Ares Dynamic Credit Allocation Fund, Inc. Form N-2/A May 18, 2012

Use these links to rapidly review the document <u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 18, 2012

Securities Act Registration No. 333-172987 Investment Company Registration No. 811-22535

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-2/A

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 ý

Pre-Effective Amendment No. 2 Post-Effective Amendment No. []

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940 ý

Amendment No. 2

Ares Dynamic Credit Allocation Fund, Inc.

(Formerly known as Ares Senior Credit Strategies Fund, Inc.) (Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

> 2000 Avenue of the Stars 12th Floor Los Angeles, California 90067

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(310) 201-4200

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Michael D. Weiner Daniel Hall

2000 Avenue of the Stars 12th Floor Los Angeles, California 90067 (310) 201-4200

(Name and Address of Agent for Service)

Copies to:

Donald R. Crawshaw William G. Farrar Sullivan & Cromwell LLP 125 Broad Street New York, NY 10004 (212) 558-4000

Michael K. Hoffman Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP Four Times Square New York, New York 10036

Proposed Maximum

Approximate Date of Proposed Public Offering: As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If any of the securities being registered on this form will be offered on a delayed or continuous basis in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered in connection with a dividend reinvestment plan, check the following box. o

It is proposed that this filing will become effective (check appropriate box)
o when declared effective pursuant to section 8(c)

Amount

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Proposed Maximum

	Title of Securities Being Registered	Being Registered	Offering Price per Unit	Aggregate Offering Price(1)	Amount of Registration Fee		
	Common Stock, (\$0.001 par value per share)	50,000 shares	\$20.00	\$1,000,000	\$116.10(2)		
(1)	(1) Estimated solely for purpose of calculating the registration fee.						
(2)	This amount was previously paid with the	e initial filing.					

The registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that the Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such dates as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

THE INFORMATION IN THIS PROSPECTUS IS NOT COMPLETE AND MAY BE CHANGED. THE FUND (AS DEFINED BELOW) 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 IT IS NOT SOLICITING AN OFFER TO BUY THESE SECURITIES IN ANY JURISDICTION WHERE THE OFFER OR SALE IS NOT PERMITTED.

Subject to Completion Preliminary Prospectus dated [

], 2012

PROSPECTUS , 2012

Shares

Ares Dynamic Credit Allocation Fund, Inc.

Common Stock \$20.00 per Share

Investment Objective. Ares Dynamic Credit Allocation Fund, Inc. (the "Fund") is a newly organized, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company. The Fund's investment objective is to provide an attractive level of total return, primarily through current income and, secondarily, through capital appreciation. There can be no assurance that the Fund will be able to achieve its investment objective or structure its investment portfolio as anticipated.

Investment Strategy and Policies. The Fund will seek to achieve its investment objective by investing primarily in a broad, dynamically managed portfolio of (i) secured loans ("Senior Loans") made primarily to companies whose debt is rated below investment grade; (ii) corporate bonds ("Corporate Bonds") that are expected to be primarily high yield issues rated below investment grade; and (iii) debt securities issued by entities commonly referred to, and referred to herein, as collateralized loan obligations ("CLOs", and such debt securities, "CLO Debt Securities").

Under normal market conditions, at least 80% of the Fund's Managed Assets (as defined in this prospectus) will be invested in (i) Senior Loans and investments with similar economic characteristics (such as second lien loans and unsecured loans) and (ii) Corporate Bonds. The Fund expects initially that almost all of the Senior Loans and Corporate Bonds in which the Fund will invest will be rated below investment grade. Corporate Bonds rated below investment grade are often referred to as "high yield" securities. Senior Loans made to companies whose debt is rated below investment grade and high yield securities are often high risk and have speculative characteristics. Under normal market conditions, the Fund expects to invest up to 20% of its Managed Assets (as defined in this prospectus) in CLO Debt Securities. The underlying obligations collateralizing such CLO Debt Securities will principally be Senior Loans, diversified by industry and borrower. The Fund will invest only in CLO Debt Securities rated investment grade at the time of the Fund's investment.

Adviser. Ares Capital Management II LLC, the Fund's investment adviser (the "Adviser"), is an affiliate of Ares Management LLC ("Ares"). The Adviser will seek to implement the Fund's investment strategy through the application of several techniques, including: (i) investing in a diversified portfolio of loans and other debt investments across a broad range of industries with varying characteristics and return profiles; (ii) adhering to the established credit underwriting processes of Ares Management LLC, an affiliate of the Adviser, and doing substantial pre-investment credit analysis, utilizing publicly available credit and industry information as well as other information about the borrowers and issuers; (iii) monitoring the credit quality of the obligors in the Fund's investments and, as appropriate, on a risk adjusted return basis, selling investments in underperforming issuers; and (iv) holding cash and engaging in derivative credit and interest rate hedges. The Adviser will allocate the Fund's portfolio dynamically among investments in the various targeted credit markets to seek to manage interest rate and credit risk and the duration of the Fund's portfolio.

Leverage. The Fund currently anticipates utilizing leverage to seek to enhance the level of its current distributions to holders of shares of its common stock. The Fund may use leverage through borrowings, including loans from certain financial institutions and/or the issuance of debt securities, as well as through the issuance of shares of preferred stock. The Fund expects to initially incur leverage in an aggregate amount of approximately 33% of the Fund's Managed Assets (as defined herein and after the leverage is incurred). The use of leverage is a speculative technique that involves special risks. There can be no assurance that the Fund's leveraging strategy will be successful. See "Leverage", and "Risk Factors" Principal Risks Relating to Fund Operations Leverage Risk".

No Prior History. The Fund is a newly formed entity and has no previous operating or trading history upon which you can evaluate the Fund's performance. Shares of closed-end management investment companies that are listed on an exchange, such as those of the Fund, frequently trade at prices that reflect a discount from their net asset values. If you purchase shares of the Fund's common stock in its initial public offering or otherwise and sell the shares on an exchange or otherwise, you may receive an amount that is less than: (1) the amount you paid for the shares and/or (2) the net asset value of the Fund's shares at the time of sale.

Listing. It is anticipated that the Fund's common shares will be approved for listing on the New York Stock Exchange, subject to notice of issuance, under the ticker symbol "ARDC".

Investing in the Fund's common shares involves certain risks. You could lose some or all of your investment. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 55 of this prospectus. Certain of these risks are summarized in "Prospectus Summary Risks Factors" beginning on page 10 of this prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Price to public	Sales load(1)	Proceeds to Fund(2)		
Per Share	\$20.00	\$0.90	\$19.10		
Total	\$		\$		
Total assuming full exercise of the over-allotment option	\$		\$		
The Adviser (and not the Fund) has agreed to pay from its own assets a structuring fee to each of UBS Securities, LLC, [
In addition to the sales load, the Fund will pay organizational and offering expenses of up to \$0.04 per common share, estimated to total \$ (\$ assuming full exercise of the over-allotment option). The Adviser or an affiliate of the Adviser has agreed to pay organizational and offering costs (other than sales loads) of the Fund in excess of \$0.04 per share.					
The underwriters expect to deliver the common shares to purchasers on o	or about	, 2012.			

UBS Investment Bank

(continued from cover page)

This prospectus provides information that you should know about the Fund before investing. Please read this prospectus carefully and keep it for future reference. Information required to be in the Fund's statement of additional information is found in this prospectus. Additional information about the Fund has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and is available upon written or oral request and without charge. Information about the Fund can be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Call 1-202-551-8090 for information on the operation of the public reference room. This information also is available on the SEC's Internet site at http://www.sec.gov and copies may be obtained upon payment of a duplicating fee by writing the Public Reference Section of the SEC, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549-0102. You may also email requests for these documents to publicinfo@sec.gov. For a free copy of the Fund's annual or semi-annual report (following the Fund's completion of an annual or semi-annual period, as applicable) or to request other information or ask questions about the Fund, please write to the Fund at 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90067 or call [______] or visit the Fund's website at ________. This reference to the website does not incorporate the contents of the website into this prospectus.

The Fund's common shares do not represent a deposit or obligation of, and are not guaranteed or endorsed by, any bank or other insured depository institution, and are not federally insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency.

The underwriters named in this Prospectus may purchase up to additional common shares from the Fund at the public offering price, less the sales load, within 45 days after the date of this prospectus to cover overallotments.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. The Fund has not, and the underwriters have not, authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. The Fund is not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus. The Fund's business, financial condition and prospects may have changed since the date of this prospectus.

Through and including , 2012 (the 25th day after the date of this prospectus), all dealers effecting transactions in the common shares, whether or not participating in this offering, may be required to deliver a prospectus. This is in addition to the dealers' obligation to deliver a prospectus when acting as underwriters and with respect to their unsold allotments or subscriptions.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Summary Summary of Fund Expenses	1 35 37 37 37 37
The Fund	<u>37</u>
Who May Wish to Invest	<u>37</u>
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	<u>37</u>
The Fund's Investments	<u>37</u>
Leverage	<u>51</u>
Risk Factors	<u>55</u>
<u>Listing of Shares</u>	<u>78</u>
Investment Restrictions	<u>78</u>
Management of the Fund	<u>78</u> <u>78</u> <u>79</u> <u>85</u>
<u>The Adviser</u>	<u>85</u>
The Portfolio Managers	<u>87</u>
<u>Control Persons</u>	<u>90</u>
Net Asset Value	<u>90</u>
<u>Distributions</u>	<u>91</u>
<u>Dividend Reinvestment Plan</u>	<u>91</u> <u>92</u>
Portfolio Transactions	<u>94</u>
<u>Conflicts of Interest</u>	<u>94</u> <u>94</u> <u>96</u>
Code of Ethics	<u>96</u>
Proxy Voting Policies	<u>96</u>
Description of Securities	<u>96</u>
Closed-End Fund Structure	$1\overline{01}$
Repurchase of Common Shares	102
Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations	102
Underwriters	108
Administrative, Custodian and Transfer Agent and Other Services	111
Validity of Common Shares	111
Fiscal Year	111
Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	111
Statement of Net Assets	113
Appendix A: Description of S&P, Moody's and Fitch Ratings	A-1
Appendix B: Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures	B-1
Appendix B. 110xy voting Fonces and Frocedures	<u>D 1</u>
1	

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights some of the information included elsewhere in this prospectus. It is not complete and may not contain all of the information that you may want to consider. You should read carefully the more detailed information set forth under "Risk Factors" on page 55 of this prospectus and the other information included elsewhere in this prospectus. The information below is qualified in all respects by the more detailed information included elsewhere in this prospectus and in the Fund's Registration Statement filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC").

The Fund Ares Dynamic Credit Allocation Fund, Inc. (the "Fund") is a corporation organized under the

laws of the State of Maryland and registered with the SEC under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), as a closed-end, non-diversified management investment company. Ares Capital Management II LLC (the "Adviser") serves as

the Fund's investment adviser.

The Offering The Fund is offering shares of its common stock, par value \$0.001 per share

("common shares"), at \$20.00 per share through a group of underwriters (the "Underwriters") led by UBS Securities, LLC. You must purchase at least 100 common shares in this offering. The Fund has given the Underwriters an option to purchase up to additional common

shares to cover orders in excess of common shares. See "Underwriting".

The Fund may be an appropriate investment for:

Long-term investors seeking attractive total return, primarily through current income and, secondarily, capital appreciation.

Fixed income investors seeking investment in a fixed income portfolio initially managed to seek short to moderate portfolio duration in light of market conditions.

Investors who believe interest rates and inflation may rise in the future and want the benefits that floating rate fixed income investments may offer.

Investors seeking access to the investment acumen of the Adviser and its affiliates. Investors should consider their investment goals, time horizons and risk tolerance before investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not appropriate for all investors, and the Fund is not intended to be a complete investment program. The Fund is designed as a long-term investment and not as a trading vehicle.

The Fund's investment objective is to provide an attractive level of total return, primarily through current income and, secondarily, through capital appreciation. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective or be able to structure its investment portfolio as anticipated.

Investment Objective

Who May Wish to Invest

1

Table of Contents

Investment Strategies

The Fund's investment objective may be changed by the board of directors of the Fund (the "Board of Directors" or the "Board") on 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders. The Fund will seek to achieve its investment objective by investing primarily in a broad, dynamically managed portfolio of (i) secured loans ("Senior Loans") made to companies whose debt is rated below investment grade, (ii) corporate bonds ("Corporate Bonds") that are expected to be primarily high yield issues rated below investment grade, and (iii) debt securities issued by entities commonly referred to, and referred to herein, as collateralized loan obligations ("CLOs", and such debt securities, "CLO Debt Securities"). The Adviser will dynamically allocate the Fund's portfolio among investments in the various targeted credit markets to seek to manage interest rate and credit risk and the duration of the Fund's portfolio. Under normal market conditions, at least 80% of the Fund's Managed Assets (as defined below) will be invested in (i) Senior Loans and investments with similar economic characteristics (such as second lien loans and unsecured loans) and (ii) Corporate Bonds. Under normal market conditions, the Fund expects to invest up to 20% of its Managed Assets (as defined below) in CLO Debt Securities . The underlying obligations collateralizing such CLO Debt Securities will principally be Senior Loans, diversified by industry and borrower.

"Managed Assets" means the total assets of the Fund (including any assets attributable to any preferred shares that may be issued or to indebtedness) minus the Fund's liabilities other than liabilities relating to indebtedness.

Senior Loans. Senior Loans generally hold a first lien priority and typically pay interest at rates that are determined periodically on the basis of a floating base lending rate, primarily the London-Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"), plus a spread. Senior Loans are typically made to U.S. and, to a lesser extent, non-U.S. corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies and other business entities (together with issuers of Corporate Bonds and other debt securities, "Borrowers") which operate in various industries and geographical regions. Borrowers may obtain Senior Loans, among other reasons, to refinance existing debt, engage in acquisitions, pay dividends, recapitalize, complete leveraged buyouts and for general corporate purposes. Senior Loans rated below investment grade are sometimes referred to as "leveraged loans". The Fund may invest in Senior Loans through assignments of or, to a lesser extent, participations in Senior Loans. The Fund may utilize various types of derivative instruments, including total return swaps for the purpose of gaining exposure to Senior Loans.

Table of Contents

Corporate Bonds. An issuer of Corporate Bonds typically pays the investor a fixed rate of interest and must repay the amount borrowed on or before maturity. The investment return of Corporate Bonds reflects interest on the security and changes in the market value of the security. The market value of a Corporate Bond generally may be expected to rise and fall inversely with interest rates. The value of intermediate- and longer-term Corporate Bonds normally fluctuates more in response to changes in interest rates than does the value of shorter-term Corporate Bonds. The market value of a Corporate Bond also may be affected by investors' perceptions of the creditworthiness of the issuer, the issuer's performance and perceptions of the issuer in the market place. There is a risk that the issuers of Corporate Bonds may not be able to meet their obligations on interest or principal payments at the time called for by an instrument. The Fund may utilize various types of derivative instruments, including swaps, for the purpose of gaining exposure to Corporate Bonds.

CLOs. A CLO generally holds a portfolio consisting principally (typically, 80% or more of its assets) of loan obligations. CLOs are created to reapportion the risk and return characteristics of a portfolio of underlying assets. The CLO securitizes payment claims arising out of its portfolio of underlying assets and issues debt securities with payment characteristics linked to the underlying assets. The redemption of the securities issued by the CLO typically occurs from the cash flow generated by the portfolio of underlying assets. The vast majority of CLOs are actively managed by an independent investment manager.

The Fund expects to invest in CLO Debt Securities issued by CLOs that principally hold Senior Loans, diversified by industry and borrower. It is also possible that the underlying obligations of CLOs in which the Fund invests will include (i) Subordinated Loans, (ii) debt tranches of other CLOs, and (iii) equity securities incidental to investments in Senior Loans. The cash flows on the underlying obligations will primarily determine the payments to holders of CLO Debt Securities. CLO Debt Securities typically have floating interest rates. CLOs issue debt securities in tranches with different payment characteristics and different credit ratings. The tranches of CLO Debt Securities senior to the "residual" or lowest tranche (called the "rated tranches") are generally assigned credit ratings by one or more nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. Residual tranches are the most junior tranches and do not receive ratings. The Fund will not invest in residual tranches of CLO Debt Securities and will invest only in tranches of CLO Debt Securities rated investment grade at the time of the Fund's investment. Though, if any CLO Debt Security held by the Fund is downgraded to a below investment grade rating, the Fund may

Table of Contents

exchange such CLO Debt Security for another CLO Debt Security that is rated below investment grade.

Subordinated Loans. The Fund may also invest in subordinated loans ("Subordinated Loans"). Subordinated loans generally have the same characteristics as Senior Loans except that such loans are subordinated in payment and/or lower in lien priority to first lien holders. Denomination. The Fund may invest in U.S. dollar and non-U.S. dollar denominated loans and securities of Borrowers located anywhere in the world, and of Borrowers that operate in any industry.

Credit Rating. Senior Loans, Corporate Bonds and other instruments considered below investment grade are those that, at the time of investment, are rated "Ba1" or lower by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's"), "BB+" or lower by Standard & Poor's Corporation Ratings Group ("S&P") or "BB+" or lower by Fitch Ratings, Inc. ("Fitch"), or, if unrated, are judged by the Adviser to be of comparable credit quality. Senior Loans rated below investment grade are sometimes referred to as "leveraged loans". In addition, the Corporate Bonds in which the Fund invests are expected to be primarily rated below investment grade. Corporate Bonds rated below investment grade are commonly referred to as "high yield" securities and regarded as having predominately speculative characteristics with respect to an issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal. Although many of the Fund's investments may consist of securities and other instruments rated below investment grade, the Fund reserves the right to invest in debt securities and loans of any credit rating.

Maturity and Duration. The Fund may invest in debt securities of any maturity, including perpetual securities, and does not manage its portfolio seeking to maintain a targeted dollar-weighted average maturity level. While the Fund may invest in securities of any duration, the Fund initially will seek to manage its portfolio to a short to moderate duration. The Adviser will dynamically allocate the Fund's portfolio among investments in the various targeted credit markets to seek the targeted duration of the Fund's portfolio in light of market conditions. The Fund does not have a fixed duration target, and the portfolio's duration may vary significantly over time based on the Adviser's assessment of the current market conditions. In comparison to maturity (which is the date on which the issuer of a debt security or a borrower of a loan is obligated to repay the principal amount), duration is a measure of the price volatility of a debt security or loan as a result of changes in market interest rates, based on the weighted average timing of the security's or loan's expected principal and interest payments. Duration is expressed as a

Table of Contents

Investment Process

number of years but differs from maturity in that it considers a security's or loan's yield, coupon payments, principal payments and call features in addition to the amount of time until the security or loan matures. As the value of a security or loan changes over time, so will its duration. Prices of securities or loans with longer durations tend to be more sensitive to interest rate changes than securities or loans with shorter durations. There can be no assurance that the Fund's duration management strategies will be successful in helping the Fund to achieve its investment objectives.

For a more complete discussion of the Fund's portfolio composition, see "The Fund's Investments".

The Adviser is an affiliate of Ares Management LLC ("Ares"). In making its investment decisions, the Adviser has adopted Ares' long-standing, consistent credit-based investment approach that was developed over 20 years ago by its founders. Specifically, the Adviser's investment philosophy, portfolio construction and portfolio management involve an assessment of the overall macroeconomic environment, financial markets and company-specific research and analysis. Its investment approach emphasizes capital preservation, low volatility and minimization of downside risk. In addition to engaging in extensive due diligence from the perspective of a long-term investor, the Adviser's approach seeks to reduce risk as further described below.

The Adviser will dynamically allocate the Fund's portfolio among investments in the various targeted credit markets to seek to manage interest rate and credit risk and the duration of the Fund's portfolio. The Adviser will seek to implement this dynamic allocation strategy, by which the Fund's investment allocations to Senior Loans, Corporate Bonds, CLO Debt Securities and other permitted investments will be continuously evaluated and adjusted based on Ares analysis of the then current market environment, in order to respond to changing market conditions and seek to achieve attractive risk-adjusted returns throughout the credit cycle. The Adviser believes that as market conditions change, so should the Fund's investment allocations. In addition, the Adviser may allocate portions of the Fund's portfolio to investments that it believes to be pre-disposed to positive event risk or to have attractive relative value characteristics given then current market conditions. The Adviser believes that reallocating investments in this way will opportunistically emphasize those investments and categories of investments best suited to the then current market environment and outlook. There can be no assurance that the Adviser will seek to allocate the Fund's investments in any particular manner or that the Fund will be able to structure its investment portfolio as desired in any given market environment.

Table of Contents

The Adviser's investment process is rigorous, proactive and continuous. Close monitoring of each investment in the portfolio provides foresight for making buy, sell and hold decisions. The Adviser utilizes what it believes to be a conservative approach that focuses on credit fundamentals, collateral coverage, structural seniority and relative value. The Adviser may also employ sector analysis to assess industry trends and characteristics that may impact a Borrower's potential future ability to generate cash, as well as profitability, asset values, financial needs and potential liabilities. The Adviser takes a disciplined approach to its credit investment selection process in which criteria used by the Adviser in credit selection may include an evaluation of whether a loan or debt security is adequately collateralized or over-collateralized and whether it is covered by sufficient earnings and cash flow to service the Borrower's indebtedness on a timely basis. The Adviser also takes into consideration the credit ratings of Borrowers in evaluating potential investments, but credit ratings are generally not the primary or determinative factor in the investment selection process. The Adviser also expects to gain exposure to Borrowers across a broad range of industries and of varying characteristics and return profiles.

When identifying prospective investment opportunities, the Adviser currently intends to focus primarily on the following attributes:

Strong franchises and sustainable competitive advantage. When identifying potential investment opportunities, the Adviser favors well-established companies with strong franchises and sustainable competitive advantages. The Adviser intends to invest in Borrowers that it believes have developed strong positions within their markets and exhibit the potential to maintain sufficient cash flows and revenues to service their obligations in a range of economic environments. The Adviser will seek Borrowers that it believes possess advantages in scale, scope, customer loyalty, product pricing or product quality versus their competitors.

Investing in stable Borrowers with cash flows that are dependable and predictable. The Adviser intends to invest in Borrowers it believes to be stable and well established with cash flows that are dependable and predictable. The Adviser believes these attributes evidence Borrowers that may be well positioned to maintain consistent cash flow to service and repay their obligations and maintain growth in their businesses or market share. The Adviser currently does not expect to invest significantly in start-up companies, companies in turnaround situations or companies with speculative business plans, although the Fund is permitted to do so.

<u>Management teams with demonstrated track records and economic incentive.</u> The Adviser intends to focus on investments in which the Borrower has an experienced

Table of Contents

management team with an established track record of success and economic incentives to succeed.

<u>Investments in industries with positive long-term dynamics.</u> The Adviser will seek to invest the Fund's assets broadly among Borrowers and industries with positive long-term dynamics, thereby potentially reducing the risk that a downturn in any one company or industry will have a disproportionate effect on the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Rates of return commensurate with the perceived risks. The Adviser and its affiliates have extensive experience investing in a wide variety of securities for leveraged companies with a diverse set of terms and conditions. The Fund believes this approach and experience enables the Adviser to identify attractive investment opportunities throughout economic cycles and across a company's capital structure so the Fund can make investments consistent with its stated investment objective while seeking appropriate risk adjusted returns.

Securities or investments that are structured with protective terms and covenants. The Adviser will seek investments that seek to permit the Borrower to operate its business while balancing the need to assure repayment of the Fund's investment through protective terms and covenants. In managing the Fund's portfolio, the Adviser will engage in regular and periodic monitoring of credit risk with a goal toward the early identification, and sale, of Senior Loans, Corporate Bonds and other investments with potential credit problems. This monitoring process may include reviewing (i) a Borrower's financial resources and operating history; (ii) a comparison of a Borrower's current operating results with the Adviser's initial investment thesis for the investment and initial expectations for the performance of the obligation; (iii) a Borrower's sensitivity to economic conditions; (iv) the performance of a Borrower's management; (v) a Borrower's debt maturities and borrowing requirements; (vi) a Borrower's interest and asset coverage; and (vii) the relative value of an investment based on a Borrower's anticipated cash flow or where other comparable assets are trading in the market.

The Adviser also expects to gain exposure to Borrowers across a broad range of industries and of varying characteristics and return profiles, as well as active management of such investments in light of current economic developments and trends. The Fund may take certain actions if short-term interest rates increase or market conditions otherwise change (or if the Fund anticipates such an increase or change) and the Fund's use of leverage, if any, begins (or is expected) to adversely affect common shareholders. In order to attempt to offset such a negative effect of leverage on common shareholders, the Fund may shorten the average maturity of its

Table of Contents

Temporary Defensive Investments

Leverage

investment portfolio (by investing in short-term securities), may reduce its indebtedness or unwind other leveraged transactions, or may engage in interest rate hedging arrangements. For temporary defensive purposes or in order to reduce the Fund's leverage exposure or to keep the Fund's cash fully invested, including during the period when the net proceeds of the offering of common shares are being invested, or at other times deemed appropriate by the Adviser, the Fund may deviate from its investment strategies and objective. During such periods, the Fund may invest all or a portion of its Managed Assets in U.S. Government securities, including bills, notes and bonds differing as to maturity and rates of interest that are either issued or guaranteed by the Treasury or by U.S. Government agencies or instrumentalities; non-U.S. Government securities which have received the highest investment grade credit rating. certificates of deposit issued against funds deposited in a bank or a savings and loan association; commercial paper; bankers' acceptances; bank time deposits; shares of money market funds; credit-linked notes or repurchase agreements with respect to any of the foregoing. It is impossible to predict when, or for how long, the Fund will use these strategies. There can be no assurance that such strategies will be successful. The Fund is not required to adopt defensive positions or hedge its investments and may choose not to do so even in periods of extreme market volatility and economic uncertainty.

