industry but not the broader market. Because the values of securities fluctuate, when you sell your investment in the Fund, you may lose money. Current and future portfolio holdings in the Fund are subject to risk.

**Small- and Mid-Sized Companies.** The Adviser believes there is more potential for capital appreciation in small- and mid-sized companies, but there also may be more risk. Securities of small- and mid-sized companies may not be well known to most investors, and the securities may be less actively traded than those of large businesses. The securities of small- and mid-sized companies may fluctuate in price more widely than the stock market generally, and they may be more difficult to sell during market downturns. Small- and mid-sized companies rely more on the skills of management and on their continued tenure. Investing in small- and mid-sized companies requires a long-term outlook and may require shareholders to assume more risk and to have more patience than investing in the securities of larger, more established companies.

## Baron Focused Growth Fund

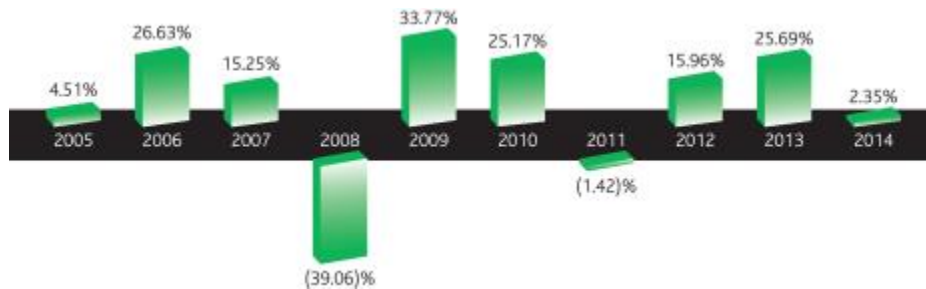
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**Non-Diversified Portfolio.** The Fund is non-diversified, which means it may have a greater percentage of its assets in a single issuer than a diversified fund. Because of this, a non-diversified fund may invest a greater percentage of its assets in fewer issuers, and the performance of those issuers may have a greater effect on the performance of a non-diversified fund versus a diversified fund. Thus, a non-diversified fund is more likely to experience significant fluctuations in value, exposing the Fund to a greater risk of loss in any given period than a diversified fund.

**Growth Investing.** Growth stocks can react differently to issuer, political, market and economic developments than the market as a whole and other types of stocks. Growth stocks tend to be more expensive relative to their earnings or assets compared to other types of stocks. As a result, growth stocks tend to be sensitive to changes in their earnings and more volatile than other types of stocks.

### Performance

Although **Baron Focused Growth Fund** was registered as a mutual fund on June 30, 2008, it has been managed in the same style and by the same portfolio manager since the predecessor partnership's inception on May 31, 1996. The Fund was added as a series of Baron Select Funds, a Delaware statutory trust, on June 30, 2008. The Fund's investment goals, policies, guidelines and restrictions are, in all material respects, equivalent to the predecessor partnership's. The following information shows the Fund's annual returns and long-term performance reflecting the actual fees and expenses that were charged when the Fund was a partnership and since it converted to a mutual fund. The predecessor partnership charged a 15% performance fee after it reached a certain performance benchmark. If the annual returns for the Fund did not reflect the performance fee for the years the partnership charged a performance fee, the returns would have been higher. The Fund does not charge a performance fee. From its inception on May 31, 1996 through June 30, 2008, the predecessor partnership was not subject to certain investment restrictions, diversification requirements and other restrictions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") or the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), which if they had been applicable, might have adversely affected its performance. The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund (Retail Shares) by showing changes in the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for 1, 5 and 10 years compare with those of a broad measure of market performance. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.BaronFunds.com/performance](http://www.BaronFunds.com/performance) or by calling 1-800-99BARON (1-800-992-2766).

**Year by Year Total Return (%) as of December 31 of Each Year (Retail Shares)**

Best Quarter: 6/30/09: 19.90%

Worst Quarter: 12/31/08: (28.15)%

**Average Annual Total Returns** (for periods ended 12/31/14)

The table below shows the Fund's Retail Shares' annual returns and long-term performance (before and after taxes), which includes its predecessor partnership's average annual returns, and the change in value of broad-based market indexes over various periods ended December 31, 2014. The table also shows the average annual returns of the Fund's Institutional Shares, but it does not show after-tax returns.

After-tax returns are calculated using the highest individual federal marginal income tax rate in effect at the time of each distribution and assumed sale, but they do not include the impact of state and local taxes. Because the predecessor partnership did not have a distribution policy prior to July 1, 2008, the Fund is unable to show after-tax returns prior to that date.

Your actual after-tax returns depend on your own tax situation and may differ from those shown. After-tax returns reflect past tax effects and are not predictive of future tax effects. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold their Fund shares in a tax-deferred account (including a 401(k) or IRA or Coverdell account), or to investors that are tax-exempt.

## Baron Focused Growth Fund

### Average Annual Total Returns for the periods ended December 31, 2014

	1 year	5 years	10 years	Since Inception
<b>BARON FOCUSED GROWTH FUND</b>				
<b>Retail Shares</b> (Inception date: 05-31-96)				
Return before taxes	2.35%	12.98%	8.63%	11.50%
Return after taxes on distributions	2.20%	12.65%	N/A	N/A
Return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund shares	1.45%	10.30%	N/A	N/A
<b>Institutional Shares*</b> (Inception date: 05-29-09)				
Return before taxes	2.54%	13.25%	8.77%	11.58%
Russell 2500™ Growth Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	7.05%	17.27%	9.37%	7.59%
S&P 500 Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	13.69%	15.45%	7.67%	8.22%

\* Performance for the Institutional Shares prior to May 29, 2009 is based on the performance of the Retail Shares, which have a distribution fee. The Institutional Shares do not have a distribution fee. If the annual returns for the Institutional Shares prior to May 29, 2009 did not reflect this fee, the returns would be higher.

The Russell 2500™ Growth Index is an unmanaged index of small to mid-cap growth companies. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of larger-cap companies.

## Management

**Investment Adviser.** BAMCO is the investment adviser of the Fund.

**Portfolio Manager.** Ronald Baron has been the portfolio manager of the Fund since its inception on June 30, 2008. Prior to that, he was the portfolio manager of the predecessor partnership from its inception on May 31, 1996 to June 30, 2008. Mr. Baron founded the Adviser in 1987.

## Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares may be purchased only on days that the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading.

	Minimum Initial Investment	Subsequent Investments
<b>Retail Shares</b>	\$2,000	No Minimum
Baron Automatic Investment Plan	\$500	\$50 per month
Baron Funds® website purchases	\$2,000	\$10
<b>Institutional Shares</b>	\$1,000,000 <u>(Employees and Trustees of the Baron Funds® and employer sponsored retirement plans (qualified and non-qualified) are not subject to the eligibility requirements for Institutional Shares.)</u>	No Minimum
Baron Funds® website purchases	You may not make an initial purchase through the Baron Funds® website.	Up to \$25,000

### You Can Purchase or Redeem Shares By:

1. Mailing a request to Baron Funds®, P.O. Box 219946, Kansas City, MO 64121-9946 or by overnight mail to: Baron Funds®, 430 West 7th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105-1514;
2. Wire (Purchase Only);
3. Calling 1-800-442-3814;
4. Visiting the Baron Funds® website [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com); or
5. Through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary that may charge you a fee.

The Fund is not for short-term traders who intend to purchase and then sell their Fund shares within a 90 day period. If the Adviser reasonably believes that a person is not a long-term investor, it will attempt to prohibit that person from making additional investments in the Fund.

## Tax Information

Distributions of the Fund's net investment income (other than "qualified dividend income") and distributions of net short-term capital gains will be taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions of the Fund's net capital gains reported as capital gain dividends by the Fund will be taxable to you as long-term capital gains, regardless of the length of time you have held shares of the Fund. If you are investing through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account, you may be subject to federal income tax on withdrawals from tax-deferred arrangement at a later date.



### Financial Intermediary Compensation

If you purchase shares of the Fund through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank or financial adviser), the Fund, Baron Capital, Inc., the Fund's distributor, BAMCO or their affiliates may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker, dealer or other financial intermediary, including your salesperson, to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

## Investment Goal

The investment goal of Baron International Growth Fund (the "Fund") is capital appreciation.

## Fees and Expenses of the Fund

The table below describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you bought and held shares of the Fund.

### Annual Fund Operating Expenses

(Expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

	Management Fee	Distribution (12b-1) Fee	Other Expenses	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	Expense Waivers	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses after Expense Waivers <sup>2</sup>
BARON INTERNATIONAL GROWTH FUND <sup>1</sup>						
Retail Shares	1.00%	0.25%	0.38%	1.63%	(0.13)%	1.50%
Institutional Shares	1.00%	0.00%	0.34%	1.34%	(0.09)%	1.25%

<sup>1</sup> Based on the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> BAMCO, Inc. ("BAMCO" or the "Adviser") has agreed that for so long as it serves as the adviser to the Fund, it will reimburse certain expenses of the Fund, limiting net annual operating expenses (expenses such as portfolio transaction costs, interest, dividend and extraordinary expenses are not subject to the operating expense limitation) to 1.50% of average daily net assets of Retail Shares and 1.25% of average daily net assets of Institutional Shares.

## Example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same at 1.50% for the Retail Shares and 1.25% for the Institutional Shares. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

YEAR	1	3	5	10
BARON INTERNATIONAL GROWTH FUND				
Retail Shares	\$ 153	\$ 474	\$ 818	\$ 1,791
Institutional Shares	\$ 127	\$ 397	\$ 686	\$ 1,511

**Portfolio Turnover.** The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes for Fund shareholders. These costs, which are not reflected in Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses or in the example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 34.67% of the average value of its portfolio.

### Investments, Risks, and Performance

#### Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund is a diversified fund that invests for the long term primarily in equity securities in the form of common stock of non-U.S. growth companies. Non-U.S. securities include securities that the Adviser determines are “non-U.S.” based on the consideration of an issuer’s domicile, its principal place of business, its primary stock exchange listing, the source of its revenue or other factors. The Fund seeks to diversify its investments among several developed countries and developing countries throughout the world, although the Fund’s total exposure to developing countries will not exceed 30%. For the purpose of the 30% restriction, developing countries include countries in the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index, countries in the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index and other countries determined by the Adviser to be developing countries based on classifications made by the International Monetary Fund and/or the World Bank or on country characteristics similar to those of the countries in the EM and FM Indexes. The Fund may purchase securities of companies of any size. The Adviser seeks to invest in businesses it believes have significant opportunities for growth, sustainable competitive advantages, exceptional management, and an attractive valuation.

The Fund’s investments in non-U.S. securities generally are traded in currencies other than U.S. dollars, so the Adviser buys and sells foreign currencies to facilitate transactions in portfolio securities. The Adviser usually does not hedge against possible fluctuations in exchange rates, but exposure to a particular currency that the Adviser believes is overvalued may be hedged if the Fund has a substantial position in securities traded in that currency. The Fund may buy and sell currencies for cash at current exchange rates, or use an agreement to purchase or sell a specified currency at a specified future date or within a specified time period, at a price set at the time of the contract.

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### Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

**General Stock Market.** Investing in the stock market is risky because securities fluctuate in value. These fluctuations may be due to political, economic or general market circumstances. Other factors may affect a single company or industry but not the broader market. Because the values of securities fluctuate, when you sell your investment in the Fund, you may lose money. Current and future portfolio holdings in the Fund are subject to risk.

**Growth Investing.** Growth stocks can react differently to issuer, political, market and economic developments than the market as a whole and other types of stocks. Growth stocks tend to be more expensive relative to their earnings or assets compared to other types of stocks. As a result, growth stocks tend to be sensitive to changes in their earnings and more volatile than other types of stocks.

**Small- and Mid-Sized Companies.** The Adviser believes there is more potential for capital appreciation in small- and mid-sized companies, but there also may be more risk. Securities of small- and mid-sized companies may not be well known to most investors, and the securities may be less actively traded than those of large businesses. The securities of small- and mid-sized companies may fluctuate in price more widely than the stock market generally, and they may be more difficult to sell during market downturns. Small- and mid-sized companies rely more on the skills of management and on their continued tenure. Investing in small- and mid-sized companies requires a long-term outlook and may require shareholders to assume more risk and to have more patience than investing in the securities of larger, more established companies.

**Non-U.S. Securities.** Investing in non-U.S. securities may involve additional risks to those inherent in investing in U.S. securities, including exchange rate fluctuations, political or economic instability, the imposition of exchange controls, expropriation, limited disclosure and illiquid markets.

**Currency Risk.** This refers to a decline in the value of a foreign currency versus the U.S. dollar, which reduces the dollar value of securities denominated in that currency. The overall impact on the Fund's holdings can be significant, unpredictable and long-lasting, depending on the currencies represented in the portfolio and how each one appreciates or depreciates in relation to the U.S. dollar and whether currency positions are hedged. Under normal conditions, the Fund does not engage in extensive foreign currency hedging programs. Further, because exchange rate movements are volatile, the Fund's attempts at hedging could be unsuccessful, and it may not be possible to effectively hedge the currency risks of many developing countries.

**Developing Countries.** The Fund invests in developing countries, which include countries in the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index, countries in the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index and other countries determined by the Adviser to be developing

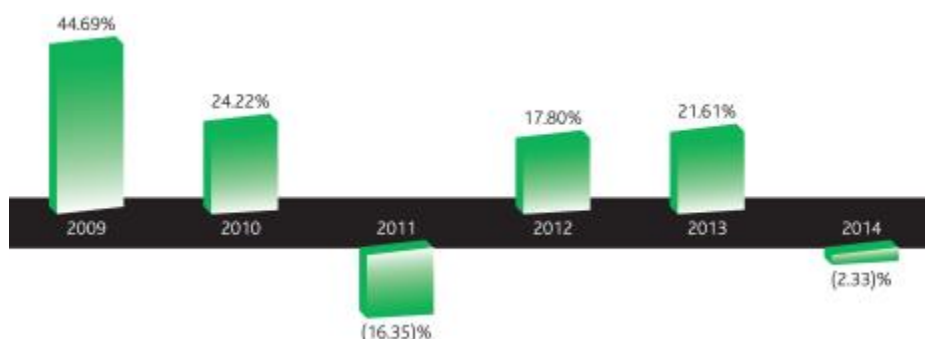
## Baron International Growth Fund

countries based on classifications made by the International Monetary Fund and/or the World Bank or on country characteristics similar to those of the countries in the EM and FM Indexes. Investments in developing countries are subject to all of the risks of non-U.S. investing generally, and have additional heightened risks due to a lack of established legal, political, business and social frameworks to support securities markets, including: delays in settling portfolio securities transactions; currency and capital controls; greater sensitivity to interest rate changes; pervasiveness of corruption and crime; currency exchange rate volatility; and inflation, deflation or currency devaluation. These risks are greater for countries in the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index.

### Performance

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund (Retail Shares) by showing changes in the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for 1, 5 and 10 years compare with those of a broad measure of market performance. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.BaronFunds.com/performance](http://www.BaronFunds.com/performance) or by calling 1-800-99BARON (1-800-992-2766).

**Year by Year Total Return (%)** as of December 31 of Each Year (Retail Shares)



Best Quarter: 9/30/09: 21.50%

Worst Quarter: 9/30/11: (19.86)%

**Average Annual Total Returns** (for periods ended 12/31/14)

The table below shows the Fund's Retail Shares' annual returns and long-term performance (before and after taxes) and the change in value of broad-based market indexes over various periods ended December 31, 2014. The table also shows the average annual returns of the Fund's Institutional Shares, but it does not show after-tax returns.

After-tax returns are calculated using the highest individual federal marginal income tax rate in effect at the time of each distribution and assumed sale, but they do not include the impact of state and local taxes.

Your actual after-tax returns depend on your own tax situation and may differ from those shown. After-tax returns reflect past tax effects and are not predictive of future tax effects. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold their Fund shares in a tax-deferred account (including a 401(k) or IRA or Coverdell account), or to investors that are tax-exempt.

**Average Annual Total Returns for the periods ended December 31, 2014**

	1 year	5 years	10 years	Since Inception
<b>BARON INTERNATIONAL GROWTH FUND</b>				
<b>Retail Shares</b>				
(Inception date: 12-31-08)				
Return before taxes	(2.33)%	7.77%	N/A	13.20 %
Return after taxes on distributions	(3.00)%	7.24%	N/A	12.59 %
Return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund shares	(0.75)%	6.15%	N/A	10.68 %
<b>Institutional Shares*</b>				
(Inception date: 05-29-09)				
Return before taxes	(2.07)%	8.06%	N/A	13.47 %
MSCI AC World ex USA IMI Growth Index (reflects no deduction for fees or expenses)	(2.77)%	5.39%	N/A	10.62 %
MSCI AC World ex USA Index (reflects no deduction for fees or expenses)	(3.87)%	4.43%	N/A	9.85 %

\* Performance for the Institutional Shares prior to May 29, 2009 is based on the performance of the Retail Shares, which have a distribution fee. The Institutional Shares do not have a distribution fee. If the annual returns for the Institutional Shares prior to May 29, 2009 did not reflect this fee, the returns would be higher.

The MSCI AC World ex USA IMI Growth Index Net USD is an unmanaged, free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the performance of large-, mid-, and small-cap growth securities across developed and emerging markets, excluding the United States. The MSCI AC World ex USA Index Net USD is an unmanaged, free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of large- and mid-cap securities across developed and emerging markets, excluding the United States.

## Baron International Growth Fund

### Management

**Investment Adviser.** BAMCO is the investment adviser of the Fund.

**Portfolio Manager.** Michael Kass has been the portfolio manager of the Fund since its inception on December 31, 2008. Mr. Kass has worked at the Adviser as an analyst since November of 2007.

### Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares may be purchased only on days that the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading.

	Minimum Initial Investment	Subsequent Investments
<b>Retail Shares</b>	\$2,000	No Minimum
Baron Automatic Investment Plan	\$500	\$50 per month
Baron Funds® website purchases	\$2,000	\$10
<b>Institutional Shares</b>	\$1,000,000 <b>(Employees and Trustees of the Baron Funds® and employer sponsored retirement plans (qualified and non-qualified) are not subject to the eligibility requirements for Institutional Shares.)</b>	No Minimum
Baron Funds® website purchases	You may not make an initial purchase through the Baron Funds® website.	Up to \$25,000

#### You Can Purchase or Redeem Shares By:

1. Mailing a request to Baron Funds®, P.O. Box 219946, Kansas City, MO 64121-9946 or by overnight mail to: Baron Funds®, 430 West 7th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105-1514;
2. Wire (Purchase Only);
3. Calling 1-800-442-3814;
4. Visiting the Baron Funds® website [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com); or
5. Through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary that may charge you a fee.

The Fund is not for short-term traders who intend to purchase and then sell their Fund shares within a 90 day period. If the Adviser reasonably believes that a person is not a long-term investor, it will attempt to prohibit that person from making additional investments in the Fund.

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### Tax Information

Distributions of the Fund's net investment income (other than "qualified dividend income") and distributions of net short-term capital gains will be taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions of the Fund's net capital gains reported as capital gain dividends by the Fund will be taxable to you as long-term capital gains, regardless of the length of time you have held shares of the Fund. If you are investing through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account, you may be subject to federal income tax on withdrawals from tax-deferred arrangement at a later date.

### Financial Intermediary Compensation

If you purchase shares of the Fund through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank or financial adviser), the Fund, Baron Capital, Inc., the Fund's distributor, BAMCO or their affiliates may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker, dealer or other financial intermediary, including your salesperson, to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.



## Baron Real Estate Fund

### Investment Goal

The investment goal of Baron Real Estate Fund (the "Fund") is capital appreciation.

### Fees and Expenses of the Fund

The table below describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you bought and held shares of the Fund.

#### Annual Fund Operating Expenses

(Expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

	Management Fee	Distribution (12b-1) Fee	Other Expenses	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses
BARON REAL ESTATE FUND <sup>1</sup>				
Retail Shares	1.00%	0.25%	0.07%	1.32%
Institutional Shares	1.00%	0.00%	0.06%	1.06%
R6 Shares	[ ]%	[ ]%	[ ]%	[ ]%

<sup>1</sup> Based on the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> BAMCO, Inc. ("BAMCO" or the "Adviser") has agreed that for so long as it serves as the adviser to the Fund, it will reimburse certain expenses of the Fund, limiting net annual operating expenses (expenses such as portfolio transaction costs, interest, dividend and extraordinary expenses are not subject to the operating expense limitation) to 1.35% of average daily net assets of Retail Shares and 1.10% of average daily net assets of Institutional Shares. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, no expense reimbursement was required for either share class.

### Example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same at 1.32% for the Retail Shares and 1.06% for the Institutional Shares. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

YEAR	1	3	5	10
BARON REAL ESTATE FUND				
Retail Shares	\$134	\$418	\$723	\$1,590
Institutional Shares	\$108	\$337	\$585	\$1,294
R6 Shares	XX	XX	XX	XX

**Portfolio Turnover.** The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes for Fund shareholders. These costs, which are not reflected in Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses or in the example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 24.40% of the average value of its portfolio.

## Investments, Risks, and Performance

### Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund is a non-diversified fund that, under normal circumstances, invests 80% of its net assets for the long term in equity securities in the form of common stock of U.S. and non-U.S. real estate and real estate-related companies of any size, and in companies which, in the opinion of the Adviser, own significant real estate assets at the time of investment (“real estate companies”). The Fund’s investments in non-U.S. companies will not exceed 25%. The Adviser seeks to invest in businesses it believes have significant opportunities for growth, sustainable competitive advantages, exceptional management, and an attractive valuation.

Real estate companies are companies that the Adviser determines are in the real estate industry based on their involvement in construction, ownership, management, operation, financing, refinancing, sales, leasing, development or rehabilitation of real estate or are in a real estate-related industry based on their provision of goods or services to the real estate industry.

A company is considered to own significant real estate assets if, in the opinion of the Adviser, the company has a substantial portion of its assets attributable to one or more of the following: (a) real estate owned or leased by the company as lessor or as lessee; or (b) the discounted value of the stream of fees or revenues derived from the management or operation of real estate.

Examples of companies that might qualify under one of these categories include:

- Real estate operating companies;
- Real estate investment trusts (“REITs”);
- Homebuilders;
- Hotel, hotel management companies and gaming companies;
- Real estate brokerage/services companies and/or management companies;
- Financial institutions that make or service mortgage loans;
- Manufacturers or distributors of construction materials and/or building supplies/products;
- Home furnishing and home improvement retail companies;

## Baron Real Estate Fund

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- Companies with significant real estate holdings such as supermarkets, restaurant chains and retail chains;
- Construction and engineering companies; and
- Companies with infrastructure-related assets such as toll roads, bridges, tunnels, parking facilities, railroads, airports, broadcast and wireless towers, electric transmission and distribution lines, power generation facilities, hospitals and correctional facilities.

The Fund will invest more than 25% of its net assets in the real estate industry.

The investment policy of the Fund relating to the types of securities in which 80% of the Fund's assets must be invested may be changed by the Fund's Board of Trustees without shareholder approval upon at least 60 days' notice.

### Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

**General Stock Market.** Investing in the stock market is risky because securities fluctuate in value. These fluctuations may be due to political, economic or general market circumstances. Other factors may affect a single company or industry but not the broader market. Because the values of securities fluctuate, when you sell your investment in the Fund, you may lose money. Current and future portfolio holdings in the Fund are subject to risk.

**Small- and Mid-Sized Companies.** The Adviser believes there is more potential for capital appreciation in small- and mid-sized companies, but there also may be more risk. Securities of small- and mid-sized companies may not be well known to most investors, and the securities may be less actively traded than those of large businesses. The securities of small- and mid-sized companies may fluctuate in price more widely than the stock market generally, and they may be more difficult to sell during market downturns. Small- and mid-sized companies rely more on the skills of management and on their continued tenure. Investing in small- and mid-sized companies requires a long-term outlook and may require shareholders to assume more risk and to have more patience than investing in the securities of larger, more established companies.

**Real Estate Industry Risk.** In addition to general market conditions, the value of the Fund will be affected by the strength of the real estate markets. Factors that could affect the value of the Fund's holdings include the following: overbuilding and increased competition; increases in property taxes and operating expenses; declines in the value of real estate; lack of availability of equity and debt financing to refinance maturing debt; vacancies due to economic conditions and tenant bankruptcies; losses due to costs resulting from environmental contamination and its related clean-up; changes in interest rates; changes in zoning laws; casualty or condemnation losses; variations in rental income; changes in neighborhood values; and functional obsolescence and appeal of properties to tenants.

**Industry Concentration.** Market conditions, interest rates, and economic, regulatory, or financial developments could significantly affect a single industry, and the securities of companies in that industry could react similarly to these or other developments. In addition, from time to time, a small number of companies may represent a large portion of a single industry, and these companies can be sensitive to adverse economic, regulatory or financial developments.

**Non-Diversified Portfolio.** The Fund is non-diversified, which means it may have a greater percentage of its assets in a single issuer than a diversified fund. Because of this, a non-diversified fund may invest a greater percentage of its assets in fewer issuers, and the performance of those issuers may have a greater effect on the performance of a non-diversified fund versus a diversified fund. A non-diversified fund is more likely to experience significant fluctuations in value, exposing the Fund to a greater risk of loss in any given period than a diversified fund.

**Credit and Interest Rate Risk.** The market value of debt securities is affected by changes in prevailing interest rates and the perceived credit quality of the issuer. When prevailing interest rates fall or perceived credit quality improves, the market value of the affected debt securities generally rises. Conversely, when interest rates rise or perceived credit quality weakens, the market value of the affected debt securities generally declines. The magnitude of these fluctuations will be greater when the maturity of the debt securities is longer.

**Prepayment.** Many types of debt securities are subject to prepayment risk. Prepayment risk occurs when the issuer of a security can repay principal prior to the security's maturity. Securities subject to prepayment can offer less potential for gains during a declining interest rate environment and similar or greater potential for loss in a rising interest rate environment. In addition, the potential impact of prepayment features on the price of a debt security can be difficult to predict and result in greater volatility.

**Growth Investing.** Growth stocks can react differently to issuer, political, market and economic developments than the market as a whole and other types of stocks. Growth stocks tend to be more expensive relative to their earnings or assets compared to other types of stocks. As a result, growth stocks tend to be sensitive to changes in their earnings and more volatile than other types of stocks.

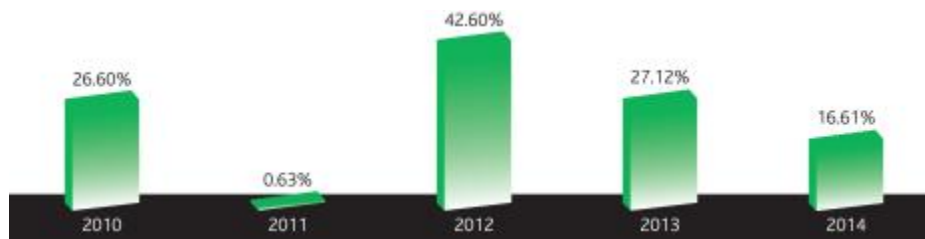
## Performance

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund (Retail Shares) by showing changes in the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for 1, 5 and 10 years compare with those of a broad measure of market performance. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund

## Baron Real Estate Fund

will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.BaronFunds.com/performance](http://www.BaronFunds.com/performance) or by calling 1-800-99BARON (1-800-992-2766).

### Year by Year Total Return (%) as of December 31 of Each Year (Retail Shares)



Best Quarter: 12/31/11: 17.08%

Worst Quarter: 9/30/11: (19.99)%

### Average Annual Total Returns (for periods ended 12/31/14)

The table below shows the Fund's Retail Shares' annual returns and long-term performance (before and after taxes) and the change in value of broad-based market indexes over various periods ended December 31, 2014. The table also shows the average annual returns of the Fund's Institutional Shares, but it does not show after-tax returns.

After-tax returns are calculated using the highest individual federal marginal income tax rate in effect at the time of each distribution and assumed sale, but they do not include the impact of state and local taxes.

Your actual after-tax returns depend on your own tax situation and may differ from those shown. After-tax returns reflect past tax effects and are not predictive of future tax effects. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold their Fund shares in a tax-deferred account (including a 401(k) or IRA or Coverdell account), or to investors that are tax-exempt.

## Average Annual Total Returns for the periods ended December 31, 2014

	1 year	5 years	10 years	Since Inception
<b>BARON REAL ESTATE FUND</b>				
<b>Retail Shares</b> (Inception date: 12-31-09)				
Return before taxes	16.61%	21.91%	N/A	21.91%
Return after taxes on distributions	16.59%	N/A	N/A	21.70%
Return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund shares	9.43%	N/A	N/A	17.95%
<b>Institutional Shares</b> (Inception date: 12-31-09)				
Return before taxes	16.93%	22.21%	N/A	22.21%
MSCI USA IMI Extended Real Estate Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	17.96%	16.50%	N/A	16.50%
S&P 500 Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	13.69%	15.45%	N/A	15.45%

The Funds' R6 Shares are newly issued and therefore have no performance as of the date of this prospectus. The performance of R6 Shares will differ from that shown above only to the extent that the classes do not have the same expenses.

The MSCI USA IMI Extended Real Estate Index Net is a custom index calculated by MSCI for, and as requested by, BAMCO. The index includes real estate and real estate-related GICS classification securities. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of larger-cap companies.

### Management

**Investment Adviser.** BAMCO is the investment adviser of the Fund.

**Portfolio Manager.** Jeffrey A. Kolitch has been the portfolio manager of the Fund since its inception on December 31, 2009. Mr. Kolitch has worked at the Adviser as an analyst since September of 2005.

## Baron Real Estate Fund

### Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares may be purchased only on days that the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading.

	Minimum Initial Investment	Subsequent Investments
<b>Retail Shares</b>	\$2,000	No Minimum
Baron Automatic Investment Plan	\$500	\$50 per month
Baron Funds® website purchases	\$2,000	\$10
<b>Institutional Shares</b>	\$1,000,000 (Employees and Trustees of the Baron Funds® and employer sponsored retirement plans (qualified and non-qualified) are not subject to the eligibility requirements for Institutional Shares.)	No Minimum
Baron Funds® website purchases	You may not make an initial purchase through the Baron Funds® website.	Up to \$25,000
<b>R6 Shares</b>	\$5,000,000 (There is no minimum initial investment for qualified retirement plans, however, the shares must be held through plan-level or omnibus accounts held on the books of the Funds.)	No Minimum
Baron Funds® website purchases	You may not make an initial purchase through the Baron Funds® website.	Up to \$25,000

#### You Can Purchase or Redeem Shares By:

1. Mailing a request to Baron Funds®, P.O. Box 219946, Kansas City, MO 64121-9946 or by overnight mail to: Baron Funds®, 430 West 7th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105-1514;
2. Wire (Purchase Only);
3. Calling 1-800-442-3814;
4. Visiting the Baron Funds® website [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com); or
5. Through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary that may charge you a fee.

The Fund is not for short-term traders who intend to purchase and then sell their Fund shares within a 90 day period. If the Adviser reasonably believes that a person is not a long-term investor, it will attempt to prohibit that person from making additional investments in the Fund.

### Tax Information

Distributions of the Fund's net investment income (other than "qualified dividend income") and distributions of net short-term capital gains will be taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions of the Fund's net capital gains reported as capital gain dividends by the Fund will be taxable to you as long-term capital gains, regardless of the length of time you have held shares of the Fund. If you are investing through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account, you may be subject to federal income tax on withdrawals from tax-deferred arrangement at a later date.

### Financial Intermediary Compensation

If you purchase shares of the Fund through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank or financial adviser), the Fund, Baron Capital, Inc., the Fund's distributor, BAMCO or their affiliates may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker, dealer or other financial intermediary, including your salesperson, to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.



## Baron Emerging Markets Fund

### Investment Goal

The investment goal of Baron Emerging Markets Fund (the "Fund") is capital appreciation.

### Fees and Expenses of the Fund

The table below describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you bought and held shares of the Fund.

#### Annual Fund Operating Expenses

(Expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

	Management Fee	Distribution (12b-1) Fee	Other Expenses	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	Expense Waivers	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses after Expense Waivers <sup>2</sup>
BARON EMERGING MARKETS FUND <sup>1</sup>						
Retail Shares	1.00%	0.25%	0.27%	1.52%	(0.02)%	1.50%
Institutional Shares	1.00%	0.00%	0.27%	1.27%	(0.02)%	1.25%
R6 Shares	1.00%	0.00%	0.27%	1.27%	(0.02)%	1.25%

<sup>1</sup> Based on the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> BAMCO, Inc. ("BAMCO" or the "Adviser") has agreed that for so long as it serves as the adviser to the Fund, it will reimburse certain expenses of the Fund, limiting net annual operating expenses (expenses such as portfolio transaction costs, interest, dividend and extraordinary expenses are not subject to the operating expense limitation) to 1.50% of average daily net assets of Retail Shares and 1.25% of average daily net assets of Institutional Shares.

### Example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same at 1.50% for the Retail Shares and 1.25% for the Institutional Shares. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

YEAR	1	3	5	10
BARON EMERGING MARKETS FUND				
Retail Shares	\$153	\$474	\$818	\$1,791
Institutional Shares	\$127	\$397	\$686	\$1,511
R6 Shares	XX	XX	XX	XX

**Portfolio Turnover.** The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes for Fund shareholders. These costs, which are not reflected in Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses or in the example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 23.38% of the average value of its portfolio.

## Investments, Risks, and Performance

### Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund is a diversified fund that, under normal circumstances, invests 80% of its net assets in equity securities in the form of common stock of growth companies domiciled, headquartered or whose primary business activities or principal trading markets are in developing countries. A developing country is a country included in the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index and other countries determined by the Adviser to be developing countries based on classifications made by the International Monetary Fund and/or the World Bank or on country characteristics similar to those of the countries in the EM Index. The Fund may invest up to 20% of its net assets in developed countries and in frontier countries as defined by the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index. The Fund’s investments will be in at least three different countries. The Fund may purchase securities of companies of any market capitalization. The Adviser seeks to invest in businesses it believes have significant opportunities for growth, sustainable competitive advantages, exceptional management, and an attractive valuation.

