

# BARON FOCUSED GROWTH FUND

September 30, 2020

Institutional Shares (BFGIX)



## Portfolio Managers

Ron Baron is Baron Capital's founder, chairman, and CEO. He has 50 years of research and investment experience.

David Baron joined Baron in 2005 as a research analyst and was named co-portfolio manager of Baron Focused Growth Fund in 2018. He has 18 years of research experience.

Please visit our website for details on their experience and education.

## Investment Principles

- Long-term perspective allows us to think like an owner of a business
- Independent and exhaustive research is essential to understanding the long-term fundamental growth prospects of a business
- We seek appropriately capitalized open-ended growth opportunities, exceptional leadership, and sustainable competitive advantages
- Purchase price and risk management are integral to our investment process

## Investment Strategy

This is a focused Fund that invests mainly in small- and mid-sized U.S. companies with significant growth potential. A substantial percentage of the Fund's assets are in its top 10 holdings. Non-diversified.

| Value | Blend | Growth |        |
|-------|-------|--------|--------|
|       |       |        | Large  |
|       |       |        | Medium |
|       |       |        | Small  |

## Portfolio Facts and Characteristics

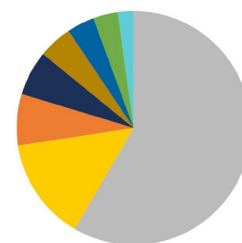
|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Inception Date                             | May 31, 1996                |
| Net Assets                                 | \$477.83 million            |
| # of Equity Securities / % of Net Assets   | 19 / 95.3%                  |
| Turnover (3 Year Average)                  | 7.48%                       |
| Active Share                               | 98.7%                       |
| Median Market Cap <sup>2</sup>             | \$9.01 billion              |
| Weighted Average Market Cap <sup>2</sup>   | \$161.56 billion            |
| <b>As of FYE 12/31/2019</b>                | <b>Institutional Shares</b> |
| CUSIP                                      | 06828M504                   |
| Gross Expense Ratio                        | 1.11%                       |
| Less: Reimbursement of Expenses by Adviser | (0.01)%                     |
| Net Expense Ratio                          | 1.10%                       |

Retail and R6 Shares are also available for this Fund.

## Top 10 Holdings

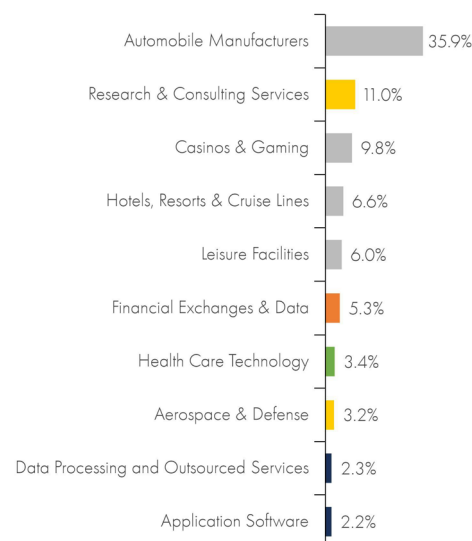
|                                      | % of Net Assets |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Tesla, Inc.                          | 35.9            |
| CoStar Group, Inc.                   | 11.0            |
| Penn National Gaming, Inc.           | 9.1             |
| Vail Resorts, Inc.                   | 6.0             |
| FactSet Research Systems, Inc.       | 5.3             |
| Hyatt Hotels Corp.                   | 3.8             |
| Space Exploration Technologies Corp. | 3.2             |
| Choice Hotels International, Inc.    | 2.8             |
| Adyen N.V.                           | 2.3             |
| Guidewire Software, Inc.             | 2.2             |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>81.6</b>     |

## GICS Sector Breakdown<sup>1</sup>



|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Consumer Discretionary  | 58.4% |
| Industrials             | 14.2% |
| Financials              | 7.1%  |
| Information Technology  | 6.2%  |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents | 4.7%  |
| Communication Services  | 3.8%  |
| Health Care             | 3.4%  |
| Real Estate             | 2.2%  |

## Top GICS Sub-Industry Breakdown<sup>1</sup>



Colors of Sub-Industry bars correspond to sector chart above.