The Fund currently anticipates utilizing leverage to seek to enhance the level of its current distributions to holders of shares of its common stock. The Fund may engage in leverage to the maximum extent permitted by law for investment and other general corporate purposes. The Fund expects to initially incur leverage in an aggregate amount of approximately 33% of the Fund's Managed Assets (after the leverage is incurred) and [1% of the Fund's net assets (after the leverage is incurred). As used in this prospectus, "net assets" are determined by subtracting any liabilities (including borrowings for investment purposes) from the total value of the Fund's portfolio investments and other assets. As discussed further in this prospectus, the Fund's ability to use leverage will be limited by the Investment Company Act and any agreements on debt limitations or asset coverage requirements imposed on the Fund by its lenders or necessary to obtaining ratings on any preferred stock or debt issued by the Fund. The Fund may issue preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness, and it may also borrow funds from banks and other financial institutions. The Fund may also gain leverage synthetically through swaps and other Derivatives. To the extent that the Fund segregates assets against or covers such positions in accordance with interpretations of the staff of the

Table of Contents

SEC, the Fund's obligations under such transactions will not be considered senior securities representing indebtedness under the Investment Company Act and will not be included in calculating the aggregate amount of leverage for purposes of the 33% policy set forth above. The issuance of preferred shares or the use of borrowings or Derivatives to leverage the common shares can create risks, including increased variability of the Fund's net income, distributions and/or net asset value in relation to market changes. Changes in the value of the Fund's portfolio, including securities bought with the proceeds of leverage, will be borne entirely by common shareholders. All costs and expenses related to any form of leverage used by the Fund will be borne entirely by common shareholders. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified if the Fund uses leverage. In particular, leverage may magnify interest rate risk, which is the risk that the prices of portfolio securities will fall (or rise) if market interest rates for those types of securities rise (or fall). During periods when the Fund is using leverage, the fees paid to the Adviser for advisory services will be higher than if the Fund did not use leverage because the fees paid will be calculated on the basis of the Fund's Managed Assets, which includes the assets purchased through leverage. In such case, the Adviser may have a financial incentive to increase the Fund's use of leverage, which constitutes an inherent conflict of interest. In addition, the fees paid to the Adviser are borne exclusively by common shareholders. It is expected that preferred shareholders, noteholders and any lenders to the Fund will not bear any expenses of the Fund. The Fund's leveraging strategy, if utilized, may not be successful. See "Leverage" and "Risk Factors Principal Risks Relating to Fund Operations Leverage Risk".

The Fund may seek to arrange a floating rate credit facility (the "Credit Facility") with one or more banks or other financial institutions pursuant to which the Fund would be entitled to borrow funds from time to time in accordance with the terms of the Credit Facility. Any such borrowings, as well as the issuance of notes or other forms of indebtedness, would constitute financial leverage and would be subject to the 300% asset coverage requirements imposed by the Investment Company Act described above with respect to the amount of the borrowings and the Fund's ability to declare dividends and distributions or purchase its capital stock. The Fund may choose not to enter into a Credit Facility. See "Leverage".

The Adviser is an affiliate of Ares and leverages off of Ares' entire investment platform and benefits from the significant capital markets, trading and research expertise of all of Ares' investment professionals. As of March 31, 2012, Ares has approximately 240 investment professionals covering current

Investment Adviser

Table of Contents

investments in approximately 1,100 companies across over 30 industries. The Fund's portfolio management team is comprised of members of Ares' Capital Markets Group. Founded in 1997, Ares is a global alternative asset manager and SEC registered investment

adviser with approximately \$52 billion of total committed capital under management and approximately 500 employees as of March 31, 2012.

Ares specializes in managing assets in both the leveraged finance and private equity markets. Ares' leveraged finance activities include the acquisition and management of Senior Loans, high yield securities, mezzanine debt and special situation investments. Ares' private equity activities focus on providing flexible, junior capital to middle-market companies. Ares has the ability to invest across a capital structure, from senior floating rate debt to common equity. This flexibility, combined with Ares' "buy and hold" philosophy, enables Ares to structure an investment to meet the specific needs of a company rather than the less flexible demands of the public markets.

The Adviser will receive a monthly fee at the annual rate of 1.00% of the average daily value of the Fund's Managed Assets. During periods when the Fund is using leverage, the fees paid to the Adviser will be higher than if the Fund did not use leverage because the fees paid will be calculated on the basis of the Fund's Managed Assets, which includes the assets purchased through leverage. See "Management of the Fund Investment Advisory and Management Agreement".

General. Investing in the Fund's common shares involves certain risks and the Fund may not be able to achieve its intended results for a variety of reasons, including, among others, the possibility that the Fund may not be able to structure its investments as anticipated. Because the value of your investment in the Fund will fluctuate, there is a risk that you will lose money. Your investment will decline in value if, among other things, the value of the Fund's investments decreases. The value of your common shares also will be affected by the Fund's ability to successfully implement its investment strategy, as well as by market, economic and other conditions. As with any security, complete loss of investment is possible.

Investment and Market Risk. An investment in the Fund's common shares is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the entire principal amount invested. An investment in the Fund's common shares represents an indirect investment in the portfolio of Senior Loans, Corporate Bonds and other securities and loans owned by the Fund, and the value of these securities and loans may fluctuate, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. For instance.

Risk Factors

Table of Contents

as evidenced by the global economic downturn, the secondary markets for Senior Loans and investments with similar economic characteristics (such as second lien loans and unsecured loans) and Corporate Bonds can experience sudden and sharp price swings, which can be exacerbated by large or sustained sales by major investors in these markets, a high-profile default by a major borrower, movements in indices tied to these markets or related securities or investments, or a change in the market's perception of Senior Loans, Corporate Bonds and investments with similar economic characteristics (such as second lien loans and unsecured loans). At any point in time, an investment in the Fund's common shares may be worth less than the original amount invested, even after taking into account distributions paid by the Fund, if any, and the ability of common shareholders to reinvest dividends. The Fund anticipates using leverage, which will magnify the Fund's risks and, in turn, the risks to the Fund's common shareholders.

Senior Loans Risk. The Senior Loans in which the Fund will invest will primarily be rated below investment grade, but may also be unrated and of comparable credit quality. As a result, the risks associated with such Senior Loans are generally similar to the risks of other below investment grade fixed income instruments, although Senior Loans are senior and typically secured in contrast to other below investment grade fixed income instruments, which are often subordinated or unsecured. Investments in below investment grade Senior Loans are considered speculative because of the credit risk of the Borrowers. Such Borrowers are more likely than investment grade Borrowers to default on their payments of interest and principal owed to the Fund, and such defaults could reduce the Fund's net asset value and income distributions. An economic downturn would generally lead to a higher non-payment rate, and a Senior Loan may lose significant market value before a default occurs. Moreover, any specific collateral used to secure a Senior Loan may decline in value or become illiquid, which would adversely affect the Senior Loan's value. Senior Loans are subject to a number of risks described elsewhere in this prospectus, including liquidity risk and the risk of investing in below investment grade fixed income instruments.

Senior Loans are subject to the risk of non-payment of scheduled interest or principal. Such non-payment would result in a reduction of income to the Fund, a reduction in the value of the investment and a potential decrease in the net asset value of the Fund. There can be no assurance that the liquidation of any collateral securing a Senior Loan would satisfy the Borrower's obligation in the event of non-payment of scheduled interest or principal payments, whether when due or upon acceleration, or that the collateral could be

Table of Contents

liquidated, readily or otherwise. In the event of bankruptcy or insolvency of a Borrower, the Fund could experience delays or limitations with respect to its ability to realize the benefits of the collateral, if any, securing a Senior Loan. The collateral securing a Senior Loan, if any, may lose all or substantially all of its value in the event of the bankruptcy or insolvency of a Borrower. Some Senior Loans are subject to the risk that a court, pursuant to fraudulent conveyance or other similar laws, could subordinate such Senior Loans to presently existing or future indebtedness of the Borrower or take other action detrimental to the holders of Senior Loans including, in certain circumstances, invalidating such Senior Loans or causing interest previously paid to be refunded to the Borrower. Additionally, a Senior Loan may be primed in bankruptcy, which reduces the ability of the holders of the Senior Loan to recover on the collateral.

There may be less readily available information about most Senior Loans and the Borrowers thereunder than is the case for many other types of securities, including securities issued in transactions registered under the Securities Act, or registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and Borrowers subject to the periodic reporting requirements of Section 13 of the Exchange Act. Senior loans may be issued by companies that are not subject to SEC reporting requirements and these companies, therefore, do not file reports with the SEC that must comply with SEC form requirements and in addition are subject to a less stringent liability disclosure regime than companies subject to SEC reporting requirements. As a result, the Adviser will rely primarily on its own evaluation of a Borrower's credit quality rather than on any available independent sources. Therefore, the Fund will be particularly dependent on the analytical abilities of the Adviser.

The secondary trading market for Senior Loans may be less liquid than the secondary trading market for registered investment grade debt securities. No active trading market may exist for certain Senior Loans, which may make it difficult to value them. Illiquidity and adverse market conditions may mean that the Fund may not be able to sell Senior Loans quickly or at a fair price. To the extent that a secondary market does exist for certain Senior Loans, the market for them may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods.

Table of Contents

The Fund expects to acquire Senior Loans primarily through assignments and, to a lesser extent, through participations. The purchaser of an assignment typically succeeds to all the rights and obligations of the assigning institution and becomes a lender under the credit agreement with respect to the debt obligation; however, the purchaser's rights can be more restricted than those of the assigning institution, and the Fund may not be able to unilaterally enforce all rights and remedies under the loan and with regard to any associated collateral. In general, a participation is a contractual relationship only with the institution participating out the interest, not with the Borrower. Sellers of participations typically include banks, broker-dealers, other financial institutions and lending institutions. In purchasing participations, the Fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by the Borrower with the terms of the loan agreement against the Borrower, and the Fund may not directly benefit from the collateral supporting the debt obligation in which it has purchased the participation. As a result, (i) the Fund will be exposed to the credit risk of both the Borrower and the institution selling the participation and (ii) both the Borrower and the institution selling the participation will be considered issuers for purposes of the Fund's investment restriction concerning industry concentration. See "Investment Restrictions". Further, in purchasing participations in lending syndicates, the Fund may be more limited than it otherwise would be in its ability to conduct due diligence on the Borrower. In addition, as a holder of the participations, the Fund may not have voting rights or inspection rights that the Fund would otherwise have if it were investing directly in the Senior Loan, which may result in the Fund being exposed to greater credit or fraud risk with respect to the Borrower or the Senior Loan. See "Risk Factors Principal Risks Relating to the Fund's Investments Senior Loans Risk".

Subordinated Loans Risk. Although the Fund does not initially expect Subordinated Loans to be a significant component of its portfolio, it may invest in such instruments from time to time. Subordinated Loans generally are subject to similar risks as those associated with investments in Senior Loans, except that such loans are subordinated in payment and/or lower in lien priority to first lien holders. In the event of default on a Subordinated Loan, the first priority lien holder has first claim to the underlying collateral of the loan to the extent such claim is secured. Additionally, an oversecured creditor may be entitled to additional interest and other charges in bankruptcy increasing the amount of their allowed claim. Subordinated Loans are subject to the additional risk that the cash flow of the Borrower and property securing the loan or debt, if any, may be insufficient to meet scheduled payments after giving effect to the senior obligations of the Borrower. This risk is

Table of Contents

generally higher for subordinated unsecured loans or debt, which are not backed by a security interest in any specific collateral. Subordinated Loans generally have greater price volatility than Senior Loans and may be less liquid.

CLO Debt Securities Risk. CLOs issue debt securities in tranches with different payment characteristics and different credit ratings. The rated tranches of CLO Debt Securities are generally assigned credit ratings by one or more nationally recognized statistical rating organization. Residual tranches are the most junior tranches and do not receive ratings. Below investment grade tranches of CLO Debt Securities typically experience a lower recovery, greater risk of loss or deferral or non-payment of interest than more senior tranches of the CLO. The Fund will not invest in residual tranches of CLO Debt Securities and will invest only in tranches of CLO Debt Securities that are rated investment grade at the time of the Fund's investment. Though, if any CLO Debt Security held by the Fund is downgraded to a below investment grade rating, the Fund may exchange such CLO Debt Security for another CLO Debt Security that is rated below investment grade.

The transaction documents relating to the issuance of CLO Debt Securities may impose eligibility criteria on the assets of the CLO, restrict the ability of the CLO's investment manager to trade investments and impose certain portfolio-wide asset quality requirements. These criteria, restrictions and requirements may limit the ability of the CLO's investment manager to maximize returns on the CLO Debt Securities. In addition, other parties involved in CLOs, such as third party credit enhancers and investors in the rated tranches may impose requirements that have an adverse effect on the returns of the various tranches of CLO Debt Securities. Furthermore, CLO Debt Securities issuance transaction documents generally contain provisions that, in the event that certain tests are not met (generally interest coverage and over-collateralization tests at varying levels in the capital structure), proceeds that would otherwise be distributed to holders of a junior tranche must be diverted to pay down the senior tranches until such tests are satisfied. Failure (or increased likelihood of failure) of a CLO to make timely payments on a particular tranche will have an adverse effect on the liquidity and market value of such tranche.

Payments to holders of CLO Debt Securities may be subject to deferral. If cash flows generated by the underlying assets are insufficient to make all current and, if applicable, deferred payments on CLO Debt Securities, no other assets will be available for payment of the deficiency and, following realization of the underlying assets, the obligations of the issuer of the related CLO Debt Securities to pay such deficiency will be extinguished.

Table of Contents

The market value of CLO Debt Securities may be affected by, among other things, changes in the market value of the underlying assets held by the CLO, changes in the distributions on the underlying assets, defaults and recoveries on the underlying assets, capital gains and losses on the underlying assets, prepayments on underlying assets and the availability, prices and interest rate of underlying assets. Furthermore, the leveraged nature of each subordinated class may magnify the adverse impact on such class of changes in the value of the assets, changes in the distributions on the assets, defaults and recoveries on the assets, capital gains and losses on the assets, prepayment on assets and availability, price and interest rates of assets. Finally, CLO Debt Securities are limited recourse and may not be paid in full and may be subject to up to 100% loss.

Below Investment Grade Rating Risk. The Fund expects initially that its investments in Senior Loans, Subordinated Loans, Corporate Bonds and other debt instruments will consist primarily of securities and loans that are rated below investment grade or unrated and of comparable credit quality. Corporate Bonds that are rated below investment grade are often referred to as "high yield" securities. Below investment grade Senior Loans, high yield securities and other similar instruments are rated "Ba1" or lower by Moody's, "BB+" or lower by S&P or "BB+" or lower by Fitch or, if unrated, are judged by the Adviser to be of comparable credit quality. While generally providing greater income and opportunity for gain, below investment grade Corporate Bonds and Senior Loans and similar debt instruments may be subject to greater risks than securities or instruments that have higher credit ratings, including a higher risk of default. The credit rating of a Corporate Bond and Senior Loan that is rated below investment grade does not necessarily address its market value risk, and ratings may from time to time change, positively or negatively, to reflect developments regarding the issuer's financial condition. Below investment grade Corporate Bonds and Senior Loans and similar instruments often are considered to be speculative with respect to the capacity of the Borrower to timely repay principal and pay interest or dividends in accordance with the terms of the obligation and may have more credit risk than higher rated securities. Lower grade securities and similar debt instruments may be particularly susceptible to economic downturns. It is likely that a prolonged or deepening economic recession could adversely affect the ability of some Borrowers issuing such Corporate Bonds, Senior Loans and similar debt instruments to repay principal and pay interest on the instrument, increase the incidence of default and severely disrupt the market value of the securities and similar debt instruments.

Credit Risk. Credit risk is the risk that one or more loans or debt securities in the Fund's portfolio will decline in price or one or more Borrowers will fail to pay interest or principal

Table of Contents

when due because one or more Borrowers experiences a decline in its financial condition. While a senior position in the capital structure of a Borrower may provide some protection with respect to the Fund's investments in Senior Loans, losses may still occur because the market value of Senior Loans is affected by the creditworthiness of Borrowers and by general economic and specific industry conditions. To the extent the Fund invests in below investment grade Corporate Bonds, Senior Loans or other investments, it will be exposed to a greater amount of credit risk than a fund that invests in investment grade securities or loans. Typically, the prices of lower grade securities or loans are more sensitive to negative developments, such as a decline in the Borrower's revenues or a general economic downturn, than are the prices of higher grade securities or loans.

Prepayment Risk. During periods of declining interest rates, Borrowers may exercise their option to prepay principal earlier than scheduled. For Corporate Bonds, such payments often occur during periods of declining interest rates, which may require the Fund to reinvest in lower yielding securities, resulting in a possible decline in the Fund's income and distributions to shareholders. This is known as prepayment or "call" risk. Below investment grade Corporate Bonds frequently have call features that allow the issuer to redeem the security at dates prior to its stated maturity at a specified price (typically greater than the stated principal amount) only if certain prescribed conditions are met ("Call Protection"). An issuer may redeem Corporate Bonds if, for example, the issuer can refinance the debt at a lower cost due to declining interest rates or an improvement in the credit standing of the issuer. Fixed income securities may be purchased at prices below or above their stated principal amount. For premium Corporate Bonds (Corporate Bonds acquired at prices that exceed their stated principal amount), prepayment risk may be enhanced given that the Fund would lose the potential value of the yield-to-maturity of the bonds in the event they are redeemed at the stated principal amount. Senior Loans and Subordinated Loans are subject to prepayment risk and typically do not have Call Protection. The degree to which Borrowers prepay Senior Loans and Subordinated Loans, whether as a contractual requirement or at their election, may be affected by general business conditions, the financial condition of the Borrower and competitive conditions among Senior Loan and Subordinated Loan investors, among others. For these reasons, prepayments cannot be predicted with accuracy. Upon a prepayment, either in part or in full, the outstanding debt from which the Fund derives interest income will be reduced. The Fund may not be able to reinvest the proceeds received on terms as favorable as the prepaid loan.

Table of Contents

Interest Rate Risk. Because Senior Loans with floating or variable rates reset their interest rates periodically, changes in prevailing interest rates can be expected to cause some fluctuations in the Fund's net asset value. Similarly, an increase in market interest rates (which are currently considered low by historic standards) may cause a decline in the Fund's net asset value. In addition, Senior Loans or similar loans or securities may allow the Borrower to opt between LIBOR-based interest rates and interest rates based on bank prime rates, which may have an effect on the Fund's net asset value.

Liquidity Risk. The Fund generally considers "illiquid securities" to be securities or loans that cannot be sold within seven days in the ordinary course of business at approximately the value used by the Fund in determining its net asset value. The Fund may not be able to readily dispose of such securities or loans at prices that approximate those at which the Fund could sell the securities or loans if they were more widely traded and, as a result of that illiquidity, the Fund may have to sell other investments or engage in borrowing transactions if necessary to raise cash to meet its obligations. Limited liquidity can also affect the market price of securities, thereby adversely affecting the Fund's net asset value and ability to make dividend distributions.

Some Senior Loans are not readily marketable and may be subject to restrictions on resale. Senior Loans generally are not listed on any national securities exchange and no active trading market may exist for the Senior Loans in which the Fund may invest. When a secondary market exists, if at all, the market for some Senior Loans may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods. The Fund has no limitation on the amount of its assets that may be invested in securities that are not readily marketable or are subject to restrictions on resale.

Distressed and Defaulted Debt Risk. Although not initially a principal investment strategy, the Fund may invest, to a limited extent, in securities, including loans purchased in the secondary market, that are the subject of bankruptcy proceedings or otherwise in default or at risk of being in default as to the repayment of principal and/or interest at the time of acquisition by the Fund ("Distressed Debt"). Investment in Distressed Debt is speculative and involves significant risks. See "Risk Factors Principal Risks Relating to the Fund's Investments Distressed and Defaulted Debt Risk".

Inflation/Deflation Risk. Inflation risk is the risk that the value of certain assets or income from the Fund's investments will be worth less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the real value of investments

Table of Contents

and distributions can decline. In addition, during any periods of rising inflation, the dividend rates or borrowing costs associated with the Fund's use of leverage would likely increase, which would tend to further reduce returns to shareholders. Deflation risk is the risk that prices throughout the economy decline over time the opposite of inflation. Deflation may have an adverse effect on the creditworthiness of issuers and may make issuer defaults more likely, which may result in a decline in the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Structured Products Risk. Investments in structured products involve risks, including credit risk and market risk. Certain structured products may be thinly traded or have a limited trading market. Where the Fund's investments in structured products are based upon the movement of one or more factors, including currency exchange rates, interest rates, reference bonds and stock indices, depending on the factor used and the use of multipliers or deflators, changes in interest rates and movement of the factor may cause significant price fluctuations. Additionally, changes in the reference instrument or security may cause the interest rate on the structured product to be reduced to zero, and any further changes in the reference instrument may then reduce the principal amount payable on maturity. Structured products may be less liquid than other types of securities and more volatile than the reference instrument or security underlying the product. Additionally, risks applicable to CLO Debt Securities are discussed above under "CLO Debt Securities Risk". See "Risk Factors Principal Risks Relating to the Fund's Investments Structured Products Risk".

Derivatives Risks. Although the Fund does not expect derivative instruments ("Derivatives") to represent a significant component of its portfolio initially, the Fund may use Derivatives including, in particular, swaps (including, total return swaps), synthetic collateralized loan obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and other similar transactions, in seeking to achieve its investment objective or for other rea sons, such as cash management, financing activities or to hedge its positions. The use of Derivatives may subject the Fund to the following risks, including but not limited to:

Credit Risk the risk that the counterparty in a Derivative transaction will be unable to honor its financial obligation to the Fund, or the risk that the reference entity in a credit default swap or similar Derivative will not be able to honor its financial obligations. Certain participants in the Derivatives market, including larger financial institutions, have recently experienced significant financial hardship and deteriorating credit conditions. If the Fund's counterparty to a Derivative transaction experiences a loss of capital, or is perceived to lack adequate capital or access to capital, it

Table of Contents

may experience margin calls or other regulatory requirements to increase equity. Under such circumstances, the risk that a counterparty will be unable to honor its obligations may increase substantially.

Currency Risk the risk that changes in the exchange rate between two currencies will adversely affect the value (in U.S. dollar terms) of an investment.

Leverage Risk the risk associated with certain types of Derivative strategies that relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of an investment. Certain investments or trading strategies that involve leverage can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Liquidity Risk the risk that certain securities may be difficult or impossible to sell at the time that the seller would like or at the price that the seller believes the security is currently worth. This risk is heightened to the extent the Fund engages in over-the-counter Derivative transactions.

Correlation Risk the risk that changes in the value of a Derivative will not match the changes in the value of the portfolio holdings that are being hedged or of the particular market, security or loan to which the Fund seeks exposure.

Index Risk if the Derivative is linked to the performance of an index, it will be subject to the risks associated with changes in that index. If the index changes, the Fund could receive lower interest payments or experience a reduction in the value of the Derivative to below what the Fund paid. Certain indexed securities, including inverse securities (which move in an opposite direction to the index), may create leverage, to the extent that they increase or decrease in value at a rate that is a multiple of the changes in the applicable index.

Regulatory Risk various legislative and regulatory initiatives may impact the availability, liquidity and cost of derivative instruments, including potentially limiting or restricting the ability of the Fund to use certain derivative instruments or certain counterparties as a part of its investment strategy, increasing the costs of using these instruments or making these instruments less effective. See "Risk Factors Legislation and Regulation Risks".

See "Risk Factors Principal Risks Relating to Fund Investments Derivatives Risk". *Market Developments Risk*. Severe disruptions in global capital markets over the past five years and the continued impact of the financial crisis of 2008 and the more recent sovereign debt and banking issues in Europe may influence the Fund's

Table of Contents

performance. Beginning in 2007, the global capital markets were in a period of disruption evidenced by a lack of liquidity in the debt capital markets, significant write-offs in the financial services sector, the re-pricing of credit risk in the broadly syndicated credit market and the failure of certain major financial institutions and have remained as such through the date of this prospectus. Despite actions of the United States federal government and foreign governments, these events have contributed to general economic conditions that are materially and adversely impacting the broader financial and credit markets and reducing the availability of debt and equity capital for the market as a whole and financial services firms in particular. These conditions could continue for a prolonged period of time or worsen in the future. While these conditions persist, the capital markets, and, in particular, the market for debt obligations, may be subject to heightened volatility, increased risks of default, periods of illiquidity and other situations adverse to investors.