The Fund’s investments in developing countries generally are traded in currencies other than U.S. dollars, so the Adviser buys and sells foreign currencies to facilitate transactions in portfolio securities. The Adviser usually does not hedge against possible fluctuations in exchange rates, but exposure to a particular currency that the Adviser believes is overvalued may be hedged if the Fund has a substantial position in securities traded in that currency. The Fund may buy and sell currencies for cash at current exchange rates, or using an agreement to purchase or sell a specified currency at a specified future date or within a specified time period, at a price set at the time of the contract.

The investment policy of the Fund relating to the types of securities in which 80% of the Fund’s assets must be invested may be changed by the Fund’s Board of Trustees without shareholder approval upon at least 60 days’ notice.

### Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

**General Stock Market.** Investing in the stock market is risky because securities fluctuate in value. These fluctuations may be due to political, economic or general market circumstances. Other factors may affect a single company or industry but not

the broader market. Because the values of securities fluctuate, when you sell your investment in the Fund, you may lose money. Current and future portfolio holdings in the Fund are subject to risk.

**Growth Investing.** Growth stocks can react differently to issuer, political, market and economic developments than the market as a whole and other types of stocks. Growth stocks tend to be more expensive relative to their earnings or assets compared to other types of stocks. As a result, growth stocks tend to be sensitive to changes in their earnings and more volatile than other types of stocks.

**Small- and Mid-Sized Companies.** The Adviser believes there is more potential for capital appreciation in small- and mid-sized companies, but there also may be more risk. Securities of small- and mid-sized companies may not be well known to most investors, and the securities may be less actively traded than those of large businesses. The securities of small- and mid-sized companies may fluctuate in price more widely than the stock market generally, and they may be more difficult to sell during market downturns. Small- and mid-sized companies rely more on the skills of management and on their continued tenure. Investing in small- and mid-sized companies requires a long-term outlook and may require shareholders to assume more risk and to have more patience than investing in the securities of larger, more established companies.

**Non-U.S. Securities.** Investing in non-U.S. securities may involve additional risks to those inherent in investing in U.S. securities, including exchange rate fluctuations, political or economic instability, the imposition of exchange controls, expropriation, limited disclosure and illiquid markets.

**Developing Countries.** The Fund invests in developing countries, which include countries in the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index and other countries determined by the Adviser to be developing countries based on classifications made by the International Monetary Fund and/or the World Bank or on country characteristics similar to those of the countries in the EM Index. Investments in developing countries are subject to all of the risks of non-U.S. investing generally, and have additional heightened risks due to a lack of established legal, political, business and social frameworks to support securities markets, including: delays in settling portfolio securities transactions; currency and capital controls; greater sensitivity to interest rate changes; pervasiveness of corruption and crime; currency exchange rate volatility; and inflation, deflation or currency devaluation.

**Frontier Countries.** The Fund's investments in frontier countries, which include countries in the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index, are subject to all of the risks of non-U.S. investing generally and the risks of investing in developing countries, except that such risks are greater in frontier countries.

**Currency Risk.** This refers to a decline in the value of a foreign currency versus the U.S. dollar, which reduces the dollar value of securities denominated in that currency. The

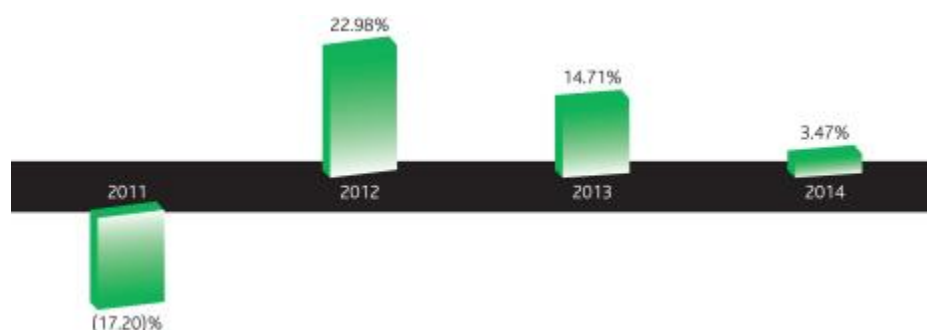
overall impact on the Fund's holdings can be significant, unpredictable and long-lasting, depending on the currencies represented in the portfolio and how each one appreciates or depreciates in relation to the U.S. dollar and whether currency positions are hedged. Under normal conditions, the Fund does not engage in extensive foreign currency hedging programs. Further, because exchange rate movements are volatile, the Fund's attempts at hedging could be unsuccessful, and it may not be possible to effectively hedge the currency risks of many developing countries.

**Risks of Emphasizing a Region, Sector or Industry.** If the Fund has invested a higher percentage of its total assets in a particular region, sector or industry, changes affecting that region, sector or industry may have a significant impact on the performance of the Fund's overall portfolio.

### Performance

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund (Retail Shares) by showing changes in the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for 1, 5 and 10 years compare with those of a broad measure of market performance. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.BaronFunds.com/performance](http://www.BaronFunds.com/performance) or by calling 1-800-99BARON (1-800-992-2766).

**Year by Year Total Return (%) as of December 31 of Each Year (Retail Shares)**



Best Quarter: 3/31/12: 15.34%  
 Worst Quarter: 9/30/11: (16.43)%

**Average Annual Total Returns** (for periods ended 12/31/14)

The table below shows the Fund's Retail Shares' annual returns and long-term performance (before and after taxes) and the change in value of broad-based market indexes over various periods ended December 31, 2014. The table also shows the average annual returns of the Fund's Institutional Shares, but it does not show after-tax returns.

## Baron Emerging Markets Fund

After-tax returns are calculated using the highest individual federal marginal income tax rate in effect at the time of each distribution and assumed sale, but they do not include the impact of state and local taxes.

Your actual after-tax returns depend on your own tax situation and may differ from those shown. After-tax returns reflect past tax effects and are not predictive of future tax effects. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold their Fund shares in a tax-deferred account (including a 401(k) or IRA or Coverdell account), or to investors that are tax-exempt.

### Average Annual Total Returns for the periods ended December 31, 2014

	1 year	5 years	10 years	Since Inception
<b>BARON EMERGING MARKETS FUND</b>				
<b>Retail Shares</b> (Inception date: 12-31-10)				
Return before taxes	3.47%	N/A	N/A	4.85%
Return after taxes on distributions	3.40%	N/A	N/A	4.74%
Return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund shares	2.01%	N/A	N/A	3.73%
<b>Institutional Shares</b> (Inception date: 12-31-10)				
Return before taxes	3.75%	N/A	N/A	5.11%
MSCI EM (Emerging Markets) IMI Growth Index (reflects no deduction for fees or expenses)	(0.15)%	N/A	N/A	(0.89)%
MSCI EM (Emerging Markets) IMI Index (reflects no deduction for fees or expenses)	(1.79)%	N/A	N/A	(2.12)%

**The Funds' R6 Shares are newly issued and therefore have no performance as of the date of this prospectus. The performance of R6 Shares will differ from that shown above only to the extent that the classes do not have the same expenses.**

The MSCI EM (Emerging Markets) IMI indexes cited are unmanaged, free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted indexes. The MSCI EM (Emerging Markets) IMI Growth Index Net USD and the MSCI EM (Emerging Markets) IMI Index Net USD are designed to measure the equity market performance of large-, mid-, and small-cap securities in the emerging markets. The MSCI EM (Emerging Markets) IMI Growth Index Net USD screens for growth-style securities.

## Management

**Investment Adviser.** BAMCO is the investment adviser of the Fund.

**Portfolio Manager.** Michael Kass has been the portfolio manager of the Fund since its inception on December 31, 2010. Mr. Kass has worked at the Adviser as an analyst since November of 2007.

## Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares may be purchased only on days that the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading.

	Minimum Initial Investment	Subsequent Investments
<b>Retail Shares</b>	\$2,000	No Minimum
Baron Automatic Investment Plan	\$500	\$50 per month
Baron Funds® website purchases	\$2,000	\$10
<b>Institutional Shares</b>	\$1,000,000 (Employees and Trustees of the Baron Funds® and employer sponsored retirement plans (qualified and non-qualified) are not subject to the eligibility requirements for Institutional Shares.)	No Minimum
Baron Funds® website purchases	You may not make an initial purchase through the Baron Funds® website.	Up to \$25,000
<b>R6 Shares</b>	\$5,000,000 (There is no minimum initial investment for qualified retirement plans, however, the shares must be held through plan-level or omnibus accounts held on the books of the Funds.)	No Minimum
Baron Funds® website purchases	You may not make an initial purchase through the Baron Funds® website.	Up to \$25,000

**You Can Purchase or Redeem Shares By:**

1. Mailing a request to Baron Funds®, P.O. Box 219946, Kansas City, MO 64121-9946 or by overnight mail to: Baron Funds®, 430 West 7th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105-1514;
2. Wire (Purchase Only);
3. Calling 1-800-442-3814;
4. Visiting the Baron Funds® website [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com); or
5. Through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary that may charge you a fee.

The Fund is not for short-term traders who intend to purchase and then sell their Fund shares within a 90 day period. If the Adviser reasonably believes that a person is not a long-term investor, it will attempt to prohibit that person from making additional investments in the Fund.

**Tax Information**

Distributions of the Fund's net investment income (other than "qualified dividend income") and distributions of net short-term capital gains will be taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions of the Fund's net capital gains reported as capital gain dividends by the Fund will be taxable to you as long-term capital gains, regardless of the length of time you have held shares of the Fund. If you are investing through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account, you may be subject to federal income tax on withdrawals from tax-deferred arrangement at a later date.

**Financial Intermediary Compensation**

If you purchase shares of the Fund through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank or financial adviser), the Fund, Baron Capital, Inc., the Fund's distributor, BAMCO or their affiliates may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker, dealer or other financial intermediary, including your salesperson, to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

## Baron Energy and Resources Fund

### Investment Goal

The investment goal of Baron Energy and Resources Fund (the "Fund") is capital appreciation.

### Fees and Expenses of the Fund

The table below describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you bought and held shares of the Fund.

#### Annual Fund Operating Expenses

(Expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

	Management Fee	Distribution (12b-1) Fee	Other Expenses	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	Expense Waivers	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses after Expense Waivers <sup>2</sup>
BARON ENERGY AND RESOURCES FUND <sup>1</sup>						
Retail Shares	1.00%	0.25%	0.54%	1.79%	(0.44)%	1.35%
Institutional Shares	1.00%	0.00%	0.52%	1.52%	(0.42)%	1.10%

<sup>1</sup> Based on the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> BAMCO, Inc. ("BAMCO" or the "Adviser") has agreed that for so long as it serves as the adviser to the Fund, it will reimburse certain expenses of the Fund, limiting net annual operating expenses (expenses such as portfolio transaction costs, interest, dividend and extraordinary expenses are not subject to the operating expense limitation) to 1.35% of average daily net assets of Retail Shares and 1.10% of average daily net assets of Institutional Shares.

### Example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same at 1.35% for the Retail Shares and 1.10% for the Institutional Shares. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

YEAR	1	3	5	10
BARON ENERGY AND RESOURCES FUND				
Retail Shares	\$ 137	\$ 428	\$ 739	\$ 1,624
Institutional Shares	\$ 112	\$ 350	\$ 606	\$ 1,340

**Portfolio Turnover.** The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes for Fund shareholders. These costs, which are not reflected in Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses or in the example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 23.12% of the average value of its portfolio.

## Investments, Risks, and Performance

### Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund is a non-diversified fund that, under normal circumstances, invests 80% of its net assets in equity securities in the form of common stock of U.S. and non-U.S. energy and resources companies and related companies and energy and resources master limited partnerships (“MLPs”) of any market capitalization. Non-U.S. securities include securities that the Adviser determines are “non-U.S.” based on the consideration of an issuer’s domicile, its principal place of business, its primary stock exchange listing, the source of its revenue or other factors. ~~The Fund’s investments in non-U.S. companies will not exceed 25%.~~ The Adviser seeks to invest in businesses it believes have significant opportunities for growth, sustainable competitive advantages, exceptional management, and an attractive valuation.

Energy companies and MLPs are companies that the Adviser determines are principally in the energy industry, including the conventional areas of oil, gas, electricity and coal, and newer sources of energy such as nuclear, geothermal, oil shale and alternative energy. Energy companies and MLPs may include integrated oil companies, drilling contractors and rig owners; drilling rig and equipment manufacturers and providers of supplies and services to companies engaged in oil and gas drilling; companies engaged in the exploration, production, refining, or marketing of oil, gas and/or refined products; and companies involved in the production and mining of coal, related products, and other consumable fuels. Energy-related companies and MLPs are those with products and services related to the exploration, extraction, production, sale or distribution of energy resources.

Resources companies and MLPs are companies that the Adviser determines are principally engaged in owning or developing resources, or supplying goods and services to such companies, and in precious metals. These companies and MLPs may include companies involved either directly or through subsidiaries in exploring, mining, refining, processing, transporting, fabricating, dealing in, or owning resources. Resources include precious metals (e.g., gold, platinum and silver), ferrous and nonferrous metals (e.g., iron, aluminum and copper), strategic metals (e.g., uranium



## Baron Energy and Resources Fund

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and titanium), hydrocarbons (e.g., coal, oil and natural gas), chemicals, paper and forest products and other basic commodities. Resources-related companies and MLPs are those supplying goods and services to resource companies.

The Fund will invest more than 25% of its net assets in the energy and resources industries.

The investment policy of the Fund relating to the types of securities in which 80% of the Fund's assets must be invested may be changed by the Fund's Board of Trustees without shareholder approval upon at least 60 days notice.

### Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

**General Stock Market.** Investing in the stock market is risky because securities fluctuate in value. These fluctuations may be due to political, economic or general market circumstances. Other factors may affect a single company or industry but not the broader market. Because the values of securities fluctuate, when you sell your investment in the Fund, you may lose money. Current and future portfolio holdings in the Fund are subject to risk.

**Growth Investing.** Growth stocks can react differently to issuer, political, market and economic developments than the market as a whole and other types of stocks. Growth stocks tend to be more expensive relative to their earnings or assets compared to other types of stocks. As a result, growth stocks tend to be sensitive to changes in their earnings and more volatile than other types of stocks.

**Small- and Mid-Sized Companies.** The Adviser believes there is more potential for capital appreciation in small- and mid-sized companies, but there also may be more risk. Securities of small- and mid-sized companies may not be well known to most investors, and the securities may be less actively traded than those of large businesses. The securities of small- and mid-sized companies may fluctuate in price more widely than the stock market generally, and they may be more difficult to sell during market downturns. Small- and mid-sized companies rely more on the skills of management and on their continued tenure. Investing in small- and mid-sized companies requires a long-term outlook and may require shareholders to assume more risk and to have more patience than investing in the securities of larger, more established companies.

**Non-Diversified Portfolio.** The Fund is non-diversified, which means it may have a greater percentage of its assets in a single issuer than a diversified fund. Because of this, a non-diversified fund may invest a greater percentage of its assets in fewer issuers, and the performance of those issuers may have a greater effect on the performance of a non-diversified fund versus a diversified fund. A non-diversified fund is more likely to experience significant fluctuations in value, exposing the Fund to a greater risk of loss in any given period than a diversified fund.

**Industry Concentration.** Market conditions, interest rates, and economic, regulatory, or financial developments could significantly affect a single industry, and

the securities of companies in that industry could react similarly to these or other developments. In addition, from time to time, a small number of companies may represent a large portion of a single industry, and these companies can be sensitive to adverse economic, regulatory or financial developments.

**Energy Industry Risk.** Energy industries can be significantly affected by fluctuations in energy prices and supply and demand of energy fuels caused by events relating to international politics, energy conservation, the success of exploration projects, weather or meteorological events, and tax and other government regulations.

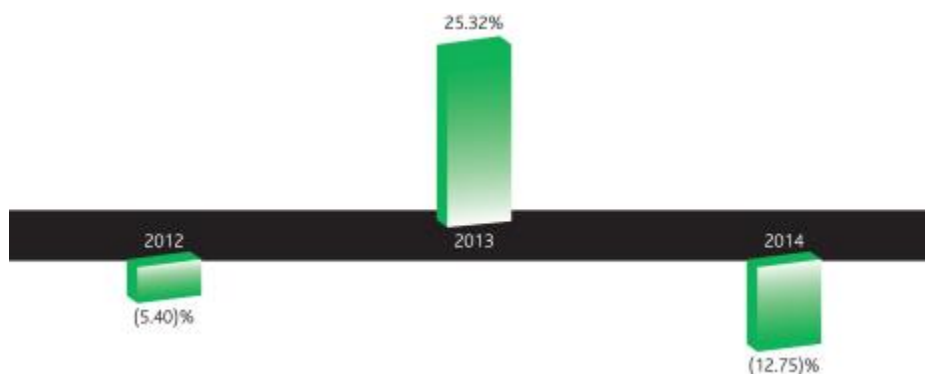
**Resources Industry Risk.** Resources industries can be significantly affected by events relating to international political and economic developments, energy conservation, the success of exploration projects, commodity prices, weather or meteorological events, and tax and other government regulations.

**Non-U.S. Securities.** Investing in non-U.S. securities may involve additional risks to those inherent in investing in U.S. securities, including exchange rate fluctuations, political or economic instability, the imposition of exchange controls, expropriation, limited disclosure and illiquid markets.

## Performance

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund (Retail Shares) by showing changes in the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for 1, 5 and 10 years compare with those of a broad measure of market performance. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.BaronFunds.com/performance](http://www.BaronFunds.com/performance) or by calling 1-800-99BARON (1-800-992-2766).

**Year by Year Total Return (%) as of December 31 of Each Year (Retail Shares)**



Best Quarter: 6/30/14: 13.65%  
Worst Quarter: 12/31/14: (20.84)%

## Baron Energy and Resources Fund

### Average Annual Total Returns (for periods ended 12/31/14)

The table below shows the Fund's Retail Shares' annual returns and long-term performance (before and after taxes) and the change in value of broad-based market indexes over various periods ended December 31, 2014. The table also shows the average annual returns of the Fund's Institutional Shares, but it does not show after-tax returns.

After-tax returns are calculated using the highest individual federal marginal income tax rate in effect at the time of each distribution and assumed sale, but they do not include the impact of state and local taxes.

Your actual after-tax returns depend on your own tax situation and may differ from those shown. After-tax returns reflect past tax effects and are not predictive of future tax effects. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold their Fund shares in a tax-deferred account (including a 401(k) or IRA or Coverdell account), or to investors that are tax-exempt.

#### Average Annual Total Returns for the periods ended December 31, 2014

	1 year	5 years	10 years	Since Inception
<b>BARON ENERGY AND RESOURCES FUND</b>				
<b>Retail Shares</b>				
(Inception date: 12-31-11)				
Return before taxes	(12.75)%	N/A	N/A	1.13%
Return after taxes on distributions	(12.75)%	N/A	N/A	1.12%
Return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund shares	(7.22)%	N/A	N/A	0.86%
<b>Institutional Shares</b>				
(Inception date: 12-31-11)				
Return before taxes	(12.59)%	N/A	N/A	1.35%
S&P North American Natural Resources Sector Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	(9.77)%	N/A	N/A	2.42%
S&P 500 Index (reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes)	13.69%	N/A	N/A	20.41%

The S&P North American Natural Resources Sector Index is an unmanaged index which measures the performance of U.S.-traded natural resources related stocks. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged index of larger-cap companies.

## Management

**Investment Adviser.** BAMCO is the investment adviser of the Fund.

**Portfolio Manager.** James Stone has been the portfolio manager of the Fund since its inception on December 30, 2011. Mr. Stone has worked at the Adviser as an analyst since May of 2009.

## Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares may be purchased only on days that the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading.

	Minimum Initial Investment	Subsequent Investments
<b>Retail Shares</b>	\$2,000	No Minimum
Baron Automatic Investment Plan	\$500	\$50 per month
Baron Funds® website purchases	\$2,000	\$10
<b>Institutional Shares</b>	\$1,000,000 (Employees and Trustees of the Baron Funds® and employer sponsored retirement plans (qualified and non-qualified) are not subject to the eligibility requirements for Institutional Shares.)	No Minimum
Baron Funds® website purchases	You may not make an initial purchase through the Baron Funds® website.	Up to \$25,000

### You Can Purchase or Redeem Shares By:

1. Mailing a request to Baron Funds®, P.O. Box 219946, Kansas City, MO 64121-9946 or by overnight mail to: Baron Funds®, 430 West 7th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105-1514;
2. Wire (Purchase Only);
3. Calling 1-800-442-3814;
4. Visiting the Baron Funds® website [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com); or
5. Through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary that may charge you a fee.

The Fund is not for short-term traders who intend to purchase and then sell their Fund shares within a 90 day period. If the Adviser reasonably believes that a person is not a long-term investor, it will attempt to prohibit that person from making additional investments in the Fund.

## Baron Energy and Resources Fund

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### Tax Information

Distributions of the Fund's net investment income (other than "qualified dividend income") and distributions of net short-term capital gains will be taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions of the Fund's net capital gains reported as capital gain dividends by the Fund will be taxable to you as long-term capital gains, regardless of the length of time you have held shares of the Fund. **If you are investing through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account, you may be subject to federal income tax on withdrawals from tax-deferred arrangement at a later date.**

### Financial Intermediary Compensation

If you purchase shares of the Fund through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank or financial adviser), the Fund, Baron Capital, Inc., the Fund's distributor, BAMCO or their affiliates may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker, dealer or other financial intermediary, including your salesperson, to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

## Investment Goal

The investment goal of Baron Global Advantage Fund (the "Fund") is capital appreciation.

## Fees and Expenses of the Fund

The table below describes the fees and expenses that you would pay if you bought and held shares of the Fund.

### Annual Fund Operating Expenses

(Expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

	Management Fee	Distribution (12b-1) Fee	Other Expenses	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	Expense Waivers	Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses after Expense Waivers <sup>2</sup>
BARON GLOBAL ADVANTAGE FUND <sup>1</sup>						
Retail Shares	1.00%	0.25%	2.36%	3.61%	(2.11)%	1.50%
Institutional Shares	1.00%	0.00%	1.92%	2.92%	(1.67)%	1.25%

<sup>1</sup> Based on the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> BAMCO, Inc. ("BAMCO" or the "Adviser") has agreed that for so long as it serves as the adviser to the Fund, it will reimburse certain expenses of the Fund, limiting net annual operating expenses (expenses such as portfolio transaction costs, interest, dividend and extraordinary expenses are not subject to the operating expense limitation) to 1.50% of average daily net assets of Retail Shares and 1.25% of average daily net assets of Institutional Shares.

## Example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the Fund's operating expenses remain the same at 1.50% for Retail Shares and 1.25% for Institutional Shares. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

YEAR	1	3	5	10
BARON GLOBAL ADVANTAGE FUND				
Retail Shares	\$153	\$474	\$818	\$1,791
Institutional Shares	\$127	\$397	\$686	\$1,511

**Portfolio Turnover.** The Fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or “turns over” its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes for Fund shareholders. These costs, which are not reflected in Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses or in the example, affect the Fund’s performance. During the most recent fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Fund’s portfolio turnover rate was 123.51% of the average value of its portfolio.

### Investments, Risks, and Performance

#### Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund

The Fund is a diversified fund that, under normal circumstances, invests primarily in established and emerging markets companies located throughout the world, with capitalizations within the range of companies included in the MSCI ACWI Growth Index Net. At all times, the Fund will have investments in the securities of companies in at least three countries. The Adviser seeks to invest in businesses it believes have significant opportunities for growth, sustainable competitive advantages, exceptional management, and an attractive valuation.

#### Principal Risks of Investing in the Fund

**General Stock Market.** Investing in the stock market is risky because securities fluctuate in value. These fluctuations may be due to political, economic or general market circumstances. Other factors may affect a single company or industry but not the broader market. Because the values of securities fluctuate, when you sell your investment in the Fund, you may lose money. Current and future portfolio holdings in the Fund are subject to risk.

**Growth Investing.** Growth stocks can react differently to issuer, political, market and economic developments than the market as a whole and other types of stocks. Growth stocks tend to be more expensive relative to their earnings or assets compared to other types of stocks. As a result, growth stocks tend to be sensitive to changes in their earnings and more volatile than other types of stocks.

**Small- and Mid-Sized Companies.** The Adviser believes there is more potential for capital appreciation in small- and mid-sized companies, but there also may be more risk. Securities of small- and mid-sized companies may not be well known to most investors, and the securities may be less actively traded than those of large businesses. The securities of small- and mid-sized companies may fluctuate in price more widely than the stock market generally, and they may be more difficult to sell during market downturns. Small- and mid-sized companies rely more on the skills of

management and on their continued tenure. Investing in small- and mid-sized companies requires a long-term outlook and may require shareholders to assume more risk and to have more patience than investing in the securities of larger, more established companies.

**Non-U.S. Securities.** Investing in non-U.S. securities may involve additional risks to those inherent in investing in U.S. securities, including exchange rate fluctuations, political or economic instability, the imposition of exchange controls, expropriation, limited disclosure and illiquid markets.

**Developing Countries.** The Fund invests in developing countries, which include countries in the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index, countries in the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index and other countries determined by the Adviser to be developing countries based on classifications made by the International Monetary Fund and/or the World Bank or on country characteristics similar to those of the countries in the EM and FM Indexes. Investments in developing countries are subject to all of the risks of non-U.S. investing generally, and have additional heightened risks due to a lack of established legal, political, business and social frameworks to support securities markets, including: delays in settling portfolio securities transactions; currency and capital controls; greater sensitivity to interest rate changes; pervasiveness of corruption and crime; currency exchange rate volatility; and inflation, deflation or currency devaluation. These risks are greater for countries in the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index.

**Currency Risk.** This refers to a decline in the value of a foreign currency versus the U.S. dollar, which reduces the dollar value of securities denominated in that currency. The overall impact on the Fund's holdings can be significant, unpredictable and long-lasting, depending on the currencies represented in the portfolio and how each one appreciates or depreciates in relation to the U.S. dollar and whether currency positions are hedged. Under normal conditions, the Fund does not engage in extensive foreign currency hedging programs. Further, because exchange rate movements are volatile, the Fund's attempts at hedging could be unsuccessful, and it may not be possible to effectively hedge the currency risks of many developing countries.

## Performance

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Fund (Retail Shares) by showing changes in the Fund's performance from year to year and by showing how the Fund's average annual returns for 1, 5 and 10 years compare with those of a broad measure of market performance. The Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) is not necessarily an indication of how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available online at [www.BaronFunds.com/performance](http://www.BaronFunds.com/performance) or by calling 1-800-99BARON (1-800-992-2766).



Year by Year Total Return (%) as of December 31 of Each Year (Retail Shares)



Best Quarter: 12/31/13: 12.77%  
Worst Quarter: 9/30/14: (2.02)%

Average Annual Total Returns (for periods ended 12/31/14)

The table below shows the Fund's Retail Shares' annual returns and long-term performance (before and after taxes) and the change in value of broad-based market indexes over various periods ended December 31, 2014. The table also shows the average annual returns of the Fund's Institutional Shares, but it does not show after-tax returns.

After-tax returns are calculated using the highest individual federal marginal income tax rate in effect at the time of each distribution and assumed sale, but they do not include the impact of state and local taxes.

Your actual after-tax returns depend on your own tax situation and may differ from those shown. After-tax returns reflect past tax effects and are not predictive of future tax effects. After-tax returns are not relevant to investors who hold their Fund shares in a tax-deferred account (including a 401(k) or IRA or Coverdell account), or to investors that are tax-exempt.

## Average Annual Total Returns for the periods ended December 31, 2014

	1 year	5 years	10 years	Since Inception
<b>BARON GLOBAL ADVANTAGE FUND</b>				
<b>Retail Shares</b> (Inception date: 04-30-12)				
Return before taxes	5.11%	N/A	N/A	14.06%
Return after taxes on distributions	5.11%	N/A	N/A	14.06%
Return after taxes on distributions and sale of Fund shares	2.89%	N/A	N/A	10.98%
<b>Institutional Shares</b> (Inception date: 04-30-12)				
Return before taxes	5.32%	N/A	N/A	14.30%
MSCI ACWI Growth Index (reflects no deduction for fees or expenses)	5.43%	N/A	N/A	11.73%
MSCI ACWI Index (reflects no deduction for fees or expenses)	4.16%	N/A	N/A	11.70%

The MSCI ACWI Indexes cited are unmanaged, free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted indexes. The MSCI ACWI Growth Index Net USD measures the equity market performance of large- and mid-cap growth securities across developed and emerging markets. The MSCI ACWI Index Net USD measures the equity market performance of large- and mid-cap securities across developed and emerging markets.

### Management

**Investment Adviser.** BAMCO is the investment adviser of the Fund.

**Portfolio Manager.** Alex Umansky has been the portfolio manager of the Fund since its inception on April 30, 2012. Mr. Umansky has worked at the Adviser as a portfolio manager since November of 2011.

### Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

Shares may be purchased only on days that the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading.

## Baron Global Advantage Fund

	Minimum Initial Investment	Subsequent Investments
<b>Retail Shares</b>	\$2,000	No Minimum
Baron Automatic Investment Plan	\$500	\$50 per month
Baron Funds® website purchases	\$2,000	\$10
<b>Institutional Shares</b>	\$1,000,000 (Employees and Trustees of the Baron Funds® and employer sponsored retirement plans (qualified and non-qualified) are not subject to the eligibility requirements for Institutional Shares.)	No Minimum
Baron Funds® website purchases	You may not make an initial purchase through the Baron Funds® website.	Up to \$25,000

### You Can Purchase or Redeem Shares By:

1. Mailing a request to Baron Funds®, P.O. Box 219946, Kansas City, MO 64121-9946 or by overnight mail to: Baron Funds®, 430 West 7th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105-1514;
2. Wire (Purchase Only);
3. Calling 1-800-442-3814;
4. Visiting the Baron Funds® website [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com); or
5. Through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary that may charge you a fee.

The Fund is not for short-term traders who intend to purchase and then sell their Fund shares within a 90 day period. If the Adviser reasonably believes that a person is not a long-term investor, it will attempt to prohibit that person from making additional investments in the Fund.

### Tax Information

Distributions of the Fund's net investment income (other than "qualified dividend income") and distributions of net short-term capital gains will be taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions of the Fund's net capital gains reported as capital gain dividends by the Fund will be taxable to you as long-term capital gains, regardless of the length of time you have held shares of the Fund. **If you are investing through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account, you may be subject to federal income tax on withdrawals from tax-deferred arrangement at a later date.**

### Financial Intermediary Compensation

If you purchase shares of the Fund through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary (such as a bank or financial adviser), the Fund, Baron Capital Inc., the Fund's distributor, BAMCO or their affiliates may pay the intermediary for the sale of Fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing the broker, dealer or other financial intermediary, including your salesperson, to recommend the Fund over another investment. Ask your salesperson or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.

This prospectus is for Baron Select Funds, which currently has seven series, Baron Partners Fund, Baron Focused Growth Fund, Baron International Growth Fund, Baron Real Estate Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund, Baron Energy and Resources Fund and Baron Global Advantage Fund. If you are interested in Baron Asset Fund, Baron Growth Fund, Baron Small Cap Fund, Baron Opportunity Fund, Baron Fifth Avenue Growth Fund or Baron Discovery Fund, which are series of Baron Investment Funds Trust, please visit [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com) or contact us at 1-800-99BARON.

### Investment Goals

Baron Partners Fund	Capital appreciation.
Baron Focused Growth Fund	Capital appreciation.
Baron International Growth Fund	Capital appreciation.
Baron Real Estate Fund	Capital appreciation.
Baron Emerging Markets Fund	Capital appreciation.
Baron Energy and Resources Fund	Capital appreciation.
Baron Global Advantage Fund	Capital appreciation.

### Additional Investment Strategies

The following is a description of additional investment strategies of **Baron Partners Fund, Baron Focused Growth Fund, Baron International Growth Fund, Baron Real Estate Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund, Baron Energy and Resources Fund and Baron Global Advantage Fund** (each, a “Fund” and collectively, the “Funds”).

The investment policy of the Funds relating to the types of securities in which the Funds’ assets must be primarily invested may be changed by the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) of the Funds without shareholder approval upon at least 60 days’ notice.

**Baron Partners Fund, Baron Focused Growth Fund, Baron Real Estate Fund and Baron Energy and Resources Fund** may invest without limitation in the securities of non-U.S. issuers in U.S. denominated form known as American Depositary Receipts. **Baron Partners Fund, Baron Focused Growth Fund and, Baron Real Estate Fund and Baron Energy and Resources Fund** may also invest up to 25% of their respective total assets directly in the securities of non-U.S. issuers that are not publicly traded in the U.S. and in Global Depositary Receipts and European Depositary Receipts. **Baron Energy and Resources Fund may invest in such companies without limitation.** These securities may have exposure to developed countries and developing countries, which include countries in the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index, countries in the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index and other countries determined by the Adviser to be

developing countries based on classifications made by the International Monetary Fund and/or World Bank or on country characteristics similar to those of the countries in the EM and FM Indexes.

**Baron International Growth Fund** may invest up to 25% of its total assets directly in the securities of U.S. issuers. In addition, the Fund may invest without limitation in the securities of non-U.S. issuers in U.S. denominated form known as American Depositary Receipts.

**Baron Emerging Markets Fund** may invest up to 20% of its net assets in developed countries, frontier countries as defined by the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index and in the securities of non-U.S. issuers in developed and frontier countries in U.S. denominated form known as American Depositary Receipts.

**Baron Global Advantage Fund** may invest without limitation directly in the securities of U.S. and non-U.S. companies in any form, including, in the case of U.S. companies, European Depositary Receipts and Global Depositary Receipts, and in the case of non-U.S. companies, American Depositary Receipts. At all times, **Baron Global Advantage Fund** will have investments in the securities of companies in at least three countries.