## Risks

**Risks:** The Fund is non-diversified, which increases volatility of the Fund's returns and exposes it to greater risk of loss in any given period. Specific risks associated with investing in small and medium-sized companies include that the securities may be thinly traded and more difficult to sell during market downturns.



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## Historical Performance(Calendar Year %)

| Year | BFGIX | Russell 2500 Growth Index | S&P 500 Index |
|------|-------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 2011 | -1.11 | -1.57                     | 2.11          |
| 2012 | 16.17 | 16.13                     | 16.00         |
| 2013 | 26.09 | 40.65                     | 32.39         |
| 2014 | 2.54  | 7.05                      | 13.69         |
| 2015 | -2.12 | -0.19                     | 1.38          |
| 2016 | 0.97  | 9.73                      | 11.96         |
| 2017 | 26.59 | 24.46                     | 21.83         |
| 2018 | 4.07  | -7.47                     | -4.38         |
| 2019 | 30.33 | 32.65                     | 31.49         |

## Performance Based Characteristics<sup>3</sup>

|                            | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years | Since Inception |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|----------|-----------------|
| Std. Dev. (%) - Annualized | 30.12   | 24.52   | 20.23    | 22.30           |
| Sharpe Ratio               | 1.04    | 0.99    | 0.83     | 0.51            |
| Alpha (%) - Annualized     | 18.95   | 11.65   | 4.57     | 6.85            |
| Beta                       | 1.02    | 0.96    | 0.92     | 0.80            |
| R-Squared (%)              | 59.55   | 57.60   | 64.34    | 64.89           |
| Tracking Error (%)         | 19.16   | 15.98   | 12.15    | 13.92           |
| Information Ratio          | 1.02    | 0.70    | 0.28     | 0.36            |
| Upside Capture (%)         | 142.74  | 125.50  | 103.51   | 96.77           |
| Downside Capture (%)       | 95.16   | 91.11   | 89.03    | 78.67           |

## Performance

|   | Total Return (%) |            |            |       | Annualized Returns (%) |         |         |          |                           | Cumulative Returns (%)    |
|---|------------------|------------|------------|-------|------------------------|---------|---------|----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|   | 3rd Q 2020       | 2nd Q 2020 | 1st Q 2020 | YTD   | 1 Year                 | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years | Since Inception 5/31/1996 | Since Inception 5/31/1996 |
| BFGIX-Institutional Shares                  | 43.70            | 40.67      | -16.74     | 68.31 | 94.32                  | 32.83   | 25.42   | 17.41    | 13.52                     | 2088.95                   |
| Russell 2500 Growth Index                   | 9.37             | 32.87      | -23.22     | 11.58 | 23.37                  | 13.36   | 14.19   | 14.06    | 8.49                      | 626.78                    |
| S&P 500 Index                               | 8.93             | 20.54      | -19.60     | 5.57  | 15.15                  | 12.28   | 14.15   | 13.74    | 8.90                      | 696.46                    |
| Morningstar Mid-Cap Growth Category Average | 10.20            | 30.27      | -20.64     | 15.01 | 24.49                  | 14.68   | 14.28   | 13.22    | N/A                       | N/A                       |

## Top Contributors/Detractors to Performance<sup>2</sup>

### BY SUB-INDUSTRIES<sup>1</sup>

| Top Contributors               | Average Weight(%) | Contribution(%) |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Automobile Manufacturers       | 36.26             | 29.77           |
| Casinos & Gaming               | 7.48              | 7.18            |
| Research & Consulting Services | 11.85             | 2.64            |
| Leisure Facilities             | 6.62              | 1.38            |
| Hotels, Resorts & Cruise Lines | 7.76              | 0.88            |

| Top Detractors         | Average Weight(%) | Contribution(%) |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Movies & Entertainment | 2.03              | -0.19           |
| Application Software   | 2.78              | -0.15           |