Instability in the credit markets has made it more difficult at certain times for a number of issuers of debt securities to obtain financing or refinancing for their investment or lending activities or operations. In particular, because of volatile conditions in the credit markets, issuers of debt securities may be subject to increased cost for debt, tightening underwriting standards and reduced liquidity for loans they make, securities they purchase and securities they issue. Certain Borrowers may, due to macroeconomic conditions, be unable to repay their Senior Loans or other debt obligations because of these conditions. A Borrower's failure to satisfy financial or operating covenants imposed by lenders could lead to defaults and, potentially, termination of the Senior Loans and foreclosure on the underlying secured assets, which could trigger cross-defaults under other agreements and jeopardize a Borrower's ability to meet its obligations under its debt securities. The Fund may incur expenses to the extent necessary to seek recovery upon default or to negotiate new terms with a defaulting Borrower. The Fund may also experience a loss of principal.

These developments also (i) may make it more difficult for the Fund to accurately value its portfolio securities or to sell its portfolio securities on a timely basis; (ii) could adversely affect the ability of the Fund to use leverage for investment purposes and increase the cost of such leverage, which would reduce returns to the common shareholders; and (iii) may adversely affect the broader economy, which in turn may adversely affect the ability of issuers of securities owned by the Fund to make payments of principal and interest when due, lead to lower credit ratings of the issuer and increased defaults by the issuer. Such developments could, in turn, reduce the value of securities owned by the Fund and

Table of Contents

adversely affect the net asset value and market price of the Fund's common shares. Government Intervention in the Financial Markets Risk. The recent instability in the financial markets has led the U.S. Government, the Federal Reserve and other governments and central banks around the world to take a number of unprecedented actions designed to support certain financial institutions and segments of the financial markets that have experienced extreme volatility, and in some cases a lack of liquidity. Federal, state, and other governments, their regulatory agencies or self regulatory organizations may take additional actions that affect the regulation of the securities, debt instruments or structured products in which the Fund invests, or the issuers of such securities or structured products, in ways that are unforeseeable. The Adviser will monitor developments and seek to manage the Fund's portfolio in a manner consistent with achieving the Fund's investment objective, but there can be no assurance that it will be successful in doing so. Governments or their agencies may also acquire distressed assets from financial institutions and acquire ownership interests in those institutions. The implications of government ownership and disposition of these assets are unclear, and such programs may have positive or negative effects on the liquidity, valuation and performance of the Fund's portfolio holdings. Furthermore, volatile financial markets can expose the Fund to greater market and liquidity risk and potential difficulty in valuing portfolio instruments held by the Fund. The Adviser will monitor developments and seek to manage the Fund's portfolio in a manner consistent with achieving the Fund's investment objective, but there can be no assurance that it will be successful in doing so.

Legislation and Regulation Risk. On July 21, 2010, the President signed into law major financial services reform legislation in the form of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act"). The Dodd-Frank Act, among other things, grants regulatory authorities such as the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") and SEC broad rulemaking authority to implement various provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act, including comprehensive regulation of the over-the-counter derivatives market. It is unclear how these regulators will exercise these revised and expanded powers and whether they will undertake rulemaking, supervisory or enforcement actions that would adversely affect the Fund or investments made by the Fund. Possible regulatory actions taken under these revised and expanded powers may include actions related to financial consumer protection, proprietary trading and derivatives. While some regulations have been adopted, a number of important rulemakings have not yet been completed, and there can be no assurance that future

Table of Contents

regulatory actions authorized by the Dodd-Frank Act will not significantly reduce the revenues of the Fund. The implementation of the Dodd-Frank Act could adversely affect the Fund by increasing transaction and/or regulatory compliance costs and may impact the availability, liquidity and cost of derivative instruments, including potentially limiting or restricting the ability of the Fund to use certain derivative instruments or certain counterparties as a part of its investment strategy, increasing the costs of using these instruments or making these instruments less effective. In addition, greater regulatory scrutiny may increase the Fund's and the Adviser's exposure to potential liabilities. Increased regulatory oversight can also impose administrative burdens on the Fund and the Adviser, including, without limitation, responding to examinations or investigations and implementing new policies and procedures.

In connection with an ongoing review by the SEC and its staff of the regulation of investment companies' use of derivatives, on August 31, 2011, the SEC issued a concept release to seek public comment on a wide range of issues raised by the use of derivatives by investment companies. The SEC noted that it intends to consider the comments to help determine whether regulatory initiatives or guidance are needed to improve the current regulatory regime for investment companies and, if so, the nature of any such initiatives or guidance. While the nature of any such regulations or interpretations is uncertain at this time, it is possible that such regulations could limit the implementation of the Fund's use of derivatives, which could have an adverse impact on the Fund. Neither the Fund nor the Adviser can predict the effects of these regulations or interpretations on the Fund's portfolio. The Adviser intends to monitor developments and seek to manage the Fund's portfolio in a manner consistent with achieving the Fund's investment objective, but there can be no assurance that they will be successful in doing so.

At any time after the date of this prospectus, legislation may be enacted that could negatively affect the assets of the Fund or the issuers of such assets. Changing approaches to regulation may have a negative impact on the entities in which the Fund invests. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. There can be no assurance that future legislation, regulation or deregulation will not have a material adverse effect on the Fund or will not impair the ability of the Fund to achieve its investment objective.

Risks Associated with Recent Commodity Futures Trading Commission Rulemaking. On February 9, 2012, the CFTC adopted amendments to its rules that, by the applicable compliance date (which is not yet determinable), may cause the Fund to fall within the definition of "commodity pool"

Table of Contents

under the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA") and require the Adviser to register with the CFTC as a "commodity pool operator". If the Fund does not claim an exclusion from CFTC registration, the Fund believes that the Adviser would likely become subject to registration and regulation as a commodity pool operator with respect to the Fund. The Fund may incur additional expenses as a result of the CFTC's regulatory requirements. If, in the alternative, the Fund elects to claim an exclusion from the definition of the term commodity pool operator pursuant to Section 4.5 of the CFTC's Rules, then the Fund would be limited in its ability to use futures or options on futures or engage in swap transactions. The impact of the rule changes on the operations of the Fund and the Adviser is not fully known at this time as it is dependent upon, among other things, the outcome of other pending CFTC rulemakings and a court challenge to certain of the rule changes adopted by the CFTC earlier this year. The Fund and the Adviser are continuing to analyze the effect of these rule changes on the Fund. Market Disruption and Geopolitical Risk. The European sovereign debt crisis, instability in the Middle East, Afghanistan and Pakistan, the aftermath of the war in Iraq, terrorist attacks in the United States and around the world, the impact of natural disasters and other events may result in market volatility, may have long-term adverse effects on the United States and worldwide financial markets and may cause further economic uncertainties in the United States and worldwide. The Fund does not know how long the financial markets may be affected by these events and cannot predict the effects of these events or similar events in the future on the U.S. economy and financial markets. These events could impact interest rates, secondary trading, ratings, credit risk, inflation and other factors relating to an investment in the Fund's common shares. Senior Loans and Corporate Bonds rated below investment grade and investments with similar characteristics tend to be more volatile than investment grade fixed income securities and, as a result, these events and other market disruptions may have a greater impact on the prices and volatility of such instruments than on investment grade fixed income securities. There can be no assurance that such market disruptions may not have other material and adverse implications for the Senior Loan and Corporate Bond markets or other markets in which we may invest.

Leverage Risk. The Fund intends to utilize leverage and may utilize leverage to the maximum extent permitted by law for investment and other general corporate purposes. The Fund may obtain leverage by issuing preferred shares and/or notes and it may also borrow funds from banks and other financial institutions. The Fund may also gain leverage synthetically through swaps and other Derivatives. The use of leverage to

Table of Contents

purchase additional securities creates an opportunity for increased common share dividends, but also creates risks for the Fund's common shareholders, including increased variability of the Fund's net income, distributions, net asset value and/or market price of its common shares in relation to market changes. Leverage is a speculative technique that exposes the Fund to greater risk and increased costs than if it were not implemented. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified if the Fund uses leverage. In particular, leverage may magnify interest rate risk, which is the risk that the prices of portfolio securities will fall (or rise) if market interest rates for those types of securities rise (or fall). As a result, leverage may cause greater changes

in the Fund's net asset value, which will be borne entirely by the Fund's common shareholders, and in the price at which its common shares trade in the secondary market. To the extent that the Fund makes investments in Senior Loans or other debt instruments that provide a minimum coupon (called a "LIBOR floor") that helps protect the Fund's income in falling or flat-rate environments, the Fund will not realize additional income if rates increase to levels below the LIBOR floor but the Fund's cost of financing is expected to increase, resulting in the potential for a decrease in the level of income available for dividends or distributions made by the Fund. If the Fund issues preferred shares and/or notes or engages in other borrowings, it will have to pay dividends on its preferred shares or interest on its notes or borrowings, which will increase expenses and may reduce the Fund's return. These dividend payments or interest expenses (which will be borne entirely by common shareholders) may be greater than the Fund's return on the underlying investments. The Fund's leveraging strategy, if utilized, may not be successful.

The Fund may issue preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness as a form of leverage. These means of obtaining leverage would be senior to the Fund's common shares, such that holders of preferred shares and/or notes or other Fund indebtedness would have priority over the common shareholders in the distribution of the Fund's assets, including dividends, distributions of principal and liquidating distributions. If preferred shares are issued and outstanding, holders of the preferred shares would vote together with the holders of common shares on all matters, including the election of directors. Additionally, the holders of preferred shares would have the right separately to elect two directors of the Fund, and would vote separately as a class on certain matters which may at times give holders of preferred shares disproportionate influence over the Fund's affairs. If the preferred shares were limited in their term, redemptions of such preferred shares would require the Fund to liquidate its investments and would reduce the Fund's use of leverage,

Table of Contents

which could negatively impact common shareholders. In addition, if the Fund elects to issue preferred shares and/or notes (or other forms of indebtedness) its ability to make distributions to its common shareholders or to repurchase its stock will be limited by the asset coverage requirements and other limitations imposed by the Investment Company Act and the Fund's lenders.

The Fund will pay (and common shareholders will bear) all costs and expenses relating to the issuance and ongoing maintenance of any preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness issued by the Fund, including higher advisory fees. As a result, the Fund cannot assure you that the issuance of preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness will provide a higher yield or return to the holders of the Fund's common shares. If the Fund offers and/or issues preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness, the costs of the offering will be borne immediately by the Fund's common shareholders and result in a reduction of the net asset value of the Fund's common shares.

There is no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful. Leverage involves risks and special considerations for common shareholders, including:

the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value, market price and dividend rate of common shares than a comparable portfolio without leverage;

the risk that fluctuations in interest rates on borrowings or in dividend payments on, principal proceeds distributed to, or redemption of any preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness that the Fund has issued will reduce the return to the common shareholders;

the effect of leverage in a declining market, which is likely to cause a greater decline in the net asset value of the Fund's common shares than if the Fund were not leveraged, which may result in a greater decline in the market price of the Fund's common shares;

when the Fund uses financial leverage, the investment advisory fees payable to the Adviser will be higher than if the Fund did not use leverage, and may provide a financial incentive to the Adviser to increase the Fund's use of leverage and create an inherent conflict of interest; and

leverage may increase expenses (which will be borne entirely by common shareholders), which may reduce total return.

If the Fund issues preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness, the Fund may be subject to certain restrictions on investments imposed by the guidelines of one or more rating agencies, which may issue ratings for the

Table of Contents

preferred shares and/or notes or short-term debt securities issued by the Fund, or may be subject to covenants or other restrictions imposed by its lenders. These guidelines may impose asset coverage or portfolio composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed by the Investment Company Act. Certain types of borrowings by the Fund may result in the Fund being subject to covenants relating to asset coverage and portfolio composition requirements. These covenants and restrictions may negatively affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. See "Risk Factors" Principal Risks Relating to Fund Operations Leverage Risk".

New Adviser Risk. The Adviser is a newly organized entity with no operating history. The Adviser's sole assets under management initially will be the assets raised in connection with the initial public offering of the Fund's common shares. The Adviser is an affiliate of Ares and leverages off of Ares' entire investment platform and benefits from the significant capital markets, trading and research expertise of all of Ares' investment professionals. Founded in 1997, Ares is a global alternative asset manager and SEC registered investment adviser with approximately \$52 billion of total committed capital under management and approximately 500 employees as of March 31, 2012. Ares has approximately 240 investment professionals covering current investments in approximately 1,100 companies across over 30 industries as of March 31, 2012. The Fund's portfolio management team is comprised of members of Ares' Capital Markets Group. See "Agreements with the Adviser The Investment Adviser". Key Personnel Risk. The Adviser depends on the diligence, skill and network of business contacts of certain Ares Capital Markets Group professionals. For a description of the senior management team, see "The Portfolio Managers". The Adviser also depends, to a significant extent, on access to other investment professionals within Ares and the information and deal flow generated by these investment professionals in the course of their investment and portfolio management activities. The Fund's success depends on the continued service of such personnel. In addition, there is no assurance that the Adviser will remain the Fund's investment adviser or that the Adviser will continue to have access to the investment professionals and partners of its affiliates and the information and deal flow generated by the investment professionals of its affiliates. See "Risk Factors Principal Risks Relating to Fund Operations Key Personnel Risk". Potential Conflicts of Interest Risk Allocation of Investment Opportunities. The Adviser has adopted allocation procedures that are intended to ensure that each fund or account managed by Ares ("Ares-advised funds") is treated in a manner that, over a period of time, is fair and equitable.

Table of Contents

Certain existing Ares-advised funds have, and future Ares-advised funds may have, investment objectives similar to those of the Fund, and such Ares-advised funds will invest in asset classes similar to those targeted by the Fund. Certain other existing Ares-advised funds do not, and future Ares-advised funds may not, have similar investment objectives, but such funds may from time to time invest in asset classes similar to those targeted by the Fund. The Adviser will endeavor to allocate investment opportunities in a fair and equitable manner, and in any event consistent with any fiduciary duties owed to the Fund and other clients and in an effort to avoid favoring one client over another and taking into account all relevant facts and circumstances, including (without limitation): (i) differences with respect to available capital, size of client, and remaining life of a client; (ii) differences in investment objectives or current investment strategies, including regarding: (a) current and total return objectives, (b) emphasizing or limiting exposure to the security or type of security in question, (c) diversification, including industry or company exposure, currency and jurisdiction, or (d) credit ratings; (iii) differences in risk profile at the time an opportunity becomes available; (iv) the potential transaction and other costs of allocating an opportunity among various clients; (v) potential conflicts of interest, including whether a client has an existing investment in the security in question or the issuer of such security; (vi) the nature of the security or the transaction including minimum investment amounts and the source of the opportunity; (vii) current and anticipated market and general economic conditions; (viii) existing positions in a Borrower/loan/security; and (ix) prior positions in a Borrower/loan/security. Nevertheless, it is possible that the Fund may not be given the opportunity to participate in certain investments made by investment funds managed by investment managers affiliated with the Adviser. In the event investment opportunities are allocated among the Fund and the other Ares-advised funds, the Fund may not be able to structure its investment portfolio in the manner desired.

Furthermore, the Fund and the other Ares-advised funds may make investments in securities where the prevailing trading activity may make impossible the receipt of the same price or execution on the entire volume of securities purchased or sold by the Fund and the other Ares-advised funds. When this occurs, the various prices may be averaged, and the Fund will be charged or credited with the average price. Thus, the effect of the aggregation may operate on some occasions to the disadvantage of the Fund. In addition, under certain circumstances, the Fund may not be charged the same commission or commission equivalent rates in connection with a bunched or aggregated order. It is likely that the other Ares-advised funds may make investments in the same or

Table of Contents

similar securities at different times and on different terms than the Fund. The Fund and the other Ares-advised funds may make investments at different levels of a Borrower's capital structure or otherwise in different classes of a Borrower's securities. Such investments may inherently give rise to conflicts of interest or perceived conflicts of interest between or among the various classes of securities that may be held by such entities. Conflicts may also arise because portfolio decisions regarding the Fund may benefit the other Ares-advised funds. For example, the sale of a long position or establishment of a short position by the Fund may impair the price of the same security sold short by (and therefore benefit) one or more Ares-advised funds, and the purchase of a security or covering of a short position in a security by the Fund may increase the price of the same security held by (and therefore benefit) one or more Ares-advised funds. See "Risk Factors Principal Risks Relating to Fund Operations Potential Conflicts of Interest Risk Allocation of Investment Opportunities" and "Conflicts of Interest" for an additional discussion of the types of conflicts of interest to which the operations of the Fund may be subject.

Potential Conflicts of Interest Risk Allocation of Personnel. The Fund's executive officers and directors, and the employees of the Adviser, serve or may serve as officers, directors or principals of entities that operate in the same or a related line of business as the Fund or of investment funds or accounts managed by the Adviser or its affiliates. As a result, they may have obligations to investors in those entities, the fulfillment of which might not be in the best interests of the Fund or its shareholders. Additionally, certain personnel of the Adviser and its management may face conflicts in their time management and commitments. See "Conflicts of Interest" for an additional discussion of the types of conflicts of interest to which the operations of the Fund may be subject.

Potential Conflicts of Interest Risk Lack of Information Barriers. By reason of the various activities of the Adviser and its affiliates, the Adviser and such affiliates may acquire confidential or material non-public information or otherwise be restricted from purchasing certain potential Fund investments that otherwise might have been purchased or be restricted from selling certain Fund investments that might otherwise have been sold at the time. See "Conflicts of Interest" for an additional discussion of the types of conflicts of interest to which the operations of the Fund may be subject.

Limitations on Transactions with Affiliates Risk. The Investment Company Act limits the Fund's ability to enter into certain transactions with certain of its affiliates. As a result of these restrictions, the Fund may be prohibited from buying or selling

Table of Contents

any security directly from or to any portfolio company of a registered investment company or private equity fund managed by Ares or any of its affiliates. The Investment Company Act also prohibits certain "joint" transactions with certain of the Fund's affiliates, which could include investments in the same portfolio company (whether at the same or different times). These limitations may limit the scope of investment opportunities that would otherwise be available to the Fund.

Non-Diversification Risk. The Fund is classified as "non-diversified" under the Investment Company Act. As a result, it can invest a greater portion of its assets in obligations of a single issuer than a "diversified" fund. The Fund may therefore be more susceptible than a diversified fund to being adversely affected by any single corporate, economic, political or regulatory occurrence. The Fund intends to qualify for the special tax treatment available to "regulated investment companies" ("RIC"s) under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and thus intends to satisfy the diversification requirements applicable to RICs. Shareholders should refer to the "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" section of this prospectus for a description of such requirements.

Risks Associated with Fund Distribution Policy. The Fund intends to make regular distributions. Currently, in order to maintain a relatively stable level of distributions, the Fund may pay out less than all of its net investment income to the extent consistent with maintaining its status as a "regulated investment company" under the Code, pay out undistributed income from prior months, return capital in addition to current period net investment income or borrow money to fund distributions. The distributions for any full or partial calendar year might not be made in equal amounts, and one distribution may be larger than the other. The Fund will make a distribution only if authorized by the Board of Directors and declared by the Fund out of assets legally available for these distributions. This distribution policy may, under certain circumstances, have certain adverse consequences to the Fund and its shareholders because it may result in a return of capital, which would reduce the Fund's net asset value and, over time, potentially increase the Fund's expense ratio. If a distribution constitutes a return of capital, it means that the Fund is returning to shareholders a portion of their investment rather than making a distribution that is funded from the Fund's earned income or other profits. The Fund's distribution policy may be changed at any time by the Board of Directors.

If the Fund elects to issue preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness, its ability to make distributions to its common shareholders will be limited by the asset

Table of Contents

coverage requirements and other limitations imposed by the Investment Company Act and the terms of the Fund's preferred shares, notes or other indebtedness.

No Operating History Risk. The Fund is a newly organized entity and has no previous operating or trading history upon which a potential investor can evaluate the Fund's performance. Special risks apply during a fund's start-up period, including the risk of failing to achieve the desired portfolio composition within the time period expected and the risk of commencing operations under inopportune market conditions. The Fund's common shares have no history of trading. Inadequate Return Risk. No assurance can be given that the returns on the Fund's investments will be commensurate with the risk of investment in the Fund's common shares.

Sourcing of Suitable Assets Risks. No assurance can be given the Adviser will be able to find enough appropriate investments that meet the Fund's investment criteria.

Dilutive Effect of Receiving Cash Distributions Rather than Reinvesting Risk. Investors in the Fund will automatically participate in the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan unless they affirmatively elect to "opt out" of the plan. All dividends declared in cash payable to shareholders that are participants in the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan are generally automatically reinvested in common shares. As a result, shareholders that do not participate in the dividend reinvestment plan may experience dilution over time to the extent participants in the plan receive such common shares at a price below net asset value.

Closed-End Structure; Market Discount from Net Asset Value Risk. Shares of closed-end investment companies that trade in a secondary market frequently trade at market prices that are lower than their net asset values. This is commonly referred to as "trading at a discount". This risk may be greater for investors expecting to sell their shares in a relatively short period after completion of the public offering. As a result, the Fund is designed primarily for long-term investors. The Fund's total assets will be reduced following this offering by the amount of offering and related expenses to be paid by the Fund.

Although the value of the Fund's net assets is generally considered by market participants in determining whether to purchase or sell the Fund's common shares, whether an investor will realize gains or losses upon the sale of the Fund's common shares will depend entirely upon whether the market price of the Fund's common shares at the time of sale is above or below the investor's purchase price for the Fund's common shares. Because the market price of the Fund's

Table of Contents

common shares will be determined by factors such as relative supply of and demand for the Fund's common shares in the market, general market and economic conditions, and other factors beyond the control of the Fund, the Fund cannot predict whether the Fund's common shares will trade at, below or above net asset value or at, below or above the initial public offering price. The net asset value of the Fund's common shares, however, is expected to be reduced immediately following the initial public offering as a result of the payment of offering costs. As with any security, complete loss of investment is possible.

Takeover Provisions Risk. The Fund's charter and bylaws contain provisions that may delay, defer or prevent a transaction or a change in control that might otherwise be in the best interests of the shareholders. Such provisions may discourage outside parties from seeking control of the Fund or seeking to change the composition of its Board of Directors, which could result in shareholders not having the opportunity to realize a price greater than the current market price for their shares at some time in the future.

The Fund's charter classifies the Fund's directors into three classes, serving staggered three-year terms, effective upon completion of this offering, and authorizes the Board of Directors to authorize the Fund to issue additional common shares. The Board of Directors also may classify or reclassify any unissued common shares into one or more classes or series of stock, including preferred stock, may set the terms of each class or series and may authorize the Fund to issue the newly classified or reclassified shares. The Board of Directors may, without any action by the Fund's shareholders, amend the Fund's charter from time to time to increase or decrease the aggregate number of shares of stock or the number of shares of stock of any class or series that the Fund has the authority to issue. The Fund's bylaws require shareholders who wish to nominate individuals for election as directors or propose other business at meetings of shareholders to satisfy various requirements in order to do so, including a requirement to provide advance notice of such nomination or other business within the time period specified in the bylaws accompanied by the information and other specified materials. The bylaws also require that such information be updated.

Additional Risks. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page [42] of this prospectus for additional risks relating to an investment in the Fund, including:

structured notes risk;	
swap agreements risk;	
swaptions risk;	

Table of Contents

credit linked securities risk;
risks associated with investments in equity securities incidental to investments in Senior Loans;
short sales risk;
warrants risk;
lender liability risk;
non-U.S. securities risk;
foreign currency risk;
repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements risk;
U.S. government debt securities risk;
valuation risk;
risk of failure to qualify as a RIC; and
risk of recognition of "phantom" income. It is anticipated that the Fund's common shares will be approved for listing on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"), subject to notice of issuance, under the ticker symbol "ARDC" and will be required to meet the NYSE's listing requirements. The business and affairs of the Fund are managed under the direction of the Board of Directors.

Listing of Shares

Board of Directors

Administrator

Distributions

The Board of Directors of the Fund performs the various duties imposed on the directors of investment companies by the Investment Company Act and Maryland law. The directors of the Fund are divided into three classes, serving staggered three-year terms. Pursuant to an election in the Fund's charter that will become effective upon the completion of this offering, any vacancy on the Board of Directors may be filled only by a majority of the remaining directors, except to the extent that the Investment Company Act requires the election of directors by shareholders.

] located at [] will serve as the administrator of the Fund.