The Funds may also sell securities short. Short selling occurs when the Funds sell a security that the Funds do not own. In order to do so, the Funds must borrow a security to deliver it to the purchaser and later buy that security in the market and return it to the lender. The Funds may establish short positions in securities that the Adviser believes have limited growth prospects or are over-priced, or in securities of companies the Adviser believes are poorly managed or have highly leveraged balance sheets. The Funds may also establish a short position in a security to hedge exposure to a particular company or to hedge exposure to a certain industry or sector of the market. The Funds may also short market indices to hedge against broad movements in the market. Generally, when the Funds take a short position, the Adviser believes that the security's price will fall. If it falls sufficiently, the Funds will make money. If it instead increases in price, the Funds will lose money. The Funds will not use more than 35% of their respective total assets in maintaining short positions. The Adviser, in its sole discretion, may decide not to sell any securities short. The Adviser believes that the flexibility to execute a long and short strategy may reduce the short-term volatility inherent in the equity markets. However, the Adviser also believes short sales can be significantly more risky than long investments and, as a result, expects to employ this tactic relatively infrequently.

The Funds may invest up to 15% of their respective net assets in illiquid securities at the time of purchase. An illiquid security is one that cannot be disposed of in the ordinary course of business within seven days. Such investments may include private equity securities, private investments in public equity ("PIPE") securities and other restricted securities.

The Funds may invest in debt securities of all types and repurchase agreements for those securities. Debt securities include corporate bonds, government securities, repurchase agreements, loans and loan participations, mortgage-backed securities and other securities that the Funds believe have debt-like characteristics, including hybrids and synthetic securities. Debt securities are used by issuers to borrow money. The issuer usually pays a fixed, variable, or floating rate of interest, and must repay the amount borrowed, usually at the maturity of the security. Some debt securities, such as zero coupon bonds, do not pay current interest but are sold at a discount from their face values.

The Funds may, from time to time, take temporary defensive positions that are inconsistent with the Funds' principal investment strategies in attempting to respond to adverse market, economic, political, or other conditions. In such circumstances, the Adviser may invest all or a portion of the Funds' assets in cash or cash equivalents, such as money market instruments, which include U.S. Government securities, certificates of deposit, short-term investment grade corporate bonds and other short term debt instruments, and repurchase agreements. Taking such a temporary defensive position may cause the Funds not to achieve their investment goals.

**Baron Focused Growth Fund, Baron International Growth Fund, Baron Real Estate Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund, Baron Energy and Resources Fund and Baron Global Advantage Fund** may borrow from a bank up to 33% of the value of their respective total assets, including the amount borrowed, as of the time the borrowing is made, subject to exceptions for borrowings of up to 5% for temporary or emergency purposes. As noted earlier in the prospectus, **Baron Partners Fund** may borrow money from banks to take advantage of opportunities to invest (leverage) in an amount up to one-third of its total assets, which include assets purchased with borrowed money.

Companies in which the Funds invest may be subject to corporate actions, including mergers and acquisitions. The Adviser may, in its discretion, choose to receive shares of the combined entity where it concludes that it is in the best interest of the Funds' shareholders to do so. Such a decision may result in the Funds owning shares of an issuer outside of the Funds' market cap range.

The Funds may enter into swap transactions. The Funds have claimed exclusions from the definition of the term "commodity pool operator" under the Commodity Exchange Act and, therefore, are not subject to registration or regulation as a pool operator under the Act.

The Funds have additional investment strategies and restrictions that govern their activities. For a list of these restrictions and more information about the investment strategies, please see the "Investment Strategies and Risks" section beginning on page 3 of the Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"). Those strategies and

restrictions that are identified as “fundamental” may only be changed with shareholder approval, while the others may be changed by the Board without shareholder approval upon at least 60 days’ notice.

### Investment Criteria and Process

In making investment decisions for Baron Funds®, the Adviser seeks to invest in businesses that it believes have:

1. significant opportunities for growth;
2. sustainable competitive advantages;
3. exceptional management; and
4. an attractive valuation.

The Adviser’s research process includes examining companies from many perspectives through numerous interviews with company managements and site visits. The Adviser also interviews a company’s employees, as well as its customers, suppliers, and competitors to determine whether the information gained from these parties is consistent with senior management’s objectives and the Adviser’s independent findings. Through these and other inquiries, the Adviser becomes an expert in the industries in which it invests and acquires a thorough understanding of the prospects of its investments in their competitive landscape. The Adviser also studies industry data, statistics and trends. The Adviser invests without regard for market trends.

The Funds purchase stocks that the Adviser believes are attractively priced relative to the Adviser’s projections of future intrinsic value. The most critical component of the Adviser’s investment decisions is the quality of a company, as measured by its growth prospects, management, business model, competitive position, capital structure and valuation.

In building its portfolios, the Adviser does not use a market benchmark, nor does it aim to underweight or overweight any sectors or industries. The Adviser seeks to invest in businesses before their long-term growth prospects are appreciated by other investors. The Funds may make significant investments in companies in which the Adviser has great conviction. Of course, there can be no guarantee that the Funds will be successful at achieving their investment goals.

The Funds have a long-term outlook and often invest in businesses for several years. The Funds hope for significant business growth and stock price appreciation over that time period. As long-term investors in businesses, the Funds are designed for long-term shareholders. The Funds are not designed, or intended to be suitable, for investors who intend to purchase and then sell their Fund shares within a 90 day

period (please see the “Policies Regarding Frequent Purchases and Redemptions of Fund Shares” section on pages 71-72 of this prospectus).

### Additional Investment Risks

**Specific Securities.** Earnings, cash flows and valuations projected by the Adviser for a long position may not be achieved, which could negatively affect the impact of that stock in a Fund's portfolio. With respect to a short position held by a Fund, the company or the securities markets may have favorable developments or news that positively affect the stock market price of that company, which in turn, could result in a loss for the Fund.

**Small- and Mid-Sized Companies.** The Adviser believes there is more potential for capital appreciation in small- and mid-sized companies, but there also may be more risk. Securities of small- and mid-sized companies may not be well known to most investors, and the securities may be less actively traded than those of large businesses. The securities of small- and mid-sized companies may fluctuate in price more widely than the stock market generally, and they may be more difficult to sell during market downturns. Small- and mid-sized companies rely more on the skills of management and on their continued tenure. Investing in small- and mid-sized companies requires a long-term outlook and may require shareholders to assume more risk and to have more patience than investing in the securities of larger, more established companies.

**Large Positions.** The Funds may establish relatively large positions in companies in which the Adviser has great conviction. Movement in the prices of securities in which the Funds hold large positions could have a significant impact on the Funds' net asset values. These large positions may represent a significant part of a company's outstanding stock, and sales by the Funds or a Fund could adversely affect stock prices. A Fund's returns may be more volatile than those of a fund that does not establish large positions.

**Long-Term Outlook and Projections.** The Funds are designed for long-term investors who are willing to hold investments for a substantial period of time. The cash flows and valuations that the Adviser projects for a company may not be achieved, which could negatively affect the impact of that stock in the Funds' portfolios.

**Growth Investing.** Growth stocks can react differently to issuer, political, market and economic developments than the market as a whole and other types of stocks. Growth stocks tend to be more expensive relative to their earnings or assets compared to other types of stocks. As a result, growth stocks tend to be sensitive to changes in their earnings and more volatile than other types of stocks.



**Credit and Interest Rate Risk.** The market value of debt securities is affected by changes in prevailing interest rates and the perceived credit quality of the issuer. When prevailing interest rates fall or perceived credit quality improves, the market value of the affected debt securities generally rises. Conversely, when interest rates rise or perceived credit quality weakens, the market value of the affected debt securities generally declines. The magnitude of these fluctuations will be greater when the maturity of the debt securities is longer.

**Prepayment.** Many types of debt securities are subject to prepayment risk. Prepayment risk occurs when the issuer of a security can repay principal prior to the security's maturity. Securities subject to prepayment can offer less potential for gains during a declining interest rate environment and similar or greater potential for loss in a rising interest rate environment. In addition, the potential impact of prepayment features on the price of a debt security can be difficult to predict and result in greater volatility.

**Short Sales.** If the price of the stock sold short increases after the sale, the Funds will lose money because they will have to pay a higher price to repurchase the borrowed stock when they close their short position. The Funds may not be able to close out a short position at an acceptable price or time and the loss of value on a short sale is theoretically unlimited. The Funds have to borrow the securities to enter into the short sale. If the lender demands the securities be returned, the Fund must deliver them promptly, either by borrowing from another lender or buying the securities. If this occurs at the same time other short-sellers are trying to borrow or buy the securities, a "short squeeze" could occur, causing the stock price to rise and making it more likely that the Funds will have to cover their short positions at an unfavorable price. This could happen regardless of whether or not the prospects for a business are favorable or unfavorable.

**Non-Diversification and Concentration Risk.** Funds that are less diversified across geographic regions, countries, industries, or individual companies are generally riskier than more diversified funds. If a Fund has invested a higher percentage of its total assets in a particular region, sector or industry, changes affecting that region, sector or industry may have a significant impact on the performance of that Fund's overall portfolio. The economies and financial markets of certain regions — such as Latin America, Asia, and Europe and the Mediterranean region — can be interdependent and may all decline at the same time.

**Non-U.S. Securities.** Investments in non-U.S. securities may involve additional risks to those inherent in investments in U.S. securities, including exchange rate fluctuations, political or economic instability, the imposition of exchange controls, expropriation, limited disclosure and illiquid markets. Risks can result from varying stages of economic and political development, differing regulatory environments, trading days, and accounting standards, uncertain tax laws, and higher transaction

costs of non-U.S. markets. Investments outside the United States could be subject to governmental actions such as capital or currency controls, nationalization of a company or industry, expropriation of assets, or imposition of high taxes. Trading in the underlying securities of the Funds may take place in various foreign markets on certain days when the Funds are not open for business and do not calculate net asset values. As a result, net asset values may be significantly affected on days when shareholders cannot make transactions.

**Developing Countries.** The Funds invest in developing countries, which include countries in the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index, countries in the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index and other countries determined by the Adviser to be developing countries based on classifications made by the International Monetary Fund and/or the World Bank or on country characteristics similar to those of the countries in the EM and FM Indexes. The definition of developing countries for Baron Emerging Markets Fund excludes countries in the FM Index. Investments in developing countries are subject to all of the risks of non-U.S. investing generally, and have additional heightened risks due to a lack of established legal, political, business and social frameworks to support securities markets, including: delays in settling portfolio securities transactions; currency and capital controls; greater sensitivity to interest rate changes; pervasiveness of corruption and crime; currency exchange rate volatility; and inflation, deflation or currency devaluation. These risks are greater for countries in the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index.

**Currency Risk.** This refers to a decline in the value of a foreign currency versus the U.S. dollar, which reduces the dollar value of securities denominated in that currency. The overall impact on the Funds' holdings can be significant, unpredictable, and long-lasting, depending on the currencies represented in the portfolio and how each one appreciates or depreciates in relation to the U.S. dollar and whether currency positions are hedged. Under normal conditions, the Funds do not engage in extensive foreign currency hedging programs. Further, exchange rate movements are volatile, the Funds' attempts at hedging could be unsuccessful, and it may not be possible to effectively hedge the currency risks of many developing countries.

**Real Estate Industry Risk.** In addition to general market conditions, the value of the Funds will be affected by the strength of the real estate markets. Factors that could affect the value of the Funds' holdings include the following: overbuilding and increased competition; increases in property taxes and operating expenses; declines in the value of real estate; lack of availability of equity and debt financing to refinance maturing debt; vacancies due to economic conditions and tenant bankruptcies; losses due to costs resulting from environmental contamination and its related clean-up; changes in interest rates; changes in zoning laws; casualty or condemnation losses; variations in rental income; changes in neighborhood values; and functional obsolescence and appeal of properties to tenants.

**Energy Industry Risk.** Energy industries can be significantly affected by fluctuations in energy prices and supply and demand of energy fuels caused by events relating to international politics, energy conservation, the success of exploration projects, weather or meteorological events, and tax and other government regulations.

**Resources Industry Risk.** Resources industries can be significantly affected by events relating to international political and economic developments, energy conservation, the success of exploration projects, commodity prices, weather or meteorological events, and tax and other government regulations.

**Taxes.** Each of the Funds intends to elect to be treated and to qualify each year as a “regulated investment company” under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). To qualify for the special U.S. federal income tax treatment afforded to regulated investment companies, each Fund must meet certain source-of-income, asset diversification and annual distribution requirements, as discussed in the “U.S. Federal Income Taxation” section on pages 74-77 of this prospectus. If for any taxable year a Fund fails to qualify for the special U.S. federal income tax treatment afforded to regulated investment companies, all of the Fund’s taxable income will be subject to federal income tax at regular corporate rates (without any deduction for distributions to the Fund’s shareholders) and the Fund’s income available for distribution will be reduced. (Please see the “U.S. Federal Income Taxation” section on pages 74-77 of this prospectus, and the “Taxation of the Funds” section on pages 33-40 in the accompanying SAI.)

**Illiquid Securities.** Illiquid securities, which include securities that are not publicly traded such as private equity securities, PIPE securities and other restricted securities, may be difficult to sell or may be subject to agreements that prohibit or limit their sale or other disposition. This investment approach requires a long-term outlook and may involve more risk. The Funds may invest up to 15% of their respective net assets in illiquid securities at the time of purchase. An illiquid security is one that cannot be disposed of in the ordinary course of business within seven days.

**Initial Public Offerings.** The prices of securities purchased in initial public offerings (“IPOs”) can be very volatile and/or decline shortly after the IPO. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the issuing companies may be available for only very limited periods. The effect of IPOs on a Fund’s performance depends on a variety of factors, including the number of IPOs the Fund invests in relative to the size of the Fund and whether and to what extent a security purchased in an IPO appreciates and depreciates in value. If a Fund’s historical performance was impacted by gains from IPOs and/or secondary offerings, there is no guarantee that these results can be repeated or that a Fund’s level of participation in IPOs and secondary offerings will be the same in the future.

**Cybersecurity Risk.** The use of the Internet and other electronic media and technology exposes the Funds, and the Funds' service providers, and their respective operations, to potential risks from cybersecurity attacks or incidents (collectively, "cyber-incidents"). Cyber-incidents may include, for example, unauthorized access to systems, networks or devices (such as, for example, through "hacking" activity), infection from computer viruses or other malicious software code, and attacks which shut down, disable, slow or otherwise disrupt operations, business processes or website access or functionality. In addition to intentional cyber-incidents, unintentional cyber-incidents can occur, such as, for example, the inadvertent release of confidential information. Any cyber-incident could adversely impact the Funds and their shareholders and cause the Funds to incur financial loss and expense, as well as face exposure to regulatory penalties, reputational damage, and additional compliance costs associated with corrective measures. A cyber-incident may cause the Funds, or their service providers, to lose proprietary information, suffer data corruption, lose operational capacity (such as, for example, the loss of the ability to process transactions, calculate the Funds' net asset value per share ("NAV"), or allow shareholders to transact business), and/or fail to comply with applicable privacy and other laws. Among other potentially harmful effects, cyber-incidents also may result in theft, unauthorized monitoring and failures in the physical infrastructure or operating systems that support the Funds and their service providers. In addition, cyber-incidents affecting issuers in which the Funds invest could cause the Funds' investments to lose value. The Funds' Adviser has established risk management systems reasonably designed to seek to reduce the risks associated with cyber-incidents. However, there is no guarantee that the efforts of the Adviser or its affiliates, or other service providers, will succeed, either entirely or partially. The nature of malicious cyber-attacks is becoming increasingly sophisticated and the Funds' Adviser, and its relevant affiliates, cannot control the cyber systems and cybersecurity systems of issuers or third party service providers.

### Share Classes

The Funds offer ~~two three~~ classes of shares, Retail Shares, ~~and~~ Institutional Shares, ~~and~~ R6 Shares, which differ only in their ongoing fees and eligibility requirements. Retail Shares are available to all investors, and investment minimums range from \$500 to \$2,000 per Fund, depending on the account type. Institutional Shares are for investments in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more per Fund. Institutional Shares are intended for certain financial intermediaries that offer shares of the Baron Funds® through fee-based platforms, retirement platforms or other platforms for which the financial intermediary provides services and is not compensated by the Baron Funds® for those services. R6 Shares are available only to qualified 401(a) plans (including 401(k) plans, Keogh plans, profit-sharing plans, money purchase pension plans, target benefit plans, defined benefit pension plans and Taft-Hartley multi-employer pension plans) (collectively, "Qualified Plans"), endowment funds and foundations, any state, county or city, or its instrumentality, department, authority, or agency, 457 Plans, including 457(a) governmental entity plans and tax- exempt plans, accounts registered to insurance companies, trust companies and bank trust departments, investment companies, both affiliated and not affiliated with the adviser, and any entity that is considered a corporation for tax purposes, including corporate non-qualified deferred compensation plans of such corporations. R6 Shares are not available to traditional and Roth Individual Retirement Accounts ("IRAs"), SEPs and SARSEPs; except that Institutional Shares are available to such accounts or plans to the extent they are purchased through an eligible fee-based program. R6 Shares are also not available to retail, advisory fee-based wrap programs or to adviser-sold donor-advised funds. There is no minimum initial investment for qualified retirement plans, however, the shares must be held through plan-level or omnibus accounts held on the books of the Funds. All other R6 eligible investors must meet a minimum initial investment of at least \$5,000,000 in each Fund in which they invest. Shareholders meeting the eligibility requirements for the Institutional Shares may also purchase Institutional Shares directly through the Baron Funds® without

paying a sales charge or any other additional fees. Employees and Trustees of the Baron Funds® and employer sponsored retirement plans (qualified and non-qualified) are not subject to the eligibility requirements for Institutional Shares. For more information, please see the "How to Purchase Shares" section on pages 64-66 of this prospectus. Baron Funds® reserve the right, without prior notice, to change the eligibility requirements of its share classes, including the types of clients who are eligible to purchase each share class.

### Portfolio Holdings

A description of the Funds' policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the Funds' portfolio securities is available in the Funds' SAI.

### Management of the Funds

The Board oversees the management of the Funds. A list of the Trustees and the Funds' officers may be found in the SAI. BAMCO is located at 767 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10153, and is responsible for portfolio management. BAMCO serves as investment adviser to other registered mutual funds, including Baron Asset Fund, Baron Growth Fund, Baron Small Cap Fund, Baron Opportunity Fund and Baron Fifth Avenue Growth Fund. Baron Capital, Inc. ("BCI" or the "Distributor"), an SEC registered broker-dealer and a member of FINRA (the "Financial Industry Regulatory Authority") serves as the distributor of the shares of the Funds. BAMCO and BCI, along with their affiliate, Baron Capital Management, Inc., are wholly owned subsidiaries of Baron Capital Group, Inc., a holding company ("BCG" or the "Firm").

Ronald Baron is the Founder, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Firm and, with his family, is the principal owner of BCG. Linda S. Martinson is the President and Chief Operating Officer of the Firm and Chairman of the Funds and has been with the Firm since 1983.

The portfolio managers for the Funds are senior members of the Adviser's research team and are responsible for stock selection and overseeing portfolio structure of the Funds. Mr. Baron has been the portfolio manager of **Baron Partners Fund** and **Baron Focused Growth Fund** since their respective inception as limited partnerships on January 31, 1992 and May 31, 1996. In addition, he has managed two registered mutual funds, Baron Asset Fund since its inception on June 12, 1987 until January 23, 2008, and Baron Growth Fund since its inception on December 31, 1994 to the present. He has managed money for others since 1975. Mr. Baron is also a senior member of the Adviser's research team and the Chief Investment Officer of the Adviser. The Funds' SAI provides additional information about Mr. Baron's compensation, other accounts managed by Mr. Baron and his ownership in shares of the Funds.

Michael Kass has been the portfolio manager of **Baron International Growth Fund** and **Baron Emerging Markets Fund** since their respective inceptions on December 31, 2008 and December 31, 2010. He joined the Adviser in 2007 to develop an international growth strategy. From 1996 until 2003, Mr. Kass co-managed the Furman Selz Large Cap Growth portfolios, and beginning in 1998, he co-founded the Artemis Funds, a long-short strategy with a similar discipline as Large Cap Growth. In 2003, Mr. Kass formed Artemis Advisors, LLC to acquire the Artemis Funds from ING Furman Selz. Mr. Kass spent ten years in equity investment management at ING Furman Selz, and was named a senior managing director and portfolio manager in 1996. From 1989 until 1993, he was an associate in investment banking at Lazard Frères. Mr. Kass began his career in 1987 as an analyst in corporate finance at Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc.

Jeffrey A. Kolitch has been the portfolio manager of **Baron Real Estate Fund** since its inception on December 31, 2009. He joined the Adviser in 2005 to develop a real estate growth strategy. From 1995 until 2005, Mr. Kolitch worked at Goldman Sachs & Co., starting as an associate in the Equities Division where he became a Vice President in 1999. In 2000, he was selected to join the Equity Capital Markets Group as a Vice President in New York, and in 2002, Mr. Kolitch was named a Managing Director in Hong Kong. From 2004 until 2005, he served as a Managing Director in Goldman Sachs' Equity Capital Markets Group in New York.

James Stone has been the portfolio manager of **Baron Energy and Resources Fund** since its inception on December 30, 2011. He joined the Adviser in 2009 to develop an energy and resources strategy. From 2007 to 2009, Mr. Stone worked at Cambridge Investments as a principal and director of research. From 2000 to 2007, he worked at UBS Securities as a managing director and senior analyst. From 1993 to 2000, he worked at Schroder & Co. as a senior research analyst and was named managing director in 1998. From 1988 to 1993, he worked at Kidder, Peabody & Co. as a senior research analyst.

Alex Umansky has been the portfolio manager of **Baron Global Advantage Fund** since its inception on April 30, 2012. Prior to joining the Adviser, Mr. Umansky was a co-manager of the Morgan Stanley Opportunity Fund from 2007-2011, the Morgan Stanley Global Opportunity Fund from 2008-2011, and the Morgan Stanley International Opportunity Fund and the Morgan Stanley International Advantage Fund from 2010-2011. Prior to that, Mr. Umansky was the lead manager of the Morgan Stanley Institutional Technology Strategy from 1998-2004 and the Morgan Stanley Technology Fund from 2000-2003, and a co-manager of the Morgan Stanley Information Fund from 2004-2005. Prior to that, Mr. Umansky was a co-manager of the Morgan Stanley Small Company Growth Fund from 1999-2002. Mr. Umansky began his investment management career as a research analyst at Morgan Stanley Investment Management covering technology and business services for Morgan Stanley's US equity growth products.

Each of the portfolio managers named above may serve as portfolio managers or analysts for other products offered by affiliates that could conflict with their responsibilities to the Funds of which they are portfolio managers. The Funds' SAI provides additional information about the portfolio managers' compensation, other accounts managed by the portfolio managers and the portfolio managers' ownership in shares of the Funds.

For its services, the Adviser receives a fee payable monthly from the assets of each Fund equal to 1% per annum of the Funds' average daily net asset value. The Adviser is contractually obligated to reimburse certain expenses of the Funds so that their net annual operating expenses (exclusive of portfolio transaction costs, interest, dividend and extraordinary expenses) are limited to 1.45%, 1.35%, 1.50%, 1.35%, 1.50%, 1.35% and 1.50% of average daily net assets of Retail Shares of **Baron Partners Fund, Baron Focused Growth Fund, Baron International Growth Fund, Baron Real Estate Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund, Baron Energy and Resources Fund and Baron Global Advantage Fund**, respectively; ~~and~~ 1.20%, 1.10%, 1.25%, 1.10%, 1.25%, 1.10% and 1.25% of average daily net assets of Institutional Shares of **Baron Partners Fund, Baron Focused Growth Fund, Baron International Growth Fund, Baron Real Estate Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund, Baron Energy and Resources Fund and Baron Global Advantage Fund**, respectively; ~~and XX% and XX% of average daily net assets of R6 Shares of **Baron Real Estate Fund and Baron Emerging Markets Fund**, respectively.~~ A discussion regarding the basis for the approval by the Board of the investment advisory contracts of **Baron Partners Fund, Baron Focused Growth Fund, Baron International Growth Fund, Baron Real Estate Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund, Baron Energy and Resources Fund and Baron Global Advantage Fund** is available in the Funds' Semi-Annual Financial Report to Shareholders for the six months ended June 30, 2014.

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## How Your Shares are Priced

The purchase or sale price for your shares is the Funds' NAV, which is generally calculated as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (the "Exchange") (usually 4 p.m. Eastern Time ("E.T.")) on each day the Exchange is open. Your purchase or sale will be priced at the next NAV calculated after your order is accepted by DST Systems, Inc. (the "Transfer Agent"). The Exchange is closed on weekends and most national holidays, including New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. The NAV will not be calculated on days when the Exchange is closed for trading. Foreign securities held by a Fund may trade on days when the Fund does not calculate its NAV and thus may affect the Fund's NAV on days when investors will not be able to purchase or sell (redeem) Fund shares. The Funds have agreements with certain financial intermediaries that authorize them to accept orders or designate third parties to accept orders on behalf of the Funds. If you place your order through these financial intermediaries, the order will be considered received when they accept the order. Those orders will be priced at the next NAV calculated after acceptance of the order by the financial intermediary or its agent.

The Funds' investments traded on any national stock exchange are valued based on their last sale prices. For securities traded on NASDAQ, the Funds use the NASDAQ Official Closing Price. Where market quotations are not readily available, or, if in the Adviser's judgment, they do not accurately reflect the fair value of a security, or an event occurs after the market closes but before the Funds are priced that materially affects the value of a security, the securities will be valued by the Adviser using policies and procedures approved by the Board. The Adviser has a Fair Valuation Committee (the "Committee") comprised of senior executives, and the Committee provides a report to the Board every quarter. Factors the Committee considers when valuing a security include whether a current price is stale, there is recent news, the security is thinly traded, transactions are infrequent or quotations are genuine. There can be no guarantee, however, that a fair valuation used by the Funds on any given day will more accurately reflect the market value of an investment than the closing price of such investment in its market. The Funds may change the time at which orders are priced if the Exchange closes at a different time or an emergency exists. U.S. Government obligations and other debt instruments having 60 days or less remaining until maturity are stated at amortized cost. Debt instruments having a greater remaining maturity will be valued on the basis of prices obtained from a pricing service approved by the Board or at the mean of the bid and ask prices from a dealer maintaining an active market in that security.

Non-U.S. equity securities are valued on the basis of their most recent closing market prices and translated into U.S. dollars at 4 p.m. E.T., except under the circumstances



described below. Most foreign markets close before 4 p.m. E.T. For securities primarily traded in the Far East, for example, the most recent closing prices may be as much as fifteen hours old at 4 p.m. E.T. As a result, the Adviser may use a third-party pricing service to assist in determining fair value of foreign securities. This service utilizes a systematic methodology in making fair value estimates. The Adviser may also fair value securities in other situations, for example, when a particular foreign market is closed but the Funds are open. The Adviser cannot predict how often it will use closing prices or how often it will adjust those prices. As a means of evaluating its fair value process, the Adviser routinely compares closing market prices, the next day's opening prices in the same markets, and adjusted prices. Other mutual funds may adjust the prices of their securities by different amounts.

### How to Purchase Shares

You may purchase shares of the Funds directly without paying a sales charge. Please use the Funds' "Regular Account Application" form to open an account. Special applications are available to open Individual Retirement Accounts such as Traditional, Roth, SEP or Simple IRAs (collectively "IRAs" or individually an "IRA") and Coverdell accounts. All applications can be found at [www.BaronFunds.com/applications](http://www.BaronFunds.com/applications). Please complete the application form in its entirety. If you do not provide all the information requested, your application will be returned to you and your investment will not be established.

The Funds offer ~~three~~two classes of shares, Retail Shares, ~~and~~ Institutional Shares and R6 Shares, which differ only in their ongoing fees and eligibility requirements. The minimum initial investment for the Retail Shares is \$2,000 per Fund, unless you choose to invest through the Baron Automatic Investment Plan (please see the "Baron Automatic Investment Plan" section on page 67 of this prospectus). The minimum initial investment for Institutional Shares is \$1,000,000 per Fund. Institutional Shares are intended for certain financial intermediaries that offer shares of the Baron Funds® through fee-based platforms, retirement platforms or other platforms for which the financial intermediary provides services and is not compensated by the Baron Funds® for those services. R6 Shares are available only to qualified 401(a) plans (including 401(k) plans, Keogh plans, profit-sharing plans, money purchase pension plans, target benefit plans, defined benefit pension plans and Taft-Hartley multi-employer pension plans) (collectively, "Qualified Plans"), endowment funds and foundations, any state, county or city, or its instrumentality, department, authority, or agency, 457 Plans, including 457(a) governmental entity plans and tax- exempt plans, accounts registered to insurance companies, trust companies and bank trust departments, investment companies, both affiliated and not affiliated with the adviser, and any entity that is considered a corporation for tax purposes, including corporate non-qualified deferred compensation plans of such corporations. R6 Shares are not available to traditional and Roth Individual Retirement Accounts ("IRAs"), SEPs and SARSEPs; except that Institutional Shares are available to such accounts or plans to the extent they are purchased through an eligible fee-based program. R6 Shares are also not available to retail, advisory fee-based wrap programs or to adviser-sold donor-advised funds. There is no minimum initial investment for qualified retirement plans, however, the shares must be held through plan-level or omnibus accounts held on the books of the Funds. All other R6 eligible investors must meet a minimum initial investment of at least \$5,000,000 in each Fund in which they invest. Shareholders meeting the eligibility requirements for the Institutional Shares may also purchase Institutional Shares directly through the Baron Funds® without paying a sales charge or any other additional fees. Employees and Trustees of the Baron Funds® and employer sponsored retirement plans (qualified and non-qualified) are not subject to the eligibility requirements for Institutional Shares.

At the sole discretion of the Adviser, the initial investment minimum may be waived for certain investors. In addition, the Funds will not enforce the minimum for accounts opened through certain financial intermediaries and administrators that may not have systems that are able to enforce the Funds' minimums. There is no minimum for subsequent purchases, except for purchases made through the Funds'

website or through the Baron Automatic Investment Plan (please see the “Special Information About the Baron Funds® Website” section on pages 73-74 of this prospectus). The Funds may reject any proposed purchase if the purchase would violate the Funds’ policies on short-term trading (please see the “Policies Regarding Frequent Purchases and Redemptions of Fund Shares” section on pages 71-72 of this prospectus).

**Anti-Money Laundering Regulations.** As part of the Funds’ legal responsibility to fight the funding of terrorism and money laundering activities, the Funds require a detailed verification of the identity of a shareholder and individuals with authority or control over accounts opened by entities such as corporations, partnerships or trusts. When you open an account, the Funds will request such information as is necessary to verify your identity as a shareholder, as well as the identities of any individuals with authority or control over accounts being opened by entities. **The information requested includes name, address, date of birth and U.S. taxpayer identification number.** U.S. military personnel with an APO/FPO address are permitted to invest in the Funds. Please make sure to provide all required information. Incomplete information will delay your investment. The Funds will not process your investment until all required information has been provided. While the Funds are intended for U.S. investors, foreign investors who do not have U.S. taxpayer identification numbers may be permitted to invest in the Funds through a broker-dealer registered with the SEC that has sufficient anti-money laundering policies and procedures in place.

Your share purchase will receive the NAV of the Funds on the date that all required information has been provided to the Funds’ Transfer Agent. United Missouri Bank of Kansas City, N.A. will hold your investment check until all required information has been received. Investment funds received by bank wire will also be held by United Missouri Bank of Kansas City, N.A. If the application is not complete, the Funds’ representatives will attempt to collect any missing information by contacting you directly. If you purchase the Funds through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary that is subject to the USA PATRIOT Act, such broker, dealer or other financial intermediary will be responsible for collecting the required information.

If the application is complete, the Funds will process the investment and will take steps to verify your identity. The Funds may request additional information or documents, if needed, to verify your identity. If the Funds cannot verify your identity, the account will be closed and you will receive proceeds based on the next NAV calculated for the Fund(s) in which you invested. If the Funds deem it necessary, and upon written notice to you, the payment of redemption proceeds to you may be suspended to comply with the anti-money laundering regulations applicable to the Funds. The Funds will share the identity of their shareholders with federal authorities if required to do so by law and may report a failure to verify a shareholder’s identity with federal authorities in accordance with applicable law.

**State Unclaimed Property Laws.** Depending upon the State in which your account is opened, your property may be transferred to the appropriate State if no activity occurs in your account within the time period specified by State law. You should familiarize yourself with the laws of the State in which you have your account.

### How to Invest with the Baron Funds®

#### By Mail

**To open a new account,** send your signed application form with your check payable to **BARON FUNDS®** to:

Baron Funds®  
P.O. Box 219946  
Kansas City, MO 64121-9946

or by overnight mail to:

Baron Funds®  
430 West 7th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64105-1514

**Please make sure you indicate how much money you want invested in each Fund.** Checks must be payable in U.S. dollars and must be drawn on a U.S. bank. Third party checks, credit cards, money orders, traveler's checks, starter checks, bearer securities and cash will not be accepted. For IRAs and Coverdell accounts, please specify the year for which the contribution is being made. If no year is specified, it will be applied as a current year contribution.

**When adding to your account,** please complete the additional investment form provided at the bottom of your account statement or purchase confirmation. If you do not have that form, please write a note with the account number indicating in which Fund the investment should be made and send it along with your additional investment check. Please note that any investment funded by check will be subject to a fifteen-day hold or be held until the check clears to prevent any fraudulent transactions. Please send the check to either the regular or overnight address.

#### By Wire

You can make your initial or additional investments in the Funds by wire. To do so, please: (1) contact the Funds' Transfer Agent at 1-800-442-3814 to obtain an account number; (2) complete and sign the application form and mail it to Baron Funds®, P.O. Box 219946, Kansas City, MO 64121-9946; (3) instruct your bank to wire funds to the United Missouri Bank of Kansas City, N.A., ABA No. 1010-0069-5,

Account No. 98-7037-101-4; and (4) be sure to specify the following information in the wire: (a) the Fund you are buying; (b) your account number; and (c) your name. The Funds are not responsible for delays in the wiring process.