Commencing with the Fund's initial dividend, the Fund intends to make regular quarterly cash distributions of all or a portion of its net investment income to common shareholders. The Fund expects to declare the initial quarterly dividend on the Fund's common shares within approximately 45 days after completion of this offering and to pay that initial quarterly dividend approximately 60 to 90 days after completion of this offering. The Fund intends to pay common shareholders at least annually all or substantially all of its net investment income after

the payment of dividends and interest, if any,

Table of Contents

owed with respect to any outstanding preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of leverage utilized by the Fund. The Fund intends to pay any capital gains distributions at least annually. If the Fund makes a long-term capital gain distribution, it will be required to allocate such gain between the Fund's common shares and any preferred shares issued by the Fund in proportion to the total dividends paid to each class for the year in which the income is realized. The Board of Directors may elect to change the Fund's distribution policy at any time.

Various factors will affect the level of the Fund's income, including the asset mix, the average maturity of the Fund's portfolio and default rates, the amount of leverage utilized by the Fund, if any, and any use of hedging activities by the Fund. To permit the Fund to maintain a more stable quarterly distribution, the Fund may from time to time distribute less than the entire amount of income earned in a particular period. The undistributed income would be available to supplement future distributions. As a result, the distributions paid by the Fund for any particular quarterly period may be more or less than the amount of income actually earned by the Fund during that period. Undistributed income will add to the Fund's net asset value (and indirectly benefits the Adviser by increasing its fees) and, correspondingly, distributions from undistributed income will reduce the Fund's net asset value.

The distributions for any full or partial year might not be made in equal amounts, and one distribution may be larger than the other. The Fund will make a distribution only if authorized by the Board of Directors and declared by the Fund out of assets legally available for these distributions. The Fund may pay a special distribution at the end of each calendar year if necessary to maintain the Fund's tax treatment as a RIC and/or avoid the imposition of tax on the Fund. This distribution policy may, under certain circumstances, have certain adverse consequences to the Fund and its shareholders because it may result in a return of capital to shareholders, which would reduce the Fund's net asset value and, over time, potentially increase the Fund's expense ratio. If a distribution constitutes a return of capital, it means that the Fund is returning to shareholders a portion of their investment rather than making a distribution that is funded from the Fund's earned income or other profits. The Board of Directors may elect to change the Fund's distribution policy at any time.

The Fund has adopted a dividend reinvestment plan that allows for reinvestment of dividend distributions on behalf of shareholders. As a result, if the Board of Directors authorizes, and the Fund declares, a cash dividend, then shareholders who have not "opted out" of the dividend reinvestment plan will

Table of Contents

have their cash dividends automatically reinvested in additional common shares, rather than receiving the cash dividends. **Custodian and Transfer Agent Services** The custodian of the assets of the Fund will be [] located at]. The custodian will perform custodial, fund accounting and portfolio accounting services. [] located at [] will serve as the Fund's transfer agent and dividend paying agent with respect to the common shares. **Independent Registered Public Accounting** Ernst & Young LLP will serve as the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm. The address of Ernst & Young LLP is 725 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90017. **Tax Considerations** The Fund intends to elect to be treated as a RIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes. To satisfy the distribution requirements applicable to RICs, the Fund intends to distribute all or substantially all of its net investment income and realized gains, if any, to its shareholders at least annually. Shareholders should refer to the "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" section of this prospectus for additional information on certain U.S. federal income tax consequences of an investment in the Fund. Shareholders should consult their own tax advisors on any potential U.S. federal, state, local and foreign income tax consequences of

an investment in the Fund.

Table of Contents

(3)

SUMMARY OF FUND EXPENSES

The following table is intended to assist you in understanding the costs and expenses that an investor in the Fund's common shares will bear, directly or indirectly. Shareholders should understand that some of the percentages indicated in the table below are estimates and may vary. The expenses shown in the table under "Other Expenses" and "Total Annual Expenses" are based on estimated amounts for the Fund's annual operations and assume that the Fund issues approximately [] common shares. If the Fund issues fewer common shares, all other things being equal, these expenses would increase as a percentage of net assets attributable to the Fund's common shares, which could adversely impact the investment performance of the Fund. The following table also assumes the Fund issues preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness with an aggregate liquidation value and/or principal amount in an amount approximately equal to 33% of the Fund's Managed Assets (after the leverage is incurred) and shows Fund expenses as a percentage of net assets attributable to the Fund's common shares.

Shareholder Transaction Expenses		
Sales Load (as a percentage of common share offering price)	4.50%)
Offering Expenses borne by the Fund (as a percentage of common share offering price) ⁽¹⁾	0.20%)
Dividend Reinvestment Plan Fees ⁽²⁾	None	
Preferred Shares and/or Notes Offering Expenses borne by the Fund (as a percentage of common share offering price)	[$]\%^{(3)}$

	Percenta Net As Attributa Comn Shares	ssets able to non
Annual Expenses		
Management Fees ⁽⁶⁾		1.00%
Dividends on Preferred Shares and/or Interest Payments on Borrowed Funds	[]%
Other Expenses ⁽⁷⁾	[]%
Total Annual Expenses	[]%

If the Fund offers and/or issues preferred shares and/or notes, costs of the offering are estimated to be approximately []% of the total offering price of the preferred shares and/or notes, all of which will be borne immediately by the Fund's common shareholders and result in a reduction of the net asset value of the Fund's common

35

Table of Contents

shares. Based on an offering of [] common shares and further assuming an offering and/or issuance of preferred shares and/or notes with an aggregate liquidation value and/or principal amount of \$[], the total offering costs of preferred shares and/or notes are estimated to be \$[] or \$[] per share ([]% of the common share offering price).

- For purposes of this table, the Fund has assumed that the Fund has issued preferred shares and/or notes with an aggregate liquidation value or principal amount of 33% of its Managed Assets (after the issuance of preferred shares and/or notes).
- The table presented below in this footnote sets forth the estimate of what the Fund's expected annual expenses would be stated as percentages of the Fund's net assets attributable to the Fund's common shares, assuming that the Fund is the same size as in the table above but that no leverage is incurred. In accordance with these assumptions, the Fund's expected expenses would be estimated to be as follows:

	Percentage of
	Net Assets
	Attributable to
	Common
	Shares
	(Assumes No
	Leverage
	Incurred)
Annual Expenses	
Advisory Fees	1.00%
Other Expenses ⁽⁶⁾⁽⁷⁾	[]%
Total Annual Expenses	[]%

The Adviser will receive a monthly fee at the annual rate of 1.00% of the average daily value of the Fund's Managed Assets. The Adviser may elect from time to time, in its sole discretion, to waive its right to reimbursement or its receipt of the advisory fee. If the Adviser elects to waive its compensation, such action may have a positive effect on the Fund's performance or yield. The Adviser is under no obligation to waive its fees or rights to reimbursement, may elect not to do so, or may cease any such waiver periodically.

Example

While the example assumes a 5% annual return, the Fund's performance will vary and may result in a return greater or less than 5%. An investor would pay the following expenses (including the sales load of \$45, estimated offering expenses of this offering of \$2 on a \$1,000 investment and estimated offering expenses related to the issuance of preferred shbares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness of \$[]% and a 5% annual return throughout the periods.



If dividends and/or interest paid on preferred shares and/or notes are not included, the total expenses incurred for 1, 3, 5 and 10 years will be \$[], \$[] and \$[], respectively.

This Example and the expenses in the table above should not be considered a representation of future Fund expenses; actual expenses may be greater or less than those shown. The example assumes reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at net asset value.

Table of Contents

THE FUND

Ares Dynamic Credit Allocation Fund, Inc. (the "Fund") is a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Maryland and registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), as a closed-end, non-diversified management investment company. The Fund was incorporated on March 14, 2011. The Fund expects to commence its investment operations on or after [], 2012, depending on market conditions. The Fund's principal office, including its office for service of process, is located at 2000 Avenue of the Stars, 12th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90067. Ares Capital Management II LLC (the "Adviser") serves as the investment adviser to the Fund.

WHO MAY WISH TO INVEST

The Fund may be an appropriate investment for:

Long-term investors seeking attractive total return, primarily through current income and, secondarily, capital appreciation.

Fixed income investors seeking investment in a fixed income portfolio initially managed to seek short to moderate portfolio duration in light of market conditions.

Investors who believe interest rates and inflation may rise in the future and want the benefits that floating rate fixed income investments may offer.

Investors seeking access to the investment acumen of the Adviser and its affiliates.

Investors should consider their investment goals, time horizons and risk tolerance before investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not appropriate for all investors, and the Fund is not intended to be a complete investment program. The Fund is designed as a long-term investment and not as a trading vehicle.

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds of this offering of common shares will be approximately \$ (\$ if the Underwriters exercise the overallotment option in full) after payment of organizational costs and offering expenses. Ares Capital Management II LLC or an affiliate has agreed to pay organizational and offering costs (other than sales loads) of the Fund in excess of \$0.04 per share. In general, the Fund intends to use the net proceeds of this offering to seek its investment objective and for other general corporate purposes, which may include the payment of Fund expenses. The Fund will invest the net proceeds of this offering in accordance with the Fund's investment objective and policies as stated below. It is currently anticipated that the Fund will be able to invest substantially all of the net proceeds of this offering in securities that meet the Fund's investment parameters within approximately three months after the completion of this offering. Pending such investment, it is anticipated that all or a portion of the proceeds will be invested in U.S. Government securities or high grade, short-term money market instruments. A relatively long initial investment period may have a negative impact on the Fund's performance and its return to shareholders.

THE FUND'S INVESTMENTS

Investment Objective

The Fund's investment objective is to provide an attractive level of total return, primarily through current income and, secondarily, through capital appreciation. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective or be able to structure its investment portfolio as anticipated.

The Fund's investment objective may be changed by the board of directors of the Fund (the "Board of Directors" or the "Board") on 60 days' prior written notice to shareholders.

Table of Contents

Investment Strategies

The Fund will seek to achieve its investment objective by investing primarily in a broad, dynamically managed portfolio of (i) secured loans ("Senior Loans") made to companies whose debt is rated below investment grade, (ii) corporate bonds ("Corporate Bonds") that are expected to be primarily high yield issues rated below investment grade, and (iii) debt securities issued by entities commonly referred to, and referred to herein, as collateralized loan obligations ("CLOs", and such debt securities, "CLO Debt Securities").

Under normal market conditions, at least 80% of the Fund's Managed Assets (as defined below) will be invested in (i) Senior Loans and investments with similar economic characteristics (such as second lien loans and unsecured loans) and (ii) Corporate Bonds. Under normal market conditions, the Fund expects to invest up to 20% of its Managed Assets (as defined below) in CLO Debt Securities. The underlying obligations collateralizing such CLO Debt Securities will principally be Senior Loans, diversified by industry and borrower. The Fund will invest only in CLO Debt Securities rated investment grade at the time of the Fund's investment. Though, if any CLO Debt Security held by the Fund is downgraded to a below investment grade rating, the Fund may exchange such CLO Debt Security for another CLO Debt Security that is rated below investment grade.

"Managed Assets" means the total assets of the Fund (including any assets attributable to any preferred shares that may be issued or to indebtedness) minus the Fund's liabilities other than liabilities relating to indebtedness.

The Adviser will seek to implement the Fund's investment strategy through the application of several techniques, including: (i) investing in a diversified portfolio of loans and other debt investments across a broad range of industries with varying characteristics and return profiles; (ii) adhering to the established credit underwriting processes of Ares Management LLC, an affiliate of the Adviser, and doing substantial pre-investment credit analysis, utilizing publicly available credit and industry information as well as other information about the borrowers and issuers; (iii) monitoring the credit quality of the obligors in the Fund's investments and, as appropriate, on a risk adjusted return basis, selling investments in underperforming issuers; and (iv) holding cash and engaging in derivative credit and interest rate hedges. The Adviser will dynamically manage the allocation of the Fund's capital among the various targeted credit markets in order to adjust the interest rate and credit risk of the Fund's investment.

Senior Loans. Senior Loans generally hold a first lien priority and typically pay interest at rates that are determined periodically on the basis of a floating base lending rate, primarily the London-Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"), plus a spread. Senior Loans are typically made to U.S. and, to a lesser extent, non-U.S. corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies and other business entities (together with issuers of Corporate Bonds and other debt securities, "Borrowers") which operate in various industries and geographical regions. Borrowers may obtain Senior Loans, among other reasons, to refinance existing debt, engage in acquisitions, pay dividends, recapitalize, complete leveraged buyouts and for general corporate purposes. Senior Loans rated below investment grade are sometimes referred to as "leveraged loans". The Fund may invest in Senior Loans through assignments of or, to a lesser extent, participations in Senior Loans. The Fund may utilize various types of derivative instruments, including total return swaps for the purpose of gaining exposure to Senior Loans.

Corporate Bonds. An issuer of Corporate Bonds typically pays the investor a fixed rate of interest and must repay the amount borrowed on or before maturity. The investment return of Corporate Bonds reflects interest on the security and changes in the market value of the security. The market value of a Corporate Bond generally may be expected to rise and fall inversely with interest rates. The value of intermediate- and longer-term Corporate Bonds normally fluctuates more in response to changes in interest rates than does the value of shorter-term Corporate Bonds. The market value of a Corporate Bond also may be affected by investors' perceptions of the creditworthiness of the issuer, the issuer's performance and perceptions of the issuer in the market place. There is a risk that the issuers

Table of Contents

of Corporate Bonds may not be able to meet their obligations on interest or principal payments at the time called for by an instrument. The Fund may also seek to gain exposure to Corporate Bonds by investing in swaps, including single name credit default swaps, total return swaps, reverse repurchase agreements and other similar transactions as described below.

CLOs. A CLO generally holds a portfolio consisting principally (typically, 80% or more of its assets) of loan obligations and was created to reapportion the risk and return characteristics of its portfolio of underlying assets. The CLO securitizes payment claims arising out of its portfolio of underlying assets and issues debt securities with payment characteristics linked to the underlying assets. The redemption of the securities issued by the CLO typically occurs from the cash flow generated by the portfolio of underlying assets. The vast majority of CLOs are actively managed by an independent investment manager.

The Fund expects initially to invest in CLO Debt Securities rated investment grade at the time of Fund's investment issued by CLOs that principally hold Senior Loans, diversified by industry and borrower. It is also possible that the underlying obligations of CLOs in which the Fund invests will include (i) Subordinated Loans, (ii) debt securities of other CLOs, and (iii) equity securities incidental to investments in Senior Loans. The cash flows on the underlying obligations will primarily determine the payments to holders of CLO Debt Securities. CLO Debt Securities typically have floating interest rates. CLOs issue debt securities in tranches with different payment characteristics and different credit ratings. The tranches of CLO Debt Securities senior to the "residual" or lowest tranche (called the "rated tranches") are generally assigned credit ratings by one or more nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. Residual tranches are the most junior tranches and do not receive ratings. The Fund does not intend to invest in residual tranches of CLO Debt Securities and expects initially to invest only in tranches of CLO Debt Securities rated investment grade at the time of the Fund's investment.

Subordinated Loans. The Fund may also invest in subordinated loans ("Subordinated Loans"). Subordinated loans generally have the same characteristics as Senior Loans except that such loans are subordinated in payment and/or lower in lien priority to first lien holders.

Denominations. The Fund may invest in U.S. dollar and non-U.S. dollar denominated loans and securities of Borrowers located anywhere in the world, and of Borrowers that operate in any industry.

Credit Rating. Senior Loans, Corporate Bonds and other instruments considered below investment grade are those that, at the time of investment, are rated "Ba1" or lower by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's"), "BB+" or lower by Standard & Poor's Corporation Ratings Group ("S&P") or "BB+" or lower by Fitch Ratings, Inc. ("Fitch"), or, if unrated, are judged by the Adviser to be of comparable credit quality. Senior Loans rated below investment grade are sometimes referred to as "leveraged loans". In addition, the Corporate Bonds in which the Fund invests are expected to be primarily rated below investment grade. Corporate Bonds rated below investment grade are commonly referred to as "high yield" securities and regarded as having predominately speculative characteristics with respect to an issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal. Although many of the Fund's investments may consist of securities and other instruments rated below investment grade, the Fund reserves the right to invest in debt securities and loans of any credit rating.

Maturity and Duration. The Fund may invest in debt securities of any maturity, including perpetual securities, and does not manage its portfolio seeking to maintain a targeted dollar-weighted average maturity level. While the Fund may invest in securities of any duration, the Fund initially will seek to manage its portfolio to a short to moderate duration. The Adviser will dynamically allocate the Fund's portfolio among investments in the various targeted credit markets to seek the targeted duration of the Fund's portfolio in light of market conditions. In comparison to maturity (which is the date on which the issuer of a debt security or a borrower of a loan is obligated to repay the principal amount), duration is a measure of the price volatility of a debt security or loan as a result of changes in market interest rates, based on the weighted average timing of the security's or loan's expected principal and

Table of Contents

interest payments. Duration is expressed as a number of years but differs from maturity in that it considers a security's or loan's yield, coupon payments, principal payments and call features in addition to the amount of time until the security or loan matures. As the value of a security or loan changes over time, so will its duration. Prices of securities or loans with longer durations tend to be more sensitive to interest rate changes than securities or loans with shorter durations. There can be no assurance that the Fund's duration management strategies will be successful in helping the Fund to achieve its investment objectives.

Investment Process

The Adviser is an affiliate of Ares Management LLC ("Ares"). In making its investment decisions, the Adviser has adopted Ares' long-standing, consistent credit-based investment approach that was developed over 20 years ago by its founders. Specifically, the Adviser's investment philosophy, portfolio construction and portfolio management involve an assessment of the overall macroeconomic environment, financial markets and company-specific research and analysis. Its investment approach emphasizes capital preservation, low volatility and minimization of downside risk. In addition to engaging in extensive due diligence from the perspective of a long-term investor, the Adviser's approach seeks to reduce risk as further described below.

The Adviser will dynamically allocate the Fund's portfolio among investments in the various targeted credit markets to seek to manage interest rate and credit risk and the duration of the Fund's portfolio. The Adviser will seek to implement this dynamic allocation strategy, by which the Fund's investment allocations to Senior Loans, Corporate Bonds, CLO Debt Securities and other permitted investments will be continuously evaluated and adjusted based on Ares analysis of the then current market environment, in order to respond to changing market conditions and seek to achieve attractive risk-adjusted returns throughout the credit cycle. The Adviser believes that as market conditions change, so should the Fund's investment allocations. In addition, the Adviser may allocate portions of the Fund's portfolio to investments that it believes to be pre-disposed to positive event risk or to have attractive relative value characteristics given then current market conditions. The Adviser believes that reallocating investments in this way will opportunistically emphasize those investments and categories of investments best suited to the then current market environment and outlook. There can be no assurance that the Adviser will seek to allocate the Fund's investments in any particular manner or that the Fund will be able to structure its investment portfolio as desired in any given market environment.

The Adviser's investment process is rigorous, proactive and continuous. Close monitoring of each investment in the portfolio provides foresight for making buy, sell and hold decisions. The Adviser utilizes what it believes to be a conservative approach that focuses on credit fundamentals, collateral coverage, structural seniority and relative value. The Adviser may also employ sector analysis to assess industry trends and characteristics that may impact a Borrower's potential future ability to generate cash, as well as profitability, asset values, financial needs and potential liabilities. The Adviser takes a disciplined approach to its credit investment selection process in which the criteria used by the Adviser in credit selection may include an evaluation of whether a loan or debt security is adequately collateralized or over-collateralized and whether it is covered by sufficient earnings and cash flow to service the Borrower's indebtedness on a timely basis. The Adviser takes into consideration the credit ratings of borrowers in evaluating potential investments, but credit ratings are generally not the primary or determinative factor in the investment selection process. The Adviser expects to gain exposure to Borrowers across a broad range of industries and of varying characteristics and return profiles.

When identifying prospective investment opportunities, the Adviser currently intends to focus primarily on the following attributes:

Strong franchises and sustainable competitive advantage. When identifying potential investment opportunities, the Adviser favors well-established companies with strong franchises and sustainable competitive advantages. The Adviser intends to invest in Borrowers that it believes have developed strong positions within their markets and exhibit the potential to maintain

Table of Contents

sufficient cash flows and revenues to service their obligations in a range of economic environments. The Adviser will seek Borrowers that it believes possess advantages in scale, scope, customer loyalty, product pricing or product quality versus their competitors.

Investing in stable Borrowers with cash flows that are dependable and predictable. The Adviser intends to invest in Borrowers it believes to be stable and well established with cash flows that are dependable and predictable. The Adviser believes these attributes evidence Borrowers that may be well positioned to maintain consistent cash flow to service and repay their obligations and maintain growth in their businesses or market share. The Adviser currently does not expect to invest significantly in start-up companies, companies in turnaround situations or companies with speculative business plans, although the Fund is permitted to do so.

Management teams with demonstrated track records and economic incentive. The Adviser intends to focus on investments in which the Borrower has an experienced management team with an established track record of success and economic incentives to succeed.

Investments in industries with positive long-term dynamics. The Adviser will seek to invest the Fund's assets broadly among Borrowers and industries with positive long-term dynamics, thereby potentially reducing the risk that a downturn in any one company or industry will have a disproportionate effect on the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Rates of return commensurate with the perceived risks. The Adviser and its affiliates have extensive experience investing in a wide variety of securities for leveraged companies with a diverse set of terms and conditions. The Fund believes this approach and experience enables the Adviser to identify attractive investment opportunities throughout economic cycles and across a company's capital structure so the Fund can make investments consistent with its stated investment objective while seeking appropriate risk adjusted returns.

Securities or investments that are structured with protective terms and covenants. The Adviser will seek investments that seek to permit the Borrower to operate its business while balancing the need to assure repayment of the Fund's investment through protective terms and covenants.

In managing the Fund's portfolio, the Adviser will engage in regular and periodic monitoring of credit risk with a goal toward the early identification, and sale, of Senior Loans, Corporate Bonds and other investments with potential credit problems. This monitoring process may include reviewing (i) a Borrower's financial resources and operating history; (ii) a comparison of a Borrower's current operating results with the Adviser's initial investment thesis for the investment and initial expectations for the performance of the obligation; (iii) a Borrower's sensitivity to economic conditions; (iv) the performance of a Borrower's management; (v) a Borrower's debt maturities and borrowing requirements; (vi) a Borrower's interest and asset coverage; and (vii) the relative value of an investment based on a Borrower's anticipated cash flow or where other comparable assets are trading in the market.

Similar to its investment in Senior Loans and other debt investments, the Adviser adheres to a disciplined approach with respect to the Fund's investments in CLO Debt Securities. The Adviser will seek to select investment grade rated CLO Debt Securities which are well structured and collateralized by portfolios of primarily Senior Loans that the Adviser believes to be of sufficient quality, diversity and amount to support the structure and fully collateralize the tranche purchased by the Fund. Likewise, the Adviser will evaluate the creditworthiness of counterparties and the investment characteristics of reference assets when causing the Fund to enter into other types of structured products, such as swaps or other derivative transactions.

The Adviser expects to gain exposure to Borrowers across a broad range of industries and of varying characteristics and return profiles, as well as active management of such investments in light of current economic developments and trends. The Fund may take certain actions if short-term interest rates increase or market conditions otherwise change (or the Fund anticipates such an increase or change) and the Fund's use of leverage, if any, begins (or is expected) to adversely affect common

Table of Contents

shareholders. In order to attempt to offset such a negative effect of leverage on common shareholders, the Fund may shorten the average maturity of its investment portfolio (by investing in short-term securities), may reduce its indebtedness or unwind other leveraged transactions or may engage in interest rate hedging arrangements.

To the extent Senior Loans have a floating or variable rate feature, investment in these types of Senior Loans may allow the Fund to have less significant interest rate-related fluctuations in its net asset value per share than investment companies investing primarily in fixed income securities (other than money market funds and short term bond funds). When interest rates decline, the value of a fixed income portfolio can normally be expected to rise. Conversely, when interest rates rise, the value of a fixed income portfolio can normally be expected to decline. Although the income available to the Fund will vary, the Adviser expects that acquiring interests in floating rate Senior Loans may help to minimize fluctuations in net asset value of the Fund resulting from changes in market interest rates. Because floating or variable rates on Senior Loans reset periodically, however, changes in prevailing interest rates can be expected to cause some fluctuations in the Fund's net asset value. Similarly, a sudden and significant increase in market interest rates may cause a decline in the Fund's net asset value. A significant decline in the Fund's net asset value may impair the Fund's ability to maintain required levels of asset coverage if leverage is utilized. Other factors (including, but not limited to, rating downgrades, credit deterioration, a large downward movement in stock prices, a disparity in supply and demand of certain securities or market conditions that reduce liquidity) can reduce the value of Senior Loans and other debt obligations, impairing the Fund's net asset value.

Temporary Defensive Investments

For temporary defensive purposes or in order to reduce the Fund's leverage exposure or to keep the Fund's cash fully invested, including during the period when the net proceeds of the offering of common shares are being invested, or at other times deemed appropriate by the Adviser, the Fund may deviate from its investment strategies and objective. During such periods, the Fund may invest all or a portion of its Managed Assets in U.S. Government securities, including bills, notes and bonds differing as to maturity and rates of interest that are either issued or guaranteed by the Treasury or by U.S. Government agencies or instrumentalities; non-U.S. Government securities which have received the highest investment grade credit rating, certificates of deposit issued against funds deposited in a bank or a savings and loan association; commercial paper; bankers' acceptances; bank time deposits; shares of money market funds; credit-linked notes or repurchase agreements with respect to any of the foregoing. It is impossible to predict when, or for how long, the Fund will use these strategies. There can be no assurance that such strategies will be successful. The Fund is not required to adopt defensive positions or hedge its investments and may choose not to do so even in periods of extreme market volatility and economic uncertainty.

Portfolio Composition

Under normal circumstances, the Fund's portfolio is expected to be comprised principally of the following types of investments:

Senior Loans

Senior Loans generally hold the most senior position in the capital structure of a Borrower, are typically secured with specific collateral and have a claim on the assets and/or stock of the Borrower that is senior to that held by unsecured creditors, subordinated debt holders and holders of equity of the Borrower. Typically, in order to borrow money pursuant to a Senior Loan, a Borrower will, for the term of the Senior Loan, pledge collateral (subject to typical exceptions), including but not limited to (i) working capital assets, such as accounts receivable and inventory; (ii) tangible fixed assets, such as real property, buildings and equipment; (iii) intangible assets, such as trademarks and patent rights; and (iv) security interests in shares of stock of subsidiaries or affiliates. In the case of Senior Loans made to non-public companies, the company's shareholders or owners may provide collateral in the form of

Table of Contents

secured guarantees and/or security interests in assets that they own. In many instances, a Senior Loan may be secured only by stock in the Borrower or its subsidiaries. Collateral may consist of assets that may not be readily liquidated, and there is no assurance that the liquidation of such assets would satisfy fully a Borrower's obligations under a Senior Loan.

A Borrower must comply with various covenants contained in a loan agreement or note purchase agreement between the Borrower and the holders of the Senior Loan (the "Loan Agreement"). In a typical Senior Loan, an administrative agent (the "Agent") administers the terms of the Loan Agreement. In such cases, the Agent is normally responsible for the collection of principal and interest payments from the Borrower and the apportionment of these payments to the credit of all institutions that are parties to the Loan Agreement. The Fund will generally rely upon the Agent or an intermediate participant to receive and forward to the Fund its portion of the principal and interest payments on the Senior Loan. Additionally, the Fund normally will rely on the Agent and the other loan investors to use appropriate credit remedies against the Borrower. The Agent is typically responsible for monitoring compliance with covenants contained in the Loan Agreement based upon reports prepared by the Borrower. The Agent may monitor the value of the collateral and, if the value of the collateral declines, may accelerate the Senior Loan, may give the Borrower an opportunity to provide additional collateral or may seek other protection for the benefit of the participants in the Senior Loan. The Agent is compensated by the Borrower for providing these services under a Loan Agreement, and such compensation may include special fees paid upon structuring and funding the Senior Loan and other fees paid on a continuing basis.

Senior Loans typically have rates of interest that are determined daily, monthly, quarterly or semi-annually by reference to a base lending rate, plus a premium or credit spread. As a result, as short-term interest rates increase, interest payable to the Fund from its investments in Senior Loans should increase, and as short-term interest rates decrease, interest payable to the Fund from its investments in Senior Loans should decrease. These base lending rates are primarily LIBOR and secondarily the prime rate offered by one or more major U.S. banks and the certificate of deposit rate or other base lending rates used by commercial lenders.

There may be less readily available information about most Senior Loans and the Borrowers thereunder than is the case for many other types of securities, including securities issued in transactions registered under the Securities Act, or registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and Borrowers subject to the periodic reporting requirements of Section 13 of the Exchange Act. Senior loans may be issued by companies that are not subject to SEC reporting requirements and these companies, therefore, do not file reports with the SEC that must comply with SEC form requirements and, in addition, are subject to a less stringent liability disclosure regime than companies subject to SEC reporting requirements. As a result, the Adviser will rely primarily on its own evaluation of a Borrower's credit quality rather than on any available independent sources. Therefore, the Fund will be particularly dependent on the analytical abilities of the Adviser.

No active trading market may exist for some Senior Loans, and some loans may be subject to restrictions on resale. Any secondary market for Senior Loans may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods, which may impair the ability of a seller to realize full value and thus cause a material decline in the Fund's net asset value. In addition, the Fund may not be able to readily dispose of its Senior Loans at prices that approximate those at which the Fund could sell such loans if they were more widely traded and, as a result of such illiquidity, the Fund may have to sell other investments or engage in borrowing transactions if necessary to raise cash to meet its obligations. A limited supply or relative illiquidity of Senior Loans may adversely affect the Fund's yield.

Table of Contents

Although not initially a principal investment strategy, the Fund may purchase and retain in its portfolio Senior Loans where the Borrower has experienced, or may be perceived to be likely to experience, credit problems, including involvement in or recent emergence from bankruptcy court proceedings or other forms of debt restructuring. Such distressed investments may provide opportunities for enhanced income as well as capital appreciation, although they also will be subject to greater risk of loss. At times, in connection with the restructuring of a Senior Loan either outside of bankruptcy court or in the context of bankruptcy court proceedings, the Fund may determine or be required to accept equity securities or junior credit securities in exchange for all or a portion of a Senior Loan.

In the process of buying, selling and holding Senior Loans, the Fund may receive and/or pay certain fees. These fees are in addition to interest payments received and may include facility fees, commitment fees, amendment fees, commissions and prepayment penalty fees. On an ongoing basis, the Fund may receive a commitment fee based on the undrawn portion of the underlying line of credit portion of a Senior Loan. In certain circumstances, the Fund may receive a prepayment penalty fee upon the prepayment of a Senior Loan by a Borrower. Other fees received by the Fund may include covenant waiver fees, covenant modification fees or other amendment fees.

Direct Assignments. The Fund generally will seek to purchase Senior Loans on a direct assignment basis. If the Fund purchases a Senior Loan on direct assignment, it typically succeeds to all the rights and obligations under the Loan Agreement of the assigning lender and becomes a lender under the Loan Agreement with the same rights and obligations as the assigning lender. Investments in Senior Loans on a direct assignment basis may involve additional risks to the Fund. For example, if such loan is foreclosed, the Fund could become part owner of any collateral, and would bear the costs and liabilities associated with owning and disposing of the collateral.

Loan Participations. To a lesser extent than direct assignments, the Fund may transact in participations in Senior Loans. The participation by the Fund in a lender's portion of a Senior Loan typically will result in the Fund's having a contractual relationship only with such lender, not with the Borrower. As a result, the Fund may have the right to receive payments of principal, interest and any fees to which it is entitled only from the lender selling the participation and only upon receipt by such lender of payments from the Borrower. Such indebtedness may be secured or unsecured. In connection with purchasing participations, the Fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by the Borrower with the terms of the Loan Agreement, nor any rights with respect to any funds acquired by other investors through set-off against the Borrower and the Fund may not directly benefit from the collateral supporting the Senior Loan in which it has purchased the participation. In the event of the insolvency of the entity selling a participation, the Fund may be treated as a general creditor of such entity. The selling entity and other persons interpositioned between such entity and the Fund with respect to such participations will likely conduct their principal business activities in the banking, finance and financial services industries. Persons engaged in these industries may be more susceptible to, among other things, fluctuations in interest rates, changes in the Federal Reserve Open Market Committee's monetary policy, governmental regulations concerning these industries and concerning capital raising activities generally and fluctuations in the financial markets generally.

Prefunded Letter of Credit Loans. The Fund may transact in participations in prefunded letter of credit loans (a "Prefunded L/C Loan"). A Prefunded L/C Loan is a facility created by the Borrower in conjunction with the agent bank as issuer of a loan, and the Prefunded L/C Loan is backed by letters of credit (each letter, an "L/C"). Each participant in a Prefunded L/C Loan (sometimes referred to as a funded letter of credit facility) fully funds its commitment amount to the agent bank for the facility. The funds are invested by the agent bank and held solely to satisfy a Prefunded L/C Loan lender's obligation to the agent bank under the facility. The funds paid by the lenders are invested by the agent bank in deposits that pay interest, usually approximating a benchmark rate, such as LIBOR, which is

Table of Contents

paid to the Borrower. Generally, the Borrower, via the agent bank, pays the lenders an interest rate, equivalent to the fully drawn spread plus the benchmark rate, usually LIBOR. The funds are returned to the lender upon termination of the Prefunded L/C Loan (and upon satisfaction of all obligations). Under the terms of the Prefunded L/C Loan agreement, a lender often may sell and assign all or a portion of its interest in the loan to another lender so long as the other lender is eligible and agrees to the terms and conditions of the Prefunded L/C Loan agreement.

When the Borrower needs funds, it may draw against the Prefunded L/C Loan and the agent bank makes payment to the Borrower by withdrawing some of the amount invested as deposits. Consequently, the lenders do not have to advance any additional funds at the time the Borrower draws against the Prefunded L/C Loan facility. The Prefunded L/C Loan can be structured from the standpoint of the Borrower as either (i) a revolving credit facility, where the Borrower can reborrow, during the term of the loan, moneys it has paid back to the facility during the term of the loan or (ii) a delayed draw term loan where the Borrower may not reborrow moneys it has repaid to the facility during the term of the loan.

When the Fund purchases a participation in a Prefunded L/C Loan, the proceeds of the purchase are deposited in a collateral account, which backs an L/C loan by the agent bank to the Borrower to support trade or other financing. The Fund typically receives interest on the cash collateral account equal to LIBOR. Participations by the Fund in a Prefunded L/C Loan typically will result in the Fund's having a contractual relationship only with the agent bank, not with the Borrower. As a result, the Fund may have the right to receive interest, fees and any repayments, if any, to which it is entitled only from the agent bank selling the participation and only upon receipt by the agent bank of such payments from the Borrower. In connection with purchasing the participation in a Prefunded L/C Loan, the Fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by the Borrower with the terms of the Prefunded L/C Loan. As a result, the Fund may assume the credit risk of both the Borrower and the agent bank selling the participation in a Prefunded L/C Loan. In the event of the insolvency of the agent bank selling a participation in a Prefunded L/C Loan, the Fund may be treated as a general creditor of such agent bank. The agent bank will likely conduct its principal business activities in the banking, finance and financial services industries. Persons engaged in such industries may be more susceptible to, among other things, fluctuations in interest rates, changes in the Federal Reserve Open Market Committee's monetary policy, governmental regulations concerning such industries and concerning capital raising activities generally and fluctuations in the financial markets generally.

Corporate Bonds

The Fund may invest in Corporate Bonds. The investment return of Corporate Bonds reflects interest paid on the security and changes in the market value of the security. The market value of a Corporate Bond generally may be expected to rise and fall inversely with interest rates. The value of intermediate- and longer-term Corporate Bonds normally fluctuates more in response to changes in interest rates than does the value of shorter-term Corporate Bonds. The market value of a Corporate Bond also may be affected by the credit rating of the corporation, the corporation's performance and perceptions of the corporation in the marketplace. There is a risk that the issuers of these securities may not be able to meet their obligations on interest or principal payments at the time called for by an instrument.

Collateralized Loan Obligations

A CLO generally is an entity that holds a portfolio consisting principally (typically, 80% or more of its assets) of loan obligations and that was created to reapportion the risk and return characteristics of its portfolio of underlying assets. The CLO securitizes payment claims arising out of its portfolio of underlying assets and issues debt securities with payment characteristics linked to the underlying assets. The redemption of the securities issued by the CLO typically occurs from the cash flow generated by

Table of Contents

the portfolio of underlying assets. The vast majority of CLOs are actively managed by an independent investment manager.

The Fund expects initially to only invest in CLO Debt Securities rated investment grade at the time of the Fund's investment issued by CLOs that principally hold Senior Loans, diversified by industry and borrower. It is also possible that the underlying obligations of CLOs in which the Fund invests will include (i) Subordinated Loans, (ii) debt tranches of other CLOs, and (iii) equity securities incidental to investments in Senior Loans.

CLOs issue debt securities in tranches with different payment characteristics and different credit ratings. A key feature of the CLO structure is the prioritization of the cash flows from a pool of debt securities among the several tranches of CLO Debt Securities. The rated tranches of CLOs are generally assigned credit ratings by one or more nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. Residual tranches are the most junior tranches and do not receive ratings. The transaction documents relating to the issuance of CLO Debt Securities impose eligibility criteria on the assets of the CLO, restrict the ability of the CLO's investment manager to trade investments and impose certain portfolio-wide asset quality requirements.

CLO Debt Securities are generally limited recourse obligations of the CLO payable solely from the underlying assets of the CLO or the proceeds thereof. Consequently, holders of CLO Debt Securities must rely solely on distributions on the underlying assets or proceeds thereof for payment in respect thereof. The cash flows generated by the underlying obligations held in a CLO's portfolio will generally determine the interest payments on CLO Debt Securities. Payments to holders of tranched CLO Debt Securities are made in sequential order of priority. The Fund does not intend to invest in residual tranches of CLO Debt Securities and expects initially to invest only in tranches of CLO Debt Securities that are rated investment grade at the time of the Fund's investment.

Subordinated Loans

The Fund may invest in Subordinated Loans. Because Subordinated Loans are subordinated and thus lower in priority of payment and/or in priority of lien to Senior Loans, they are subject to the additional risk that the cash flow of the Borrower and property securing the loan or debt, if any, may be insufficient to meet scheduled payments after giving effect to the senior secured obligations of the Borrower. This risk is generally higher for subordinated unsecured loans or debt, which are not backed by a security interest in any specific collateral. Subordinated Loans generally have greater price volatility than Senior Loans and may be less liquid. There is also a possibility that originators will not be able to sell participations in Subordinated Loans, which would create greater credit risk exposure for the holders of such loans. Subordinated Loans share the same risks as other below investment grade instruments.

Distressed and Defaulted Debt

Although not initially a principal investment strategy, the Fund may invest in securities, loans or other debt instruments purchased in the secondary market, that are the subject of bankruptcy proceedings or are otherwise in default or at risk of being in default as to the repayment of principal and/ or interest at the time of acquisition by the Fund ("Distressed Debt"). Investment in Distressed Debt is speculative and involves significant risks.

Equity Securities

From time to time, the Fund may invest in or hold shares of common stock and other equity securities incident to the purchase or ownership of a Senior Loan, Corporate Bond or other debt instruments or in connection with a reorganization of a Borrower. Investments in equity securities incidental to investment in Senior Loans entail certain risks in addition to those associated with

Table of Contents

investments in Senior Loans. Common stock represents an equity ownership interest in a company. Historical trends would indicate that common stock is subject to higher levels of volatility and market and issuer-specific risk than debt securities. The value of equity securities may be affected more rapidly, and to a greater extent, by company-specific developments and general market conditions. These risks may increase fluctuations in the Fund's net asset value. In addition, the Fund frequently may possess material non-public information about a Borrower as a result of its ownership of a Senior Loan. Because of prohibitions on trading in securities while in possession of material non-public information, the Fund might be unable to enter into a transaction in a security of the Borrower when it would otherwise be advantageous to do so. The equity interests held by the Fund, if any, may not pay dividends or otherwise generate income or appreciate in value and, in fact, may decline in value. Accordingly, the Fund may not be able to realize gains from its equity investments, and any gains that the Fund does realize may not be sufficient to contribute materially to the Fund's investment objective of seeking current income. Equity securities held by the Fund may be illiquid.

Short Sales

The Fund may, from time to time, engage in short sales. A short sale is a transaction in which the Fund sells an instrument that it does not own in anticipation that the market price will decline. To deliver the securities to the buyer, the Fund arranges through a broker to borrow the securities and, in so doing, the Fund becomes obligated to replace the securities borrowed at their market price at the time of replacement. When selling short, the Fund intends to replace the securities at a lower price and therefore, profit from the difference between the cost to replace the securities and the proceeds received from the sale of the securities. When the Fund makes a short sale, the proceeds it receives from the sale will be held on behalf of a broker until the Fund replaces the borrowed securities. The Fund may have to pay a premium to borrow the securities and must pay any dividends or interest payable on the securities until they are replaced. The Fund's obligation to replace the securities borrowed in connection with a short sale will be secured by collateral deposited with the broker that consists of cash and/or liquid securities. In addition, the Fund will place in a segregated account an amount of cash and/or liquid securities equal to the difference, if any, between (i) the market value of the securities sold at the time they were sold short, and (ii) any cash and/or liquid securities deposited as collateral with the broker in connection with the short sale. Short sales involve certain risks and special considerations. If the Fund incorrectly predicts that the price of the borrowed security will decline, the Fund will have to replace the securities with securities with a greater value than the amount received from the sale. As a result, losses from short sales differ from losses that could be incurred from a purchase of a security, because losses from short sales may be unlimited, whereas losses from purchases can equal only the total amount invested.

Warrants

Warrants give holders the right, but not the obligation, to buy common stock of an issuer at a given price, usually higher than the market price at the time of issuance, during a specified period. The risk of investing in a warrant is that the warrant may expire prior to the market value of the common stock exceeding the price fixed by the warrant. Warrants have a subordinate claim on a borrower's assets compared with Senior Loans. As a result, the values of warrants generally are dependent on the financial condition of the borrower and less dependent on fluctuations in interest rates than are the values of many debt securities. The values of warrants may be more volatile than those of Senior Loans or Corporate Bonds and this may increase the volatility of the Fund's net asset value ("NAV") of the Common Shares.

Table of Contents

Non-U.S. Securities

The Fund may invest in non-U.S. securities. Some non-U.S. securities may be less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable U.S. issuers. Similarly, there is less volume and liquidity in most foreign financial markets than in the United States and, at times, greater price volatility than in the United States.

Because evidences of ownership of such securities usually are held outside the United States, the Fund will be subject to additional risks if it invests in non-U.S. securities, which include possible adverse political and economic developments, seizure or nationalization of foreign deposits and adoption of governmental restrictions that might adversely affect or restrict the payment of principal and interest on the foreign securities to investors located outside the country of the issuer, whether from currency blockage or otherwise. Because non-U.S. securities may trade on days when the Fund's common shares are not traded on the NYSE, the market value or net asset value of the Fund's common shares can change at times when the Fund's common shares cannot be sold.

Foreign Currency Transactions

The Fund may engage in foreign currency exchange transactions in connection with its investments in foreign securities. The Fund is not required to hedge its currency exposure, if any, and may choose not to do so. The Fund generally will conduct its foreign currency exchange transactions either on a spot (*i.e.*, cash) basis at the spot rate prevailing in the foreign currency exchange market or through forward contracts to purchase or sell foreign currencies, including the payment of dividends and the settlement of securities transactions that otherwise might require untimely dispositions of Fund securities.

A forward foreign currency exchange contract involves an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency at a future date, which may be any fixed number of days (usually less than one year) from the date of the contract agreed upon by the parties, at a price and for an amount set at the time of the contract. These contracts are traded in the interbank market conducted directly between currency traders (usually large commercial banks) and their customers. A forward contract generally has a deposit requirement, and no commissions are charged at any stage for trades. Although foreign exchange dealers do not charge a fee for conversion, they do realize a profit based on the difference (the spread) between the price at which they are buying and selling various currencies. At the consummation of a forward contract, the Fund may either make delivery of the foreign currency or terminate its contractual obligation to deliver the foreign currency by purchasing an offsetting contract obligating it to purchase, at the same maturity date, the same amount of such foreign currency. If the Fund chooses to make delivery of the foreign currency, it may be required to obtain such currency through the sale of portfolio securities denominated in such currency or through conversion of other assets of the Fund into such currency. If the Fund engages in an offsetting transaction, the Fund will incur a gain or loss to the extent that there is a difference between the forward contract price and the offsetting forward contract price.

It should be noted that this method of protecting the value of the Fund's portfolio securities against a decline in the value of a currency does not eliminate fluctuations in the underlying prices of the securities. Rather, it simply establishes a rate of exchange that can be achieved at some future point in time. Additionally, although such contracts tend to minimize the risk of loss due to a decline in the value of the hedged currency, at the same time they tend to limit any potential gain should the value of the currency increase.

Derivatives

The Fund may use instruments referred to as derivative securities ("Derivatives"). Derivatives are financial instruments the value of which is derived from another security, a commodity (such as gold or

Table of Contents

oil), a currency or an index (a measure of value or rates, such as the S&P 500 Index or the prime lending rate). Derivatives may allow the Fund to increase or decrease the level of risk to which the Fund is exposed more quickly and efficiently than transactions in other types of instruments. The Fund may or may not use Derivatives for hedging purposes, as a form of leverage or to seek to enhance returns, including speculation on changes in credit spreads, interest rates or other characteristics of the market, individual securities or groups of securities. If the Fund invests in a Derivative for speculative purposes, which it initially does not intend to do, the Fund will be fully exposed to the risks of loss of that Derivative, which may sometimes be greater than the Derivative's cost. The use of Derivatives may involve substantial leverage.

Swap Agreements. The Fund may enter into swap agreements, including interest rate and index swap agreements, for hedging purposes, as a form of leverage or to seek to obtain a particular desired return at a lower cost to the Fund than if the Fund had invested directly in an instrument that yielded the desired return. Swap agreements are two party contracts entered into primarily by institutional investors for periods ranging from a few weeks to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) earned or realized on particular predetermined investments or instruments. The gross returns to be exchanged or "swapped" between the parties are calculated with respect to a "notional amount" (i.e., the dollar amount invested at a particular interest rate, in a particular foreign currency, or in a "basket" of securities representing a particular index). The "notional amount" of the swap agreement is only a basis on which to calculate the obligations that the parties to a swap agreement have agreed to exchange. The Fund's obligations (or rights) under a swap agreement generally will be equal only to the "net amount" to be paid or received under the agreement based on the relative values of the positions held by each party to the agreement. The Fund's obligations under a swap agreement will be accrued daily (offset against any amounts owing to the Fund) and any accrued but unpaid net amounts owed to a swap counterparty will be covered by marking as segregated liquid, unencumbered assets, marked-to-market daily, to avoid potential leveraging.

The Fund may enter into credit default swap agreements and similar agreements, and may also buy credit-linked securities. Among other purposes, credit default swaps provide investment exposure to changes in credit spreads and relative interest rates. The credit default swap agreement or similar instrument may have as reference obligations one or more securities that are not currently held by the Fund (including a "basket" of securities representing an index). The protection "buyer" in a credit default contract may be obligated to pay the protection "seller" an upfront payment or a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract provided generally that no credit event on a reference obligation has occurred. If a credit event occurs, the seller generally must pay the buyer the "par value" (full notional value) of the swap in exchange for an equal face amount of deliverable obligations of the reference entity described in the swap, or the seller may be required to deliver the related net cash amount, if the swap is cash settled. The Fund may be either the buyer or seller in the transaction. If the Fund is a buyer and no credit event occurs, the Fund recovers nothing if the swap is held through its termination date. However, if a credit event occurs, the Fund may elect to receive the full notional value of the swap in exchange for an equal face amount of deliverable obligations of the reference entity that may have little or no value. As a seller, the Fund generally receives an upfront payment or a fixed rate of income throughout the term of the swap, which typically is between six months and three years, provided that there is no credit event. If a credit event occurs, generally the seller must pay the buyer the full notional value of the swap in exchange for an equal face amount of deliverable obligations of the reference entity that may have little or no value.

Table of Contents

The Fund may enter into total return swaps. Total return swaps are used as substitutes for owning a particular physical security, or the securities comprised by a given market index, or to obtain exposure in markets where no physical securities are available such as an interest rate index. Total return refers to the payment (or receipt) of the total return on the security, index or other instrument underlying the swap, which is then exchanged for the receipt (or payment) of a floating interest rate. Total return swaps provide the Fund with the additional flexibility of gaining exposure to a particular security or index by using the most cost-effective vehicle available. Total return swaps provide the Fund with the opportunity to actively manage the cash maintained by the Fund as a result of not having to purchase the actual securities or other instruments underlying the swap. Similar to interest rate swaps, the cash backing total return swaps is actively managed to seek to earn a return in excess of the floating rate paid on the swap.

Swaptions. The Fund, to the extent permitted under applicable law, may enter into "swaptions", which are options on swap agreements on either an asset-based or liability-based basis. A swaption is a contract that gives a counterparty the right (but not the obligation) to enter into a new swap agreement or to shorten, extend, cancel or otherwise modify an existing swap agreement, at some designated future time on specified terms. The Fund may write (sell) and purchase put and call swaptions. Depending on the terms of the particular option agreement, the Fund generally will incur a greater degree of risk when it writes a swaption than it will incur when it purchases a swaption. When the Fund purchases a swaption, it risks losing only the amount of the premium it has paid should it decide to let the option expire unexercised. When the Fund writes a swaption, upon exercise of the option the Fund will become obligated according to the terms of the underlying agreement.

Credit-Linked Securities. Among the income producing securities in which the Fund may invest are credit-linked securities, which are issued by a limited purpose trust or other vehicle that, in turn, invests in a Derivative instrument or basket of Derivative instruments, such as credit default swaps, interest rate swaps and other securities, in order to provide exposure to certain fixed income markets. For instance, the Fund may invest in credit-linked securities as a cash management tool in order to gain exposure to a certain market and/or to remain fully invested when more traditional income producing securities are not available.