#### By Telephone

Once your account is open, you may add to your investment (if you have banking instructions on your account) or exchange among the Baron Funds® by speaking with a representative or by calling our automated voice recognition system “BaronTel,” unless you specifically declined either of these options on your account application. Please call 1-800-442-3814 to invest or exchange by telephone (please see the “How to Exchange Shares” section on page 72 of this prospectus). By choosing this option to make a purchase, you authorize the Funds to draw on your bank account. Please note that for an exchange, your accounts must be identically registered. If you need to add this option to your account, please call 1-800-442-3814.

#### By Internet

You may open a new account through the Baron Funds® website by going to [www.BaronFunds.com/openaccount](http://www.BaronFunds.com/openaccount) (please see the “Special Information about the Baron Funds® Website” section on pages 73-74 of this prospectus). You may add to an existing account by going to [www.BaronFunds.com/myaccount](http://www.BaronFunds.com/myaccount). You must have ACH/Banking instructions on your account in order to make online purchases.

#### Baron Automatic Investment Plan — Retail Shares Only

Baron Automatic Investment Plan (the “Plan”) is an automatic investment plan offered by the Funds. For any account starting with an investment of less than \$2,000, the minimum initial investment is \$500 with subsequent monthly investments of as little as \$50, which are automatically invested from your checking account. Once your investment has reached \$2,000, you have the option of either discontinuing the Plan by contacting the Funds or continuing to automatically invest in the Funds. If your initial investment is greater than \$2,000 and you wish to utilize the Plan for your account, please contact the Funds. To enroll in the Plan, please complete the Enrollment Form (available by calling 1-800-99BARON), attach a voided check and mail with your application to either Baron Funds®, P.O. Box 219946, Kansas City, MO 64121-9946 or to the overnight address, Baron Funds®, 430 West 7th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105-1514.

If your account has already been established without banking instructions and you wish to enroll in the Plan, please send a “signature guaranteed” letter of instruction along with a voided check to the regular or overnight address. You can obtain a signature guarantee from most securities firms or banks **but not from a notary public**.

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### Through Brokers, Dealers or Other Financial Intermediaries

You may purchase shares of the Funds through a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary that may charge a transaction fee. If you purchase shares directly from the Funds, no transaction fee is charged. The Funds also participate in programs with many financial intermediaries where no transaction fee is charged.

### How to Redeem Shares

You may redeem Fund shares by any of the methods described below. If you are selling shares in an IRA or Coverdell account, please read the information in the IRA or Coverdell Plan Document. Redemptions will not be made until all of the requirements are met. Redemptions are priced at the next NAV calculated after your redemption request is received in the proper form. If you have recently purchased shares directly in the Baron Funds®, your redemption proceeds may not be sent to you until the purchase check has cleared your bank, which generally occurs within fifteen calendar days.

#### By Mail

Please write a letter that includes the following information: the name of the registered owner(s) of the account; the name of the Fund(s); the number of shares or dollar amount to be redeemed; and the account number. The letter must be signed in exactly the same way the account is registered, including the signature of each joint owner, if applicable. Mail the request to the Transfer Agent at Baron Funds®, P.O. Box 219946, Kansas City, MO 64121-9946.

A signature guarantee is required for redemptions of more than \$50,000 per Fund (please see the "Special Information About Redemptions" section on pages 69-70 of this prospectus). Normally, within seven days after receipt of a redemption request by the Transfer Agent in the proper form, the Fund will mail you the proceeds.

#### By Telephone

You are automatically granted the telephone redemption option when you open your account, unless you decline the option on your account application or by calling 1-800-442-3814. Once made, your telephone request cannot be changed. There is no minimum amount that you must redeem by telephone from your account. The maximum amount that you may redeem by telephone is \$50,000 per Fund per business day. You may receive the proceeds by any one of the following methods: (a) we will mail a check to the address to which your account is registered; (b) we will transmit the proceeds by electronic funds transfer to a previously designated bank

account (usually a two banking day process); or (c) we will wire the proceeds to a pre-authorized bank account for a \$10 fee that will be deducted from your redemption proceeds (usually a next banking day process). Banking instructions can be added to your account or changed by sending in a signature guaranteed letter of instruction. Please include your account number.

The Funds have the right to refuse a telephone redemption if they believe that it is advisable to do so. The Funds will not be responsible for any fraudulent telephone order as long as the Funds and their Transfer Agent use reasonable procedures to confirm that telephone instructions are genuine.

#### By Internet

You may make a redemption request of \$50,000 or less per Fund per business day online by going to [www.baronfunds.com/myaccount](http://www.baronfunds.com/myaccount) (please see the "Special Information about the Baron Funds® Website on pages 73-74 of the prospectus). The ability to redeem by Internet applies to regular accounts (non-fiduciary) only.

The Funds have the right to refuse an online redemption if they believe that it is advisable to do so. The Funds will not be responsible for any fraudulent online order as long as the Funds and their Transfer Agent use reasonable procedures to confirm that online instructions are genuine.

#### By Broker, Dealer or Other Financial Intermediaries

Accounts may redeem Fund shares held by a broker, dealer or other financial intermediary that may charge you a fee. The Funds may have special redemption procedures with certain brokers, dealers, or other financial intermediaries.

#### Special Information About Redemptions

If the amount to be redeemed is greater than \$50,000 per Fund, all of the signatures on a redemption request must be signature guaranteed. **If you have changed your address within 30 days prior to a redemption request, a signature guarantee is required for any amount of redemption. For joint tenant accounts, each signature must be guaranteed.** A signature guarantee helps protect you and the Funds from fraud. You can obtain a signature guarantee from most securities firms or banks **but not from a notary public.** A Fund, in its sole discretion, may waive this requirement. If you are redeeming \$50,000 or less per Fund, and if the proceeds are sent to the address of record (which has not been changed within 30 days), no signature guarantee is required.

Please call the Transfer Agent at 1-800-442-3814 if you are unsure of any of the special redemption requirements. Please remember that the Funds will not process redemptions greater than \$50,000 per Fund per business day until the original letter of instruction with the signature guarantee in proper form has been received by the Transfer Agent.

The Transfer Agent may require other documentation from corporations, trustees, executors and others who hold shares on behalf of someone else. If you have any questions concerning the requirements, please call the Transfer Agent at 1-800-442-3814. Redemptions will not be made until all of the conditions, including the receipt in proper form of all required documentation by the Transfer Agent, have been satisfied. A redemption of Fund shares may generate a tax liability.

If you redeem more than \$250,000 or 1% of the net asset value of a Fund during any 90-day period, that Fund has the right to pay the redemption price, either totally or partially, by a distribution of portfolio securities instead of cash.

For Retail Shares, if the value of your investment in a Fund falls below \$2,000 because of redemptions, the Funds may contact you about your balance. If it is still below \$2,000 after 60 days, the Funds may redeem the remainder of your investment in the Fund and send you the proceeds. For Institutional Shares, if the value of your investment in a Fund falls below \$1,000,000 because of redemptions, the Funds may contact you about your balance. If it remains below \$1,000,000 after 60 days, the Funds may convert your Institutional Shares into Retail Shares. The Funds will notify you in writing that your investment will be redeemed or converted in advance of taking such action so that you are informed of the new status of your investment.

The Funds may suspend the normal redemption process if trading on the Exchange is suspended or if an emergency exists that reasonably precludes the valuation of the Funds' net assets or if the SEC permits a suspension.

### Dividends and Distributions

Each Fund pays its shareholders dividends from its net investment income and distributes any net realized capital gains at least once each year. Your distributions will be reinvested in the Fund unless you instruct the Fund otherwise. There are no charges on reinvestments. After every distribution, the value of a share is automatically reduced by the amount of the distribution. If you elect not to reinvest and the postal or other delivery service is unable to deliver checks to your address of record, your distribution will be reinvested in additional shares at the next NAV calculated after the check is returned to the Fund. No interest will accrue on amounts represented by uncashed distribution or redemption checks.

Potential investors should read the "U.S. Federal Income Taxation" section on pages 74-77 of this prospectus and the "Taxation of the Funds" section on pages 33-40 in the

SAI for information on the tax treatment of distributions from the Funds and for a discussion of the tax consequences of an investment in the Funds. References below to the “Fund” apply to each of the Funds described in this prospectus.

### Policies Regarding Frequent Purchases and Redemptions of Fund Shares

The Funds discourage any person who is not a long-term investor from investing in the Funds. The Funds make investments for the long term and have had relatively low turnover of the portfolios (please see the “Additional Investment Strategies” section on pages 51-54 of this prospectus and the “Principal Investment Strategies of the Fund” sections of each summary section beginning on page 4 of the prospectus). The Board has adopted policies and procedures to minimize frequent purchases and redemptions of Fund shares by shareholders. The Board believes that frequent trading (which may include market timing, short-term trading or excessive trading) of Fund shares has the potential to adversely impact other shareholders of the Funds.

The Board believes that frequent trading of Fund shares causes risks to the Funds and their shareholders. Frequent trading may dilute the value of Fund shares held by long-term shareholders, trigger gains taxable to Fund shareholders, increase brokerage and administrative costs and interfere with the efficient management of the Funds. It may disrupt the Adviser’s ability to manage the Funds in accordance with their goals. This disadvantages other shareholders of the Funds and adds to Fund costs, since the Adviser may be required to sell investments prematurely to raise cash to meet redemptions. The impact could be particularly severe for a smaller Fund because the frequent activity would have a greater impact on each remaining long-term shareholder. Shareholders could also be negatively affected by frequent trading if the Adviser is forced to rebalance the portfolio and thereby incur substantial expenses in doing so.

**Trades in and out of a Fund within 90 days or less may be indicative of frequent trading.** If the Adviser believes that an investor is a frequent trader, the Adviser, in its sole discretion, may temporarily or permanently bar that investor from trading in the Fund or any Baron Funds®. Exchanges between the Funds within 90 days or less will generally not be considered frequent trading, unless the Adviser, in its sole discretion, determines that such exchanges are excessive. Although the Adviser attempts to detect and deter frequent trading, there can be no guarantee that all frequent, short-term or other trading activity the Adviser may consider inappropriate will be detected. For example, certain accounts, which are known as omnibus accounts, include multiple investors and such accounts typically provide the Funds with a net purchase or redemption order on any given day where purchasers of Fund shares and redeemers of Fund shares are netted against one another and the identity of individual purchasers and redeemers are not known by the Funds. By their nature, omnibus accounts conceal from the Funds the identity of individual investors and their transactions.



If the Funds reasonably believe that certain financial intermediaries are not enforcing the Funds' policies regarding frequent purchases and redemptions of Fund shares, the Funds may prohibit the financial intermediary from investing in the Funds on behalf of any of its clients. However, certain financial intermediaries and administrators may not have systems that can accommodate the Funds' policies regarding the frequent purchases and redemptions of Fund shares. In these limited instances, the Funds must rely on those financial intermediaries and administrators to enforce their own frequent trading policies. If the Adviser reasonably believes that a financial intermediary is not enforcing its own policy or the Funds' policies regarding frequent purchases and redemptions of Fund shares, even though it has the appropriate systems, the Funds may prohibit that financial intermediary from investing in the Funds on behalf of any of its clients.

The Funds' policies and procedures may be modified or terminated at any time. The Funds reserve the right to reject any purchase or exchange request for any reason. The Adviser, in its sole discretion, may waive its policies regarding frequent purchases and redemptions of Fund shares for purchases, redemptions and exchanges that are part of a rebalancing or asset allocation program administered by an approved financial intermediary.

### How to Exchange Shares

You may exchange all or a portion of your investment from one Baron Fund into another. You may exchange shares by mail, telephone (speaking with a representative or using our automated voice recognition system "BaronTel") or through the Baron Funds® website. You must not have opted out of the telephone option to do an exchange via telephone or online (please see the "Special Information about the Baron Funds® Website" section on pages 73-74 of this prospectus). Any new account established through an exchange will have the same registration, the same privileges and will be subject to the same minimum investment requirements as your original account. There is currently no fee for an exchange. Exchanges will be executed on the basis of the relative net asset value of the shares exchanged. An exchange is considered a sale for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and you may therefore realize a gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of an exchange. The policy of the Funds is to presume that a person who trades in and out of a Fund within 90 days or less is not a long-term investor (please see the "Policies Regarding Frequent Purchases and Redemptions of Fund Shares" section on pages 71-72 of this prospectus). Exchanges between the Funds within 90 days or less will generally not be considered frequent trading unless the Adviser, in its sole discretion, determines that such exchanges are excessive. The Funds reserve the right to cancel the exchange privilege of any investor who uses the exchange privilege excessively. The Funds may change or temporarily suspend the exchange privilege during unusual market conditions.

### How to Convert Shares

The Funds offer ~~three~~<sup>two</sup> classes of shares, Retail Shares, ~~and~~ Institutional Shares and R6 Shares, which differ only in their ongoing fees and eligibility requirements. You may convert Retail Shares into Institutional Shares if the value of your investment in a Fund is at least \$1,000,000. If the value of your investment in a Fund falls below \$1,000,000, the Fund may convert your Institutional Shares into Retail Shares. You may convert Retail Shares or Institutional Shares into R6 Shares if you meet the eligibility requirements. The transaction will be based on the respective NAV of each class to be exchanged on the trade date for the conversion. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, such a conversion is not a taxable event.

### Special Information about the Baron Funds® Website

You may visit us online at the Baron Funds® website at [www.BaronFunds.com/myaccount](http://www.BaronFunds.com/myaccount) to check your Fund account balance and historical transactions, make purchases or redemptions of Fund shares or exchanges into other Baron Funds®. Exchanges into other Baron Funds on the Baron Funds website may only be made for Retail Shares. If you do not already have a login ID and password, you may establish online transaction privileges by enrolling on the website. You automatically have the ability to establish these privileges, but you will be required to enter into a user's agreement through the website to enroll for the privileges. Transactions through the website are subject to the same minimums as other transaction methods. To purchase shares online, you must have ACH instructions on your account. Payment for the purchase of Baron Fund shares through the website may be made only through an ACH debit of your bank account held at a domestic financial institution that is an ACH member.

For Retail Shares, the Funds impose a limit of \$25,000 per initial purchase transaction or subsequent transaction through the website. The minimum initial investment for Retail Shares is \$2,000 per Fund with subsequent minimum investments through the website of \$10. If you are utilizing the Baron Automatic Investment Plan, you can start with an initial investment of \$500 per Fund with subsequent minimum investments of \$50 per month. You may not make an initial purchase of Institutional Shares through the Baron Funds® website unless you are an employee or Trustee of the Baron Funds®. For Institutional Shares and R6 Shares, the Funds impose a limit of \$25,000 for subsequent transactions through the website.

The Funds limit the amount you may redeem through its website to \$50,000 or less per Fund per business day. Redemption proceeds may be sent by check or, if your account has bank information, by wire or ACH. Redemptions will be paid by check to the address of record if it has not changed in the last 30 days, and wire or ACH transfer to the bank of record. The ability to redeem by Internet applies to regular accounts (non-fiduciary) only.

Please be aware that the Internet is an unsecured, unstable, unregulated and unpredictable environment. Your ability to use the Baron Funds® website for transactions is dependent on the Internet, equipment, software, systems, data and services provided by various vendors and third parties. While the Funds, the Distributor, the Transfer Agent and the Adviser have established certain security measures, they cannot guarantee that inquiries, account information or trading activity will be completely secure. There may also be delays, malfunctions or other inconveniences, or times when the website is not available for Fund transactions or other purposes. If this occurs, you should consider using other methods to purchase, redeem or exchange shares. The Funds, the Distributor, the Transfer Agent and the Adviser are not liable for any delays, malfunctions or unauthorized interception or access to communications or account information.

The Funds, the Distributor, the Transfer Agent and the Adviser are not liable for any loss, liability, cost or expense for following instructions communicated through the Internet, including fraudulent or unauthorized instructions.

## U.S. Federal Income Taxation

### Tax Status of the Fund

Each Fund intends to qualify every year as a “regulated investment company” under the Code. If a Fund qualifies as a regulated investment company, it generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on income that is distributed to shareholders, provided that it distributes to its shareholders at least 90% of its “investment company taxable income” (which includes, among other items, dividends, interest, the excess of net short-term capital gains over net long-term capital losses and other taxable income other than the excess of net long-term capital gains over net short-term capital losses) and 90% of its net tax exempt interest income in each year.

### Taxability of Dividends and Distributions

The Funds intend to pay dividends from their net investment income and to distribute any net realized capital gains once each year. Distributions of a Fund's investment company taxable income (other than “qualified dividend income”), including distributions of net short-term capital gains, will be taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions of a Fund's net capital gains (the excess of a Fund's net long-term capital gain for the taxable year over its net short-term capital loss for that year) reported as capital gain dividends by a Fund will be taxable to you as long-term capital gains, regardless of the length of time you have held shares of a Fund. Distributions in excess of a Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits will be treated as a tax-free return of capital, to the extent of your adjusted basis in your

shares of a Fund, and as a capital gain thereafter (if you held your shares of the relevant Fund as capital assets). Provided that you satisfy the applicable holding period and other requirements with respect to your shares of a Fund, distributions of a Fund's "qualified dividend income" will be treated as "qualified dividend income" received by you and will therefore be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the rates applicable to long-term capital gains. The Funds will inform you each year of the tax status of distributions you received for the previous year. Your tax liabilities for such distributions will depend on your particular tax situation.

Your distributions will be reinvested in the Fund unless you instruct the Fund otherwise. If you do not instruct the Fund not to reinvest distributions in additional shares of a Fund, you will be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as receiving the relevant distributions and using them to purchase shares. All distributions of investment company taxable income and net capital gains, whether received in cash or reinvested, must be reported on your U.S. federal income tax return.

A distribution will be treated as paid during a calendar year if it is declared by the Fund in October, November or December of the year to holders of record in such a month and paid by January 31 of the following year. Such distributions will be taxable to you as if received on December 31 of such prior year, rather than in the year in which the distributions are actually received.

Dividends and interest received by a Fund may give rise to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. If a Fund meets certain requirements and so elects, a ratable portion of the amounts withheld or paid will generally be taxable to you as a shareholder even though you do not receive them. In that case, you will generally be able to claim a tax credit or a deduction for your portion of any foreign withholding and income taxes paid by a Fund, subject to generally applicable limitations.

A Fund must withhold 28% of your dividends and redemption proceeds if you have not provided a taxpayer identification number or social security number or if the number you have provided is incorrect.

Distributions from the **Baron Real Estate Fund** may not be included in your consolidated Form 1099-DIV that we send to you in January of each year. A sizable portion of the dividends paid by U.S. REITs may represent a return of capital. Consequently, a portion of the distributions of the **Baron Real Estate Fund** may also represent a return of capital. Return of capital distributions are not taxable to you, but you must deduct them from the cost basis of your investment in the Fund. Returns of capital are listed as "nontaxable distributions" on Form 1099-DIV. U.S. REITs typically have not indicated what proportion of their dividends represent return of capital in time to allow the Fund to meet its January 31 deadline for 1099-DIV reporting. Therefore, to ensure that you receive accurate and complete tax

information, we may need to send you a separate 1099-DIV for this Fund in February (subject to approval by the IRS).

### Taxability of the Sale or Redemption of Shares

You will recognize a taxable gain or loss, if any, if you sell or redeem your shares. You will generally be subject to taxation based on the difference between your adjusted tax basis in your shares that are sold or redeemed and the value of the cash or other property you receive in payment therefor.

Any gain or loss arising from the sale or redemption of shares will be treated as capital gain or loss if the shares are capital assets in your hands and will generally be long-term capital gain or loss if your holding period for your shares is more than one year and short-term capital gain or loss if it is one year or less. Currently, long-term capital gains recognized by individuals and other non-corporate shareholders on a sale or redemption of shares generally are taxed at a maximum rate of 20%. Any loss realized on a sale or redemption will be disallowed to the extent the shares you dispose of are replaced (including pursuant to our dividend reinvestment program) with substantially identical shares within a period beginning 30 days before and ending 30 days after the disposition of your shares. In such a case, your basis in the shares acquired will be adjusted to reflect the disallowed loss. Any loss arising from the sale or redemption of shares for which you have a holding period of six months or less will be treated for U.S. federal tax purposes as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any amount of capital gain dividends you received with respect to such shares.

The foregoing is a summary of some of the important U.S. federal income tax considerations affecting the Funds and their shareholders. It is not a complete analysis of all relevant tax considerations, nor is it a complete listing of all potential tax risks involved in purchasing or holding shares of the Funds. You should consult your own tax adviser regarding specific questions of federal, state, local or foreign tax law.

### Conversion of Shares

The Funds offer ~~three~~two classes of shares, Retail Shares, ~~and~~ Institutional Shares and R6 Shares, which differ only in their ongoing fees and eligibility requirements. You may convert Retail Shares into Institutional Shares if your investment in a Fund is at least \$1,000,000. If the value of your investment in a Fund falls below \$1,000,000 because of redemptions, the Fund may convert your Institutional Shares into Retail Shares. You may convert Retail Shares or Institutional Shares into R6 Shares if you meet the eligibility requirements. The transaction will be based on the respective NAV of each class on the trade date for the conversion. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, such a conversion will not be a taxable event. You should consult your own tax adviser regarding specific questions of federal, state, local or foreign tax law.

### Cost Basis Information

A Fund is required to report your cost basis, gain or loss, and holding period to the Internal Revenue Service on your Consolidated Form 1099 when "covered" shares of the Fund are redeemed. Covered shares are any shares acquired (including shares acquired through reinvestment of the Fund's distributions) on or after January 1, 2012. Each of the Funds has chosen the "average cost" method as its default method for reporting the cost basis of covered shares. Each Fund will use this method for purposes of reporting your cost basis unless you instruct the relevant Fund in writing to use a different calculation method. You may choose a method different from the Funds' default method if you provide the Fund with timely notice. Please consult your tax advisor with regard to your particular circumstances.

The foregoing is a summary of some of the important U.S. federal income tax considerations affecting the Funds and their shareholders. It is not a complete analysis of all relevant tax considerations, nor is it a complete listing of all potential tax risks involved in purchasing or holding shares of the Funds. You should consult your own tax adviser regarding specific questions of federal, state, local or foreign tax law.

### Distribution and Servicing Arrangements

#### 12b-1 Plan

The Funds have adopted a distribution and servicing plan for Retail Shares (the "12b-1 Plan") under Rule 12b-1 of the 1940 Act that allows the Funds to pay fees for the distribution of Retail Shares and for shareholder services provided to holders of Retail Shares. A substantial portion of the 12b-1 fees is directed to third parties that provide shareholder servicing to existing shareholders. The 12b-1 Plan authorizes the Funds to pay BCI a distribution fee equal to 0.25% per annum of each Fund's average daily net assets attributable to the Retail Shares (please see the "12b-1 Plan" section in the SAI). Due to the possible continuing nature of Rule 12b-1 payments, long-term investors in Retail Shares may pay more than the economic equivalent of the maximum front-end sales charge permitted by FINRA. The 12b-1 Plan does not apply to Institutional Shares.

**Third Party Arrangements.** In addition to payments under the 12b-1 Plan, the Adviser, the Distributor or their affiliates may, at their own expense out of their own financial resources, make payments to some, but not all brokers, dealers or other financial intermediaries, including retirement plan sponsors, service providers and administrators providing recordkeeping, administrative and/or other services to plan participants (collectively, "financial intermediaries"), as additional compensation for services and/or as an incentive to sell shares of the Funds and/or promote retention

of their customers' assets in the Funds. These payments, some of which may be referred to as "revenue sharing" payments, do not change the price paid by investors to purchase the Funds' shares or the amount the Funds receive as proceeds from such sales.

Payments may be made to financial intermediaries that provide services to the Funds or to shareholders of the Funds, including shareholder servicing, transaction processing, sub-transfer agency services, sub-accounting services, marketing support, conference support and/or access to sales meetings, sales representatives and management representatives of the financial intermediary. Payments may also be made to financial intermediaries for inclusion of the Funds on a sales list, including a preferred or select sales list, in other sales programs and platforms, or as an expense reimbursement in cases where the financial intermediary provides shareholder services to Fund shareholders. Payments may be structured: (i) as a percentage of net sales; (ii) as a percentage of net customer assets; (iii) as a fixed dollar amount; and/or (iv) on a per account basis. The amount of payments made to a financial intermediary in any given year may vary based on the amount of Fund assets attributable to that financial intermediary.

The Funds may pay fees to financial intermediaries out of the applicable Fund's assets (in addition to 12b-1 fees for Retail Shares) for servicing shareholder accounts. Such financial intermediaries typically would have omnibus accounts with the Transfer Agent and provide shareholder servicing and/or sub-transfer agent or sub-accounting services to shareholders or beneficial owners. It is anticipated that any amounts paid by a Fund to such financial intermediaries generally would not exceed the estimated amount the Fund would have incurred in maintaining and servicing the shareholder accounts in the Fund directly rather than through these financial intermediaries. As of December 31, 2014, the Funds have made no such payments.

## Financial Highlights

The financial highlights table is intended to help you understand the Funds' financial performance for the fiscal years indicated. Certain information reflects financial results for a single Fund share. The "total return" shows how much your investment in a Fund would have increased (or decreased) during each period, assuming you had reinvested all dividends and distributions. These financial highlights, for each of the fiscal years presented in the five year period ended December 31, 2014 or the fiscal years and periods of a Fund's operations, if less than five years, have been audited by **PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP**, the Funds' independent registered public accounting firm, whose report, along with the Funds' financial statements, is included in the Funds' Annual Financial Report, which is available upon request by calling 1-800-99BARON or by emailing info@baronfunds.com. The Annual Financial Report is also incorporated by reference in the SAI. The SAI and the Annual Financial Report can be found at [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com). **The Funds' R6 Shares are newly issued and therefore Financial Highlights for the Shares are not presented in this prospectus.**

## BARON PARTNERS FUND

	RETAIL SHARES				
	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 33.32	\$ 22.56	\$ 19.39	\$ 20.57	\$ 15.64
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>					
Net investment income (loss)	0.23 <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.19) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.04) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.14) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.09) <sup>(1)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	3.19	10.95	3.21	(1.04)	5.02
Total from investment operations	3.42	10.76	3.17	(1.18)	4.93
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>					
Net investment income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net realized gain on investments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total distributions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 36.74	\$ 33.32	\$ 22.56	\$ 19.39	\$ 20.57
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	10.26%	47.69%	16.35%	(5.74)%	31.52%
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>					
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$1,256.3	\$ 1,125.6	\$ 653.7	\$ 970.4	\$1,251.9
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.51%	1.67%	1.74%	1.71%	1.71%
Less: Ratio of interest expense to average net assets	(0.19)%	(0.29)%	(0.34)%	(0.36)%	(0.34)%
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.32%	1.38%	1.40%	1.35%	1.37%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	0.66%	(0.66)%	(0.18)%	(0.69)%	(0.51)%
Portfolio turnover rate	30.82%	18.57%	13.04%	16.96%	15.85%

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.



**BARON PARTNERS FUND (CONTINUED)**

	INSTITUTIONAL SHARES				
	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 33.72	\$ 22.78	\$ 19.52	\$ 20.66	\$ 15.66
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>					
Net investment income (loss)	0.25 <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.12) <sup>(1)</sup>	0.04 <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.08) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.06) <sup>(1)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	3.31	11.06	3.22	(1.06)	5.06
Total from investment operations	3.56	10.94	3.26	(1.14)	5.00
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>					
Net investment income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net realized gain on investments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total distributions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 37.28	\$ 33.72	\$ 22.78	\$ 19.52	\$ 20.66
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	10.56%	48.02%	16.70%	(5.52)%	31.93%
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>					
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$ 681.5	\$ 349.0	\$ 146.5	\$ 123.7	\$ 119.9
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.26%	1.41%	1.48%	1.45%	1.45%
Less: Ratio of interest expense to average net assets	(0.20)%	(0.30)%	(0.35)%	(0.36)%	(0.34)%
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.06%	1.11%	1.13%	1.09%	1.11%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	0.69%	(0.41)%	0.18%	(0.41)%	(0.36)%
Portfolio turnover rate	30.82%	18.57%	13.04%	16.96%	15.85%

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

## BARON FOCUSED GROWTH FUND

	RETAIL SHARES				
	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 13.97	\$ 11.26	\$ 9.71	\$ 9.85	\$ 8.14
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>					
Net investment income (loss)	0.04 <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.07) <sup>(1)</sup>	0.24 <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.07) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.01) <sup>(1)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	0.29	2.95	1.31	(0.07)	2.05
Total from investment operations	0.33	2.88	1.55	(0.14)	2.04
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>					
Net investment income	0.00	(0.17)	0.00	0.00	(0.33)
Net realized gain on investments	(0.09)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Return of capital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total distributions	(0.09)	(0.17)	0.00	0.00	(0.33)
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 14.21	\$ 13.97	\$ 11.26	\$ 9.71	\$ 9.85
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	2.35% <sup>(2)</sup>	25.69% <sup>(2)</sup>	15.96% <sup>(2)</sup>	(1.42)% <sup>(2)</sup>	25.17% <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>					
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$ 46.1	\$ 47.6	\$ 31.4	\$ 28.3	\$ 46.4
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.39%	1.42%	1.48%	1.48%	1.47%
Less: Reimbursement of expenses by Adviser	(0.04)%	(0.07)%	(0.13)%	(0.13)%	(0.12)%
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.35%	1.35%	1.35%	1.35%	1.35%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	0.31%	(0.53)%	2.30%	(0.69)%	(0.16)%
Portfolio turnover rate	36.92%	33.67%	38.38%	44.58%	24.08%

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(2)</sup> The total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the periods shown.

**BARON FOCUSED GROWTH FUND (CONTINUED)**

	INSTITUTIONAL SHARES				
	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 14.10	\$ 11.35	\$ 9.77	\$ 9.88	\$ 8.15
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>					
Net investment income (loss)	0.08 <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.04) <sup>(1)</sup>	0.26 <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.04) <sup>(1)</sup>	0.01 <sup>(1)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	0.28	2.99	1.32	(0.07)	2.05
Total from investment operations	0.36	2.95	1.58	(0.11)	2.06
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>					
Net investment income	0.00	(0.20)	0.00	0.00	(0.33)
Net realized gain on investments	(0.09)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Return of capital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total distributions	(0.09)	(0.20)	0.00	0.00	(0.33)
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 14.37	\$ 14.10	\$ 11.35	\$ 9.77	\$ 9.88
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	2.54%	26.09% <sup>(2)</sup>	16.17% <sup>(2)</sup>	(1.11)% <sup>(2)</sup>	25.39% <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>					
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$ 149.2	\$ 148.4	\$ 87.9	\$ 63.6	\$ 44.3
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.09%	1.12%	1.16%	1.18%	1.19%
Less: Reimbursement of expenses by Adviser	0.00%	(0.02)%	(0.06)%	(0.08)%	(0.09)%
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.09%	1.10%	1.10%	1.10%	1.10%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	0.56%	(0.28)%	2.53%	(0.40)%	0.08%
Portfolio turnover rate	36.92%	33.67%	38.38%	44.58%	24.08%

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(2)</sup> The total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the periods shown.

## BARON INTERNATIONAL GROWTH FUND

	RETAIL SHARES				
	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 18.91	\$ 15.55	\$ 13.20	\$ 17.29	\$ 14.11
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>					
Net investment income (loss)	0.03 <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.01) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.02) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.01) <sup>(1)</sup>	0.01 <sup>(1)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(0.46)	3.37	2.37	(2.78)	3.38
Total from investment operations	(0.43)	3.36	2.35	(2.79)	3.39
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>					
Net investment income	(0.00) <sup>(2)</sup>	0.00	0.00	(0.04)	0.00
Net realized gain on investments	(0.54)	0.00	0.00	(1.26)	(0.21)
Total distributions	(0.54)	0.00	0.00	(1.30)	(0.21)
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 17.94	\$ 18.91	\$ 15.55	\$ 13.20	\$ 17.29
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	<b>(2.33)%<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>21.61%<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>17.80%<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>(16.35)%<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>24.22%<sup>(3)</sup></b>
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>					
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$ 53.0	\$ 17.0	\$ 15.6	\$ 11.7	\$ 15.3
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.63%	1.74%	1.78%	1.73%	1.76%
Less: Reimbursement of expenses by Adviser	(0.13)%	(0.24)%	(0.28)%	(0.23)%	(0.26)%
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	0.14%	(0.05)%	(0.16)%	(0.05)%	0.07%
Portfolio turnover rate	34.67%	40.60%	39.02%	53.20%	32.70%

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(2)</sup> Less than \$0.01 per share.

<sup>(3)</sup> The total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the periods shown.

## BARON INTERNATIONAL GROWTH FUND (CONTINUED)

	INSTITUTIONAL SHARES				
	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 19.05	\$ 15.63	\$ 13.25	\$ 17.36	\$ 14.13
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>					
Net investment income	0.12 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.03 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.01 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.03 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.05 <sup>(1)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(0.50)	3.39	2.40	(2.79)	3.39
Total from investment operations	(0.38)	3.42	2.41	(2.76)	3.44
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>					
Net investment income	(0.04)	(0.00) <sup>(2)</sup>	(0.03)	(0.09)	0.00
Net realized gain on investments	(0.54)	0.00	0.00	(1.26)	(0.21)
Total distributions	(0.58)	(0.00)	(0.03)	(1.35)	(0.21)
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 18.09	\$ 19.05	\$ 15.63	\$ 13.25	\$ 17.36
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	<b>(2.07)%<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>21.89%<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>18.17%<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>(16.13)%<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>24.54%<sup>(3)</sup></b>
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>					
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$ 52.3	\$ 45.4	\$ 39.0	\$ 30.5	\$ 37.4
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.34%	1.37%	1.40%	1.38%	1.40%
Less: Reimbursement of expenses by Adviser	(0.09)%	(0.12)%	(0.15)%	(0.13)%	(0.15)%
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.25%	1.25%	1.25%	1.25%	1.25%
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	0.64%	0.20%	0.09%	0.19%	0.31%
Portfolio turnover rate	34.67%	40.60%	39.02%	53.20%	32.70%

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(2)</sup> Less than \$0.01 per share.

<sup>(3)</sup> The total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the periods shown.

## BARON REAL ESTATE FUND

	RETAIL SHARES				
	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 22.25	\$ 17.52	\$ 12.51	\$ 12.66	\$ 10.00
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>					
Net investment income (loss)	0.04 <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.05) <sup>(1)</sup>	0.01 <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.01) <sup>(1)</sup>	0.02 <sup>(1)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	3.66	4.80	5.31	0.07 <sup>(2)</sup>	2.64
Total from investment operations	3.70	4.75	5.32	0.06	2.66
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>					
Net investment income	(0.03)	0.00	0.00	(0.00) <sup>(3)</sup>	0.00
Net realized gain on investments	0.00	(0.02)	(0.31)	(0.21)	0.00
Total distributions	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.31)	(0.21)	0.00
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 25.92	\$ 22.25	\$ 17.52	\$ 12.51	\$ 12.66
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	16.61%	27.12%	42.60% <sup>(4)</sup>	0.63% <sup>(4)</sup>	26.60% <sup>(4)</sup>
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>					
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$ 782.8	\$ 539.5	\$ 53.6	\$ 10.9	\$ 5.5
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.32%	1.35%	1.76%	2.33%	4.35%
Less: Reimbursement of expenses by Adviser	0.00%	0.00%	(0.41)%	(0.98)%	(3.00)%
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.32%	1.35%	1.35%	1.35%	1.35%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	0.17%	(0.23)%	0.07%	(0.08)%	0.14%
Portfolio turnover rate	24.40%	19.36%	30.14%	70.99%	58.03%

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(2)</sup> The amount shown for a share outstanding does not correspond with the aggregate realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments for the period due to the timing of sales and redemptions of Fund shares in relation to fluctuating market values of investments of the Fund.

<sup>(3)</sup> Less than \$0.01 per share.

<sup>(4)</sup> The total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the periods shown.

## BARON REAL ESTATE FUND (CONTINUED)

	INSTITUTIONAL SHARES				
	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 22.43	\$ 17.64	\$ 12.56	\$ 12.69	\$ 10.00
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>					
Net investment income	0.11 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.03 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.06 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.02 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.04 <sup>(1)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	3.68	4.81	5.33	0.07 <sup>(2)</sup>	2.65
Total from investment operations	3.79	4.84	5.39	0.09	2.69
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>					
Net investment income	(0.08)	(0.00) <sup>(3)</sup>	0.00	(0.01)	0.00
Net realized gain on investments	0.00	(0.02)	(0.31)	(0.21)	0.00
Return of capital	0.00	(0.03)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total distributions	(0.08)	(0.05)	(0.31)	(0.22)	0.00
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 26.14	\$ 22.43	\$ 17.64	\$ 12.56	\$ 12.69
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	16.93%	27.48%	42.99% <sup>(4)</sup>	0.80% <sup>(4)</sup>	26.90% <sup>(4)</sup>
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>					
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$ 919.7	\$ 486.1	\$ 35.5	\$ 4.9	\$ 3.2
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.06%	1.09%	1.44%	2.14%	4.26%
Less: Reimbursement of expenses by Adviser	0.00%	0.00%	(0.34)%	(1.04)%	(3.16)%
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.06%	1.09%	1.10%	1.10%	1.10%
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	0.44%	0.15%	0.36%	0.17%	0.36%
Portfolio turnover rate	24.40%	19.36%	30.14%	70.99%	58.03%

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(2)</sup> The amount shown for a share outstanding does not correspond with the aggregate realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments for the period due to the timing of sales and redemptions of Fund shares in relation to fluctuating market values of investments of the Fund.

<sup>(3)</sup> Less than \$0.01 per share.

<sup>(4)</sup> The total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the periods shown.

## BARON EMERGING MARKETS FUND

	RETAIL SHARES			
	Year Ended December 31,			
	2014	2013	2012	2011
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 11.54	\$10.06	\$ 8.28	\$ 10.00
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>				
Net investment income (loss)	0.07 <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.06) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.04) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.03) <sup>(1)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	0.33	1.54	1.94	(1.69 )
Total from investment operations	0.40	1.48	1.90	(1.72 )
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>				
Net investment income	(0.03 )	0.00	(0.12)	0.00
Net realized gain on investments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total distributions	(0.03 )	0.00	(0.12)	0.00
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 11.91	\$11.54	\$10.06	\$ 8.28
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	3.47% <sup>(2)</sup>	14.71% <sup>(2)</sup>	22.98% <sup>(2)</sup>	(17.20)% <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>				
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$ 649.7	\$259.6	\$ 2.9	\$ 2.0
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.52%	1.90%	4.01%	4.49%
Less: Reimbursement of expenses by Adviser	(0.02)%	(0.40)%	(2.51)%	(2.99)%
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	0.56%	(0.53)%	(0.39)%	(0.32)%
Portfolio turnover rate	23.38%	14.68%	42.68%	45.86%

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(2)</sup> The total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the periods shown.



**BARON EMERGING MARKETS FUND (CONTINUED)**

	INSTITUTIONAL SHARES			
	Year Ended December 31,			
	2014	2013	2012	2011
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 11.56	\$ 10.05	\$ 8.30	\$ 10.00
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>				
Net investment income (loss)	0.09 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.01 <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.01) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.01) <sup>(1)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	0.34	1.50	1.93	(1.69)
Total from investment operations	0.43	1.51	1.92	(1.70)
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>				
Net investment income	(0.05)	0.00	(0.17 )	0.00
Net realized gain on investments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total distributions	(0.05)	0.00	(0.17 )	0.00
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 11.94	\$ 11.56	\$ 10.05	\$ 8.30
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	3.75% <sup>(2)</sup>	15.02% <sup>(2)</sup>	23.22% <sup>(2)</sup>	(17.00)% <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>				
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$ 697.8	\$ 116.0	\$ 6.0	\$ 4.3
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.27%	1.80%	3.37%	3.83%
Less: Reimbursement of expenses by Adviser	(0.02)%	(0.55)%	(2.12)%	(2.58)%
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.25%	1.25%	1.25%	1.25%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	0.76%	0.05%	(0.14)%	(0.07)%
Portfolio turnover rate	23.38%	14.68%	42.68%	45.86%

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(2)</sup> The total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the periods shown.

## BARON ENERGY AND RESOURCES FUND

	RETAIL SHARES		
	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 11.84	\$ 9.46	\$ 10.00
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>			
Net investment loss	(0.01) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.01) <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.03) <sup>(1)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(1.50 )	2.40	(0.51)
Total from investment operations	(1.51 )	2.39	(0.54)
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>			
Net investment income	0.00	(0.01)	0.00
Net realized gain on investments	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total distributions	0.00	(0.01)	0.00
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 10.33	\$ 11.84	\$ 9.46
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	(12.75)% <sup>(2)</sup>	25.32% <sup>(2)</sup>	(5.40)% <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>			
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$ 39.7	\$ 29.2	\$ 1.8
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.79%	2.25%	9.07%
Less: Reimbursement of expenses by Adviser	(0.44)%	(0.90)%	(7.72)%
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.35%	1.35%	1.35%
Ratio of net investment loss to average net assets	(0.04)%	(0.05)%	(0.36)%
Portfolio turnover rate	23.12%	25.60%	35.74%

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(2)</sup> The total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the periods shown.

**BARON ENERGY AND RESOURCES FUND (CONTINUED)**

	<b>INSTITUTIONAL SHARES</b>		
	<b>Year Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 11.91	\$ 9.48	\$ 10.00
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>			
Net investment income (loss)	0.03 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.02 <sup>(1)</sup>	(0.01) <sup>(1)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(1.53)	2.41	(0.51)
Total from investment operations	(1.50)	2.43	(0.52)
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>			
Net investment income	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net realized gain on investments	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total distributions	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 10.41	\$ 11.91	\$ 9.48
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	(12.59)% <sup>(2)</sup>	25.63% <sup>(2)</sup>	(5.20)% <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>			
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$ 29.3	\$ 4.0	\$ 1.4
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	1.52%	2.84%	8.65%
Less: Reimbursement of expenses by Adviser	(0.42)%	(1.74)%	(7.55)%
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.10%	1.10%	1.10%
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	0.22%	0.20%	(0.11)%
Portfolio turnover rate	23.12%	25.60%	35.74%

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(2)</sup> The total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the periods shown.

## BARON GLOBAL ADVANTAGE FUND

	RETAIL SHARES		
	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012 <sup>(1)</sup>
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 13.51	\$10.41	\$10.00
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>			
Net investment income (loss)	0.02 <sup>(2)</sup>	(0.02) <sup>(2)</sup>	(0.02) <sup>(2)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	0.67	3.12	0.43
Total from investment operations	0.69	3.10	0.41
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>			
Net investment income	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net realized gain on investments	(0.00) <sup>(3)</sup>	0.00	0.00
Total distributions	(0.00)	0.00	0.00
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 14.20	\$13.51	\$10.41
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	5.11% <sup>(4)(8)</sup>	29.78% <sup>(4)</sup>	4.10% <sup>(4)(5)</sup>
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>			
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$ 3.9	\$ 2.3	\$ 1.5
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	3.61%	5.51%	8.35% <sup>(6)(7)</sup>
Less: Reimbursement of expenses by Adviser	(2.11)%	(4.01)%	(6.85)% <sup>(6)(7)</sup>
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.50%	1.50%	1.50% <sup>(6)(7)</sup>
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	0.18%	(0.20)%	(0.38)% <sup>(6)(7)</sup>
Portfolio turnover rate	123.51%	32.78%	24.64% <sup>(5)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> For the period April 30, 2012 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2012.

<sup>(2)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(3)</sup> Less than \$0.01 per share.

<sup>(4)</sup> The total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the periods shown.

<sup>(5)</sup> Not annualized.

<sup>(6)</sup> Certain fixed expenses incurred by the Fund were not annualized for the period ended December 31, 2012.

<sup>(7)</sup> Annualized.

<sup>(8)</sup> The Adviser made a voluntary payment to the Fund in the amount of \$47,291 to compensate the Fund for a loss incurred due to a shareholder activity processing error. The impact of this payment increased the Fund's total return by 0.54%.

## BARON GLOBAL ADVANTAGE FUND (CONTINUED)

	INSTITUTIONAL SHARES		
	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012 <sup>(1)</sup>
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 13.56	\$10.42	\$ 10.00
<b>INCOME (LOSS) FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:</b>			
Net investment income (loss)	0.07 <sup>(2)</sup>	0.00 <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	(0.02) <sup>(2)</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	0.65	3.14	0.44
Total from investment operations	0.72	3.14	0.42
<b>LESS DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS FROM:</b>			
Net investment income	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net realized gain on investments	(0.00) <sup>(3)</sup>	0.00	0.00
Total distributions	(0.00)	0.00	0.00
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 14.28	\$13.56	\$ 10.42
<b>TOTAL RETURN</b>	5.32% <sup>(4)(8)</sup>	30.13% <sup>(4)</sup>	4.20% <sup>(4)(5)</sup>
<b>RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:</b>			
Net assets (in millions), end of year	\$ 4.1	\$ 3.3	\$ 1.6
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	2.92%	4.91%	7.33% <sup>(6)(7)</sup>
Less: Reimbursement of expenses by Adviser	(1.67)%	(3.66)%	(6.08)% <sup>(6)(7)</sup>
Ratio of net operating expenses to average net assets	1.25%	1.25%	1.25% <sup>(6)(7)</sup>
Ratio of net investment income (loss) to average net assets	0.48%	0.02%	(0.30)% <sup>(6)(7)</sup>
Portfolio turnover rate	123.51%	32.78%	24.64% <sup>(5)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> For the period April 30, 2012 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2012.

<sup>(2)</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.

<sup>(3)</sup> Less than \$0.01 per share.

<sup>(4)</sup> The total returns would have been lower had certain expenses not been reduced during the periods shown.

<sup>(5)</sup> Not annualized.

<sup>(6)</sup> Certain fixed expenses incurred by the Fund were not annualized for the period ended December 31, 2012.

<sup>(7)</sup> Annualized.

<sup>(8)</sup> The Adviser made a voluntary payment to the Fund in the amount of \$47,291 to compensate the Fund for a loss incurred due to a shareholder activity processing error. The impact of this payment increased the Fund's total return by 0.54%.

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## General Information

### Custodian, Administrator, Transfer Agent and Dividend Agent

State Street Bank and Trust Company ("State Street"), One Lincoln Street, Boston, MA 02111, serves as the custodian for the Funds' cash and securities.

SSBT serves as the administrator to the Funds and provides certain accounting and bookkeeping services, which include maintaining the books of each Fund, calculating daily the income and NAV per share of each Fund and assisting in the preparation of tax returns and reports to shareholders.

DST Systems, Inc. serves as the Transfer Agent and dividend disbursing agent for the Funds.

These institutions are not responsible for investment decisions of the Funds.

### Shareholder Information

If you have questions about your account or transactions, please contact DST at DST Systems, Inc., P.O. Box 219946, Kansas City, MO 64121-9946, or by telephone at 1-800-442-3814.

If you have questions about general Fund information, please call 1-800-99BARON or 212-583-2100.

As a Delaware statutory trust, annual shareholder meetings are not required. The Adviser sends Annual and Semi-Annual financial reports to shareholders. Pending legal proceedings, if any, are disclosed in the SAI.

### Privacy Notice

The Funds collect nonpublic personal information about you from the following sources:

- Information we receive from you on applications or other forms;
- Information about your transactions with us, the Adviser or others; and
- Information we receive from third parties, such as credit reporting agencies.

"Nonpublic personal information" is private information about you that we obtain in connection with providing a financial product or service to you.

We may share your name and address among other Funds and the Adviser and its affiliates for the purpose of sending you information about our products that we believe may be of interest to you and informing you of our upcoming Baron Investment Conference and for sending required information.

We do not disclose any nonpublic personal information about our customers to anyone, except as permitted or required by law. Examples of permitted disclosures under the law include sharing such information with companies that work for us to provide you services, such as the Transfer Agent or mailing house. All such companies that act on our behalf are contractually obligated to keep the information that we provide to them confidential and to use the information only to provide the services that we have asked them to perform for you and us.

We restrict access to nonpublic personal information about you to those employees who need to know that information to provide products or services to you. We maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards to guard your nonpublic personal information.

This privacy notice is also available at all times on the Baron Funds® website, [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com), or by calling 1-800-99BARON.

## For More Information

Investors who want more information about Baron Funds® may obtain the following documents free upon request at the numbers or addresses below.

### Shareholder Reports and Statement of Additional Information

Additional information about the Funds' investments is available in the Funds' Annual and Semi-Annual financial reports to shareholders. In the Funds' Annual Report you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Funds' performance during the last fiscal year.

Additional information is also contained in the SAI dated April 30, 2015. A current SAI is on file with the SEC and is incorporated by reference in this prospectus. You may obtain the SAI and the shareholder reports without charge by writing or calling 1-800-99BARON. The SAI and shareholder reports are also available on the Baron Funds® website, [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com).

By telephone: Call 1-800-99BARON (1-800-992-2766)  
By mail: Write to: BARON FUNDS®

767 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10153

By e-mail: Send your request to:  
[info@BaronFunds.com](mailto:info@BaronFunds.com)

On the Internet: Text-only versions of Baron Funds® documents can be viewed online or down loaded from [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com) or from the EDGAR database on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov)

Other: Information about the Funds (including the SAI) can be reviewed and copied at the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C., and information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at 1-202-551-8090. Reports and other information about the Funds are available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC's Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>, and copies of this information may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following email address: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov), or by writing the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-1520.

Ticker Symbols:	Baron Partners Fund	
	Retail Shares	BPTRX
	Institutional Shares	BPTIX
	Baron Focused Growth Fund	
	Retail Shares	BFGFX
	Institutional Shares	BFGIX
	Baron International Growth Fund	
	Retail Shares	BIGFX
	Institutional Shares	BINIX
	Baron Real Estate Fund	
	Retail Shares	BREFX
	Institutional Shares	BREIX
	R6 Shares	
	Baron Emerging Markets Fund	
	Retail Shares	BEXFX
	Institutional Shares	BEXIX
	R6 Shares	
	Baron Energy and Resources Fund	
	Retail Shares	BENFX
	Institutional Shares	BENIX
	Baron Global Advantage Fund	
	Retail Shares	BGAFX
	Institutional Shares	BGAIX

SEC file number: 811-21296

No person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations other than those contained in this prospectus or in the related SAI.



767 Fifth Avenue • New York, NY 10153



The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted.

## **BARON SELECT FUNDS**

### **Baron Partners Fund**

Retail Shares: BPTRX

Institutional Shares: BPTIX

### **Baron Focused Growth Fund**

Retail Shares: BFGFX

Institutional Shares: BFGIX

### **Baron International Growth Fund**

Retail Shares: BIGFX

Institutional Shares: BINIX

### **Baron Real Estate Fund**

Retail Shares: BREFX

Institutional Shares: BREIX

**R6 Shares:**

### **Baron Emerging Markets Fund**

Retail Shares: BEXFX

Institutional Shares: BEXIX

**R6 Shares:**

### **Baron Energy and Resources Fund**

Retail Shares: BENFX

Institutional Shares: BENIX

### **Baron Global Advantage Fund**

Retail Shares: BGAFX

Institutional Shares: BGAIX

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212-583-2100

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#### **Statement of Additional Information**

dated [ ], 2015

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This Statement of Additional Information ("SAI") is not a prospectus. This SAI should be read in conjunction with the Funds' Prospectus dated [ ], 2015, which may be obtained without charge by writing or calling the Funds at the address or telephone number above or by visiting [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com).

The Funds' Prospectus is incorporated by reference into this SAI and the SAI is incorporated by reference into the Funds' Prospectus. The Funds' audited financial statements for the period ended December 31, 2014 are incorporated into this SAI, which can be found at [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com). You may request a copy of the Annual and Semi-Annual Financial Reports at no charge by writing or calling the Funds at the address or telephone number above.

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**No person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations other than those contained in this SAI or in the related prospectus.**

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## FUND HISTORY

**Baron Select Funds** (the “Trust”) is an open-end management investment company organized originally as a limited partnership known as Baron Capital Partners, L.P., on January 31, 1992, under the laws of the State of Delaware. On April 30, 2003, the partnership was converted into a statutory trust under the laws of the State of Delaware. The Trust is structured to be able to issue shares in multiple series, each constituting a separate portfolio with separate assets and liabilities from any other series. There are seven series currently available: **Baron Partners Fund**, **Baron Focused Growth Fund**, **Baron Real Estate Fund**, and **Baron Energy and Resources Fund** which are non-diversified, and **Baron International Growth Fund**, **Baron Emerging Markets Fund** and **Baron Global Advantage Fund**, which are diversified (individually, a “Fund,” and collectively, the “Funds”). **Baron Partners Fund** is the successor to Baron Capital Partners, L.P., and **Baron Focused Growth Fund** is the successor to Baron Investment Partners, L.P. **Baron Partners Fund** and **Baron Focused Growth Fund** have substantially the same investment objectives and strategies as did their respective predecessor partnerships. The investment adviser to the Funds is BAMCO, Inc. (“BAMCO” or the “Adviser”). **Baron Partners Fund** and **Baron Focused Growth Fund** have the same portfolio manager, Ronald Baron, as their respective predecessor partnerships. Michael Kass is the portfolio manager of **Baron International Growth Fund** and **Baron Emerging Markets Fund**. Jeffrey A. Kolitch is the portfolio manager of **Baron Real Estate Fund**. James Stone is the portfolio manager of **Baron Energy and Resources Fund**. Alex Umansky is the portfolio manager of **Baron Global Advantage Fund**.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE FUNDS AND THEIR INVESTMENTS AND RISKS

### Investment Strategies and Risks.

The investment goal of the Funds is to seek capital appreciation. **Baron Partners Fund** invests primarily in equity securities of U.S. growth companies of any size. **Baron Focused Growth Fund** invests 65% of its net assets in equity securities in the form of common stock of small- and mid-sized growth companies with market capitalizations up to the largest market cap stock in the Russell Midcap Growth Index at reconstitution. The 65% standard is measured at the time of purchase. At the last reconstitution by Russell on June 30, 2014, the largest market cap stock in the Russell Midcap Growth Index was \$29.87 billion. **Baron International Growth Fund** invests primarily in securities of non-U.S. companies and seeks to diversify among developed countries and developing countries throughout the world, although the Fund’s total exposure to developing countries will not exceed 30%. For the purpose of the 30% restriction, developing countries include countries in the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index, countries in the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index and other countries determined by the Adviser to be developing countries based on classifications made by the International Monetary Fund and/or the World Bank or on country characteristics similar to those of the countries in the EM and FM Indexes. **Baron Real Estate Fund**, under normal circumstances, invests 80% of its net assets in securities of U.S. and non-U.S. real estate and real estate-related companies of any size, and in companies which, in the Adviser’s opinion, own significant real estate assets at the time of investment. **Baron Emerging Markets Fund**, under normal circumstances, invests 80% of its net assets in equity securities of growth companies domiciled, headquartered or whose primary business activities or principal trading markets are in developing countries, which include countries in the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index and other countries determined by the Adviser to be developing countries based on classifications made by the International Monetary Fund and/or the World Bank or on country characteristics similar to those of the countries in the EM Index. **Baron Energy and Resources Fund**, under normal circumstances, invests 80% of its net assets in equity securities of U.S. and non-U.S. energy and resources companies and related companies and energy and resources master limited partnerships (“MLPs”) of any market capitalization. **Baron Global Advantage Fund**, under normal circumstances, invests primarily in established and emerging markets companies located throughout the world, with capitalizations within the range of companies included in the MSCI ACWI Growth Index Net. At all times, **Baron Global Advantage Fund** invests in securities of companies in at least three countries.

In addition to the investment strategies of the Funds described in each of their respective summary sections and in the prospectus on pages 51-54, the Funds may use the additional strategies described below. These investment strategies are not fundamental policies and may be changed by the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) without shareholder approval upon at least 60 days’ notice. Shareholders will be notified of any material changes. Some of the strategies discussed below are mentioned in the prospectus, but they are explained in more detail here.

#### *Non-U.S. Securities.*

**Baron Partners Fund, Baron Focused Growth Fund and Baron Real Estate Fund and Baron Energy and Resources Fund** may invest without limitation in the securities of non-U.S. issuers in U.S. denominated form known as American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”). They may also invest up to 25% of the respective total assets directly in the securities of non-U.S. issuers that are not publicly traded in the U.S. and in Global Depositary Receipts (“GDRs”) and European Depositary Receipts (“EDRs”).

ADRs are certificates issued by a U.S. bank or trust company and represent the right to receive securities of a foreign issuer deposited in a U.S. bank or foreign branch of a U.S. bank and traded on a U.S. exchange or in an over-the-counter market. EDRs and GDRs are receipts issued in Europe generally by a non-U.S. bank or trust company that evidence ownership of non-U.S. securities. There are no fees imposed on the purchase or sale of ADRs, EDRs or GDRs, although the issuing bank or trust company may impose fees on the purchase of dividends and the conversion of ADRs, EDRs and GDRs into the underlying securities. Investment in ADRs have certain advantages over direct investment in the underlying non-U.S. securities, since (i) ADRs are U.S. dollar denominated investments that are easily transferable and for which market quotations are readily available and (ii) issuers whose securities are represented by ADRs are subject to the same auditing, accounting and financial reporting standards as U.S. issuers. EDRs and GDRs are not necessarily denominated in the currency of the underlying security. Issuers of non-U.S. securities are subject to different, often less detailed, accounting, reporting and disclosure requirements than are U.S. issuers. These securities may have exposure to developed countries and developing countries, which include countries in the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index, countries in the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index and other countries determined by the Adviser to be developing countries based on classifications made by the International Monetary Fund and/or the World Bank or on country characteristics similar to those of the countries in the EM and FM Indexes.

**Baron International Growth Fund** invests primarily in non-U.S. securities. Non-U.S. securities include securities that the Adviser determines are “non-U.S.” based on the consideration of an issuer’s domicile, its principal place of business, its primary stock exchange listing, the source of its revenue or other factors. The Fund may also invest up to 25% of its total assets in U.S. issuers. In addition, the Fund may invest without limitation in ADRs, EDRs and GDRs, or in other securities convertible into securities of foreign issuers.

**Baron Emerging Markets Fund** invests primarily in equity securities in the form of common stock of growth companies domiciled, headquartered or whose primary business activities or principal trading markets are developing countries. A developing country is a country included in the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index and other countries determined by the Adviser to be developing countries based on classifications made by the International Monetary Fund and/or the World Bank or on country characteristics similar to those of the countries in the EM Index. The Fund may invest up to 20% of its net assets in developed countries, frontier countries as defined by the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index and in the securities of non-U.S. issuers in developed and frontier countries in U.S. denominated form known as American Depositary Receipts.

**Baron Global Advantage Fund and Baron Energy and Resources Fund** may invest without limitation directly in the securities of U.S. and non-U.S. companies in any form, including, in the case of U.S. companies, European Depositary Receipts and Global Depositary Receipts, and in the case of non-U.S. companies, American Depositary Receipts. At all times, **Baron Global Advantage Fund** will have investments in the securities of companies in at least three countries.

### ***REITs.***

The Funds may invest in the equity securities of real estate investment trusts (“REITs”). A REIT is a corporation or business trust that invests in real estate and derives its income from rents or sales of real property or interest on loans secured by mortgages on real property. The market value of REITs may be affected by numerous factors, including decreases in the value of real estate, vacancies, decreases in lease rates, defaults by lessees, changes in the tax laws or by their inability to qualify for the tax-free pass-through of their income.

### ***Securities Lending.***

The Funds may lend their portfolio securities to qualified institutions. By lending its portfolio securities, a Fund attempts to increase its income through the receipt of interest on the loan. Any gain or loss in the market price of the securities loaned that may occur during the term of the loan will be for the account of the Fund. A Fund may lend its portfolio securities so long as the terms and the structure of such loans are not inconsistent with the requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), which currently provide that (a) the borrower pledges and maintains with the Fund collateral consisting of cash, a letter of credit issued by a domestic U.S. bank, or securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government having a value at all times not less than 100% of the value of the securities loaned, (b) the borrower adds to such collateral whenever the price of the securities loaned rises (i.e., the value of the loan is “marked to the market” on a daily basis), (c) the loan be made subject to termination by the Fund at any time and the loaned securities be subject to recall within the normal and customary settlement time for securities transactions and (d) the Fund receives reasonable interest on the loan (which may include the Fund’s investing any cash collateral in interest bearing short-term investments), any distributions on the loaned securities and any increase in their market value. If the borrower fails to maintain the requisite amount of collateral, the loan automatically terminates and 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. As with any extension of credit, there are risks of delay in recovery and in some cases even loss of rights in collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially.

A Fund will not lend portfolio securities if, as a result, the aggregate of such loans exceeds 25% of the value of its total assets (including such loans). Loan arrangements made by a Fund will comply with all other applicable regulatory requirements. All relevant facts and circumstances, including the creditworthiness of the qualified institution, will be monitored by the Adviser, and will be considered in making decisions with respect to lending of securities, subject to review by the Trust’s Board of Trustees.

A Fund may pay reasonable negotiated fees in connection with loaned securities, so long as such fees are set forth in a written contract and approved by its Board of Trustees. In addition, a Fund shall, through the ability to recall securities prior to any required vote, retain voting rights over the loaned securities.

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

The Funds may purchase or sell securities on a when-issued or delayed-delivery basis. When-issued or delayed-delivery transactions arise when securities are purchased or sold with payment and delivery taking place in the future in order to secure what is considered to be an advantageous price at the time of entering into the transaction. While a Fund generally purchases securities on a when-issued basis with the intention of acquiring the securities, the Fund may sell the securities before the settlement date if the Adviser deems it advisable. Distributions attributable to any gains realized on such a sale are taxable to shareholders. When-issued and delayed-delivery securities and forward commitments involve the risk that the security a Fund buys will lose value prior to its delivery. There are also the risks that the security will never be issued or that the other party to the transaction will not meet its obligation. If this occurs, a Fund loses both the investment opportunity for the assets it set aside to pay for the security and any gain in the security’s price. The Funds do not anticipate investing more than 10% of their total assets in such securities.

### ***Illiquid Securities.***

The Funds may invest up to 15% of their respective net assets in illiquid securities at the time of purchase. An illiquid security is one that cannot be disposed of in the ordinary course of business within seven days. Such investments may include private equity securities, private investments in public equity ("PIPE") securities and other restricted securities. To the extent that there is no established market for some of the debt securities in which the Funds may invest, there may be thin or no trading in such securities, and the ability of the Adviser to value accurately such securities may be adversely affected. Further, it may be more difficult for the Funds to sell securities for which no established market exists. During periods of reduced market liquidity, and in the absence of readily available market quotations for securities held in the Funds' portfolios, the responsibility of the Adviser to value the Funds' securities becomes more difficult, and the Adviser's judgment may play a greater role in the valuation of the Funds' securities due to a reduced availability of reliable data.

To the extent that the Funds purchase illiquid securities or securities that are restricted as to resale, the Funds may incur additional risks and costs. Illiquid and restricted securities may be particularly difficult to value and their disposition may require greater effort and expense than more liquid securities. The Funds may be required to incur costs in connection with the registration of restricted securities in order to dispose of such securities, although pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, certain securities may be determined to be liquid pursuant to procedures adopted by the Board under applicable guidelines.

If one or more instruments in a Fund's portfolio become illiquid, the Fund may exceed its limit on illiquid instruments. If this occurs, the Fund must take steps to bring the aggregate amount of illiquid instruments back within the prescribed limitations as soon as reasonably practicable. However, this requirement will not force a Fund to liquidate any portfolio instrument where the Fund would suffer a loss on the sale of that instrument.

### ***Debt Securities.***

Debt securities have varying levels of sensitivity to changes in interest rates. In general, the price of a debt security can fall when interest rates rise and can rise when interest rates fall. Securities with longer maturities can be more sensitive to interest rate changes. The longer the maturity of a security, the greater the impact a change in interest rates could have on the security's price. In addition, short-term and long-term interest rates do not necessarily move in the same amount or the same direction. Short-term securities tend to react to changes in short-term interest rates, and long-term securities tend to react to changes in long-term interest rates.

Many types of debt securities, including mortgage-backed securities, are subject to prepayment risk. Prepayment risk occurs when the issuer of a security can repay principal prior to the security's maturity. Securities subject to prepayment can offer less potential for gains during a declining interest rate environment and similar or greater potential for loss in a rising interest rate environment. In addition, the potential impact of prepayment features on the price of a debt security can be difficult to predict and result in greater volatility. The Funds do not anticipate investing more than 5% of their respective assets in such securities.

The Funds may invest in zero-coupon, step-coupon and pay-in-kind securities. These securities are debt securities that do not make regular interest payments. Zero-coupon and step-coupon securities are sold at a deep discount to their face value, and pay-in-kind securities pay interest through the issuance of additional securities. The market value of these debt securities generally fluctuates in response to changes in interest rates to a greater degree than interest-paying securities of a comparable term and quality. The secondary market value of corporate debt securities structured as zero-coupon securities or pay-in-kind securities may be more volatile in response to changes in interest rates than debt securities, which pay interest periodically in cash. Because such securities do not pay current interest, but instead accrue such income, to the extent that the Funds do not have available cash to meet distribution requirements with respect to such income, they could be required to dispose of portfolio securities that they would not otherwise. Such disposition could be at a disadvantageous price. Investments in such securities also involve certain tax considerations.

The Funds from time to time may also purchase indebtedness and participations, both secured and unsecured, of debtor companies in reorganization or financial restructuring. Such indebtedness may be in the form of loans, notes, bonds or debentures. When the Funds purchase a participation interest they assume the credit risk associated with the bank or other financial intermediary as well as the credit risk associated with the issuer of any underlying debt instrument. The Funds may also purchase trade and other claims against, and other unsecured obligations of, such debtor companies, which generally represent money due a supplier of goods or services to such company. Some debt securities purchased by the Funds may have very long maturities. The length of time remaining until maturity is one factor that the Adviser considers in purchasing a particular indebtedness. The purchase of indebtedness of a troubled company always involves a risk as to the creditworthiness of the issuer and the possibility that the investment may be lost. The Adviser believes that the difference between perceived risk and actual risk creates the opportunity for profit, which can be realized through thorough analysis. There are no established markets for some of this indebtedness, and it is less liquid than more heavily traded securities. Indebtedness of the debtor company to a bank is not the security of the banks issuing or selling them. The Funds may purchase loans from national and state chartered banks as well as foreign ones. The Funds may invest in senior indebtedness of debtor companies, although on occasion subordinated indebtedness may also be acquired. The Funds may also invest in distressed first mortgage obligations and other debt secured by real property. The Funds do not currently anticipate investing more than 10% of their total assets in trade and other claims.

#### ***Repurchase and Reverse Repurchase Agreements.***

The Funds may enter into repurchase agreements with certain banks or non-bank dealers. In a repurchase agreement, the Funds buy a security at one price, and at the time of sale, the seller agrees to repurchase that security at a mutually agreed upon time and price. Repurchase agreements could involve certain risks in the event of the failure of the seller to repurchase the securities as agreed, which may cause the Funds to suffer a loss, including loss of interest on, or principal of, the security and costs associated with delay and enforcement of the repurchase agreement. Repurchase agreements with a duration of more than seven days are considered illiquid securities. Repurchase agreements carry the risk that the market value of the securities declines below the repurchase price. Also a Fund could lose money if it is unable to recover the securities and the value of the collateral held by the Fund is less than the value of the securities. In the event the borrower commences bankruptcy proceedings, a court may characterize the transaction as a loan. If a Fund has not perfected a security interest in the underlying collateral, the Fund may be required to return the underlying collateral to the borrower's estate and be treated as an unsecured creditor. As an unsecured creditor, the Fund could lose some or all of the principal and interest involved in the transaction.