Indexed and Inverse Floating Rate Securities. The Fund may invest in securities that provide a potential return based on a particular index of value or interest rates. To the extent the Fund invests in these types of securities, the Fund's return on such securities will be subject to risk with respect to the value of the particular index: that is, if the value of the index falls, the value of the indexed securities owned by the Fund will fall. Interest and principal payable on certain securities may also be based on relative changes among particular indices. The Fund may invest in so-called "inverse floating obligations" or "residual interest bonds" on which the interest rates vary inversely with a floating rate (which may be reset periodically by a Dutch auction, a remarketing agent, or by reference to a short-term tax-exempt interest rate index). The Fund may purchase synthetically-created inverse floating rate bonds evidenced by custodial or trust receipts. Generally, income on inverse floating rate bonds will decrease when interest rates increase, and will increase when interest rates decrease.

Repurchase Agreements and Reverse Repurchase Agreements

Subject to its investment objective and policies, the Fund may invest in repurchase agreements. Repurchase agreements are transactions in which the Fund purchases securities or other obligations from a bank or securities dealer (or its affiliate) and simultaneously commits to resell them to the counterparty at an agreed upon date or upon demand and at a price reflecting a market rate of interest unrelated to the coupon rate or maturity of the purchased obligations. The Fund maintains custody of the underlying obligations prior to their repurchase, either through its regular custodian or through a special "triparty" custodian or sub-custodian that maintains separate accounts for both the Fund and its

Table of Contents

counterparty. The obligation of the counterparty to pay the repurchase price on the date agreed to or upon demand is, in effect, secured by such obligations.

Reverse repurchase agreements involve the sale of securities held by the Fund subject to the Fund's agreement to repurchase the securities at an agreed upon date or upon demand and at a price reflecting a market rate of interest. Reverse repurchase agreements may be subject to the Fund's limitation on borrowings and may be entered into only with banks or securities dealers or their affiliates.

Segregation and Cover Requirements

As a closed-end investment company registered with the SEC, the Fund is subject to the federal securities laws, including the Investment Company Act, the rules thereunder, and various SEC and SEC staff interpretive positions. In accordance with these laws, rules and positions, the Fund may "set aside" liquid assets (often referred to as "asset segregation"), or engage in other SEC- or staff-approved measures, to "cover" open positions with respect to certain kinds of Derivatives and certain other portfolio transactions that could be considered "senior securities" as defined in Section 18(g) of the Investment Company Act. With respect to certain Derivatives that are contractually required to cash settle, for example, the Fund is permitted to set aside liquid assets in an amount equal to the Fund's daily marked-to-market net obligations (i.e., the Fund's daily net liability) under the contracts, if any, rather than such contracts' full notional value. The Fund reserves the right to modify its asset segregation policies in the future to comply with any changes in the positions from time to time announced by the SEC or its staff regarding asset segregation. These segregation and coverage requirements could result in the Fund's maintaining securities positions that it would otherwise liquidate, segregating assets at a time when it might be disadvantageous to do so or otherwise restricting portfolio management. Such segregation and cover requirements will not limit or offset losses on related positions.

Portfolio Turnover

Although the Fund does not expect to incur portfolio turnover at a rate of more than 100% in any fiscal year, it is possible that the portfolio turnover rate may exceed 100% in any fiscal year. The Fund's portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing the lesser of purchases or sales of portfolio securities for the particular fiscal year by the monthly average of the value of the portfolio securities owned by the Fund during the particular fiscal year. A high portfolio turnover rate generally results in greater transaction costs, which are borne directly by the Fund, and may also have certain adverse tax consequences for shareholders.

LEVERAGE

The Fund currently anticipates utilizing leverage to seek to enhance the level of its current distributions to holders of shares of its common stock. The Fund may engage in leverage to the maximum extent permitted by law for investment and other general corporate purposes. The Fund expects to initially incur leverage in an aggregate amount of approximately 33% of the Fund's Managed Assets (after the leverage is incurred) and []% of the Fund's net assets (after the leverage is incurred). As used in this prospectus, "net assets" are determined by subtracting any liabilities (including borrowings for investment purposes) from the total value of the Fund's portfolio investments and other assets. As discussed further below, the Fund's ability to use leverage will be limited by the Investment Company Act and any agreements on debt limitations or asset coverage requirements imposed on the Fund by its lenders or necessary to obtaining ratings on any preferred stock or debt issued by the Fund. The Fund may borrow funds from banks and other financial institutions and it may also issue preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness. The Fund may also gain leverage synthetically through swaps and other Derivatives. To the extent that the Fund segregates

Table of Contents

assets against or covers such positions in accordance with interpretations of the staff of the SEC, the Fund's obligations under such transactions will not be considered senior securities representing indebtedness under the Investment Company Act and will not be included in calculating the aggregate amount of leverage for purposes of the 33% policy set forth above.

The use of borrowings or Derivatives or issuance of preferred shares to leverage the common shares can create risks, including increased variability of the Fund's net income, distributions and/or net asset value in relation to market changes. Changes in the value of the Fund's portfolio, including securities bought with the proceeds of leverage, will be borne entirely by common shareholders. All costs and expenses related to any form of leverage used by the Fund will be borne entirely by common shareholders. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified if the Fund uses leverage. In particular, leverage may magnify interest rate risk, which is the risk that the prices of portfolio securities will fall (or rise) if market interest rates for those types of securities rise (or fall). To the extent that the Fund makes investments in Senior Loans or other debt instruments that provide a LIBOR floor that helps protect the Fund's income in falling or flat-rate environments, the Fund will not realize additional income if rates increase to levels below the LIBOR floor but the Fund's cost of financing is expected to increase, resulting in the potential for a decrease in the level of income available for dividends or distributions made by the Fund. During periods when the Fund is using leverage, if any, the fees paid to the Adviser for advisory services will be higher than if the Fund did not use leverage because the fees paid will be calculated on the basis of the Fund's Managed Assets, which includes the assets purchased through leverage. In such case, the Adviser may have a financial incentive to increase the Fund's use of leverage, which constitutes an inherent conflict of interest. In addition, the fees paid to the Adviser are borne exclusively by common shareholders. It is expected that preferred shareholders, noteholders and any lenders to the Fund will not bear any expenses of the Fund. The Fund's leveraging strategy, if utilized, may not be successful.

Credit Facility

The Fund may seek to arrange a floating rate credit facility (the "Credit Facility") with one or more banks or other financial institutions pursuant to which the Fund would be entitled to borrow funds from time to time in accordance with the terms of the Credit Facility. Any such borrowings, as well as the issuance of notes or other forms of indebtedness, would constitute financial leverage and would be subject to the 300% asset coverage requirements imposed by the Investment Company Act described above with respect to the amount of the borrowings and the Fund's ability to declare dividends and distributions or purchase its capital stock. The Fund may choose not to enter into a Credit Facility.

The Fund may be required to prepay outstanding amounts or incur a penalty rate of interest upon the occurrence of certain events of default. The Fund expects that a Credit Facility would contain customary covenants that, among other things, likely would limit the Fund's ability to pay distributions in certain circumstances, incur additional debt, change its fundamental investment policies and engage in certain transactions, including mergers and consolidations, and require asset coverage ratios in addition to those required by the Investment Company Act. The Fund may be required to pledge some or all of its assets and to maintain a portion of its assets in cash or high-grade securities as a reserve against interest or principal payments and expenses. The Fund expects that any Credit Facility would have customary covenant, negative covenant and default provisions. There can be no assurance that the Fund will enter into an agreement for a Credit Facility, or, if it does, that the Fund would receive terms and conditions representative of the foregoing, or that additional material terms will not apply. In addition, if entered into, the Credit Facility may in the future be replaced or refinanced by one or more credit facilities having substantially different terms or by the issuance of preferred shares or debt securities.

Table of Contents

Preferred Shares and Notes

The Fund may engage in leverage through the issuance of preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness. Under the Investment Company Act, the Fund is not permitted to issue preferred shares unless immediately after such issuance the Fund will have an asset coverage of at least 200%. In general, the term "asset coverage" for this purpose means the ratio that the value of the total assets of the Fund, less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, bears to the aggregate amount of senior securities representing indebtedness of the Fund plus the aggregate of the involuntary liquidation preference of the preferred shares. The involuntary liquidation preference refers to the amount to which the preferred shares would be entitled on the involuntary liquidation of the Fund in preference to a security junior to them. In addition, the Fund is not permitted to declare any cash dividend or other distribution on its common shares or purchase its common shares unless, at the time of such declaration or purchase, the Fund satisfies this 200% asset coverage requirement after deducting the amount of the distribution or purchase price, as applicable.

Under the Investment Company Act, the Fund is not permitted to incur indebtedness, including through the issuance of debt securities, unless immediately thereafter the Fund will have an asset coverage of at least 300%. In general, the term "asset coverage" for this purpose means the ratio that the value of the total assets of the Fund, less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities, bears to the aggregate amount of senior securities representing indebtedness of the Fund. In addition, the Fund is not permitted to declare any cash distribution on its capital stock or purchase its capital stock unless, at the time of such declaration or purchase, the Fund has an asset coverage of at least 300% after deducting the amount of such distribution or purchase price, as applicable. The Investment Company Act contains an exception, however, that permits dividends to be declared upon any preferred stock issued by the Fund if the Fund's indebtedness has an asset coverage of at least 200% at the time of declaration after deducting the amount of the dividend.

In addition, as a condition to obtaining financing or, if applicable, ratings on the preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness, the terms of any preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness issued would be expected to include asset coverage maintenance provisions that would require a reduction of indebtedness or the redemption of the preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness in the event of non-compliance by the Fund and might also prohibit dividends and other distributions on the common shares in such circumstances. In order to meet such redemption requirements, the Fund might have to liquidate portfolio securities. These liquidations and redemptions, or reductions in indebtedness, would cause the Fund to incur related transaction costs and could result in capital losses to the Fund. Prohibitions on dividends and other distributions on the common shares could impair the Fund's ability to qualify as a RIC under the Code.

If the Fund has preferred shares outstanding, two of the Fund's directors will be elected by the holders of preferred shares voting separately as a class. The remaining directors of the Fund will be elected by common shareholders and preferred shareholders voting together as a single class. In the event dividends on the preferred shares are unpaid in an amount equal to two full years' dividends on such securities, holders of preferred shares would be entitled to elect a majority of the directors of the Fund (subject to any prior rights of debt holders) and continue to be so represented until all dividends in arrears shall have been paid or otherwise provided for. Additionally, the holders of preferred shares would have separate voting rights for certain matters pursuant to the Investment Company Act and the terms of the preferred shares.

If the Fund issues preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness, it may be subject to certain restrictions imposed by guidelines of one or more ratings agencies that may issue ratings for preferred shares issued by the Fund, or may be subject to covenants or other restrictions imposed by its lenders. These guidelines would be expected to impose asset coverage or portfolio composition requirements that would be more stringent than those imposed on the Fund by the Investment

Table of Contents

Company Act. It is not anticipated that these covenants or guidelines would impede the Adviser from managing the Fund's portfolio in accordance with the Fund's investment objective and policies.

Temporary Borrowings

The Fund may borrow money in an amount equal to 5% of its total assets as a temporary measure for extraordinary or emergency purposes, including the payment of dividends and the settlement of securities transactions that otherwise might require untimely dispositions of Fund securities.

Effects of Leverage

The following table is furnished in response to requirements of the SEC. It is designed to illustrate the effect of leverage on the return to a common shareholder, assuming hypothetical annual investment portfolio total returns, net of expenses (comprised of income and changes in the value of securities held in the Fund's portfolio) of -10%, -5%, 0%, 5% and 10%. Actual returns may be greater or less than those appearing in the table. The table further reflects leverage representing, in the aggregate, 33% of the Fund's total assets, net of expenses, and the Fund's currently projected dividend and/or interest rate of []% on its preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness. The Fund's common shares must experience an annual return of []% in order to cover the rate of annual dividend and/or interest payments on preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness, if any. As the table shows, the total leverage generally increases the return to common shareholders when portfolio return is positive or greater than the cost of leverage and decreases when the portfolio total return is negative or less than the cost of leverage. These assumed investment portfolio returns are hypothetical figures and are not necessarily indicative of the investment portfolio returns that may be experienced by the Fund.

Assumed Portfolio Total Return (Net of										
Expenses)		(10)%		(5)%		0%		5%		10%
Common Share Total Return	1)	1)%	([1)%	([1)%	Γ	1%	Γ	1%

Common share total return is comprised of two elements the common share dividends paid by the Fund (the amount of which is largely determined by the net investment income of the Fund after paying dividends) and gains or losses on the value of the securities the Fund owns. As required by SEC rules, the table above assumes that the Fund is more likely to suffer capital losses than to enjoy capital appreciation. For example, to assume a total return of 0% the Fund must assume that the interest it receives on its investments is entirely offset by losses in the value of those investments.

If the Fund uses leverage, the amount of fees paid to the Adviser for investment advisory services will be higher than if the Fund does not use leverage because the Fees paid are calculated on the Fund's Managed Assets, which include assets purchased with leverage. Therefore, the Adviser has a financial incentive to use leverage, which creates a conflict of interest between the Adviser and the common shareholders as only the common shareholders would bear the fees and expenses incurred through the Fund's use of leverage.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

An investment in the Fund's common shares may be speculative in that it involves a high degree of risk and should not constitute a complete investment program. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider the following risk factors, together with the other information contained in this prospectus. At any point in time, an investment in the Fund's common shares may be worth less than the original amount invested, even after taking into account the distributions paid, if any, and the ability of common shareholders to reinvest dividends. If any of the risks discussed in this prospectus occurs, the Fund's results of operations could be materially and adversely affected. If this were to happen, the price of Fund common shares could decline significantly and you could lose all or a part of your investment.

General

Investing in the Fund's common shares involves certain risks and the Fund may not be able to achieve its intended results for a variety of reasons, including, among others, the possibility that the Fund may not be able to structure its investments as anticipated. Because the value of your investment in the Fund will fluctuate, there is a risk that you will lose money. Your investment will decline in value if, among other things, the value of the Fund's investments decreases. The value of your common shares also will be affected by the Fund's ability to successfully implement its investment strategy, as well as by market, economic and other conditions. As with any security, complete loss of investment is possible.

Principal Risks Relating to Fund Investments

Investment and Market Risk

An investment in the Fund's common shares is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the entire principal amount invested. An investment in the Fund's common shares represents an indirect investment in the portfolio of Senior Loans, Corporate Bonds and other securities and loans owned by the Fund, and the value of these securities and loans may fluctuate, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. For instance, as evidenced by the global economic downturn, the secondary markets for Senior Loans, Corporate Bonds and investments with similar economic characteristics (such as second lien loans and unsecured loans) can experience sudden and sharp price swings, which can be exacerbated by large or sustained sales by major investors in these markets, a high-profile default by a major borrower, movements in indices tied to these markets or related securities or investments, or a change in the market's perception of Senior Loans and investments with similar economic characteristics (such as second lien loans and unsecured loans) and Corporate Bonds. At any point in time, an investment in the Fund's common shares may be worth less than the original amount invested, even after taking into account distributions paid by the Fund, if any, and the ability of common shareholders to reinvest dividends. The Fund anticipates using leverage, which will magnify the Fund's risks and, in turn, the risks to the Fund's common shareholders.

Senior Loans Risk

The Senior Loans in which the Fund will invest will primarily be rated below investment grade, but may also be unrated and of comparable credit quality. As a result, the risks associated with such Senior Loans are generally similar to the risks of other below investment grade fixed income instruments, although Senior Loans are senior and typically secured in contrast to other below investment grade fixed income instruments, which are often subordinated or unsecured. Investments in below investment grade Senior Loans are considered speculative because of the credit risk of the Borrowers. Such Borrowers are more likely than investment grade Borrowers to default on their payments of interest and principal owed to the Fund, and such defaults could reduce the Fund's net asset value and income distributions. An economic downturn would generally lead to a higher non-payment rate, and a Senior

Table of Contents

Loan may lose significant market value before a default occurs. Moreover, any specific collateral used to secure a Senior Loan may decline in value or become illiquid, which would adversely affect the Senior Loan's value. Senior Loans are subject to a number of risks described elsewhere in this prospectus, including liquidity risk and the risk of investing in below investment grade fixed income instruments.

Senior Loans are subject to the risk of non-payment of scheduled interest or principal. Such non-payment would result in a reduction of income to the Fund, a reduction in the value of the investment and a potential decrease in the net asset value of the Fund. There can be no assurance that the liquidation of any collateral securing a Senior Loan would satisfy the Borrower's obligation in the event of non-payment of scheduled interest or principal payments, whether when due or upon acceleration, or that the collateral could be liquidated, readily or otherwise. In the event of bankruptcy or insolvency of a Borrower, the Fund could experience delays or limitations with respect to its ability to realize the benefits of the collateral, if any, securing a Senior Loan. The collateral securing a Senior Loan, if any, may lose all or substantially all of its value in the event of the bankruptcy or insolvency of a Borrower. Some Senior Loans are subject to the risk that a court, pursuant to fraudulent conveyance or other similar laws, could subordinate such Senior Loans to presently existing or future indebtedness of the Borrower or take other action detrimental to the holders of Senior Loans including, in certain circumstances, invalidating such Senior Loans or causing interest previously paid to be refunded to the Borrower. Additionally, a Senior Loan may be "primed" in bankruptcy, which reduces the ability of the holders of the Senior Loan to recover on the collateral. Priming takes place when a debtor in bankruptcy is allowed to incur additional indebtedness by the bankruptcy court and such indebtedness has a senior or pari passu lien with the debtor's existing secured indebtedness, such as existing Senior Loans or secured Corporate Bonds.

There may be less readily available information about most Senior Loans and the Borrowers thereunder than is the case for many other types of securities, including securities issued in transactions registered under the Securities Act, or registered under the Exchange Act, and Borrowers subject to the periodic reporting requirements of Section 13 of the Exchange Act. Senior loans may be issued by companies that are not subject to SEC reporting requirements and these companies, therefore, do not file reports with the SEC that must comply with SEC form requirements and in addition are subject to a less stringent liability disclosure regime than companies subject to SEC reporting requirements. As a result, the Adviser will rely primarily on its own evaluation of a Borrower's credit quality rather than on any available independent sources. Therefore, the Fund will be particularly dependent on the analytical abilities of the Adviser.

The secondary trading market for Senior Loans may be less liquid than the secondary trading market for registered investment grade debt securities. No active trading market may exist for certain Senior Loans, which may make it difficult to value them. Illiquidity and adverse market conditions may mean that the Fund may not be able to sell Senior Loans quickly or at a fair price. To the extent that a secondary market does exist for certain Senior Loans, the market for them may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods.

Senior Loans and other variable rate debt instruments are subject to the risk of payment defaults of scheduled interest or principal. Such payment defaults would result in a reduction of income to the Fund, a reduction in the value of the investment and a potential decrease in the net asset value of the Fund. Similarly, a sudden and significant increase in market interest rates may increase the risk for payment defaults and cause a decline in the value of these investments and in the Fund's net asset value. Other factors (including, but not limited to, rating downgrades, credit deterioration, a large downward movement in stock prices, a disparity in supply and demand of certain securities or market conditions that reduce liquidity) can reduce the value of Senior Loans and other debt obligations, impairing the Fund's net asset value.

Table of Contents

Senior Loans are subject to legislative risk. If legislation or state or federal regulations impose additional requirements or restrictions on the ability of financial institutions to make loans, the availability of Senior Loans for investment by the Fund may be adversely affected. In addition, such requirements or restrictions could reduce or eliminate sources of financing for certain Borrowers. This would increase the risk of default. If legislation or federal or state regulations require financial institutions to increase their capital requirements this may cause financial institutions to dispose of Senior Loans that are considered highly levered transactions. Such sales could result in prices that, in the opinion of the Adviser, do not represent fair value. If the Fund attempts to sell a Senior Loan at a time when a financial institution is engaging in such a sale, the price the Fund could receive for the Senior Loan may be adversely affected.

The Fund expects to acquire Senior Loans primarily through assignments and, to a lesser extent, through participations. The purchaser of an assignment typically succeeds to all the rights and obligations of the assigning institution and becomes a lender under the credit agreement with respect to the debt obligation; however, the purchaser's rights can be more restricted than those of the assigning institution, and the Fund may not be able to unilaterally enforce all rights and remedies under the loan and with regard to any associated collateral. In general, a participation is a contractual relationship only with the institution participating out the interest, not with the Borrower. Sellers of participations typically include banks, broker-dealers, other financial institutions and lending institutions. In purchasing participations, the Fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by the Borrower with the terms of the loan agreement against the Borrower, and the Fund may not directly benefit from the collateral supporting the debt obligation in which it has purchased the participation. As a result, (i) the Fund will be exposed to the credit risk of both the Borrower and the institution selling the participation and (ii) both the Borrower and the institution selling the participation will be considered issuers for purposes of the Fund's investment restriction concerning industry concentration. See "Investment Restrictions". Further, in purchasing participations in lending syndicates, the Fund may be more limited than it otherwise would be in its ability to conduct due diligence on the Borrower. In addition, as a holder of the participations, the Fund may not have voting rights or inspection rights that the Fund would otherwise have if it were investing directly in the Senior Loan, which may result in the Fund being exposed to greater credit or fraud risk with respect to the Borrower or the Senior Loan.

Subordinated Loans Risk

Although the Fund does not initially expect Subordinated Loans to be a significant component of its portfolio, it may invest in such instruments from time to time. Subordinated Loans generally are subject to similar risks as those associated with investments in Senior Loans, except that such loans are subordinated in payment and/or lower in lien priority to first lien holders. In the event of default on a Subordinated Loan, the first priority lien holder has first claim to the underlying collateral of the loan to the extent such claim is secured. Additionally, an oversecured creditor may be entitled to additional interest and other charges in bankruptcy increasing the amount of their allowed claim. Subordinated Loans are subject to the additional risk that the cash flow of the Borrower and property securing the loan or debt, if any, may be insufficient to meet scheduled payments after giving effect to the senior obligations of the Borrower. This risk is generally higher for subordinated unsecured loans or debt, which are not backed by a security interest in any specific collateral. Subordinated Loans generally have greater price volatility than Senior Loans and may be less liquid.

CLO Debt Securities Risk

The Fund expects initially to invest in tranches of CLO Debt Securities rated investment grade at the time of the Fund's investment. The Fund will invest in CLO Debt Securities issued by CLOs that principally invest in Senior Loans (typically, 80% or more of their assets), diversified by industry and borrower. It is also possible that the underlying obligations of CLOs in which the Fund invests will

Table of Contents

include (i) Subordinated Loans, (ii) debt tranches of other CLOs, and (iii) equity securities incidental to investments in Senior Loans. Holders of such debt securities are subject to a number of risks, including the credit, liquidity, counterparty and other risks detailed below under "Structured Products Risk General", and other market and asset specific risks.

CLO Debt Securities are typically privately offered and sold and may be thinly traded or have a limited trading market. As a result, investments in CLO Debt Securities may be characterized by the Fund as illiquid securities. In addition to the general risks associated with debt securities discussed above, CLOs carry additional risks, including, but not limited to: (i) the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments; (ii) the quality of the collateral may decline in value or default; and (iii) the possibility that the investments in CLOs are subordinate to other classes or tranches of the CLOs.

CLOs issue debt securities in tranches with different payment characteristics and different credit ratings. The rated tranches of CLO Debt Securities are generally assigned credit ratings by one or more nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. Residual tranches are the most junior tranches and do not receive ratings. Below investment grade tranches of CLO Debt Securities typically experience a lower recovery, greater risk of loss or deferral or non-payment of interest than more senior tranches of CLO Debt Securities. The Fund will not invest in residual tranches of CLO Debt Securities and will invest only in tranches of CLO Debt Securities that are rated investment grade at the time of the Fund's investment. Though, if any CLO Debt Security held by the Fund is downgraded to a below investment grade rating, the Fund may exchange such CLO Debt Security for another CLO Debt Security that is rated below investment grade.

The transaction documents relating to the issuance of CLO Debt Securities may impose eligibility criteria on the assets of the CLO, restrict the ability of the CLO's investment manager to trade investments and impose certain portfolio-wide asset quality requirements. These criteria, restrictions and requirements may limit the ability of the CLO's investment manager to maximize returns on CLO Debt Securities. In addition, other parties involved in CLOs, such as third party credit enhancers and investors in the rated tranches, may impose requirements that have an adverse effect on the returns of the various tranches of CLO Debt Securities. Furthermore, CLO debt issuance transaction documents generally contain provisions that, in the event that certain tests are not met (generally interest coverage and over-collateralization tests at varying levels in the capital structure), proceeds that would otherwise be distributed to holders of a junior tranche must be diverted to pay down the senior tranches until such tests are satisfied. Failure (or increased likelihood of failure) of a CLO to make timely payments on a particular tranche will have an adverse effect on the liquidity and market value of such tranche.