The Funds may engage in reverse repurchase agreements with certain banks or non-bank dealers, where the Funds sell a security and simultaneously agree to buy it back at a mutually agreed upon time and price. To the extent that the Funds engage in reverse repurchase agreements, they will maintain a segregated account consisting of liquid assets or highly marketable securities to cover their obligations. Reverse repurchase agreements are a type of borrowing that may increase the possibility of fluctuation in a Fund's net asset value.

#### ***Medium And Lower-Rated Corporate Debt Securities.***

The Funds may invest in debt securities that are rated in the medium to lowest rating categories by Standard & Poor's Corporation ("S&P") and Moody's Investors Services, Inc. ("Moody's"), some of which may be known as "junk bonds." The Funds do not anticipate investing more than 35% of their total assets in such securities. Because the creditworthiness of an issuer may change more rapidly than is able to be timely reflected in changes in credit ratings, the Adviser monitors corporate debt securities of issuers held in the Funds' equity portfolios. The Adviser could be wrong in its analysis. A general economic downturn or a significant increase in interest rates could severely disrupt the market for medium and lower-rated corporate debt securities and adversely affect the market value of such securities and lead to increased incidences of default. Yields on medium and lower-rated corporate debt securities in the Funds' portfolios that are interest rate sensitive can be expected to fluctuate over time.



### ***Short Sales.***

The Funds may sell securities short. The Funds may sell a security that the Funds do not own. In order to do so, the Funds must borrow a security to deliver it to the purchaser and later buy that security in the market and return it to the lender. The Funds may establish short positions in securities that the Adviser believes have limited growth prospects or are over-priced, or in securities of companies the Adviser believes are poorly managed or have highly leveraged balance sheets. The Funds may also establish a short position in a security to hedge exposure to a particular company or to hedge exposure to a certain industry or sector of the market. The Funds may also short market indices to hedge against broad movements in the market. The value of a security sold short could increase and the Funds would have to pay more to buy the security to return to the lender than it received from the purchaser in the short sale. The Funds' risk of loss in these types of short sales is theoretically unlimited because there is no limit to the cost of replacing the borrowed security. The Funds may also sell a security short that the Funds own or a security equivalent in kind or amount to a security the Funds have a right to obtain (for example, a security convertible into the security sold short or a security that the Adviser believes will be deliverable upon the closing of a transaction). The Funds may also sell securities short when, in the opinion of the Adviser, the position is covered by owning a security that has ownership rights to assets that include all of the assets of the security shorted. If the value of the securities in these types of short sales increases, the Funds lose the opportunity to participate in the gain of the covered positions. The Funds may sell a security short only on a fully collateralized basis, which requires that the Funds establish and maintain a segregated account.

### ***Options Transactions and Swaps.***

The Funds may write (sell) put and covered call options and purchase put and call options on equity and/or debt securities. The Funds may also enter into equity swap transactions. All calls sold by the Funds must be "covered" (i.e., the Funds must own the underlying securities) or must meet the asset segregation requirements described below for as long as the call is outstanding. Even though the Funds will receive the option premium to help protect it against loss, a call sold by the Funds exposes the Funds during the term of the option to possible loss of opportunity to realize appreciation in the market price of the underlying security or instrument and may require the Funds to hold a security or instrument that they might otherwise have sold, and a put sold by a Fund exposes the Fund to potential loss in the amount of the difference between the exercise price and the market value of the underlying security.

A put option gives the purchaser of the option, upon payment of a premium, the right to sell, and the writer, when exercised, the obligation to buy, the underlying security, at the exercise price. A call option, upon payment of a premium, gives the purchaser of the option the right to buy, and the seller, if exercised, the obligation to sell, the underlying security at the exercise price. An American style put or call option may be exercised at any time during a fixed period, while a European style put or call option may be exercised only upon expiration or during a fixed period prior thereto. The Funds may engage in either style of option. The Funds are authorized to engage in transactions with respect to exchange-listed options, over-the-counter options ("OTC options") and other derivative investments. Exchange-listed options are issued by a regulated financial intermediary, such as the Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC"), which guarantees the performance of the obligations of the parties to such options. The discussion below uses the OCC as an example, but it is also applicable to other financial intermediaries.

Rather than taking or making delivery of the underlying security through the process of exercising the option, listed options are usually closed by entering into offsetting purchase or sale transactions that do not result in ownership of the new option. The Funds' ability to close out its position as a purchaser or seller of an OCC or exchange-listed put or call option is dependent, in part, upon the liquidity of the option market. Among the possible reasons for the absence of a liquid option market on an exchange are:

(i) insufficient trading interest in certain options; (ii) restrictions on transactions imposed by an exchange; (iii) trading halts, suspensions or other restrictions imposed with respect to particular classes or series of options or underlying securities, including reaching daily price limits; (iv) interruption of the normal operations of the OCC or an exchange; (v) inadequacy

of the facilities of an exchange or OCC to handle current trading volume; or (vi) a decision by one or more exchanges to discontinue the trading of options (or a particular class or series of options), in which event the relevant market for that option on that exchange would cease to exist, although outstanding options on that exchange would generally continue to be exercisable in accordance with their terms. The hours of trading for listed options may not coincide with the hours during which the underlying instruments are traded. To the extent that the option markets close before the markets for the underlying instruments, significant price and rate movements can take place in the underlying markets that cannot be reflected in the option markets.

OTC options are purchased from or sold to securities dealers, financial intermediaries or other parties (“Counterparties”) through direct bilateral agreement with the Counterparty. In contrast to exchange-listed options, which generally have standardized terms and performance mechanics, all the terms of an OTC option are negotiated by the parties. The Funds generally expect to enter into OTC options that have cash settlement provisions, although they are not required to do so.

Equity swap transactions are entered into with financial intermediaries through a direct agreement with the Counterparty, generally an ISDA Master Agreement, the specific terms of which are negotiated by the parties. The Funds may use equity swaps, or other derivative instruments, for hedging purposes against potential adverse movements in security prices or for non-hedging purposes such as seeking to enhance return. The Funds may be required to post collateral for such transactions.

There is no central clearing or, unless the parties provide for it, guaranty function in an OTC option or derivative, including certain swaps. As a result, if the Counterparty fails to make or take delivery of the security or other instrument, or fails to make a cash settlement payment due in accordance with the option, the Funds will lose any premium they paid for the option as well as any anticipated benefit of the transaction. The Adviser must assess the creditworthiness of each Counterparty to determine the likelihood that the terms of the OTC option or the derivative will be satisfied. The Funds will engage in OTC option transactions and derivatives only with qualified Counterparties. The staff of the SEC currently takes the position that OTC options purchased by the Funds, and portfolio securities “covering” the amount of the Funds’ obligation pursuant to an OTC option sold by it (the cost of the sell-back plus any in-the-money amount) are illiquid and subject to the Funds’ limitations on investments in illiquid securities, unless the Funds have the legal right to terminate the option on not more than seven days notice and the Counterparty has a high credit quality rating.

#### ***Foreign Currency Transactions.***

The Funds that are permitted to invest in foreign currency-denominated securities also may purchase and sell foreign currency options and foreign currency futures contracts and futures options, and they may engage in foreign currency transactions either on a spot (cash) basis at prevailing currency exchange rates or through forward currency contracts. These Funds may engage in these transactions to hedge, directly or indirectly, against currency fluctuations, for other investment purposes and, with respect to certain Funds, to seek to enhance returns. A Fund may enter into currency transactions only with counterparties that the Adviser deems to be creditworthy. Certain of the foreign currency transactions the Funds may use are described below.

*Forward Foreign Exchange Transactions.* Certain Funds may enter into forward currency contracts (“forwards”) in connection with settling purchases or sales of securities, to hedge the currency exposure associated with some or all of the Fund’s investments or as part of its investment strategy. Forwards are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a set price on a future date. The market value of a forward fluctuates with changes in foreign currency exchange rates. Forwards are marked to market daily based upon foreign currency exchange rates from an independent pricing service, and the change in value is recorded as unrealized appreciation or depreciation. A Fund will record a realized gain or loss when the forward is closed. Forwards are highly volatile, involve substantial currency risk and may also involve credit and liquidity risks.

*Currency Futures.* A Fund may also seek to enhance returns or hedge against the decline in the value of a currency through use of currency futures or options thereon. Currency futures are similar to forward foreign exchange transactions except that futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts while forward foreign exchange transactions are traded in the OTC market. Currency futures involve substantial currency risk, and also involve leverage risk.

*Currency Options.* A Fund may also seek to enhance returns or hedge against the decline in the value of a currency through the use of currency options. Currency options are similar to options on securities. For example, in consideration for an option premium the writer of a currency option is obligated to sell (in the case of a call option) or purchase (in the case of a put option) a specified amount of a specified currency on or before the expiration date for a specified amount of another currency. A Fund may engage in transactions in options on currencies either on exchanges or OTC markets. A Fund may write covered call options on up to 100% of the currencies in its portfolio. Currency options involve substantial currency risk, and may also involve credit, leverage or liquidity risk.

*Currency Swaps.* In order to protect against currency fluctuations, a Fund may enter into currency swaps. A Fund may also hedge portfolio positions through currency swaps, which are transactions in which one currency is simultaneously bought for a second currency on a spot basis and sold for the second currency on a forward basis. Currency swaps involve the exchange of the rights of a Fund and another party to make or receive payments in specified currencies. Because currency swaps usually involve the delivery of the entire principal value of one designated currency in exchange for the other designated currency, the entire principal value of a currency swap is subject to the risk that the other party to the swap will default on its contractual delivery obligations.

*Limitations on Currency Transactions.* A Fund will not hedge a currency in excess of the aggregate market value of the securities that it owns (including receivables for unsettled securities sales), or has committed to purchase or anticipates purchasing, which are denominated in such currency. Open positions in forward foreign exchange transactions used for non-hedging purposes will be covered by the segregation of liquid assets and are marked to market daily.

*Risk Factors in Hedging Foreign Currency.* Hedging transactions involving currency instruments involve substantial risks, including correlation risk. While a Fund's use of currency instruments to effect hedging strategies is intended to reduce the volatility of the net asset value of the Fund's shares, the net asset value of the Fund's shares will fluctuate. Moreover, although currency instruments will be used with the intention of hedging against adverse currency movements, transactions in currency instruments involve the risk that anticipated currency movements will not be accurately predicted and that the Fund's hedging strategies will be ineffective. To the extent that a Fund hedges against anticipated currency movements that do not occur, the Fund may realize losses and decrease its total return as the result of its hedging transactions. Furthermore, a Fund will only engage in hedging activities from time to time and may not be engaging in hedging activities when movements in currency exchange rates occur. In connection with its trading in forward foreign currency contracts, a Fund will contract with a foreign or domestic bank, or foreign or domestic securities dealer, to make or take future delivery of a specified amount of a particular currency. There are no limitations on daily price moves in such forward contracts, and banks and dealers are not required to continue to make markets in such contracts. There have been periods during which certain banks or dealers have refused to quote prices for such forward contracts or have quoted prices with an unusually wide spread between the price at which the bank or dealer is prepared to buy and that at which it is prepared.

#### ***Initial Public Offerings.***

The prices of securities purchased in initial public offerings ("IPOs") can be very volatile and/or decline shortly after the IPO. Securities issued in IPOs have no trading history, and information about the issuing companies may be available for only very limited periods. The effect of IPOs on a Fund's performance depends on a variety of factors, including the number of IPOs the Fund invests in relative to the size of the Fund and

whether and to what extent a security purchased in an IPO appreciates and depreciates in value. If a Fund's historical performance was impacted by gains from IPOs and/or secondary offerings, there is no guarantee that these results can be repeated or that a Fund's level of participation in IPOs and secondary offerings will be the same in the future.

#### ***Special Situations.***

The Funds may invest in "special situations." A special situation arises when, in the opinion of the Adviser, the securities of a company will be recognized and appreciate in value due to a specific anticipated development at that company. Such developments might include a new product, a management change, an acquisition or technological advancement. The risk of investing in special situations is that the anticipated development does not occur or its impact is not what the Adviser expected.

#### ***Use of Segregated and Other Special Accounts.***

Many hedging transactions require, among other things, that the Funds segregate liquid assets with their custodian to the extent Fund obligations are not otherwise "covered" through ownership of the underlying security or instrument. In general, either the full amount of any obligation by the Funds to pay or deliver securities or assets must be covered at all times by the securities or instruments required to be delivered, or, subject to any regulatory restrictions, an amount of cash or liquid securities at least equal to the current amount of the obligation must be segregated with the custodian. The segregated assets cannot be sold or transferred unless equivalent assets are substituted in their place or it is no longer necessary to segregate them.

#### ***Non-Diversification and Concentration Risk.***

Funds that are less diversified across geographic regions, countries, industries, or individual companies are generally riskier than more diversified funds. If a Fund has invested a higher percentage of its total assets in a particular region, sector or industry, changes affecting that region, sector or industry may have a significant impact on the performance of that Fund's overall portfolio. The economies and financial markets of certain regions—such as Latin America, Asia, and Europe and the Mediterranean region—can be interdependent and may all decline at the same time.

#### ***Non-U.S. Securities.***

Investments in non-U.S. securities may involve additional risks to those inherent in investments in U.S. securities, including exchange rate fluctuations, political or economic instability, the imposition of exchange controls, expropriation, limited disclosure and illiquid markets. Risks can result from varying stages of economic and political development, differing regulatory environments, trading days, and accounting standards, uncertain tax laws, and higher transaction costs of non-U.S. markets. Investments outside the United States could be subject to governmental actions such as capital or currency controls, nationalization of a company or industry, expropriation of assets, or imposition of high taxes. Trading in the underlying securities of the Funds may take place in various foreign markets on certain days when the Funds are not open for business and do not calculate net asset values. As a result, net asset values may be significantly affected on days when shareholders cannot make transactions.

#### ***Developing Countries.***

The Funds' investments in developing countries, which include countries in the MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index, countries in the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index and other countries determined by the Adviser to be developing countries based on classifications made by the International Monetary Fund and/or the World Bank or on country characteristics similar to those of the countries in the EM and FM Indexes. The definition of developing countries for Baron Emerging Markets Fund excludes countries in the FM Index. Investments in

developing countries are subject to all of the risks of non-U.S. investing generally, and have additional heightened risks due to a lack of established legal, political, business and social frameworks to support securities markets, including: delays in settling portfolio securities transactions; currency and capital controls; greater sensitivity to interest rate changes; pervasiveness of corruption and crime; currency exchange rate volatility; and inflation, deflation or currency devaluation. These risks are greater for countries in the MSCI Frontier Markets (FM) Index.

#### ***Currency Risk.***

This refers to a decline in the value of a foreign currency versus the U.S. dollar, which reduces the dollar value of securities denominated in that currency. The overall impact on the Funds' holdings can be significant, unpredictable, and long-lasting, depending on the currencies represented in the portfolio and how each one appreciates or depreciates in relation to the U.S. dollar and whether currency positions are hedged. Under normal conditions, the Funds do not engage in extensive foreign currency hedging programs. Further, exchange rate movements are volatile, the Funds' attempts at hedging could be unsuccessful, and it may not be possible to effectively hedge the currency risks of many developing countries.

#### ***International Sanctions.***

From time to time, certain of the companies in which a Fund invests may operate in, or have dealings with, countries subject to sanctions or embargoes imposed by the U.S. government and the United Nations and/or countries identified by the U.S. government as state sponsors of terrorism. A company may suffer damage to its reputation if it is identified as a company which operates in, or has dealings with, countries subject to sanctions or embargoes imposed by the U.S. government and the United Nations and/or countries identified by the U.S. government as state sponsors of terrorism. As an investor in such companies, the Fund will be indirectly subject to those risks.

#### ***Real Estate Industry Risk.***

In addition to general market conditions, the value of the Funds will be affected by the strength of the real estate markets. Factors that could affect the value of the Funds' holdings include the following: overbuilding and increased competition; increases in property taxes and operating expenses; declines in the value of real estate; lack of availability of equity and debt financing to refinance maturing debt; vacancies due to economic conditions and tenant bankruptcies; losses due to costs resulting from environmental contamination and its related clean-up; changes in interest rates; changes in zoning laws; casualty or condemnation losses; variations in rental income; changes in neighborhood values; and functional obsolescence and appeal of properties to tenants.

#### ***Energy Industry Risk.***

Energy industries can be significantly affected by fluctuations in energy prices and supply and demand of energy fuels caused by events relating to international politics, energy conservation, the success of exploration projects, weather or meteorological events, and tax and other government regulations.

#### ***Resources Industry Risk.***

Resources industries can be significantly affected by events relating to international political and economic developments, energy conservation, the success of exploration projects, commodity prices, weather or meteorological events, and tax and other government regulations.

### ***Cybersecurity Risk.***

The use of the Internet and other electronic media and technology exposes the Funds, and the Funds' service providers, and their respective operations, to potential risks from cybersecurity attacks or incidents (collectively, "cyber-incidents"). Cyber-incidents may include, for example, unauthorized access to systems, networks or devices (such as, for example, through "hacking" activity), infection from computer viruses or other malicious software code, and attacks which shut down, disable, slow or otherwise disrupt operations, business processes or website access or functionality. In addition to intentional cyber-incidents, unintentional cyber-incidents can occur, such as, for example, the inadvertent release of confidential information. Any cyber-incident could adversely impact the Funds and their shareholders and cause the Funds to incur financial loss and expense, as well as face exposure to regulatory penalties, reputational damage, and additional compliance costs associated with corrective measures. A cyber-incident may cause the Funds, or their service providers, to lose proprietary information, suffer data corruption, lose operational capacity (such as, for example, the loss of the ability to process transactions, calculate the Funds' NAVs, or allow shareholders to transact business), and/or fail to comply with applicable privacy and other laws. Among other potentially harmful effects, cyber-incidents also may result in theft, unauthorized monitoring and failures in the physical infrastructure or operating systems that support the Funds and their service providers. In addition, cyber-incidents affecting issuers in which the Funds invest could cause the Funds' investments to lose value. The Adviser has established risk management systems reasonably designed to seek to reduce the risks associated with cyber-incidents. However, there is no guarantee that the efforts of the Adviser or its affiliates, or other service providers, will succeed, either entirely or partially. The nature of malicious cyber-attacks is becoming increasingly sophisticated and the Funds' Adviser, and its relevant affiliates, cannot control the cyber systems and cybersecurity systems of issuers or third party service providers.

### **Share Classes.**

The Funds offer two classes of shares, Retail Shares and Institutional Shares, which differ only in their ongoing fees and eligibility requirements. Retail Shares are available to all investors, and account minimums range from \$500 to \$2,000, depending on the account type. Institutional Shares are for accounts in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more per Fund. Institutional Shares are intended for certain financial intermediaries that offer shares of the Baron Funds® through fee-based platforms, retirement platforms or other platforms for which the financial intermediary provides services and is not compensated by the Baron Funds® for those services. Shareholders meeting the eligibility requirements for the Institutional Shares may also purchase Institutional Shares directly through the Baron Funds® without paying a sales charge or any other additional fees. Employees and Trustees of the Baron Funds® are not subject to the eligibility requirements for Institutional Shares. For more information, please see the "How to Purchase Shares" section on pages 64-66 of the prospectus. Baron Funds® reserve the right, without prior notice, to change the eligibility requirements of its share classes, including the types of clients who are eligible to purchase each share class.

### **Fund Policies.**

The Funds have adopted investment restrictions, described below, which are fundamental policies of the Funds and may not be changed without the approval of a majority of the Funds' shareholders or at least two-thirds of a quorum of a majority of the shareholders. Unless otherwise noted, all percentage restrictions are measured as of the time of the purchase.

#### **The Funds may not:**

1. Issue senior securities or borrow money in excess of amounts permitted by law (which currently requires asset coverage of 300% immediately after such borrowing, subject to exceptions for borrowings of up to 5% for short-term purposes.
2. Purchase or sell commodities or commodity contracts unless in conformity with regulations of the Commodities Futures Trading Commission;

3. Purchase or sell oil and gas interests or real estate. Securities issued by companies engaged in the oil, gas or real estate business or secured by oil and gas or real estate are not considered oil or gas interests or real estate for purposes of this restriction;
4. Underwrite securities of other issuers insofar as the Fund is the seller of such securities;
5. Make loans, except to the extent that the purchase of debt obligations of any type (including loan participations, repurchase agreements and corporate commercial paper) are considered loans, and except that the Fund may lend portfolio securities in compliance with requirements established from time to time by the SEC;
6. Mortgage, pledge or hypothecate any of its assets, except in connection with borrowings, loans of portfolio securities or other permitted transactions; or
7. Invest 25% or more of the value of their total assets in any particular GICS Sub-Industry, except that **Baron Real Estate Fund** will invest more than 25% of its total assets in GICS Sub-Industries within the GICS Real Estate Industry Group, and/or in any GICS Sub-Industry that includes companies that own significant real estate assets, and **Baron Energy and Resources Fund** will invest more than 25% of its total assets in GICS Sub-Industries within the GICS Energy, Materials, and/or Utilities Sectors. For the purpose of this restriction, the percentage will be measured at the time of purchase.

**Baron International Growth Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund and Baron Global Advantage Fund** may not purchase the securities of any one issuer other than the U.S. Government or any of its agencies or instrumentalities, if immediately after such purchase more than 5% of the value of the Fund's total assets would be invested in such issuer or the Fund would own more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer, except that up to 25% of the value of the Fund's total assets may be invested without regard to the 5% and 10% limitations.

#### **Temporary Defensive Position.**

The Funds may, from time to time, take temporary defensive positions that are inconsistent with the Funds' principal investment strategies in attempting to respond to adverse market, economic, political, or other conditions. In such circumstances, the Adviser may invest all or a portion of the Funds' assets in cash or cash equivalents, such as money market instruments, which include U.S. Government securities, certificates of deposit, short-term investment grade corporate bonds and other short term debt instruments, and repurchase agreements. Taking such a temporary defensive position may cause the Funds not to achieve their investment goals.

#### **Borrowing.**

**Baron Focused Growth Fund, Baron International Growth Fund, Baron Real Estate Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund, Baron Energy and Resources Fund and Baron Global Advantage Fund** of Baron Select Funds and **Baron Asset Fund, Baron Growth Fund, Baron Small Cap Fund, Baron Opportunity Fund, Baron Fifth Avenue Growth Fund and Baron Discovery Fund** of Baron Investment Funds Trust have entered into a committed line of credit facility with State Street Bank and Trust Company ("State Street") as lender pursuant to which the Funds may borrow up to \$100 million in order to provide them with temporary liquidity on a first-come, first-served basis. Interest is charged to the borrowing fund at a rate equal to the higher of the Overnight Federal Funds rate or the Overnight LIBOR rate, plus one percent (1.00%). A commitment fee, equal to 0.12% per year of the unused portion of the committed line amount is allocated to the participating Funds based on each Fund's relative net assets.

**Baron Partners Fund** participates in a committed line of credit agreement with State Street in the amount of \$475 million. A commitment fee of 0.15% per annum is incurred on the unused portion of the line of credit. The line of credit is used for investment purposes and expires on September 18, 2015. **Baron Partners Fund** may borrow up to the lesser of \$475 million or the maximum amount **Baron Partners Fund** may borrow under

the 1940 Act, as amended, the limitations included in **Baron Partners Fund's** prospectus, or any limit or restriction under any law or regulation to which **Baron Partners Fund** is subject or any agreement to which **Baron Partners Fund** is a party. Interest is charged to **Baron Partners Fund**, based on its borrowings, at a rate per annum equal to the higher of the Federal Funds rate or the Overnight LIBOR rate plus 0.85%.

#### **Portfolio Turnover.**

Portfolio turnover rates fluctuate depending on market conditions. The turnover rates for the Funds for the past two years ended December 31 are:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Baron Partners Fund .....	30.82%	18.57%
Baron Focused Growth Fund .....	36.92%	33.67%
Baron International Growth Fund .....	34.67%	40.60%
Baron Real Estate Fund .....	24.40%	19.36%
Baron Emerging Markets Fund .....	23.38%	14.68%
Baron Energy and Resources Fund .....	23.12%	25.60%
Baron Global Advantage Fund .....	123.51%	32.78%

**Baron Global Advantage Fund's** portfolio turnover rate for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 was 123.51%. The portfolio turnover rate for the Fund has historically been less than 50%. However, due to a large purchase and redemption by a single shareholder, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate in 2014 increased beyond historical levels. The Fund's portfolio turnover rate will not be a limiting factor when the Adviser deems it desirable to purchase or sell securities.

#### **Disclosure of Portfolio Holdings.**

The Board has adopted policies and procedures governing the disclosure of each Fund's portfolio holdings.

**Quarterly:** The Funds post on the Baron Funds® website, usually on the fifth business day after the quarter end, the top ten long positions held by each Fund, stated as a percentage of net assets (as a percentage of total long positions if the Fund is leveraged). In addition, the Funds post on the Baron Funds® website, usually on the fifth business day after the quarter end, all long securities positions of each Fund's net assets (as a percentage of total long positions if the Fund is leveraged) and the cash position at the most recent quarter end. All of this information will remain on the Baron Funds® website until the next quarter end's information is posted.

**Monthly:** In addition, the Funds post on the Baron Funds® website, usually the tenth business day after month end, the ten largest long positions of each Fund, stated as a percentage of net assets (as a percentage of total long positions if the Fund is leveraged). This information will remain on the Baron Funds® website until the next month end's information is posted.

The Funds disclose portfolio holdings in connection with the day-to-day operations and management of the Funds, including to the Funds' custodian (daily) and auditors (annually). Portfolio holdings may also be disclosed to other service providers of the Funds, including pricing services (daily), portfolio management and trading systems (daily) and proxy voting systems (quarterly). In these situations, the Funds, the Adviser or the Funds' distributor, Baron Capital, Inc. ("BCI" or the "Distributor"), have entered into agreements with service providers whereby they agree to keep the information confidential and to refrain from trading on the basis of the information. When engaged in purchasing and selling securities for the Funds through brokers, dealers or other financial intermediaries, the Funds disclose certain information about one or more of the securities positions they own. The Funds do not have separate non-disclosure agreements with these entities, but the Funds would immediately cease doing business with any entity that the Adviser believes is misusing the information.



Other information that may be of interest to investors, such as industry breakdowns and a historical analysis of security impact, may be available on the Baron Funds® website. The website address is [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com). The link to Fund information is [www.BaronFunds.com/ourfunds](http://www.BaronFunds.com/ourfunds). Holdings information for each Fund can be accessed from this link.

A Fund may release the portfolio information to persons earlier than the dates stated above only if certain members of senior management of the Fund determine that the release of such information is in the best interest of the Fund's shareholders, that there is a legitimate business purpose and where the recipient agrees in writing to maintain the confidentiality of the information and not to trade on the information.

If the Funds inadvertently release the information prior to the dates stated above to any person, and there was no agreement as described, the Funds will promptly post the information to the website. A Fund may also release what the Adviser reasonably believes to be immaterial information as the Adviser deems appropriate.

No employee of the Funds or the Adviser is allowed to accept compensation or consideration in any form with respect to the release of the Funds' portfolio holdings. "Consideration" includes any agreement to maintain assets in the Funds or in other investment companies or accounts managed by the Adviser. Any exceptions to any of the Funds' disclosure policies are reported to the Board.

## **MANAGEMENT OF THE FUNDS**

### **Board of Trustees and Officers.**

The Board's role in management of the Trust is oversight. As is the case with virtually all investment companies (as distinguished from operating companies), service providers to the Trust, primarily the Adviser and its affiliates, have responsibility for the day-to-day management of the Funds, which includes responsibility for risk management (including management of investment performance and investment risk, valuation risk, issuer and counterparty credit risk, compliance risk and operational risk). As part of its oversight, the Board, acting at its scheduled meetings, or the Chairman, acting between Board meetings, regularly interacts with and receives reports from senior personnel of service providers, including the Adviser's Chief Investment Officer, the Trust's and the Adviser's Chief Compliance Officer and portfolio management personnel. The Board's Audit Committee (which consists of two trustees who are not affiliated with the Adviser ("Independent Trustees")) meets regularly with the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm and the Trust's Chief Financial Officer. The Board also receives periodic presentations from senior personnel of the Adviser or its affiliates regarding risk management generally, as well as periodic presentations regarding specific operational, compliance or investment areas, such as business continuity, anti-money laundering, personal trading, valuation, credit, investment research and securities lending. The Board has adopted policies and procedures designed to address certain risks to the Funds. In addition, the Adviser and other service providers to the Funds have adopted a variety of policies, procedures and controls designed to address particular risks to the Funds. However, it is not possible to eliminate all of the risks applicable to the Funds. The Board also receives reports from counsel to the Trust or counsel to the Adviser and the Board's own independent legal counsel regarding regulatory compliance and governance matters. The Board's oversight role does not make the Board a guarantor of the Trust's investments or activities.

The 1940 Act requires that at least 40% of the Funds' trustees not be "interested persons" (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Funds, and to rely on certain exemptive rules under the 1940 Act, a majority of the Funds' trustees must not be interested persons of the Funds. For certain important matters, such as the approval of investment advisory agreements or transactions with affiliates, the 1940 Act or the rules thereunder require the approval of a majority of the Trustees who are Independent Trustees. Currently, six of the Trustees are not interested persons of the Trust (as such, the Trustees are not affiliated with the Adviser). The Chairman of the Board, Linda Martinson, is an interested person of the Trust ("Interested Trustee"), and the Independent Trustees have designated a lead Independent Trustee who chairs meetings or executive sessions of the Independent Trustees, reviews and comments on Board meeting agendas, represents the views of the Independent Trustees to management and facilitates

communication among the Independent Trustees and their independent legal counsel. The Board has determined that its leadership structure, in which the Independent Trustees have designated a lead Independent Trustee to function as described above is appropriate in light of the services that the Adviser and its affiliates provide to the Trust and potential conflicts of interest that could arise from these relationships.

Trustees of the Trust, together with information as to their positions with the Trust, principal occupations and other board memberships and affiliations for the past five years, are shown below. Each Trustee serves as Trustee of a Fund until its termination; until the Trustee's retirement, resignation or death; or as otherwise specified in the Trust's organizational documents. Unless otherwise noted, the address of each Executive Officer and Trustee is Baron Select Funds, 767 Fifth Avenue, 49th Floor, New York, NY 10153. All Trustees listed below, whether Interested or Independent, serve as Trustees for the Trust.

<u>Name, Address &amp; Age</u>	<u>Position(s) Held With the Funds</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During the Past Five Years</u>	<u>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</u>	<u>Other Trustee/Directorships Held by Trustee</u>
<b><i>Interested Trustees</i></b>					
Ronald Baron <sup>(1),(2)</sup> 767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153 Age: 71	Chief Executive Officer, Chief Investment Officer, Trustee and Portfolio Manager	12 years	Director, Chairman, CEO and CIO: the Firm* (1982-Present); Trustee: Baron Investment Funds Trust (1987-Present); Trustee: Baron Select Funds (2003-Present); Portfolio Manager: Baron USA Partners Fund, Ltd. (2003-Present); Portfolio Manager: Baron Managed Funds plc (2005-2009).	13	None
Linda S. Martinson <sup>(1),(2)</sup> 767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153 Age: 60	Chairman, President, Chief Operating Officer and Trustee	12 years	Director: the Firm* (2003-Present); Secretary: the Firm* (1997-2008); President: the Firm* (2007-Present); Chief Operating Officer: the Firm (2006-present); Chairman (2010-Present), President (2007-Present), Trustee (1987-Present), Secretary (2003-2008); Baron Investment Funds Trust; Chairman (2010-Present), President (2007-Present), Trustee (2003-Present); Baron Select Funds; Director: Baron USA Partners Fund, Ltd. (2006-Present); Director: Baron Managed Funds plc (2005-2009).	13	None
<b><i>Independent Trustees</i></b>					
Norman S. Edelcup <sup>(3),(4),(5)</sup> City of Sunny Isles Beach 18070 Collins Avenue Sunny Isles Beach, FL 33160 Age: 79	Trustee	12 years	Trustee: Baron Investment Funds Trust (1987-Present), Baron Select Funds (2003-Present).	13	Director: CompX International, Inc. (diversified manufacturer of engineered components) (2006-Present); Director: Valhi, Inc. (diversified company) (1975-Present).
Harold W. Milner <sup>(4),(5)</sup> 2293 Morningstar Drive Park City, UT 84060 Age: 80	Trustee	12 years	Trustee: Baron Investment Funds Trust (1987-Present), Baron Select Funds (2003-Present).	13	None

<u>Name, Address &amp; Age</u>	<u>Position(s) Held With the Funds</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During the Past Five Years</u>	<u>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</u>	<u>Other Trustee/Directorships Held by Trustee</u>
<b><i>Independent Trustees (continued)</i></b>					
Raymond Noveck <sup>(3),(4),(5)</sup> 31 Karen Road Waban, MA 02468 Age: 71	Lead Trustee	12 years	Private Investor (1999-Present); Trustee: Baron Investment Funds Trust (1987-Present), Baron Select Funds (2003-Present).	13	None
Anita Rosenberg <sup>(4),(5)</sup> 1235 N. Astor Street Chicago, IL 60610 Age: 51	Trustee	1 year	Advisory Board Member: Impala Capital Management, LLC (2014-Present); Advisory Board Member: ValueAct Capital, LLC (2014-Present); Senior Advisor: Magnetar Capital (2011-2012); Trustee: Baron Investment Funds Trust, Baron Select Funds (2013-Present).	13	Director: Golub Capital BDC, Inc. (2011-Present).
David A. Silverman, MD <sup>(4),(5)</sup> 146 Central Park West New York, NY 10024 Age: 65	Trustee	12 years	Physician and Faculty: New York University School of Medicine (1976-Present); Trustee: Baron Investment Funds Trust (1987-Present), Baron Select Funds (2003-Present).	13	None
Alex Yemenidjian <sup>(4),(5)</sup> 3801 Las Vegas Blvd. South Las Vegas, NV 89109 Age: 59	Trustee	8 years	Chairman and CEO: Tropicana Las Vegas (gaming) (2009-Present); Chairman and CEO: Armenco Holdings, LLC (investment company) (2005-Present); Managing Partner: Armenco Capital LLC (investment company) (2013-Present); Trustee: Baron Investment Funds Trust (2006-Present), Baron Select Funds (2006-Present).	13	Director: Guess?, Inc. (2005-Present); Director: Regal Entertainment Group (2005-Present).
<b><i>Additional Officers of the Funds</i></b>					
Clifford Greenberg 767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153 Age: 56	Senior Vice President	12 years	Director and Senior Vice President: the Firm*; Senior Vice President: Baron Investment Funds Trust, Baron Select Funds; Portfolio Manager: Baron Small Cap Fund.	N/A	None
Louis Beasley 767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153 Age: 44	Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer	<1 year (appointed 9/2014)	Chief Compliance Officer: Baron Capital Group, Inc., BAMCO, Inc., Baron Capital Management, Inc., Baron Investment Funds Trust, Baron Select Funds, Baron USA Partners Fund, Ltd; Vice President: the Firm*; Principal and Director of Investment Management Compliance and Risk Management: Bessemer Trust (2006-9/2014).	N/A	None
Patrick M. Patalino 767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153 Age: 46	Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary	7 years	Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary: the Firm*, Baron Investment Funds Trust, Baron Select Funds; General Counsel: Baron USA Partners Fund, Ltd.	N/A	None
Andrew Peck 767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153 Age: 46	Senior Vice President	12 years	Senior Vice President: the Firm*, Baron Investment Funds Trust, Baron Select Funds; Portfolio Manager: Baron Asset Fund.	N/A	None
Susan Robbins 767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153 Age: 60	Vice President	12 years	Director and Vice President: the Firm*; Vice President: Baron Investment Funds Trust, Baron Select Funds.	N/A	None

<u>Name, Address &amp; Age</u>	<u>Position(s) Held With the Funds</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During the Past Five Years</u>	<u>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</u>	<u>Other Trustee/Directorships Held by Trustee</u>
<i>Additional Officers of the Funds (continued)</i>					
Peggy C. Wong 767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153 Age: 54	Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer	12 years	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer: the Firm*, Baron Investment Funds Trust, Baron Select Funds.	N/A	None

\* The Firm (Baron Capital Group, Inc. (“BCG”) with its subsidiaries BCI, Baron Capital Management, Inc. (“BCM”) and BAMCO).

(1) Trustees deemed to be “Interested Trustees” by reason of their employment with the Funds’ Adviser and Distributor.

(2) Members of the Executive Committee, which is empowered to exercise all of the powers, including the power to declare dividends, of the full Board when the full Board is not in session.

(3) Members of the Audit Committee.

(4) Members of the Nominating Committee.

(5) Members of the Independent Committee.

Each Trustee, except for Anita Rosenberg who was appointed as a Trustee in May of 2013, has been a Board member of the Trust and other Baron mutual funds for at least eight years. In addition, the following are among some of the specific experiences, qualifications, attributes or skills that each Trustee possesses supplementing the information provided in the table above. The Board believes that the significance of each Trustee’s experience, qualifications, attributes or skills is an individual matter (meaning that experience that is important for one Trustee may not have the same value for another) and that these factors are best evaluated at the Board level, with no single Trustee, or particular factor, being indicative of Board effectiveness. However, the Board believes that Trustees need to have the ability to critically review, evaluate, question and discuss information provided to them, and to interact effectively with Adviser and Trust management, service providers and counsel, in order to exercise effective business judgment in the performance of their duties; the Board believes that its members satisfy this standard. Experience relevant to having this ability may be achieved through a Trustee’s educational background; business, professional practice (*e.g.*, medicine, accounting or law), public service or academic positions; experience from service as a Board member (including the Board of the Trust) or executive of investment funds, public companies or significant private or not-for-profit entities or other organizations; and/or other life experiences. The charter for the Board’s Nominating Committee contains certain other factors considered by the Committee in identifying and evaluating potential Board member nominees. To assist them in evaluating matters under federal and state law, the Trustees are counseled by their own independent legal counsel, who participates in Board meetings and interacts with the Adviser, and also may benefit from information provided by the Trust’s or the Adviser’s counsel; both Board and Trust counsel have significant experience advising funds and fund board members. The Audit Committee of the Board meets regularly with the Trust’s independent registered public accounting firm, and the Board and its committees have the ability to engage other experts as appropriate. The Board evaluates its performance on an annual basis.

Ronald Baron—In addition to his tenure as a Trustee of the Trust, Mr. Baron is the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer of the Trust as well as the portfolio manager of Baron Partners Fund and Baron Focused Growth Fund, each a series of the Trust, and Baron Growth Fund, a series of Baron Investment Funds Trust. Mr. Baron was also the portfolio manager of Baron Asset Fund from its inception until 2003 and then the co-portfolio manager of Baron Asset Fund from 2003 until January of 2008. Mr. Baron has over 44 years of experience as a Wall Street analyst and has managed money for others for over 39 years.

Linda S. Martinson—In addition to serving as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Trust, Ms. Martinson is the President and Chief Operating Officer of the Trust. She has been with the Adviser for over 28 years, initially serving as the Adviser's General Counsel until 2007 and its Corporate Secretary until 2008.

Norman S. Edelcup—Mr. Edelcup has been a Trustee of the Trust for over 12 years and of the Board of the mutual funds of Baron Investment Funds Trust for over 26 years. In addition to his tenure as a Trustee of the Baron mutual funds, Mr. Edelcup is a Director of Marquis Bank. He also serves as a Director and Chairman of the Audit Committee of CompX International, Inc. (a diversified manufacturer of engineered components) and Valhi, Inc. (chemicals, component products and waste management industries), both public companies. In addition, Mr. Edelcup is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and has experience preparing, auditing, analyzing and evaluating financial statements.

Harold W. Milner—Mr. Milner has been a Trustee of the Trust for over 12 years and of the Board of the mutual funds of Baron Investment Funds Trust for over 28 years. In addition to his tenure as a Trustee of the Baron mutual funds, Mr. Milner has been the Chairman of Lightning Protection Systems, LLC from 2006 to the present and a Director of CompletexRM, a software company, from 2009 to the present.

Raymond Noveck—Mr. Noveck has been a Trustee of the Trust for over 12 years and of the Board of the mutual funds of Baron Investment Funds Trust for over 28 years. Mr. Noveck was also employed by the Firm as a Managing Director from 1985 to 1987. Mr. Noveck is a CPA and has experience preparing, auditing, analyzing and evaluating financial statements. He has also been on the Board of a public company and, as a CPA, has audited public companies including mutual funds and brokerage firms.

Anita Rosenberg—Ms. Rosenberg has been a Trustee of the Trust and the Board of the mutual funds of Baron Investment Funds Trust for over one year. She was appointed as Trustee in May of 2013. In addition to her tenure as a Trustee of the Baron mutual funds, Ms. Rosenberg serves on the board of the Golub Capital BDC, Inc. She also serves as an Advisory Board member of Impala Capital Management, LLC and Value Act Capital, LLC. Ms. Rosenberg was a senior advisor to Magnetar Capital, a multi-strategy hedge fund. Ms. Rosenberg was a partner and portfolio manager of Harris Alternatives, LLC, and its predecessor, Harris Alternatives, L.P., from 1999 until her retirement in 2009.

David A. Silverman, MD—Dr. Silverman has been a Trustee of the Trust for over 12 years and of the Board of the mutual funds of Baron Investment Funds Trust for over 28 years. In addition to his tenure as a Trustee of the Baron mutual funds, Dr. Silverman has been a Director of the New York Blood Center from 1999 to the present. He has also been a Physician and Faculty of New York University School of Medicine from 1976 to the present.

Alex Yemenidjian—Mr. Yemenidjian has been a Trustee of the Trust for over eight years and the Board of the mutual funds of Baron Investment Funds Trust for over nine years. In addition to his tenure as a Trustee of the Baron mutual funds, Mr. Yemenidjian serves on the boards of Guess?, Inc. (clothing manufacturer) and Regal Entertainment Group (movie theater operator), both public companies, and charitable foundations and was named the Chairman and CEO of Tropicana Las Vegas, a hotel and casino company, in 2009. Mr. Yemenidjian is a CPA and has experience preparing, auditing, analyzing and evaluating financial statements.

The Board believes that the foregoing specific experiences, qualifications, attributes and skills of each Trustee have prepared them to be effective Trustees. The Board also believes that such qualities demonstrate that its members have the ability to exercise effective business judgment in the performance of their duties.

#### **Board Committees.**

The Funds pay each Independent Trustee annual compensation in addition to reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses in connection with attendance at meetings of the Board. Specifically, each Independent

Trustee receives an annual base compensation of \$19,550, with the lead Independent Trustee receiving an additional \$2,860. An additional \$1,750 is paid to each Independent Trustee for attendance in person at the quarterly meetings of the Board; (\$450 is paid per quarterly meeting, if the Trustee participates by telephone). The Interested Trustees and Officers receive no direct remuneration in such capacity from the Funds. The Board has established four committees: Audit; Executive; Nominating; and Independent.

The Audit Committee recommends to the full Board the engagement or discharge of the Funds' independent accountants; directs investigations into matters within the scope of the independent accountants' duties; reviews with the independent accountants the results of the audit; and reviews the independence of the independent accountants. The Audit Committee is currently comprised of the following members: Norman S. Edelpcup and Raymond Noveck. Each member of the Audit Committee receives an additional \$2,860 in annual compensation for serving on the Audit Committee. An additional \$1,400 is paid to the Audit Committee Chairperson. The Audit Committee met twice during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

The Executive Committee is empowered to exercise all of the powers, including the power to declare dividends, of the full Board when the full Board is not in session. The Executive Committee is currently comprised of the following members: Ronald Baron and Linda Martinson. Members of the Executive Committee serve on the committee without compensation. The Executive Committee met four times during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

The Nominating Committee recommends to the full Board those persons to be nominated for election as Trustees by shareholders and selects and proposes nominees for election by Trustees between shareholders' meeting. The Nominating Committee does not normally consider candidates proposed by shareholders for election as Trustees. The Nominating Committee is currently comprised of all Independent Trustees. Members of the Nominating Committee serve on the committee without compensation. There were no meetings of the Nominating Committee during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

The Independent Committee discusses various Fund matters, including the advisory agreement and distribution plan. The Independent Committee is comprised of all Independent Trustees. Members of the Independent Committee serve on the committee without compensation. The Independent Committee met four times during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

#### **Trustee Ownership of Fund Shares.**

The following table shows the dollar range of shares beneficially owned by each Trustee as of December 31, 2014:

<u>Name of Trustee</u>		<u>Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Funds</u>	<u>Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in All Registered Investment Companies Overseen by Trustee in Family of Investment Companies</u>
<b>Interested Trustees:</b>			
Ronald Baron .....	Baron Partners Fund	>\$100,000	
	Baron Focused Growth Fund	>\$100,000	
	Baron International Growth Fund	>\$100,000	
	Baron Real Estate Fund	>\$100,000	
	Baron Emerging Markets Fund	>\$100,000	
	Baron Energy and Resources Fund	>\$100,000	
	Baron Global Advantage Fund	>\$100,000	>\$100,000

<u>Name of Trustee</u>	<u>Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Funds</u>	<u>Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in All Registered Investment Companies Overseen by Trustee in Family of Investment Companies</u>
<b>Interested Trustees: (continued)</b>		
Linda S. Martinson .....	Baron Partners Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron Focused Growth Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron International Growth Fund	\$50,001-\$100,000
	Baron Real Estate Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron Emerging Markets Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron Energy and Resources Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron Global Advantage Fund	>\$100,000
<b>Independent Trustees:</b>		
Norman Edelcup .....	Baron Partners Fund	\$50,001-\$100,000
	Baron Focused Growth Fund	\$0
	Baron International Growth Fund	\$0
	Baron Real Estate Fund	\$10,001-\$50,000
	Baron Emerging Markets Fund	\$0
	Baron Energy and Resources Fund	\$0
	Baron Global Advantage Fund	\$0
Harold Milner .....	Baron Partners Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron Focused Growth Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron International Growth Fund	\$0
	Baron Real Estate Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron Emerging Markets Fund	\$0
	Baron Energy and Resources Fund	\$0
	Baron Global Advantage Fund	\$0
Raymond Noveck .....	Baron Partners Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron Focused Growth Fund	\$0
	Baron International Growth Fund	\$10,001-\$50,000
	Baron Real Estate Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron Emerging Markets Fund	\$0-\$10,000
	Baron Energy and Resources Fund	\$0-\$10,000
	Baron Global Advantage Fund	\$0
Anita Rosenberg .....	Baron Partners Fund	\$0
	Baron Focused Growth Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron International Growth Fund	\$0
	Baron Real Estate Fund	\$0
	Baron Emerging Markets Fund	\$0
	Baron Energy and Resources Fund	\$0
	Baron Global Advantage Fund	\$0
David Silverman .....	Baron Partners Fund	\$10,001-\$50,000
	Baron Focused Growth Fund	\$0
	Baron International Growth Fund	\$0
	Baron Real Estate Fund	\$0
	Baron Emerging Markets Fund	\$0
	Baron Energy and Resources Fund	\$0
	Baron Global Advantage Fund	\$0
Alex Yemenidjian .....	Baron Partners Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron Focused Growth Fund	\$0
	Baron International Growth Fund	\$0
	Baron Real Estate Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron Emerging Markets Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron Energy and Resources Fund	>\$100,000
	Baron Global Advantage Fund	\$0

The Independent Trustees do not own any securities of the Adviser, the Distributor or any other entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with the Adviser or Distributor.

### Compensation.

The Trustees of the Funds received the following compensation from the Funds for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014:

Name	Aggregate Compensation From the Funds	Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued As Part of Fund Expenses	Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement	Total Compensation From the Funds and Fund Complex Paid to Trustees
<b>Interested Trustees:</b>				
Ronald Baron	\$ 0	N/A	N/A	\$ 0
Linda S. Martinson	\$ 0	N/A	N/A	\$ 0
<b>Independent Trustees:</b>				
Norman Edelcup	\$27,743	N/A	N/A	\$103,333
Harold Milner	\$24,883	N/A	N/A	\$ 93,333
Raymond Noveck	\$32,003	N/A	N/A	\$118,333
Anita Rosenberg	\$24,883	N/A	N/A	\$ 93,333
David Silverman	\$24,883	N/A	N/A	\$ 93,333
Alex Yemenidjian	\$24,883	N/A	N/A	\$ 93,333

### Code of Ethics.

The Funds, the Adviser and the Distributor have adopted a written Code of Ethics pursuant to Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act. The Code of Ethics prohibits employees from investing in securities held by the Funds.

### Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures.

The Funds have delegated all decision making on proxy voting to the Adviser. The Adviser makes its own independent voting decisions, although it may consider recommendations from third parties in its decision-making process. The Adviser makes voting decisions solely in the best interests of the Funds and their shareholders. It is the policy of the Adviser in voting proxies to vote each proposal with the goal of maximizing long-term investment returns for the Funds.

The Adviser uses guidelines which are reviewed quarterly by a Proxy Review Committee established by the Adviser. While the Adviser makes investment decisions based, in part, on the strength of a company's management team, it will not automatically support management proposals if such proposals are inconsistent with the Adviser's Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures.

If it is determined that there is a potential material conflict of interest between the interests of the Adviser and the interests of a Fund, the Proxy Review Committee will review the matter and may either (i) request that the Fund consent to the Adviser's vote, (ii) vote in accordance with the published recommendations of an independent proxy voting service or (iii) appoint an independent third party to vote.

A full copy of the Adviser's Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures is available on the Baron Funds® website, [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com). The Funds' most current Proxy Voting Record on Form N-PX for the twelve



months ended June 30, 2014 is also available on the Baron Funds® website or on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

## CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL HOLDERS OF SECURITIES

### Control Persons.

As of March 31, 2015, the following persons were known to the Funds to be the beneficial owners, either directly or through one or more controlled companies of more than 25% of the voting securities of the Funds:

	<u>Baron Partners Fund</u>	<u>Baron Focused Growth Fund</u>	<u>Baron International Growth Fund</u>	<u>Baron Real Estate Fund</u>	<u>Baron Emerging Markets Fund</u>	<u>Baron Energy and Resources Fund</u>	<u>Baron Global Advantage Fund</u>
Ronald Baron and related family accounts, New York, NY .....	—	37.77%	—	—	—	—	28.10%
BAMCO, Inc., New York, NY .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	28.06%
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc., San Francisco, CA .....	—	27.33%	—	—	40.22%	—	39.32%
National Financial Services Corp., New York, NY .....	—	—	—	27.59%	—	—	—

### Principal Holders.

As of March 31, 2015, the following persons were known to the Funds to be the record or beneficial owners of 5% or more of the voting securities of the Funds:

	<u>Record Holders</u>						
	<u>Baron Partners Fund</u>	<u>Baron Focused Growth Fund</u>	<u>Baron International Growth Fund</u>	<u>Baron Real Estate Fund</u>	<u>Baron Emerging Markets Fund</u>	<u>Baron Energy and Resources Fund</u>	<u>Baron Global Advantage Fund</u>
Ronald Baron and related family accounts, New York, NY .....	—	13.65%	—	—	—	—	—
BAMCO, Inc., New York, NY .....	—	5.65%	9.06%	—	—	—	—
Baron Capital Management, Inc., New York, NY .....	—	20.93%	—	—	—	—	—
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc., San Francisco, CA .....	19.43%	—	17.55%	22.15%	—	22.80%	—
National Financial Services Corp., New York, NY .....	19.22%	6.06%	—	—	23.59%	22.49%	8.68%
First Clearing LLC, Saint Louis, MO .....	11.73%	—	—	8.21%	—	—	—
Pershing LLC, Jersey City, NJ .....	—	—	6.23%	—	7.65%	—	—
Merrill Lynch PF&S Inc., Jacksonville, FL .....	—	10.01%	—	6.05%	—	—	—
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, Jersey City, NJ .....	—	—	—	5.56%	—	—	—
TD Ameritrade Inc FEBO Clients, Omaha, NE .....	—	—	7.89%	—	8.10%	18.27%	—
TD Ameritrade Trust Company, Denver, CO .....	—	—	—	—	—	5.18%	—
Assetmark Trust Company, Phoenix, AZ .....	—	—	20.22%	—	6.84%	—	—
Charles Mathewson Trust, Reno, NV .....	—	—	17.43%	—	—	—	—
Alex Umansky, Scarsdale, NY .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.43%

#### Beneficial Holders

	Baron Partners Fund	Baron Focused Growth Fund	Baron International Growth Fund	Baron Real Estate Fund	Baron Emerging Markets Fund	Baron Energy and Resources Fund	Baron Global Advantage Fund
Ronald Baron and related family accounts, New York, NY .....	—	—	13.11 %	—	—	—	—

#### Management Ownership.

Except for Mr. Baron and related family accounts, BCM, Alex Umansky, Charles Mathewson Trust and BAMCO, the above record owners are brokerage firms or other financial institutions that hold stock for the benefit of their respective customers. As of March 31, 2015, all of the Officers, Trustees and portfolio managers of Baron Select Funds as a group beneficially owned directly or indirectly 40.95% of Baron Focused Growth Fund's outstanding shares; 16.40% of Baron International Growth Fund's outstanding shares and 50.09% of Baron Global Advantage Fund's outstanding shares.

As of March 31, 2015, Mr. Baron and related family accounts owned, directly or indirectly, 37.77% of the voting securities of Baron Focused Growth Fund and may be deemed a "control person." Mr. Baron and related family accounts own directly 13.65% and indirectly 24.12% through their ownership interests of BCG, the parent company of BCM and BAMCO. As a result of their ownerships, Mr. Baron and related family accounts may be able to materially affect the outcome of matters presented to Fund shareholders.

As of March 31, 2015, Charles Mathewson Trust owned directly 17.43% and Mr. Baron and related family accounts owned, directly or indirectly, 13.11% of the voting securities of Baron International Growth Fund and may be deemed collectively "control persons." Mr. Baron and related family accounts own directly 4.90% and indirectly 8.21% through their ownership interests of BCG, the parent company of BAMCO. As a result of their ownerships, Charles Mathewson Trust, Mr. Baron and related family accounts may be able to materially affect the outcome of matters presented to Fund shareholders.

As of March 31, 2015, Alex Umansky owned directly 12.43% and Mr. Baron and related family accounts owned, directly or indirectly, 28.10% of the voting securities of Baron Global Advantage Fund and may be deemed collectively "control persons." Mr. Baron and related family accounts own directly 2.62% and indirectly 25.48% through their ownership interests of BCG, the parent company of BAMCO. As a result of their ownerships, Alex Umansky, Mr. Baron and related family accounts may be able to materially affect the outcome of matters presented to Fund shareholders.

#### INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND OTHER SERVICES

##### Investment Adviser.

The Adviser to the Funds, BAMCO, is a New York corporation with its principal offices at 767 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10153 and a subsidiary of BCG. Mr. Baron is the controlling stockholder of BCG and is the Adviser's Chief Investment Officer. Mr. Baron has over 44 years of experience as a Wall Street analyst and has managed money for others for over 39 years. He has been a participant in Barron's Roundtable and has been a featured guest on Wall Street Week, CNN and CNBC/FNN. Mr. Baron is the portfolio manager for Baron Partners Fund and Baron Focused Growth Fund and was the portfolio manager for the predecessor partnership of Baron Partners Fund since its inception in 1992 and for the predecessor partnership of Baron Focused Growth Fund since its inception in 1996. Mr. Baron is also the portfolio manager of Baron Growth Fund, a series of Baron Investment Funds Trust.

Pursuant to separate advisory agreements with each Fund (each an "Advisory Agreement," and collectively the "Advisory Agreements"), the Adviser furnishes continuous investment advisory services and management to the Funds, including making the day-to-day investment decisions and arranging portfolio transactions for the Funds, subject to policies determined by the Board. The fee paid to the Adviser is 1% of Average Daily net assets per annum. The Adviser has contractually agreed to limit the expense ratio for the Retail Shares of Baron Partners Fund, Baron Focused Growth Fund,

Baron International Growth Fund, Baron Real Estate Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund, Baron Energy and Resources Fund and Baron Global Advantage Fund to 1.45%, 1.35%, 1.50%, 1.35%, 1.50%, 1.35% and 1.50%, respectively and for the Institutional Shares of Baron Partners Fund, Baron Focused Growth Fund, Baron International Growth Fund, Baron Real Estate Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund, Baron Energy and Resources Fund and Baron Global Advantage Fund to 1.20%, 1.10%, 1.25%, 1.10%, 1.25%, 1.10% and 1.25%, respectively, excluding portfolio transaction costs, interest, dividend and extraordinary expenses, for as long as the Adviser serves as investment adviser to the Funds.

The following table discloses advisory fees received by BAMCO, Inc. for the each of the years ended December 31:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Baron Partners Fund .....	\$17,264,113	\$11,277,520	\$9,008,604
Baron Focused Growth Fund .....	1,926,544	1,567,604	1,011,085
Baron International Growth Fund .....	751,508	570,477	484,511
Baron Real Estate Fund .....	13,852,205	5,723,241	393,539
Baron Emerging Markets Fund .....	8,940,062	415,950	74,476
Baron Energy and Resources Fund .....	557,319	165,794	23,465
Baron Global Advantage Fund .....	88,065	38,471	16,943*

\* For the period April 30, 2012 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2012.

Under the Advisory Agreements, the Adviser, at its own expense and without reimbursement from the Funds, furnishes office space and all necessary office facilities, equipment and executive personnel for managing the Funds, and pays the salaries and fees of all Officers and Trustees who are interested persons of the Adviser. The Adviser also uses a portion of its assets to pay all or a portion of the charges of third parties that distribute shares of the Funds to their customers.

The Funds pay all operating and other expenses not borne by the Adviser such as: audit, accounting and legal fees; custodian fees; expenses of registering and qualifying their shares with federal and state securities commissions; expenses in preparing shareholder reports and proxy solicitation materials; expenses associated with the Funds' shares, such as dividend disbursing, transfer agent and registrar fees; certain insurance expenses; compensation of Independent Trustees and other miscellaneous business expenses. The Funds also pay the expenses of offering the shares of the Funds, including the registration and filing fees, legal and accounting fees and costs of printing the prospectus and related documents. The Funds also pay all taxes imposed on them and all brokerage commissions and expenses incurred in connection with their portfolio transactions.

The Adviser utilizes the staffs of BCG and its subsidiary BCM to provide research. Directors, Officers or employees of the Adviser and/or its affiliates may also serve as Officers or Trustees of the Funds or of other funds managed by the Adviser. BCM is an investment adviser to institutional and individual accounts. Clients of BCM and the other funds managed by the Adviser have investment goals which may or may not vary from those of each other and of the Funds. BCM and the Adviser invest in substantially similar or the same securities as the Funds, other client accounts and in the accounts of principals and employees of BCM and its affiliates. When the same securities are purchased for or sold by the Funds and any of such other accounts, it is the policy of the Adviser and BCM to allocate such transactions in a manner deemed equitable by the Adviser. All personal trading by employees is subject to the Code of Ethics of the Funds and the Adviser. In certain circumstances, the Adviser may make investments for the Funds that conflict with investments being made by BCM. The Adviser may also make investment decisions for the Funds that are inconsistent with the investment decisions for other Funds it manages.

Each Advisory Agreement provides that the Funds may use "Baron" as part of its name for so long as the Adviser serves as the investment adviser to the Funds. The Funds acknowledge that the word "Baron" in its name

is derived from the name of the entities controlling, directly or indirectly, the Adviser, which derive their name from Ronald Baron, that such name is the property of the Adviser and its affiliated companies for copyright and/or other purposes, and that if for any reason the Adviser ceases to be the Funds' investment adviser, the Funds will promptly take all steps necessary to change their name to one that does not include "Baron," unless they receive the Adviser's written consent to continue using the name.

Each Advisory Agreement provides that the Adviser shall have no liability to the Funds or their shareholders for any error of judgment or mistake of law or for any loss suffered by the Funds on account of any action taken in good faith, provided that the Adviser shall not be protected against liabilities arising by virtue of willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence, or reckless disregard of the Adviser's obligations under the Advisory Agreements.

The Advisory Agreements for **Baron Partners Fund, Baron Focused Growth Fund, Baron International Growth Fund, Baron Real Estate Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund, Baron Energy and Resources Fund** and **Baron Global Advantage Fund** were last approved by a majority of the Trustees, including a majority of the Independent Trustees on May 6, 2014.

Each Advisory Agreement is terminable without penalty by the relevant Fund (when authorized by a majority vote of the shareholders or the Trustees) or the Adviser on 60 days' written notice. The Advisory Agreements shall automatically terminate in the event of their "assignment" (as defined by the 1940 Act). A discussion regarding the basis for the approval by the Board of the Advisory Agreements of each Fund is available in the Funds' Semi-Annual Financial Report to Shareholders for the six months ended June 30, 2014.

#### **Principal Underwriter.**

The Funds have a distribution agreement with BCI with its principal offices located at 767 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10153. BCI is an affiliate of BAMCO.

#### **Distribution and Servicing Agreements.**

The Funds and/or the Distributor have agreements with various financial intermediaries pursuant to which various services may be provided to the Funds or their shareholders. See "Distribution and Servicing Arrangements" in the Prospectus.

#### **12b-1 Plan.<sup>1</sup>**

The Distributor does not receive underwriting commissions, but the Funds' distribution and servicing plan for Retail Shares adopted pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act (the "12b-1 Plan") authorizes the Funds to pay the Distributor a distribution and servicing fee equal to 0.25% per annum of each Fund's average daily net assets attributable to the Retail Shares. The 12b-1 fees are paid to the Distributor in connection with (a) activities and expenses primarily intended to result in the sale of Retail Shares and/or the servicing of Retail Shares shareholder accounts and/or (b) providing services to holders of Retail Shares of the Funds and/or maintaining accounts in the Retail Shares of the Funds, including, but not limited to, (i) compensation to financial intermediaries (as described in the Prospectus) that have entered into an agreement with the Distributor; (ii) compensation to and expenses of registered representatives and/or employees of the Distributor who engage in or support distribution of Retail Shares or who service shareholder accounts; and (iii) printing of prospectuses and reports for other than existing holders of Retail Shares; preparation, printing and distribution of sales literature and advertising materials for Retail Shares; and telephone expenses and other identifiable expenses in connection with the foregoing. The total amount of the 12b-1 fee is payable to the Distributor, regardless of the actual expenses incurred, which expenses may be more or less than the 12b-1 fees received by the Distributor.

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<sup>1</sup> The 12b-1 Plan applies to Retail Shares only. It does not apply to Institutional Shares or R6 Shares.

The 12b-1 Plan requires that the Trust will cause to be provided to the Board a written report, at least quarterly, of the amounts of all expenditures pursuant to the 12b-1 Plan and related agreements, and the purposes for which such expenditures were made for the preceding fiscal quarter.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, the Funds paid distribution and servicing fees attributable to Retail Shares to the Distributor under the 12b-1 Plan as follows: **Baron Partners Fund**, \$3,068,289; **Baron Focused Growth Fund**, \$115,639; **Baron International Growth Fund**, \$68,777; **Baron Real Estate Fund**, \$1,685,511; **Baron Emerging Markets Fund**, \$1,216,868; **Baron Energy and Resources Fund**, \$107,406; and **Baron Global Advantage Fund**, \$7,579.

The following table shows the principal types of activities for which payments are or will be made, including the dollar amount and the manner in which amounts were paid by the Distributor under the 12b-1 Plan for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

	<b>Baron Partners Fund</b>	<b>Baron Focused Growth Fund</b>	<b>Baron International Growth Fund</b>	<b>Baron Real Estate Fund</b>	<b>Baron Emerging Markets Fund</b>	<b>Baron Energy and Resources Fund</b>	<b>Baron Global Advantage Fund</b>
Distribution and Service Fees Paid to Third Parties.....	\$3,068,289	\$115,639	\$ 68,777	\$1,685,511	\$1,216,868	\$107,406	\$7,579
Printing .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	<u>\$3,068,289</u>	<u>\$115,639</u>	<u>\$ 68,777</u>	<u>\$1,685,511</u>	<u>\$1,216,868</u>	<u>\$107,406</u>	<u>\$7,579</u>

The Independent Trustees have no direct or indirect financial interest in the operation of the 12b-1 Plan or any agreement thereunder. The Interested Trustees have such an interest.

The 12b-1 Plan has been approved by the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees. In approving the 12b-1 Plan, the Board considered various factors and determined that there is a reasonable likelihood that the 12b-1 Plan will benefit the Funds and their Retail Shares shareholders. The anticipated benefits include the following: (i) the likelihood of attracting and retaining investments in the Retail Shares; (ii) the potential benefits of a larger asset base, including reduced expenses; and (iii) potential benefits to investors in the Retail Shares of the services to be provided pursuant to the 12b-1 Plan.

Unless terminated in accordance with its terms, the 12b-1 Plan will continue in effect for a one year period, and from year to year thereafter if such continuance is specifically approved at least annually by the Board and by the Independent Trustees, with such votes being cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of such vote.

The 12b-1 Plan may be terminated at any time by the vote of a majority of the Independent Trustees or by the vote of a majority of the outstanding Retail Shares. The 12b-1 Plan may not be amended to increase materially the amount of payments to be made without the approval of holders of the Funds' Retail Shares. All material amendments must be approved by a vote of the Board and of the Independent Trustees, with such votes being cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of such vote. If the 12b-1 Plan is terminated, the Funds will owe no payments to the Distributor, other than any unpaid portion of the 12b-1 fee accrued through the effective date of termination.

## **Other Service Providers.**

### ***Custodian.***

State Street, One Lincoln Street, Boston, MA 02111, serves as the custodian for the Funds' cash and securities.

State Street provides certain accounting and bookkeeping services to include maintaining the books of each Fund, calculating daily the income and net asset value per share of each Fund and assisting in the preparation of tax returns and reports to shareholders. State Street is compensated for fund accounting based on a percentage of each Fund's net assets, subject to certain minimums plus fixed annual fees for the administrator services. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, State Street was paid \$362,577 for such services.

***Transfer Agent and Dividend Agent.***

DST Systems, Inc., 430 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO 64105, is the Transfer Agent and Dividend Agent for the Funds.

***Independent Registered Public Accountants.***

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, 300 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10017, is the independent registered public accounting firm for the Funds.

These institutions are not responsible for investment decisions of the Funds.

**PORTFOLIO MANAGERS**

Ronald Baron is the portfolio manager of Baron Partners Fund and Baron Focused Growth Fund.

Michael Kass is the portfolio manager of Baron International Growth Fund and Baron Emerging Markets Fund.

Jeffrey A. Kolitch is the portfolio manager of Baron Real Estate Fund.

James Stone is the portfolio manager of Baron Energy and Resources Fund.

Alex Umansky is the portfolio manager of Baron Global Advantage Fund.

***Other Accounts Managed.***

As of December 31, 2014:

<u>Portfolio Manager</u>	<u>Type of Account</u>	<u>Number of Accounts</u>	<u>Total Assets (millions)</u>
Ronald Baron .....	Registered Investment Companies	5	\$9,982
	Other pooled investment vehicles	2	\$ 90
	Other Accounts	30	\$1,476
Michael Kass.....	Registered Investment Companies	0	\$ 0
	Other pooled investment vehicles	0	\$ 0
	Other Accounts	0	\$ 0
Jeffrey A. Kolitch .....	Registered Investment Companies	0	\$ 0
	Other pooled investment vehicles	0	\$ 0
	Other Accounts	3	\$ 174
James Stone .....	Registered Investment Companies	0	\$ 0
	Other pooled investment vehicles	0	\$ 0
	Other Accounts	0	\$ 0
Alex Umansky .....	Registered Investment Companies	1	\$ 125
	Other pooled investment vehicles	0	\$ 0
	Other Accounts	9	\$ 40

### ***Potential Conflicts of Interest.***

Conflicts of interest could arise in connection with managing the Funds along with other Baron Funds® and the accounts of other clients of the Adviser and of clients of the Adviser's affiliated investment adviser, BCM. Because of market conditions, client investment restrictions, Adviser imposed investment guidelines and the consideration of factors such as cash availability and diversification considerations, not all investment opportunities will be available to the Funds and all clients at all times. The Adviser has joint trading policies and procedures designed to ensure that no Fund or client is systematically given preferential treatment over time. The Funds' Chief Compliance Officer monitors allocations for consistency with this policy and reports to the Board annually. Because an investment opportunity may be suitable for multiple accounts, the Funds may not be able to take full advantage of that opportunity because the opportunity may be allocated among many or all of the Funds and accounts of clients managed by the Adviser and its affiliate.