Payments to holders of CLO Debt Securities may be subject to deferral. If cash flows generated by the underlying assets are insufficient to make all current and, if applicable, deferred payments on CLO Debt Securities, no other assets will be available for payment of the deficiency and, following realization of the underlying assets, the obligations of the issuer of the related CLO Debt Securities to pay such deficiency will be extinguished.

The market value of CLO Debt Securities may be affected by, among other things, changes in the market value of the underlying assets held by the CLO, changes in the distributions on the underlying assets, defaults and recoveries on the underlying assets, capital gains and losses on the underlying assets, prepayments on underlying assets and the availability, prices and interest rate of underlying assets. Furthermore, the leveraged nature of each subordinated class may magnify the adverse impact on such class of changes in the value of the assets, changes in the distributions on the assets, defaults and recoveries on the assets, capital gains and losses on the assets, prepayment on assets and availability, price and interest rates of assets. Finally, CLO Debt Securities are limited recourse and may not be paid in full and may be subject to up to 100% loss.

Table of Contents

Below Investment Grade Rating Risk

The Fund expects initially that its investments in Senior Loans, Subordinated Loans, Corporate Bonds and other debt instruments will consist primarily of securities and loans that are rated below investment grade or unrated and of comparable credit quality. Corporate Bonds that are rated below investment grade are often referred to as "high yield" securities. Below investment grade Senior Loans, high yield securities and other similar instruments are rated "Ba1" or lower by Moody's, "BB+" or lower by S&P or "BB+" or lower by Fitch or, if unrated, are judged by the Adviser to be of comparable credit quality. While generally providing greater income and opportunity for gain, below investment grade rated Corporate Bonds and Senior Loans and similar debt instruments may be subject to greater risks than securities or instruments that have higher credit ratings, including a higher risk of default. The credit rating of a Corporate Bond and Senior Loan that is rated below investment grade does not necessarily address its market value risk, and ratings may from time to time change, positively or negatively, to reflect developments regarding the issuer's financial condition. Below investment grade Corporate Bonds and Senior Loans and similar instruments often are considered to be speculative with respect to the capacity of the Borrower to timely repay principal and pay interest or dividends in accordance with the terms of the obligation and may have more credit risk than higher rated securities. Lower grade securities and similar debt instruments may be particularly susceptible to economic downturns. It is likely that a prolonged or deepening economic recession could adversely affect the ability of some Borrowers issuing such Corporate Bonds, Senior Loans and similar debt instruments to repay principal and pay interest on the instrument, increase the incidence of default and severely disrupt the market value of the securities and similar debt instruments.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that one or more loans or debt securities in the Fund's portfolio will decline in price or one or more Borrowers will fail to pay interest or principal when due because one or more Borrowers experiences a decline in its financial condition. While a senior position in the capital structure of a Borrower may provide some protection with respect to the Fund's investments in Senior Loans, losses may still occur because the market value of Senior Loans is affected by the creditworthiness of Borrowers and by general economic and specific industry conditions. To the extent the Fund invests in below investment grade Corporate Bonds, Senior Loans or other investments, it will be exposed to a greater amount of credit risk than a fund that invests in investment grade securities or loans. Typically, the prices of lower grade securities or loans are more sensitive to negative developments, such as a decline in the Borrower's revenues or a general economic downturn, than are the prices of higher grade securities or loans.

Prepayment Risk

During periods of declining interest rates, Borrowers may exercise their option to prepay principal earlier than scheduled. For Corporate Bonds, such payments often occur during periods of declining interest rates, which may require the Fund to reinvest in lower yielding securities, resulting in a possible decline in the Fund's income and distributions to shareholders. This is known as prepayment or "call" risk. Below investment grade Corporate Bonds frequently have call features that allow the issuer to redeem the security at dates prior to its stated maturity at a specified price (typically greater than the stated principal amount) only if certain prescribed conditions are met ("Call Protection"). An issuer may redeem Corporate Bonds if, for example, the issuer can refinance the debt at a lower cost due to declining interest rates or an improvement in the credit standing of the issuer. Fixed income securities may be purchased at prices below or above their stated principal amount. For premium Corporate Bonds (Corporate Bonds acquired at prices that exceed their stated principal amount), prepayment risk may be enhanced given that the Fund would lose the potential value of the yield-to-maturity of the bonds in the event they are redeemed at the stated principal amount.

Table of Contents

Senior Loans and Subordinated Loans are subject to prepayment risk and typically do not have Call Protection. The degree to which Borrowers prepay Senior Loans and Subordinated Loans, whether as a contractual requirement or at their election, may be affected by general business conditions, the financial condition of the Borrower and competitive conditions among Senior Loan and Subordinated Loan investors, among others. For these reasons, prepayments cannot be predicted with accuracy. Upon a prepayment, either in part or in full, the outstanding debt from which the Fund derives interest income will be reduced. The Fund may not be able to reinvest the proceeds received on terms as favorable as the prepaid loan.

Interest Rate Risk

Because Senior Loans with floating or variable rates reset their interest rates periodically, changes in prevailing interest rates can be expected to cause some fluctuations in the Fund's net asset value. Similarly, an increase in market interest rates (which are currently considered low by historic standards) may cause a decline in the Fund's net asset value. In addition, Senior Loans or similar loans or securities may allow the Borrower to opt between LIBOR-based interest rates and interest rates based on bank prime rates, which may have an effect on the Fund's net asset value.

Liquidity Risk

The Fund generally considers "illiquid securities" to be securities or loans that cannot be sold within seven days in the ordinary course of business at approximately the value used by the Fund in determining its net asset value. The Fund may not be able to readily dispose of such securities or loans at prices that approximate those at which the Fund could sell the securities or loans if they were more widely traded and, as a result of that illiquidity, the Fund may have to sell other investments or engage in borrowing transactions if necessary to raise cash to meet its obligations. Limited liquidity can also affect the market price of securities, thereby adversely affecting the Fund's net asset value and ability to make dividend distributions.

Some Senior Loans are not readily marketable and may be subject to restrictions on resale. Senior Loans generally are not listed on any national securities exchange and no active trading market may exist for the Senior Loans in which the Fund may invest. When a secondary market exists, if at all, the market for some Senior Loans may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods. The Fund has no limitation on the amount of its assets that may be invested in securities that are not readily marketable or are subject to restrictions on resale.

Distressed and Defaulted Debt Risk

Although not initially a principal investment strategy, the Fund may invest, to a limited extent, in securities, including loans purchased in the secondary market, that are the subject of bankruptcy proceedings or otherwise in default or at risk of being in default as to the repayment of principal and/or interest at the time of acquisition by the Fund ("Distressed Debt"). Investment in Distressed Debt is speculative and involves significant risks.

The Fund may make such investments when the Adviser believes it is reasonably likely that the issuer of Distressed Debt will make an exchange offer or will be the subject of a plan of reorganization pursuant to which the Fund will receive new securities in return for Distressed Debt. There can be no assurance, however, that such an exchange offer will be made or that such a plan of reorganization will be adopted. In addition, a significant period of time may pass between the time at which the Fund makes its investment in Distressed Debt and the time that any such exchange offer or plan of reorganization is completed, if at all. During this period, it is unlikely that the Fund would receive any interest payments on the Distressed Debt, the Fund would be subject to significant uncertainty whether the exchange offer or plan of reorganization will be completed and the Fund may be required to bear

Table of Contents

certain extraordinary expenses to protect and recover its investment. Therefore, to the extent the Fund seeks capital appreciation through investment in Distressed Debt, the Fund's ability to achieve current income for its shareholders may be diminished. The Fund also will be subject to significant uncertainty as to when and in what manner and for what value the obligations evidenced by the Distressed Debt will eventually be satisfied (e.g., through a liquidation of the obligor's assets, an exchange offer or plan of reorganization involving the Distressed Debt or a payment of some amount in satisfaction of the obligation). Even if an exchange offer is made or plan of reorganization is adopted with respect to Distressed Debt held by the Fund, there can be no assurance that the securities or other assets received by the Fund in connection with such exchange offer or plan of reorganization will not have a lower value or income potential than may have been anticipated when the investment was made or no value. Moreover, any securities received by the Fund upon completion of an exchange offer or plan of reorganization may be restricted as to resale. Similarly, if the Fund participates in negotiations with respect to any exchange offer or plan of reorganization with respect to an issuer of Distressed Debt, the Fund may be restricted from disposing of such securities. To the extent that the Fund becomes involved in such proceedings, the Fund may have a more active participation in the affairs of the issuer than that assumed generally by an investor.

Inflation/Deflation Risk

Inflation risk is the risk that the value of certain assets or income from the Fund's investments will be worth less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the real value of investments and distributions can decline. In addition, during any periods of rising inflation, the dividend rates or borrowing costs associated with the Fund's use of leverage would likely increase, which would tend to further reduce returns to shareholders. Deflation risk is the risk that prices throughout the economy decline over time the opposite of inflation. Deflation may have an adverse effect on the creditworthiness of issuers and may make issuer defaults more likely, which may result in a decline in the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Structured Products Risks

General. The Fund may invest in structured products, including, without limitation, investment grade rated CLO Debt Securities and structured notes. Holders of structured products bear risks of the underlying investments, index or reference obligation and are subject to counterparty risk. The risks associated with investments in CLO Debt Securities are described above under "Collateralized Loan Obligation Risk".

The Fund may have the right to receive payments only from the structured product, and generally does not have direct rights against the issuer or the entity that sold the assets to be securitized. While certain structured products enable the investor to acquire interests in a pool of securities without the brokerage and other expenses associated with directly holding the same assets, investors in structured products generally pay their share of the structured product's administrative and other expenses. Although it is difficult to predict whether the prices of indices and securities underlying structured products will rise or fall, these prices (and, therefore, the prices of structured products) will be influenced by the same types of political and economic events that affect issuers of securities and capital markets generally. If the issuer of a structured product uses shorter-term financing to purchase longer term securities, the issuer may be forced to sell its securities at below market prices if it experiences difficulty in obtaining short-term financing, which may adversely affect the value of the structured products owned by the Fund.

Investments in structured products involve risks, including credit risk and market risk. Certain structured products may be thinly traded or have a limited trading market. Where the Fund's investments in structured products are based upon the movement of one or more factors, including currency exchange rates, interest rates, reference bonds and stock indices, depending on the factor used

Table of Contents

and the use of multipliers or deflators, changes in interest rates and movement of the factor may cause significant price fluctuations.

Additionally, changes in the reference instrument or security may cause the interest rate on the structured product to be reduced to zero, and any further changes in the reference instrument may then reduce the principal amount payable on maturity. Structured products may be less liquid than other types of securities and more volatile than the reference instrument or security underlying the product.

The Fund may invest in structured products collateralized by below investment grade or distressed loans or securities. Investments in such structured products are subject to the risks associated with below investment grade securities. Such securities are characterized by high risk. It is likely that an economic recession could severely disrupt the market for such securities and may have an adverse impact on the value of such securities.

Structured Notes Risk. Investments in structured notes involve risks, including credit risk and market risk. Where the Fund's investments in structured notes are based upon the movement of one or more factors, including currency exchange rates, interest rates, referenced bonds and stock indices, depending on the factor used and the use of multipliers or deflators, changes in interest rates and movement of the factor may cause significant price fluctuations. Additionally, changes in the reference instrument or security may cause the interest rate on the structured note to be reduced to zero, and any further changes in the reference instrument may then reduce the principal amount payable on maturity. Structured notes may be less liquid than other types of securities and more volatile than the reference instrument or security underlying the note.

Derivatives Risks

Swap Agreements Risk. The Fund may enter into swap agreements, including interest rate and index swap agreements, for hedging purposes, as a form of leverage or to seek to obtain a particular desired return at a lower cost to the Fund than if the Fund had invested directly in an instrument that yielded the desired return. Swap agreements are two party contracts entered into primarily by institutional investors for periods ranging from a few weeks to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) earned or realized on particular predetermined investments or instruments. Whether the Fund's use of swap agreements will be successful in furthering its investment objective will depend on the Adviser's ability to correctly predict whether certain types of investments are likely to produce greater returns than other investments. Because they are two party contracts and because they may have terms of greater than seven days, some swap agreements may be considered by the Fund to be illiquid. Moreover, the Fund bears the risk of loss of the amount expected to be received under a swap agreement in the event of the default or bankruptcy of a swap agreement counterparty. The Fund may seek to reduce this risk to some extent by entering into a transaction only if the counterparty meets the Adviser's current credit standards for OTC option counterparties. Swap agreements also bear the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its payment obligations to the counterparty. Generally, the Fund will deposit in a segregated account liquid assets permitted to be so segregated by the SEC in an amount equal to or greater than the market value of the Fund's liabilities under the swap agreement or the amount it would cost the Fund initially to make an equivalent direct investment plus or minus any amount the Fund is obligated to pay or is to receive under the swap agreement. Restrictions imposed by the tax rules applicable to regulated investment companies may limit the Fund's ability to use swap agreements. The swap market currently is largely unregulated. It is possible that developments in the swap market, including potential significant government regulation, could adversely affect the Fund's ability to enter into or terminate swap agreements or to realize amounts to be received under these agreements. Swap transactions may involve substantial leverage.

The Fund may enter into credit default swap agreements and similar agreements, and may also buy credit-linked securities. Credit default swaps are often structured with significant leverage and may be

Table of Contents

considered speculative. The credit default swap agreement or similar instrument may have as reference obligations one or more securities that are not currently held by the Fund. The protection "buyer" in a credit default contract may be obligated to pay the protection "seller" an upfront payment or a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract provided generally that no credit event on a reference obligation has occurred. If a credit event occurs, the seller generally must pay the buyer the "par value" (full notional value) of the swap in exchange for an equal face amount of deliverable obligations of the reference entity described in the swap, or the seller may be required to deliver the related net cash amount, if the swap is cash settled. The Fund may be either the buyer or seller in the transaction. If the Fund is a buyer and no credit event occurs, the Fund recovers nothing if the swap is held through its termination date. However, if a credit event occurs, the Fund may elect to receive the full notional value of the swap in exchange for an equal face amount of deliverable obligations of the reference entity that may have little or no value. As a seller, the Fund generally receives an upfront payment or a fixed rate of income throughout the term of the swap, which typically is between six months and three years, provided that there is no credit event. If a credit event occurs, generally the seller must pay the buyer the full notional value of the swap in exchange for an equal face amount of deliverable obligations of the reference entity that may have little or no value.

Swaptions Risk. The Fund, to the extent permitted under applicable law, may enter into "swaptions", which are options on swap agreements on either an asset-based or liability-based basis. A swaption is a contract that gives a counterparty the right (but not the obligation) to enter into a new swap agreement or to shorten, extend, cancel or otherwise modify an existing swap agreement, at some designated future time on specified terms. The Fund may write (sell) and purchase put and call swaptions. Depending on the terms of the particular option agreement, the Fund generally will incur a greater degree of risk when it writes a swaption than it will incur when it purchases a swaption. When the Fund purchases a swaption, it risks losing only the amount of the premium it has paid should it decide to let the option expire unexercised. When the Fund writes a swaption, upon exercise of the option, the Fund will become obligated according to the terms of the underlying agreement.

Credit-Linked Securities Risk. Among the income producing securities in which the Fund may invest are credit-linked securities, which are issued by a limited purpose trust or other vehicle that, in turn, invests in a Derivative instrument or basket of Derivative instruments, such as credit default swaps, interest rate swaps and other securities, in order to provide exposure to certain fixed income markets. For instance, the Fund may invest in credit-linked securities as a cash management tool in order to gain exposure to a certain market and/or to remain fully invested when more traditional income producing securities are not available.

Like an investment in a bond, investments in these credit-linked securities represent the right to receive periodic income payments (in the form of distributions) and payment of principal at the end of the term of the security. However, these payments are conditioned on the issuer's receipt of payments from, and the issuer's potential obligations to, the counterparties to the Derivative instruments and other securities in which the issuer invests. For instance, the issuer may sell one or more credit default swaps, under which the issuer would receive a stream of payments over the term of the swap agreements provided that no event of default has occurred with respect to the referenced debt obligation upon which the swap is based. If a default occurs, the stream of payments may stop and the issuer would be obligated to pay the counterparty the par (or other agreed upon value) of the referenced debt obligation. This, in turn, would reduce the amount of income and principal that the Fund would receive. The Fund's investments in these instruments are indirectly subject to the risks associated with Derivative instruments, including, among others, credit risk and leverage risk. There may be no established trading market for these securities and they may constitute illiquid investments.

General Risks Associated with Derivatives. Although the Fund does not expect derivative instruments ("Derivatives") to represent a significant component of its portfolio initially, the Fund may

Table of Contents

use Derivatives including, in particular, swaps (including, total return swaps), synthetic collateralized loan obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and other similar transactions, in seeking to achieve its investment objective or for other reasons, such as cash management, financing activities or to hedge its positions. Accordingly, Derivatives may be used in limited instances as a form of leverage or to seek to enhance returns, including speculation on changes in credit spreads, interest rates or other characteristics of the market, individual securities or groups of securities. If the Fund invests in a Derivative for speculative purposes, which the Fund does not initially intend to do, the Fund will be fully exposed to the risks of loss of that Derivative, which may sometimes be greater than the Derivative's cost. The use of Derivatives may involve substantial leverage. The use of Derivatives may subject the Fund to the following risks, including but not limited to:

Credit Risk that the risk that the counterparty in a Derivative transaction will be unable to honor its financial obligation to the Fund, or the risk that the reference entity in a credit default swap or similar Derivative will not be able to honor its financial obligations. Certain participants in the Derivatives market, including larger financial institutions, have recently experienced significant financial hardship and deteriorating credit conditions. If the Fund's counterparty to a Derivative transaction experiences a loss of capital, or is perceived to lack adequate capital or access to capital, it may experience margin calls or other regulatory requirements to increase equity. Under such circumstances, the risk that a counterparty will be unable to honor its obligations may increase substantially. If a counterparty becomes bankrupt or otherwise fails to perform its obligations under a derivative contract, the Fund may experience significant delays in obtaining any recovery under the derivative contract in bankruptcy or other reorganization proceeding. The Fund may obtain only a limited recovery or may obtain no recovery in such circumstances.

Currency Risk the risk that changes in the exchange rate between two currencies will adversely affect the value (in U.S. dollar terms) of an investment.

Leverage Risk the risk associated with certain types of Derivative strategies that relatively small market movements may result in large changes in the value of an investment. Certain investments or trading strategies that involve leverage can result in losses that greatly exceed the amount originally invested.

Liquidity Risk the risk that certain securities may be difficult or impossible to sell at the time that the seller would like or at the price that the seller believes the security is currently worth. This risk is heightened to the extent the Fund engages in OTC Derivative transactions.

Correlation Risk the risk that changes in the value of a Derivative will not match the changes in the value of the portfolio holdings that are being hedged or of the particular market, security or loan to which the Fund seeks exposure.

Index Risk if the Derivative is linked to the performance of an index, it will be subject to the risks associated with changes in that index. If the index changes, the Fund could receive lower interest payments or experience a reduction in the value of the Derivative to below what the Fund paid. Certain indexed securities, including inverse securities (which move in an opposite direction to the index), may create leverage, to the extent that they increase or decrease in value at a rate that is a multiple of the changes in the applicable index.

Regulatory Risk various legislative and regulatory initiatives may impact the availability, liquidity and cost of derivative instruments, including potentially limiting or restricting the ability of the Fund to use certain derivative instruments or certain counterparties as a part of its investment strategy, increasing the costs of using these instruments or making these instruments less effective. See "Risk Factors Legislation and Regulation Risks".

Table of Contents

Other Risks Relating to Fund Investments

Risks Associated with Investments in Equity Securities Incidental to Investments in Senior Loans

From time to time, the Fund also may invest in or hold common stock and other equity securities incidental to the purchase or ownership of a Senior Loan or other debt instruments or in connection with a reorganization of a Borrower. Investments in equity securities incidental to investments in Senior Loans or other debt instruments entail certain risks in addition to those associated with investments in Senior Loans or other debt instruments. Because equity is merely the residual value of an issuer after all claims and other interests, it is inherently more risky than Senior Loans or other debt instruments of the same Borrower. The value of the equity securities may be affected more rapidly, and to a greater extent, by company-specific developments and general market conditions. These risks may increase fluctuations in the Fund's net asset value. The Fund frequently may possess material non-public information about a Borrower as a result of its ownership of a Senior Loan or other debt instruments of a Borrower. Because of prohibitions on trading in securities while in possession of material non-public information, the Fund might be unable to enter into a transaction in a security of the Borrower when it would otherwise be advantageous to do so.

Short Sales Risk

The Fund may, from time to time, engage in short sales. A short sale is a transaction in which the Fund sells an instrument that it does not own in anticipation that the market price will decline. To deliver the securities to the buyer, the Fund arranges through a broker to borrow the securities and, in so doing, the Fund becomes obligated to replace the securities borrowed at their market price at the time of replacement. When selling short, the Fund intends to replace the securities at a lower price and therefore, profit from the difference between the cost to replace the securities and the proceeds received from the sale of the securities. When the Fund makes a short sale, the proceeds it receives from the sale will be held on behalf of a broker until the Fund replaces the borrowed securities. The Fund may have to pay a premium to borrow the securities and must pay any dividends or interest payable on the securities until they are replaced. The Fund's obligation to replace the securities borrowed in connection with a short sale will be secured by collateral deposited with the broker that consists of cash and/or liquid securities. In addition, the Fund will place in a segregated account an amount of cash and/or liquid securities equal to the difference, if any, between (i) the market value of the securities sold at the time they were sold short, and (ii) any cash and/or liquid securities deposited as collateral with the broker in connection with the short sale. Short sales involve certain risks and special considerations. If the Fund incorrectly predicts that the price of the borrowed security will decline, the Fund will have to replace the securities with securities with a greater value than the amount received from the sale. As a result, losses from short sales differ from losses that could be incurred from a purchase of a security, because losses from short sales may be unlimited, whereas losses from purchases can equal only the total amount invested.

Warrants Risk

Warrants give holders the right, but not the obligation, to buy common stock of an issuer at a given price, usually higher than the market price at the time of issuance, during a specified period. The risk of investing in a warrant is that the warrant may expire prior to the market value of the common stock exceeding the price fixed by the warrant. Warrants have a subordinate claim on a borrower's assets compared with Senior Loans. As a result, the values of warrants generally are dependent on the financial condition of the borrower and less dependent on fluctuations in interest rates than are the values of many debt securities. The values of warrants may be more volatile than those of Senior Loans or Corporate Bonds and this may increase the volatility of the Fund's NAV of the Common Shares.

Table of Contents

Lender Liability Risk

A number of U.S. judicial decisions have upheld judgments of borrowers against lending institutions on the basis of various evolving legal theories, collectively termed "lender liability". Generally, lender liability is founded on the premise that a lender has violated a duty (whether implied or contractual) of good faith, commercial reasonableness and fair dealing, or a similar duty owed to the Borrower or has assumed an excessive degree of control over the Borrower resulting in the creation of a fiduciary duty owed to the Borrower or its other creditors or shareholders. Because of the nature of its investments, the Fund may be subject to allegations of lender liability.

In addition, under common law principles that in some cases form the basis for lender liability claims, if a lender or bondholder (i) intentionally takes an action that results in the undercapitalization of a Borrower to the detriment of other creditors of such Borrower; (ii) engages in inequitable conduct to the detriment of the other creditors; (iii) engages in fraud with respect to, or makes misrepresentations to, the other creditors; or (iv) uses its influence as a stockholder to dominate or control a Borrower to the detriment of other creditors of the Borrower, a court may elect to subordinate the claim of the offending lender or bondholder to the claims of the disadvantaged creditor or creditors, a remedy called "equitable subordination".

Because affiliates of, or persons related to, the Adviser may hold equity or other interests in obligors of the Fund, the Fund could be exposed to claims for equitable subordination or lender liability or both based on such equity or other holdings.

Non-U.S. Securities Risk

The Fund may invest in securities, including Senior Loans and Subordinated Loans, of non-U.S. issuers or Borrowers. These investments involve certain risks not involved in domestic investments and may experience more rapid and extreme changes in value than investments in securities of U.S. companies. Markets for these investments in foreign countries often are not as developed, efficient or liquid as similar markets in the United States, and therefore, the prices of non-U.S. securities may be more volatile. Certain foreign countries may impose restrictions on the ability of issuers of non-U.S. securities to make payments of principal and interest to investors located outside the country, whether from currency blockage or otherwise. In addition, the Fund will be subject to risks associated with adverse political and economic developments in foreign countries, including seizure or nationalization of foreign deposits, different legal systems and laws relating to creditors' rights and the potential inability to enforce legal judgments, all of which could cause the Fund to lose money on its investments in non-U.S. securities. Generally, there is less readily available and reliable information about non-U.S. issuers or Borrowers due to less rigorous disclosure or accounting standards and regulatory practices. The ability of a foreign sovereign issuer to make timely payments on its debt obligations will also be strongly influenced by the sovereign issuer's balance of payments, including export performance, its access to international credit facilities and investments, fluctuations of interest rates and the extent of its foreign reserves. The cost of servicing external debt generally will also be adversely affected by rising international interest rates, as many external debt obligations bear interest at rates that are adjusted based upon international interest rates. Because non-U.S. securities may trade on days when the Fund's common shares are not traded on the NYSE, the market value or net asset value of the Fund's shares can change at times when the Fund's common shares cannot be sold. Investments in so-called "emerging markets" (or lesser developed countries) are particularly speculative and entail all of the risks of investing in Non-U.S. Securities but to a heightened degree. Compared to developed countries, emerging market countries may have relatively unstable governments, economies based on only a few industries and securities markets that trade a small number of securities. Securities issued by companies located in emerging market countries tend to be especially volatile and may be less liquid than securities traded in developed countries.