To the extent that the Funds' portfolio manager has responsibilities for managing other client accounts, the portfolio manager may have conflicts of interest with respect to his time and attention among relevant accounts. In addition, differences in the investment restrictions or strategies among a Fund and other accounts may cause the portfolio manager to take action with respect to another account that differs from the action taken with respect to the Funds. In some cases, another account managed by the portfolio manager may provide more revenue to the Adviser. While this may create additional conflicts of interest for the portfolio manager in the allocation of management time, resources and investment opportunities, the Adviser takes all necessary steps to ensure that the portfolio manager endeavors to exercise his discretion in a manner that is equitable to the Funds and other accounts.

The Adviser charges performance-based fees for one sub-advised account. This account is team-managed by senior research analysts supervised by Mr. Baron. The Adviser does not believe this arrangement creates a conflict with Mr. Baron's management of the Funds because the trading and allocation of investment opportunities will be primarily made by these analysts and not Fund portfolio managers.

The Adviser believes that it has policies and procedures in place that address the Funds' potential conflicts of interest. Such policies and procedures address, among other things, trading practices (e.g., brokerage commissions, cross trading, aggregation and allocation of transactions, sequential transactions, allocations of orders for execution to brokers and portfolio performance dispersion review), disclosure of confidential information and employee trading.

### ***Compensation.***

Mr. Baron has an employment agreement that includes a fixed base salary, a fixed bonus and a supplemental bonus based on a percentage of the management fees earned on the Funds that he manages. The terms of his contract are based on Mr. Baron's role as the Firm's Founder, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer, and his position as portfolio manager for the majority of the Firm's assets under management. Consideration is given to Mr. Baron's reputation, the long-term performance records of the Funds under his management and the profitability of the Firm.

The compensation for Messrs. Kass, Kolitch, Stone and Umansky includes a base salary and an annual bonus that is based, in part, on the amount of assets they manage, as well as their individual long-term investment performance, their overall contribution to the Firm and the Firm's profitability.

## Ownership of Portfolio Managers.

As of December 31, 2014, the Portfolio Manager ownership of Fund shares was:

<u>Portfolio Manager</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Dollar Range of Fund Shares Owned</u>
Ronald Baron .....	Baron Partners Fund	Over \$1,000,000
	Baron Focused Growth Fund	Over \$1,000,000
Michael Kass.....	Baron International Growth Fund	Over \$1,000,000
	Baron Emerging Markets Fund	Over \$1,000,000
Jeffrey A. Kolitch .....	Baron Real Estate Fund	Over \$1,000,000
James Stone .....	Baron Energy and Resources Fund	\$100,001-500,000
Alex Umansky .....	Baron Global Advantage Fund	Over \$1,000,000

## BROKERAGE ALLOCATION AND OTHER PRACTICES

<u>For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31,</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
<b>Total Commissions Paid by the Fund</b>			
Baron Partners Fund .....	\$ 918,843	\$ 460,058	\$513,829
Baron Focused Growth Fund .....	61,066	106,062	77,942
Baron International Growth Fund .....	132,777	87,675	80,268
Baron Real Estate Fund .....	924,528	1,064,486	97,256
Baron Emerging Markets Fund.....	2,441,928	719,310	17,761
Baron Energy and Resources Fund .....	52,854	28,094	2,982
Baron Global Advantage Fund .....	13,507	2,809	3,220*

\* For the period April 30, 2012 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 2012.

The variation in the commissions paid by Baron Partners Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund and Baron Energy and Resources Fund in 2014 versus 2013 is the result of higher assets under management and higher trading volume.

The variation in the commissions paid by Baron Real Estate Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund and Baron Energy and Resources Fund in 2014 and 2013 versus 2012 is the result of higher assets under management and higher trading volume.

The Adviser is responsible for placing the portfolio brokerage business of the Funds. Purchase and sale orders are placed with brokers that the Adviser believes will achieve “best execution” of such orders. Best execution involves consideration of a number of factors, including direct net economic results to the Funds, the efficiency with which the transaction is executed, the ability to effect the transaction in the size and price range requested, the ability to effect the transaction with minimum impact on the market, the financial strength and stability of the broker, the broker’s familiarity with a particular security, the broker’s commitment of resources to executing the transaction and past experience with a broker.

Under the Advisory Agreements and as permitted by Section 28(e) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the Adviser may cause the Funds to pay a broker that provides brokerage and research services to the Adviser an amount of commission for effecting a securities transaction for the Funds in excess of the amount that other brokers would have charged for the transaction, if the Adviser determines in good faith that the greater commission is consistent with the Funds’ policies and is reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services provided by the executing broker or third party pursuant to a Commission Sharing Arrangement (“CSA”) viewed in terms of either a particular transaction or the Adviser’s overall responsibilities to the Funds or



to its other clients. The term “brokerage and research services” includes advice as to the value of securities, the advisability of investing in, purchasing, or selling securities, and the availability of securities or of purchasers or sellers of securities, furnishing analyses and reports concerning issuers, industries and securities, economic factors and trends, portfolio strategy and the performance of accounts and effecting securities transactions and performing functions incidental thereto, such as clearance and settlement. Such services may be used by the Adviser or its affiliate to supplement the services it is required to perform pursuant to the Advisory Agreements in serving the Funds and/or other advisory clients of the affiliate.

Brokers may be willing to furnish statistical research and other factual information or services to the Adviser for no consideration other than brokerage or underwriting commissions. Research provided by brokers is used for the benefit of all of the Adviser’s or its affiliate’s clients and not solely or necessarily for the benefit of the Funds. The Adviser’s investment management personnel attempt to evaluate the quality of research provided by brokers. Results of this effort may be used by the Adviser as a consideration in the selection of brokers to execute portfolio transactions.

Investment decisions for the Funds and for other client accounts managed by BCM and the Adviser are made independent of each other in light of differing considerations for the various accounts. The same investment decision may, however, be made for two or more of the Adviser’s, and/or BCM’s accounts. When this occurs, simultaneous transactions are inevitable. Purchases and sales are averaged as to price where possible and allocated to accounts in a manner deemed equitable by the Adviser in conjunction with BCM. This procedure could have a detrimental or beneficial effect upon the price or value of the security for the Funds, depending upon market conditions.

## **CAPITAL STOCK AND OTHER SECURITIES**

**Baron Select Funds (the “Trust”)** is an open-end investment company organized as a series fund under the statutory trust law of the State of Delaware. The series currently available are: **Baron Partners Fund, Baron Focused Growth Fund, Baron International Growth Fund, Baron Real Estate Fund, Baron Emerging Markets Fund, Baron Energy and Resources Fund and Baron Global Advantage Fund**. Shares entitle their holders to one vote per share on all matters submitted to a vote of shareholders. The Trust’s Declaration of Trust provides that no matters need be submitted to shareholders except as required by the 1940 Act. Consequently, matters such as mergers, acquisitions and sales of assets may not require shareholder approval. In the election of Trustees, shares have non-cumulative voting rights, which means that holders of more than 50% of the shares voting for the election of Trustees can elect all Trustees and, in such event, the holders of the remaining shares voting for the election of Trustees will not be able to elect any person or persons as Trustees. Shares have no preemptive or subscription rights and are transferable.

Under Delaware law, shareholders have no liability for any liabilities of the Trust or any of its series. Under the Trust’s Declaration of Trust, all liabilities and assets of the Trust are allocated among its various series and no series (and no creditor or shareholder of any series) participates in or is subject to the assets or liabilities of any other series.

## **PURCHASE, REDEMPTION AND PRICING OF SHARES**

The Funds expect to make all redemptions in cash but reserve the right to make payment, in whole or in part, in portfolio securities. Payment will be made other than all in cash if the Board determines that economic conditions exist that would make a cash payment detrimental to the Funds’ best interests. Portfolio securities to be so distributed, if any, would be selected at the discretion of the Board and priced as described under “How Your Shares are Priced” in the prospectus.

**Net Asset Value.**

As more fully set forth in the prospectus under “How Your Shares are Priced,” the net asset value per share of each Fund is determined as of the close of regular trading of the New York Stock Exchange (the “Exchange”), (usually 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time) on each day that the Exchange is open. The Exchange is open all weekdays that are not holidays. Annually, the Exchange publishes the holidays on which it will be closed. The most recent announcement states it will not be open on New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents’ Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

Securities traded on more than one national securities exchange are valued at the last sale prices of the day as of which such value is being determined as reflected at the close of the exchange that is the principal market for such securities. For Securities traded on NASDAQ, the Funds use the NASDAQ Official Closing Price.

U.S. Government obligations and other debt instruments having 60 days or less remaining until maturity are stated at amortized cost. Debt instruments having a greater remaining maturity will be valued on the basis of prices obtained from a pricing service approved by the Board or at the mean between the bid and ask prices from a dealer maintaining an active market in that security.

Non-U.S. equity securities are valued on the basis of their most recent closing market prices and translated into U.S. dollars at 4 p.m. E.T. except under the circumstances described below. Most foreign markets close before 4 p.m. E.T. For securities primarily traded in the Far East, for example, the most recent closing prices may be as much as 15 hours old at 4 p.m. E.T. If the Adviser determines that developments between the close of the foreign markets and 4 p.m. E.T. may, in its judgment, materially affect the value of some or all of the Funds’ securities, the Adviser will adjust the previous closing prices to reflect what it believes to be the fair value of the securities as of 4 p.m. E.T. In deciding whether to make these adjustments, the Adviser reviews a variety of factors, including developments in foreign markets, the performance of U.S. securities markets, and the performance of instruments trading in U.S. markets that represent non-U.S. securities and baskets of non-U.S. securities. The Adviser may also fair value securities in other situations, for example, when a particular foreign market is closed but the Funds are open. The Adviser uses outside pricing services to provide it with closing market prices and information used for adjusting those prices. The Adviser cannot predict how often it will use closing prices and how often it will adjust those prices.

**TAXATION OF THE FUNDS**

The accompanying prospectus contains information about the U.S. federal income tax consequences of ownership of shares. Certain supplementary information is presented below. References below to the “Fund” apply to each of the Funds described in the accompanying prospectus.

**U.S. Federal Income Taxation.**

The following information is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), Treasury Regulations, administrative rulings and judicial decisions as of the date hereof, all of which may be changed either retroactively or prospectively. This discussion does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be relevant to shareholders in light of their particular circumstances (such as alternative minimum tax consequences or Medicare contribution tax consequences) or to shareholders subject to special treatment under U.S. federal income tax laws (such as certain financial intermediaries, insurance companies, dealers in stock or securities, tax-exempt organizations, persons who have entered into hedging transactions with respect to shares of the Fund and persons who borrow in order to acquire shares). Prospective shareholders should consult their tax advisors with respect to the particular tax consequences to them of an investment in the Fund.

This discussion addresses only shareholders who hold Fund shares as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code (generally, for investment). Except where specifically addressing foreign shareholders, this discussion assumes that the shareholder is (i) an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States; (ii) a corporation, or other entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, that was created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state therein or the District of Columbia; or (iii) an estate or trust the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source. If an entity that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds shares of the Fund, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partnerships holding Fund shares and partners in such partnerships should consult their tax advisors as to the particular U.S. federal income tax consequences to them of holding and disposing of such shares.

### **Tax Status of the Funds.**

The Fund has elected to qualify, and intends to remain qualified, as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Code. Qualification as a regulated investment company requires, among other things, that (a) at least 90% of the Fund's annual gross income be derived from interest; dividends; payments with respect to certain securities loans; gains from the sale or other disposition of stock, securities or foreign currencies; other income (including gains from options, futures or forward contracts) derived with respect to its business of investing in such stock, securities or currencies; and net income from interests in "qualified publicly traded partnerships," as defined in the Code (any such income "Qualifying Income"); and (b) the Fund diversify its holdings so that, at the end of each quarter of the taxable year (i) at least 50% of the market value of the Fund's assets is represented by cash, U.S. government securities and other securities limited in respect of any one issuer to an amount not greater than 5% of the value of the Fund's total assets and not more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer, and (ii) not more than 25% of the value of its total assets is invested in the securities of any one issuer (other than U.S. government securities and securities of other regulated investment companies), in two or more issuers that are controlled by the Fund and that are engaged in the same or similar trades or businesses or related trades or businesses, or in one or more "qualified publicly traded partnerships."

Qualification and election as a regulated investment company involve no supervision of investment policy or management by any government agency. As a regulated investment company, the Fund generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on income that is distributed to shareholders, provided that the Fund distributes to its shareholders at least 90% of its "investment company taxable income" (determined prior to the deduction for dividends paid by the Fund) and 90% of its net tax-exempt interest income for each taxable year. The Fund's "investment company taxable income" for any taxable year is its taxable income, determined without regard to net capital gain (that is, the excess of net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss) for such taxable year and with certain other adjustments. Assuming that the Fund meets the 90% distribution requirement, it will generally be subject to tax at regular U.S. federal corporate income tax rates only on any income or gain that it does not distribute in a timely manner.

The Fund intends to make sufficient distributions in a timely manner in order to ensure that it will not be subject to the nondeductible 4% U.S. federal excise tax that is imposed on certain undistributed income of regulated investment companies. In general, in order for the Fund to avoid the 4% U.S. federal excise tax, the Fund must distribute in each calendar year at least (i) 98% of its ordinary income for the calendar year, (ii) 98.2% of its capital gain net income for the one-year period ending on October 31 of the calendar year and (iii) any ordinary income and capital gains for previous years that were not distributed during those years. For purposes of determining whether the Fund has met this distribution requirement, (i) certain ordinary gains and losses that would otherwise be taken into account for the portion of the calendar year after October 31 will be treated as arising on January 1 of the following calendar year and (ii) the Fund will be deemed to have distributed any income or gains on which it paid U.S. federal income tax.

If for any taxable year the Fund did not qualify for the special U.S. federal income tax treatment afforded to regulated investment companies (for example, by not meeting the 90% distribution requirement described above), all of its taxable income would be subject to U.S. federal income tax at regular corporate rates (without any deduction for distributions to its shareholders) and all distributions out of its current or accumulated earnings and profits would be taxable as dividend income. In such event, provided that a shareholder satisfied the applicable holding period and other requirements with respect to his shares, dividend distributions would be eligible for the dividends-received deduction in the case of a corporate shareholder, and if received by a non-corporate shareholder would be taxable to the shareholder as “qualified dividend income,” which is subject to tax at the rates applicable to long-term capital gain (currently, a maximum rate of 20%). In addition, the Fund could be required to recognize unrealized gains, pay taxes and make distributions (which could be subject to interest charges) before requalifying for taxation as a regulated investment company. However, if the Fund fails to satisfy the income test or diversification test described above, the Fund may be able to avoid losing its status as a regulated investment company by timely providing notice of such failure to the Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”), curing such failure and possibly paying an additional tax.

The Fund may invest in shares of certain foreign corporations that may be classified under the Code as passive foreign investment companies (“PFICs”). In the absence of one of the elections described below, if the Fund receives certain distributions from a PFIC, or gain from the sale of PFIC stock, the Fund may be subject to a tax on such distributions or gain, as well as to interest charges. In order to mitigate these adverse consequences, the Fund will generally make an election to mark-to-market its shares of PFICs. At the end of each taxable year to which the election applies, the Fund will report as ordinary income the amount by which the fair market value of its shares in a PFIC for which the Fund has made a mark-to-market election exceeds the Fund’s adjusted basis in those shares. If the Fund’s adjusted basis in the shares of such a PFIC exceeds the shares’ fair market value at the end of a taxable year, the Fund will be entitled to a deduction equal to the lesser of (a) this excess and (b) the Fund’s aggregate income inclusions in respect of such stock under the mark-to-market rules that have not been previously offset by mark-to-market losses. As a result of a mark-to-market election, the Fund will not recognize any capital gains with respect to its investment in the relevant PFIC stock. Alternatively, the Fund may under certain circumstances elect to include as income and gain its share of the ordinary earnings and net capital gain of certain PFICs, without regard to whether it receives any distributions from these PFICs.

Certain other investments made by the Fund, such as investments in debt securities that have original issue discount, will cause the Fund to recognize income for U.S. federal income tax purposes prior to the Fund’s receipt of the corresponding distributable proceeds. In addition, some of the Fund’s investments, such as the Fund’s transactions in foreign currencies, forward contracts, options, and futures contracts (including options and futures contracts on foreign currencies) will be subject to special provisions of the Code that, among other things, may affect the character of gains and losses realized by the Fund (i.e., may affect whether gains or losses are ordinary or capital), accelerate recognition of income by the Fund or defer Fund losses. These provisions may result in the Fund’s “marking-to-market” certain types of positions in its portfolio (i.e., treating them as if they were sold at the end of each taxable year). The application of these rules to the Fund could affect the character, amount and timing of distributions to shareholders.

The Fund may thus recognize income without receiving cash with which to make distributions in amounts necessary to satisfy the distribution requirements for avoiding income and excise taxes. In that case, the Fund may have to dispose of other securities and use the proceeds to make distributions in order to satisfy these distribution requirements.

### **Foreign Taxes.**

Dividends, interest and capital gains received by the Fund may give rise to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. Such taxes will reduce shareholders’ return. Income tax treaties between certain countries and the United States may reduce or eliminate such taxes, but there can be no guarantee that the Fund will qualify for treaty benefits.

Under the Code, if more than 50% of the value of the Fund's total assets at the close of the taxable year consists of stock or securities of foreign corporations, the Fund may file an election with the IRS to "pass-through" to the Fund's shareholders the amount of foreign income taxes paid by the Fund. Pursuant to this election, a shareholder would (a) include in gross income (in addition to dividends actually received) his *pro rata* share of the foreign income taxes paid by the Fund; (b) treat his *pro rata* share of such foreign income taxes as having been paid by him; and (c) subject to certain limitations, be entitled either to deduct his *pro rata* share of such foreign income taxes in computing his taxable income or to use it as a foreign tax credit against U.S. income taxes. Shortly after any year for which it makes such an election, the Fund will report to its shareholders, in writing, the amount per share of such foreign tax that must be included in each shareholder's gross income and the amount which will be available for deduction or credit.

Generally, a credit for foreign income taxes is subject to the limitation that it may not exceed the shareholder's U.S. tax liability (before the credit) attributable to the shareholder's total foreign-source taxable income. If the Fund makes the "pass-through" election, the portion of dividends paid by the Fund from its foreign-source income (e.g., dividends paid by foreign companies) will be treated as foreign-source income. The Fund's gains and losses from the sale of securities, and its foreign currency gains and losses, will generally be treated as derived from U.S. sources. The limitation on the foreign tax credit is applied separately to foreign-source "passive income," including the portion of dividends received from the Fund that qualifies as foreign-source income. Because of these limitations, a shareholder may be unable to claim a credit for the full amount of the shareholder's *pro rata* share of the foreign income taxes paid by the Fund. A shareholder's ability to claim a credit for foreign taxes paid by the Fund may also be limited by holding period requirements applicable both to the Fund's investment in the foreign shares and to the shareholder's investment in Fund shares.

If the Fund does not meet the requirements of the Code necessary to make the "pass-through" election or does not make the election, any foreign taxes paid or accrued will represent an expense to the Fund, which will reduce its investment company taxable income. Absent this election, shareholders will not be able to claim either a credit or deduction for their *pro rata* shares of such taxes paid by the Fund, nor will shareholders be required to treat their *pro rata* shares of such taxes as amounts distributed to them.

#### **Distributions.**

Distributions to shareholders of the Fund's investment company taxable income (other than "qualified dividend income"), including distributions of net short-term capital gains, will be taxable as ordinary income to shareholders. Distributions (or deemed distributions, as described below) of the Fund's net capital gains will be taxable to shareholders as long-term capital gains, regardless of the length of time the shares have been held by a shareholder. Long-term capital gains recognized by individuals and other non-corporate shareholders are currently subject to U.S. federal income tax at lower rates than are currently the rates applicable to ordinary income. Distributions in excess of the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits will, as to each shareholder, be treated as a tax-free return of capital, to the extent of a shareholder's adjusted basis in his shares, and as a capital gain thereafter. The ultimate tax characterization of the Fund's distributions made in a taxable year cannot be determined until after the end of the taxable year. As a result, there is a possibility that the Fund may make total distributions during a taxable year in an amount that exceeds the current and accumulated earnings and profits of the Fund.

Provided that the shareholder satisfies the applicable holding period and other requirements with respect to his shares, (i) distributions of the Fund's "qualified dividend income" will be treated as "qualified dividend income" received by the shareholder and will therefore be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the rates applicable to long-term capital gain and (ii) shareholders that are corporations may be entitled to claim a dividends-received deduction for the portion of Fund distributions that is attributable to certain dividend income received by the Fund.

If the Fund retains any net capital gains for reinvestment, it may elect to treat such capital gains as having been distributed to its shareholders. If the Fund makes such an election, each shareholder will be required to include its share of such undistributed net capital gain in income as long-term capital gain and will be entitled to claim its share of the U.S. federal income taxes paid by the Fund on such undistributed net capital gain as a credit against its own U.S. federal income tax liability, if any, and to claim a refund on a properly-filed U.S. federal income tax return to the extent that the credit exceeds such liability. In addition, each shareholder will be entitled to increase the adjusted tax basis of its Fund shares by the difference between its share of such undistributed net capital gain and the related credit. There can be no assurance that the Fund will make this election if it retains all or a portion of its net capital gain for a taxable year.

The Fund will inform its shareholders each year of the tax status of distributions received by shareholders for the previous year. A shareholder's tax liability for such distributions will depend on the shareholder's particular tax situation.

Shareholders who do not instruct the Fund not to reinvest distributions in additional shares will be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as receiving the relevant distributions and using them to purchase shares. Thus, distributions of investment company taxable income and net capital gains, whether received in cash or reinvested, must be reported by the shareholder on his U.S. federal income tax return. A distribution will be treated as paid during a calendar year if it is declared by the Fund in October, November or December of the year to holders of record in such a month and paid by January 31 of the following year. Such distributions will be taxable to shareholders as if received on December 31 of such prior year, rather than in the year in which the distributions are actually received.

Distributions by the Fund result in a reduction in the net asset value of the Fund's shares. Should a distribution reduce the net asset value below a shareholder's cost basis, such distribution could nevertheless be taxable to the shareholder as ordinary income or capital gain as described above, even though, from an investment standpoint, it may constitute a partial return of capital. In particular, investors should consider the tax implications of buying shares just prior to a distribution. Although the price of shares purchased at the time will include the amount of the forthcoming distribution, the distribution will nevertheless be taxable to the purchaser.

As of December 31, 2014, the Funds had capital loss carryforwards expiring as follows:

	<u>Baron Partners Fund</u>	<u>Baron Focused Growth Fund</u>	<u>Baron International Growth Fund</u>	<u>Baron Real Estate Fund</u>	<u>Baron Emerging Markets Fund</u>	<u>Baron Energy and Resources Fund</u>	<u>Baron Global Advantage Fund</u>
<b>Short term capital loss carryforwards:</b>							
December 31, 2017 .....	\$332,180,204	\$—	\$ —	\$—	\$ —	\$ —	\$—
No expiration date.....	—	—	—	—	33,090,721	275,122	—
	<u>\$332,180,204</u>	<u>\$—</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$—</u>	<u>\$33,090,721</u>	<u>\$275,122</u>	<u>\$—</u>

Capital loss carryforwards realized in taxable years beginning after December 22, 2010 will retain their character as either short-term or long-term capital losses rather than being considered short-term as under previous law. Any capital losses generated after December 22, 2010 will be required to be utilized prior to the losses incurred in prior tax years.

Distributions from the **Baron Real Estate Fund** may not be included in your consolidated Form 1099-DIV that we send to you in January of each year. A sizable portion of the dividends paid by U.S. REITs may represent a return of capital. Consequently, a portion of the distributions of the Baron Real Estate Fund may also represent a return of capital. Return of capital distributions are not taxable to you, but you must deduct them from the cost

basis of your investment in the Fund. Returns of capital are listed as “nontaxable distributions” on Form 1099-DIV. U.S. REITs typically have not indicated what proportion of their dividends represent return of capital in time to allow the Fund to meet its January 31 deadline for 1099-DIV reporting. Therefore, to ensure accurate and complete tax information, we may need to send you a separate 1099-DIV for this Fund in February (subject to approval by the IRS).

### **Sale or Redemption of Shares.**

A shareholder will recognize a taxable gain or loss, if any, if the shareholder sells or redeems his shares. Such gain or loss will be equal to the difference between his adjusted tax basis in the shares sold or redeemed and the amount of the cash or the fair market value of other property (including securities distributed by the Fund) received by him in payment therefor.

Any gain or loss arising from the sale or redemption of shares will be treated as capital gain or loss, and will generally be long-term capital gain or loss if the shareholder’s holding period for the shares is more than one year and short-term capital gain or loss if it is one year or less. Long-term capital gains recognized by individuals and other non-corporate shareholders on a sale or redemption of shares generally will be taxed at a maximum rate of 20%. Any loss realized on a sale or redemption will be disallowed to the extent the shares disposed of are replaced (including pursuant to our dividend reinvestment program) with substantially identical shares within a period beginning 30 days before and ending 30 days after the disposition of the shares. In such a case, the basis of the shares acquired will be adjusted to reflect the disallowed loss. Any loss arising from the sale or redemption of shares for which the shareholder has a holding period of six months or less will be treated for U.S. federal tax purposes as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any amount of capital gain dividends received by the shareholder with respect to such shares. For purposes of determining a shareholder’s holding period of shares, the holding period will be suspended for any periods during which the shareholder’s risk of loss is diminished as a result of holding one or more other positions in substantially similar or related property or through certain options or short sales.

A shareholder who recognizes a loss on a sale or other disposition of shares will be required to report the sale or other disposition on IRS Form 8886 if the loss exceeds an applicable threshold amount. Failure to comply with the reporting requirements gives rise to substantial penalties. Certain states, including New York, may also have similar disclosure requirements. Shareholders should consult their tax advisors to determine whether they are required to file IRS Form 8886 in connection with a sale or other disposition of shares.

### **Exchange or Conversion of Shares.**

You may exchange all or a portion of your shares in one Fund for shares in another Fund. Exchanges will be executed on the basis of the relative net asset value of the shares exchanged. An exchange will be considered a sale for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and you may therefore realize a gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of an exchange. The Fund offers ~~three~~<sup>two</sup> classes of shares, Retail Shares, ~~and~~ Institutional Shares and R6 Shares, which differ only in their ongoing fees and eligibility requirements. You may convert Retail Shares into Institutional Shares if the value of your investment in a Fund is at least \$1,000,000. If the value of your investment in a Fund falls below \$1,000,000 because of redemptions, the Fund may convert your Institutional Shares into Retail Shares. You may convert Retail Shares or Institutional Shares into R6 Shares if you meet the eligibility requirements. The transaction will be based on the respective net asset value per share of each class on the trade date for the conversion. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, such a conversion will not be a taxable event. You should consult your own tax adviser regarding specific questions of federal, state, local or foreign tax law.

### **Backup Withholding and Information Reporting.**

Payments on the shares and proceeds from a redemption or other disposition of shares will generally be subject to information reporting. Such amounts will be subject to backup withholding, currently at the rate of

28%, if payable to shareholders who fail to provide the Fund (or other payor) with its correct taxpayer identification number or to make required certifications, or who have been notified by the IRS that they are subject to backup withholding. Certain types of shareholders are exempt from such backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld may be credited against a shareholder's U.S. federal income tax liability.

### **Foreign Shareholders.**

A "foreign shareholder" is an investor that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, is a nonresident alien individual, a foreign corporation, or a foreign estate or trust. This disclosure assumes that (i) a foreign shareholder's ownership of shares in the Fund is not effectively connected with a trade or business conducted by such foreign shareholder in the United States, (ii) the foreign shareholder is not an expatriate of the United States, (iii) the foreign shareholder does not own, and has not owned, actually or constructively, more than 5% of the Fund's shares and (iv) the foreign shareholder is not an individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more in any taxable year. A distribution of the Fund's investment company taxable income to a foreign shareholder, including a deemed distribution as a consequence of a Fund's election to pass through foreign taxes paid by the Fund, will generally be subject to withholding tax at a 30% rate or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty. Provided that certain requirements are satisfied, this withholding tax will not be imposed on dividends paid by the Fund in its taxable years beginning before January 1, 2015 to the extent that the underlying income out of which the dividends are paid consists of U.S.-source interest income or short-term capital gains that would not have been subject to U.S. withholding tax if received directly by the foreign shareholder ("interest-related dividends" and "short-term capital gain dividends," respectively). It is unclear whether any legislation will be enacted that would extend this exemption from withholding for the Fund's taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2015.

Foreign shareholders may be subject to an increased U.S. federal income tax on their income resulting from a Fund's election (described above) to "pass-through" amounts of foreign taxes paid by the Fund, but may not be able to claim a credit or deduction with respect to the withholding tax for the foreign taxes treated as having been paid by them.

Information returns will be filed with the IRS in connection with certain payments on the shares. A foreign shareholder may be subject to U.S. backup withholding on distributions that are otherwise exempt from withholding tax or on the proceeds from a redemption or other disposition of shares if such foreign shareholder does not certify its non-U.S. status under penalties of perjury or otherwise establish an exemption. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld pursuant to the backup withholding rules will be allowed as a credit against the foreign shareholder's U.S. federal income tax liability, if any, and may entitle the foreign shareholder to a refund, provided that the required information is furnished to the IRS on a timely basis.

In order to qualify for the exemption from U.S. withholding tax on "interest-related dividends" and "short-term capital gain dividends" (if any), to qualify for an exemption from U.S. backup withholding and to qualify for a reduced rate of U.S. withholding tax on Fund dividends under an income tax treaty, a foreign shareholder must generally deliver to the relevant Fund a properly executed IRS form (generally, Form W-8BEN or Form W-8BEN-E, as applicable). In order to claim a refund of any Fund-level taxes imposed on undistributed net capital gains, any U.S. withholding taxes or any backup withholding on Fund distributions, a foreign shareholder must obtain a U.S. taxpayer identification number and file a U.S. federal income tax return.

None of the Funds expects to be a "United States real property holding corporation" for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Foreign shareholders should consult their tax advisors regarding the potential tax consequences to them if any relevant Fund is or was a "United States real property holding corporation."



The tax consequences to a foreign shareholder entitled to claim the benefits of an applicable tax treaty may be different from those described herein. Foreign shareholders are advised to consult their own tax advisors with respect to the particular tax consequences to them of an investment in the Fund.

Under Sections 1471 through 1474 of the Code (“FATCA”), a withholding tax at the rate of 30% will generally be imposed on payments to certain foreign entities (including financial intermediaries) of dividends on Fund shares and, for dispositions after December 31, 2016, on gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition made to a foreign entity unless the foreign entity provides the withholding agent with certifications and other information (which may include information relating to ownership by U.S. persons of interests in, or accounts with, the foreign entity). If FATCA withholding is imposed, a beneficial owner of shares that is not a foreign financial institution (as specifically defined for purposes of FATCA) generally may obtain a refund of any amounts withheld by filing a U.S. federal income tax return (which may entail significant administrative burden). Foreign shareholders should consult their tax advisors regarding the possible implications of FATCA on their investment in the Fund.

#### **State, Local and Foreign Taxes.**

In addition to federal income taxes, shareholders of the Fund may be subject to state, local or foreign taxes on distributions from the Fund and on repurchases or redemptions of shares. Shareholders should consult their tax advisors as to the application of such taxes and as to the tax status of distributions from the Fund and repurchases or redemptions of shares in their own states and localities.

#### **Cost Basis Information.**

The Fund is required to report your cost basis, gain or loss, and holding period to the IRS on Form 1099 when “covered” shares of the Fund are redeemed. Covered shares are any shares acquired (including shares acquired through reinvestment of the Fund’s distributions) on or after January 1, 2012. The Fund has chosen the “average cost” method as its default method for reporting the cost basis of covered shares. The Fund will use this method for purposes of reporting your cost basis unless you instruct the Fund in writing to use a different calculation method. You may choose a method different from the Fund’s default method if you provide the Fund with timely notice. Please consult your tax advisor with regard to your particular circumstances.

#### **UNDERWRITERS**

BCI is the principal underwriter responsible for distributing the Funds’ securities. The Funds’ public offering of their securities is continuous, and BCI is obligated to distribute the Funds’ securities on a best efforts basis. BCI does not receive underwriting commissions from the Funds. The 12b-1 Plan authorizes the Funds to pay the Distributor a distribution fee equal to 0.25% per annum of each Fund’s average daily net assets attributable to the Retail Shares.

**Compensation Table.**

The following table discloses compensation received by BCI from the Funds for the year ended December 31, 2014.

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Net Underwriting Discounts and Commissions</b>	<b>Compensation on Redemptions and Repurchases</b>	<b>Brokerage Commissions</b>	<b>Other Compensation*</b>
Baron Partners Fund .....	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$3,068,289
Baron Focused Growth Fund .....	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 115,639
Baron International Growth Fund .....	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 68,777
Baron Real Estate Fund .....	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$1,685,511
Baron Emerging Markets Fund .....	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$1,216,868
Baron Energy and Resources Fund .....	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 107,406
Baron Global Advantage Fund .....	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 7,579

\* Fees received pursuant to the 12b-1 Plan.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Funds' audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014 and the report thereon of **PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP**, independent registered public accounting firm, appearing therein, are incorporated by reference into this SAI.