Table of Contents

Foreign Currency Risk

Because the Fund may invest in securities denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar, changes in foreign currency exchange rates may affect the value of securities in the Fund and the unrealized appreciation or depreciation of investments. Currencies of certain countries may be volatile and therefore may affect the value of securities denominated in such currencies, which means that the Fund's net asset value could decline as a result of changes in the exchange rates between foreign currencies and the U.S. dollar. The Adviser may, but is not required to, elect for the Fund to seek to protect itself from changes in currency exchange rates through hedging transactions depending on market conditions. The Fund may incur costs in connection with the conversions between various currencies. In addition, certain countries may impose foreign currency exchange controls or other restrictions on the repatriation, transferability or convertibility of currency.

Repurchase Agreements and Reverse Repurchase Agreements Risk

Repurchase agreements carry certain risks not associated with direct investments in securities, including a possible decline in the market value of the underlying obligations. If their value becomes less than the repurchase price, plus any agreed-upon additional amount, the counterparty must provide additional collateral so that at all times the collateral is at least equal to the repurchase price plus any agreed-upon additional amount. The difference between the total amount to be received upon repurchase of the obligations and the price that was paid by the Fund upon acquisition is accrued as interest and included in its net investment income.

Repurchase agreements involving obligations other than U.S. Government securities (such as commercial paper and Corporate Bonds) may be subject to special risks and may not have the benefit of certain protections in the event of the counterparty's insolvency. In the event of the bankruptcy or other default of a seller of a repurchase agreement, the Fund could experience both delays in liquidating the underlying securities and losses, including (1) possible decline in the value of the underlying security during the period in which the Fund seeks to enforce its rights thereto; (2) possible lack of access to income on the underlying security during this period; and (3) expenses of enforcing its rights.

Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the buyer of the securities sold by the Fund might be unable to deliver them when the Fund seeks to repurchase. In the event that the buyer of securities under a reverse repurchase agreement files for bankruptcy or becomes insolvent, the buyer, trustee or receiver may receive an extension of time to determine whether to enforce the Fund's obligation to repurchase the securities, and the Fund's use of the proceeds of the reverse repurchase agreement may effectively be restricted pending such decision.

U.S. Government Debt Securities Risk

U.S. Government debt securities historically have not involved the credit risks associated with investments in other types of debt securities, although, as a result, the yields available from U.S. Government debt securities are generally lower than the yields available from other securities. Like other debt securities, however, the values of U.S. Government securities change as interest rates fluctuate and in 2011 the credit rating of the United States was downgraded. Fluctuations in the value of portfolio securities will not affect interest income on existing portfolio securities but will be reflected in the Fund's net asset value. Because the magnitude of these fluctuations will generally be greater at times when the Fund's average maturity is longer, under certain market conditions, the Fund may, for temporary defensive purposes, accept lower current income from short-term investments rather than investing in higher yielding long-term securities.

Table of Contents

Risks Associated with Market Developments and Regulatory Changes

Market Developments Risk

Severe disruptions in global capital markets over the past five years and the continued impact of the financial crisis of 2008 and the more recent sovereign debt and banking issues in Europe may influence the Fund's performance. Beginning in 2007, the global capital markets were in a period of disruption evidenced by a lack of liquidity in the debt capital markets, significant write-offs in the financial services sector, the re-pricing of credit risk in the broadly syndicated credit market and the failure of certain major financial institutions and have remained as such through the date of this prospectus. Despite actions of the United States federal government and foreign governments, these events have contributed to general economic conditions that are materially and adversely impacting the broader financial and credit markets and reducing the availability of debt and equity capital for the market as a whole and financial services firms in particular. These conditions could continue for a prolonged period of time or worsen in the future. While these conditions persist, the capital markets, and, in particular, the market for debt obligations, may be subject to heightened volatility, increased risks of default, periods of illiquidity and other situations adverse to investors.

Instability in the credit markets has made it more difficult at certain times for a number of issuers of debt securities to obtain financing or refinancing for their investment or lending activities or operations. In particular, because of volatile conditions in the credit markets, issuers of debt securities may be subject to increased cost for debt, tightening underwriting standards and reduced liquidity for loans they make, securities they purchase and securities they issue. Certain Borrowers may, due to macroeconomic conditions, be unable to repay their Senior Loans or other debt obligations because of these conditions. A Borrower's failure to satisfy financial or operating covenants imposed by lenders could lead to defaults and, potentially, termination of the Senior Loans and foreclosure on the underlying secured assets, which could trigger cross-defaults under other agreements and jeopardize a Borrower's ability to meet its obligations under its debt securities. The Fund may incur expenses to the extent necessary to seek recovery upon default or to negotiate new terms with a defaulting Borrower. The Fund may also experience a loss of principal.

These developments also (i) may make it more difficult for the Fund to accurately value its portfolio securities or to sell its portfolio securities on a timely basis; (ii) could adversely affect the ability of the Fund to use leverage for investment purposes and increase the cost of such leverage, which would reduce returns to the common shareholders; and (iii) may adversely affect the broader economy, which in turn may adversely affect the ability of issuers of securities owned by the Fund to make payments of principal and interest when due, lead to lower credit ratings of the issuer and increased defaults by the issuer. Such developments could, in turn, reduce the value of securities owned by the Fund and adversely affect the net asset value and market price of the Fund's common shares.

Government Intervention in the Financial Markets Risk

The recent instability in the financial markets has led the U.S. Government, the Federal Reserve and other governments and central banks around the world to take a number of unprecedented actions designed to support certain financial institutions and segments of the financial markets that have experienced extreme volatility, and in some cases a lack of liquidity. Federal, state, and other governments, their regulatory agencies or self-regulatory organizations may take additional actions that affect the regulation of the securities, debt instruments or structured products in which the Fund invests, or the issuers of such securities or structured products, in ways that are unforeseeable. The Adviser will monitor developments and seek to manage the Fund's portfolio in a manner consistent with achieving the Fund's investment objective, but there can be no assurance that it will be successful in doing so. Governments or their agencies may also acquire distressed assets from financial institutions and acquire ownership interests in those institutions. The implications of government ownership and

Table of Contents

disposition of these assets are unclear, and such programs may have positive or negative effects on the liquidity, valuation and performance of the Fund's portfolio holdings. Furthermore, volatile financial markets can expose the Fund to greater market and liquidity risk and potential difficulty in valuing portfolio instruments held by the Fund. The Adviser will monitor developments and seek to manage the Fund's portfolio in a manner consistent with achieving the Fund's investment objective, but there can be no assurance that it will be successful in doing so.

Legislation and Regulation Risk

On July 21, 2010, the President signed into law major financial services reform legislation in the form of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act"). The Dodd-Frank Act, among other things, grants regulatory authorities such as the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") and SEC broad rulemaking authority to implement various provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act, including comprehensive regulation of the over-the-counter derivatives market. It is unclear how these regulators will exercise these revised and expanded powers and whether they will undertake rulemaking, supervisory or enforcement actions that would adversely affect the Fund or investments made by the Fund. Possible regulatory actions taken under these revised and expanded powers may include actions related to financial consumer protection, proprietary trading and derivatives. While some regulations have been adopted, a number of important rulemakings have not yet been completed and there can be no assurance that future regulatory actions authorized by the Dodd-Frank Act will not significantly reduce the revenues of the Fund. The implementation of the Dodd-Frank Act could adversely affect the Fund by increasing transaction and/or regulatory compliance costs and may impact the availability, liquidity and cost of derivative instruments, including potentially limiting or restricting the ability of the Fund to use certain derivative instruments or certain counterparties as a part of its investment strategy, increasing the costs of using these instruments or making these instruments less effective. In addition, greater regulatory scrutiny may increase the Fund's and the Adviser's exposure to potential liabilities. Increased regulatory oversight can also impose administrative burdens on the Fund and the Adviser, including, without limitation, responding to examinations or investigations and implementing new policies and procedures.

In connection with an ongoing review by the SEC and its staff of the regulation of investment companies' use of derivatives, on August 31, 2011, the SEC issued a concept release to seek public comment on a wide range of issues raised by the use of derivatives by investment companies. The SEC noted that it intends to consider the comments to help determine whether regulatory initiatives or guidance are needed to improve the current regulatory regime for investment companies and, if so, the nature of any such initiatives or guidance. While the nature of any such regulations or interpretations is uncertain at this time, it is possible that such regulations could limit the implementation of the Fund's use of derivatives, which could have an adverse impact on the Fund. Neither the Fund nor the Adviser can predict the effects of these regulations or interpretations on the Fund's portfolio. The Adviser intends to monitor developments and seek to manage the Fund's portfolio in a manner consistent with achieving the Fund's investment objective, but there can be no assurance that they will be successful in doing so.

At any time after the date of this prospectus, legislation may be enacted that could negatively affect the assets of the Fund or the issuers of such assets. Changing approaches to regulation may have a negative impact on the entities in which the Fund invests. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. There can be no assurance that future legislation, regulation or deregulation will not have a material adverse effect on the Fund or will not impair the ability of the Fund to achieve its investment objective.

Table of Contents

Risks Associated with Recent Commodity Futures Trading Commission Rulemaking

On February 9, 2012, the CFTC adopted amendments to its rules that, by the applicable compliance date (which is not yet determinable), may cause the Fund to fall within the definition of "commodity pool" under the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA") and require the Adviser to register with the CFTC as a "commodity pool operator". If the Fund does not claim an exclusion from CFTC registration, the Fund believes that the Adviser would likely become subject to registration and regulation as a commodity pool operator with respect to the Fund. The Fund may incur additional expenses as a result of the CFTC's regulatory requirements. If, in the alternative, the Fund elects to claim an exclusion from the definition of the term commodity pool operator pursuant to Section 4.5 of the CFTC's Rules, then the Fund would be limited in its ability to use futures or options on futures or engage in swap transactions. The impact of the rule changes on the operations of the Fund and the Adviser is not fully known at this time as it is dependent upon, among other things, the outcome of other pending CFTC rulemakings and a court challenge to certain of the rule changes adopted by the CFTC earlier this year. The Fund and the Adviser are continuing to analyze the effect of these rule changes on the Fund.

Market Disruption and Geopolitical Risk

The European sovereign debt crisis, instability in the Middle East, Afghanistan and Pakistan, the aftermath of the war in Iraq, terrorist attacks in the United States and around the world, the impact of natural disasters and other events may result in market volatility, may have long-term adverse effects on the United States and worldwide financial markets and may cause further economic uncertainties in the United States and worldwide. The Fund does not know how long the financial markets may be affected by these events and cannot predict the effects of these events or similar events in the future on the U.S. economy and financial markets. These events could impact interest rates, secondary trading, ratings, credit risk, inflation and other factors relating to an investment in the Fund's common shares. Senior Loans and Corporate Bonds rated below investment grade and investments with similar economic characteristics tend to be more volatile than investment grade fixed income securities and, as a result, these events and other market disruptions may have a greater impact on the prices and volatility of such investments than on investment grade fixed income securities. There can be no assurance that such market disruptions may not have other material and adverse implications for the Senior Loan and Corporate Bond markets or other markets in which we may invest.

Principal Risks Relating to Fund Operations

Leverage Risk

The Fund intends to utilize leverage and may utilize leverage to the maximum extent permitted by law for investment and other general corporate purposes. The Fund may obtain leverage by issuing preferred shares and/or notes and it may also borrow funds from banks and other financial institutions. The Fund may also gain leverage synthetically through swaps and other Derivatives. The use of leverage to purchase additional securities creates an opportunity for increased common share dividends, but also creates risks for the Fund's common shareholders, including increased variability of the Fund's net income, distributions, net asset value and/or market price of its common shares in relation to market changes. Leverage is a speculative technique that exposes the Fund to greater risk and increased costs than if it were not implemented. Increases and decreases in the value of the Fund's portfolio will be magnified if the Fund uses leverage. In particular, leverage may magnify interest rate risk, which is the risk that the prices of portfolio securities will fall (or rise) if market interest rates for those types of securities rise (or fall). As a result, leverage may cause greater changes in the Fund's net asset value, which will be borne entirely by the Fund's common shareholders, and in the price at which its common shares trade in the secondary market. To the extent that the Fund makes investments in Senior Loans or other debt instruments structured with LIBOR floors, the Fund will not realize

Table of Contents

additional income if rates increase to levels below the LIBOR floor but the Fund's cost of financing is expected to increase, resulting in the potential for a decrease in the level of income available for dividends or distributions made by the Fund. If the Fund issues preferred shares and/or notes or engages in other borrowings, it will have to pay dividends on its preferred shares or interest on its notes or borrowings, which will increase expenses and may reduce the Fund's return. These dividend payments or interest expenses (which will be borne entirely by common shareholders) may be greater than the Fund's return on the underlying investments. The Fund's leveraging strategy, if utilized, may not be successful.

The Fund may issue preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness as a form of leverage. These means of obtaining leverage would be senior to the Fund's common shares, such that holders of preferred shares and/or notes or other Fund indebtedness would have priority over the common shareholders in the distribution of the Fund's assets, including dividends, distributions of principal and liquidating distributions. If preferred shares are issued and outstanding, holders of preferred shares would vote together with the holders of common shares on all matters, including the election of directors. Additionally, holders of preferred shares would have the right separately to elect two directors of the Fund, voting separately as a class, and would vote separately as a class on certain matters which may at times give holders of preferred shares disproportionate influence over the Fund's affairs. If the preferred shares were limited in their term, redemptions of such preferred shares would require the Fund to liquidate its investments and would reduce the Fund's use of leverage, which could negatively impact common shareholders. In addition, if the Fund elects to issue preferred shares and/or notes (or other forms of indebtedness) its ability to make distributions to its common shareholders or to repurchase its stock will be limited by the asset coverage requirements and other limitations imposed by the Investment Company Act and the Fund's lenders.

The Fund will pay (and common shareholders will bear) all costs and expenses relating to the issuance and ongoing maintenance of any preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness issued by the Fund, including higher advisory fees. As a result, the Fund cannot assure you that the issuance of preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness will provide a higher yield or return to the holders of the Fund's common shares. If the Fund offers and/or issues preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness, the costs of the offering will be borne immediately by the Fund's common shareholders and result in a reduction of the net asset value of the Fund's common shares.

The Fund anticipates that any money borrowed from a bank or other financial institution for investment purposes will accrue interest based on shorter-term interest rates that would be periodically reset. So long as the Fund's portfolio provides a higher rate of return, net of expenses, than the interest rate on borrowed money, as reset periodically, the leverage may cause common shareholders to receive a higher current rate of return than if the Fund were not leveraged. If, however, long-term and/or short-term rates rise, the interest rate on borrowed money could exceed the rate of return on securities held by the Fund, reducing returns to common shareholders. Developments in the credit markets may adversely affect the ability of the Fund to borrow for investment purposes and may increase the costs of such borrowings, which would reduce returns to common shareholders.

There is no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful. Leverage involves risks and special considerations for common shareholders, including:

the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value, market price and dividend rate of common shares than a comparable portfolio without leverage;

the risk that fluctuations in interest rates on borrowings or in dividend payments on, principal proceeds distributed to, or redemption of any preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness that the Fund has issued will reduce the return to the common shareholders;

Table of Contents

the effect of leverage in a declining market, which is likely to cause a greater decline in the net asset value of the Fund's common shares than if the Fund were not leveraged, which may result in a greater decline in the market price of the Fund's common shares:

when the Fund uses financial leverage, the investment advisory fees payable to the Adviser will be higher than if the Fund did not use leverage, and may provide a financial incentive to the Adviser to increase the Fund's use of leverage and create an inherent conflict of interest; and

leverage may increase expenses (which will be borne entirely by common shareholders), which may reduce total return.

If the Fund issues preferred shares and/or notes or other forms of indebtedness, the Fund may be subject to certain restrictions on investments imposed by the guidelines of one or more rating agencies, which may issue ratings for the preferred shares and/or notes or short-term debt securities issued by the Fund, or may be subject to covenants or other restrictions imposed by its lenders. These guidelines may impose asset coverage or portfolio composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed by the Investment Company Act. Certain types of borrowings by the Fund may result in the Fund being subject to covenants relating to asset coverage and portfolio composition requirements. These covenants and restrictions may negatively affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Valuation Risk

The Fund utilizes independent pricing services approved by the Board of Directors to value certain portfolio instruments at their market value. If the pricing services are unable to provide a market value or if a significant event occurs such that the valuation(s) provided are deemed unreliable, the Fund may value portfolio instrument(s) at their fair value, which is generally the amount an owner might reasonably expect to receive upon a current sale. Valuation risks associated with investing in Senior Loans including, but not limited to: a limited number of market participants compared to publicly traded investment grade securities, a lack of publicly available information about some borrowers, resale restrictions, settlement delays, corporate actions and adverse market conditions may make it difficult to value or sell such instruments. Because non-U.S. instruments may trade on days when common shares are not priced, net asset value can change at times when common shares cannot be sold.

New Adviser Risk

The Adviser is a newly organized entity with no operating history. The Adviser's sole assets under management initially will be the assets raised in connection with the initial public offering of the Fund's common shares. The Adviser is an affiliate of Ares and leverages off of Ares' entire investment platform and benefits from the significant capital markets, trading and research expertise of all of Ares' investment professionals. Founded in 1997, Ares is a global alternative asset manager and SEC registered investment adviser with approximately \$52 billion of total committed capital under management and approximately 500 employees as of March 31, 2012. Ares has approximately 240 investment professionals covering current investments in approximately 1,100 companies across over 30 industries as of March 31, 2012. The Fund's portfolio management team is comprised of members of Ares' Capital Markets Group.

Key Personnel Risk

The Adviser depends on the diligence, skill and network of business contacts of certain Ares Capital Markets Group professionals. The Adviser also depends, to a significant extent, on access to other investment professionals within Ares and the information and deal flow generated by these investment professionals in the course of their investment and portfolio management activities. The

Table of Contents

Fund's success depends on the continued service of such personnel. The Adviser has informed the Fund that the investment professionals associated with the Adviser are actively involved in other investment activities not concerning the Fund and will not be able to devote all of their time to the Fund's business and affairs. The departure of any of the senior managers of the Adviser, or of a significant number of the investment professionals or partners of the Adviser's affiliates, could have a material adverse effect on the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. Individuals not currently associated with the Adviser may become associated with the Fund and the performance of the Fund may also depend on the experience and expertise of such individuals. In addition, there is no assurance that the Adviser will remain the Fund's investment adviser or that the Adviser will continue to have access to the investment professionals and partners of its affiliates and the information and deal flow generated by the investment professionals of its affiliates.

Potential Conflicts of Interest Risk Allocation of Investment Opportunities

The Adviser has adopted allocation procedures that are intended to ensure that each fund or account managed by Ares ("Ares-advised funds") is treated in a manner that, over a period of time, is fair and equitable. Certain existing Ares-advised funds have, and future Ares-advised funds may have, investment objectives similar to those of the Fund, and such Ares-advised funds will invest in asset classes similar to those targeted by the Fund. Certain other existing Ares-advised funds do not, and future Ares-advised funds may not, have similar investment objectives, but such Ares-Advised funds may from time to time invest in asset classes similar to those targeted by the Fund. The Adviser will endeavor to allocate investment opportunities in a fair and equitable manner, and in any event consistent with any fiduciary duties owed to the Fund and other clients and in an effort to avoid favoring one client over another and taking into account all relevant facts and circumstances, including (without limitation): (i) differences with respect to available capital, size of client, and remaining life of a client; (ii) differences in investment objectives or current investment strategies, including regarding: (a) current and total return objectives, (b) emphasizing or limiting exposure to the security or type of security in question, (c) diversification, including industry or company exposure, currency and jurisdiction, or (d) credit ratings; (iii) differences in risk profile at the time an opportunity becomes available; (iv) the potential transaction and other costs of allocating an opportunity among various clients; (v) potential conflicts of interest, including whether a client has an existing investment in the security in question or the issuer of such security; (vi) the nature of the security or the transaction including minimum investment amounts and the source of the opportunity; (vii) current and anticipated market and general economic conditions; (viii) existing positions in a Borrower/loan/security; and (ix) prior positions in a Borrower/loan/security. Nevertheless, it is possible that the Fund may not be given the opportunity to participate in certain investments made by investment funds managed by investment managers affiliated with the Adviser. In the event investment opportunities are allocated among the Fund and the other Ares-advised funds, the Fund may not be able to structure its investment portfolio in the manner desired.

Furthermore, the Fund and the other Ares-advised funds may make investments in securities where the prevailing trading activity may make impossible the receipt of the same price or execution on the entire volume of securities purchased or sold by the Fund and the other Ares-advised funds. When this occurs, the various prices may be averaged, and the Fund will be charged or credited with the average price. Thus, the effect of the aggregation may operate on some occasions to the disadvantage of the Fund. In addition, under certain circumstances, the Fund may not be charged the same commission or commission equivalent rates in connection with a bunched or aggregated order.

It is likely that the other Ares-advised funds may make investments in the same or similar securities at different times and on different terms than the Fund. The Fund and the other Ares-advised funds may make investments at different levels of a Borrower's capital structure or otherwise in different classes of a Borrower's securities. Such investments may inherently give rise to

Table of Contents

conflicts of interest or perceived conflicts of interest between or among the various classes of securities that may be held by such entities. Conflicts may also arise because portfolio decisions regarding the Fund may benefit the other Ares-advised funds. For example, the sale of a long position or establishment of a short position by the Fund may impair the price of the same security sold short by (and therefore benefit) one or more Ares-advised funds, and the purchase of a security or covering of a short position in a security by the Fund may increase the price of the same security held by (and therefore benefit) one or more Ares-advised funds.

The Adviser, its affiliates and their clients may pursue or enforce rights with respect to an issuer in which the Fund has invested, and those activities may have an adverse effect on the Fund. As a result, prices, availability, liquidity and terms of the Fund's investments may be negatively impacted by the activities of the Adviser and its affiliates or their clients, and transactions for the Fund may be impaired or effected at prices or terms that may be less favorable than would otherwise have been the case.

The Adviser is paid a fee based on a percentage of the Fund's Managed Assets. The Adviser may have a conflict of interest in deciding whether to cause the Fund to incur leverage or to invest in more speculative investments or financial instruments, thereby potentially increasing the assets of the Fund and, accordingly, the fees received by the Adviser. Certain other Ares-advised funds pay the Adviser or its affiliates performance-based compensation, which could create an incentive for the Adviser or affiliate to favor such investment fund or account over the Fund. See "Conflicts of Interest" for an additional discussion of the types of conflicts of interest to which the operations of the Fund may be subject.

Potential Conflicts of Interest Risk Allocation of Personnel

The Fund's executive officers and directors, and the employees of the Adviser, serve or may serve as officers, directors or principals of entities that operate in the same or a related line of business as the Fund or of investment funds or accounts managed by the Adviser or its affiliates. As a result, they may have obligations to investors in those entities, the fulfillment of which might not be in the best interests of the Fund or its shareholders. Additionally, certain personnel of the Adviser and its management may face conflicts in their time management and commitments. See "Conflicts of Interest" for an additional discussion of the types of conflicts of interest to which the operations of the Fund may be subject.

Potential Conflicts of Interest Risk Lack of Information Barriers

By reason of the various activities of the Adviser and its affiliates, the Adviser and such affiliates may acquire confidential or material non-public information or otherwise be restricted from purchasing certain potential Fund investments that otherwise might have been purchased or be restricted from selling certain Fund investments that might otherwise have been sold at the time. See "Conflicts of Interest" for an additional discussion of the types of conflicts of interest to which the operations of the Fund may be subject.

Limitations on Transactions with Affiliates Risk

The Investment Company Act limits the Fund's ability to enter into certain transactions with certain of its affiliates. As a result of these restrictions, the Fund may be prohibited from buying or selling any security directly from or to any portfolio company of a registered investment company or private equity fund managed by Ares or any of its affiliates. The Investment Company Act also prohibits certain "joint" transactions with certain of the Fund's affiliates, which could include investments in the same portfolio company (whether at the same or different times). These limitations may limit the scope of investment opportunities that would otherwise be available to the Fund.

Table of Contents

Non-Diversification Risk

The Fund is classified as "non-diversified" under the Investment Company Act. As a result, it can invest a greater portion of its assets in obligations of a single issuer