### BY HOLDINGS

| Top Contributors           | Average Weight(%) | Contribution(%) |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Tesla, Inc.                | 36.26             | 29.77           |
| Penn National Gaming, Inc. | 6.79              | 6.81            |
| CoStar Group, Inc.         | 11.85             | 2.64            |
| Vail Resorts, Inc.         | 6.62              | 1.38            |
| Adyen N.V.                 | 2.34              | 0.70            |

| Top Detractors           | Average Weight(%) | Contribution(%) |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Manchester United plc    | 2.03              | -0.19           |
| Guidewire Software, Inc. | 2.78              | -0.15           |

The performance data quoted represents past performance. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate; an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. The Adviser reimburses certain Baron Fund expenses pursuant to a contract expiring on August 29, 2031, unless renewed for another 11-year term and the Fund's transfer agency expenses may be reduced by expense offsets from an unaffiliated transfer agent, without which performance would have been lower. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. For performance information current to the most recent month end, visit [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com) or call 1-800-99BARON. Investors should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the Fund carefully before investing. The prospectus and summary prospectus contain this and other information about the Fund and can be obtained from the Fund's distributor, Baron Capital, Inc., by calling 1-800-99BARON or visiting [www.BaronFunds.com](http://www.BaronFunds.com). Please read them carefully before investing.

1 - Industry sector or sub-industry group levels are provided from the Global Industry Classification Standard ("GICS"), developed and exclusively owned by MSCI, Inc. ("MSCI") and Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("S&P"). All GICS data is provided "as is" with no warranties. The Adviser may have reclassified/classified certain securities in or out of a sub-industry. Such reclassifications are not supported by S&P or MSCI.

2 - Source: FactSet PA and BAMCO.

3 - Source: FactSet SPAR. Except for Standard Deviation and Sharpe Ratio, the performance based characteristics above were calculated relative to the Fund's benchmark.

The Fund may not achieve its objectives. Portfolio holdings may change over time.

Performance for the Institutional Shares prior to 5/29/2009 is based on the performance of the Retail Shares, which have a distribution fee. The Institutional Shares do not have a distribution fee. If the annual returns for the Institutional Shares prior to 5/29/2009 did not reflect this fee, the returns would be higher.

Definitions (provided by BAMCO, Inc.): The indexes are unmanaged. The **Russell 2500™ Growth Index** measures the performance of small to medium-sized U.S. companies that are classified as growth, and the **S&P 500 Index** of 500 widely held large-cap U.S. companies. The indexes and the Fund are with dividends, which positively impact the performance results. Russell Investment Group is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. Russell is a trademark of Russell Investment Group. Morningstar calculates the **Morningstar US Fund Mid-Cap Growth Category Average** using its Fractional Weighting methodology. © 2020 Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The Morningstar information contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. **Standard Deviation (Std. Dev.)**: measures the degree to which a fund's performance has varied from its average performance over a particular time period. The greater the standard deviation, the greater a fund's volatility (risk). **Sharpe Ratio**: is a risk-adjusted performance statistic that measures reward per unit of risk. The higher the Sharpe ratio, the better a fund's risk adjusted performance. **Alpha**: measures the difference between a fund's actual returns and its expected performance, given its level of risk as measured by beta. **Beta**: measures a fund's sensitivity to market movements. The beta of the market is 1.00 by definition. **R-Squared**: measures how closely a fund's performance correlates to the performance of the benchmark index, and thus is a measurement of what portion of its performance can be explained by the performance of the index. Values for R-Squared range from 0 to 100, where 0 indicates no correlation and 100 indicates perfect correlation. **Tracking Error**: measures how closely a fund's return follows the benchmark index returns. It is calculated as the annualized standard deviation of the difference between the fund and the index returns. **Information Ratio**: measures the excess return of a fund divided by the amount of risk the fund takes relative to the benchmark index. The higher the information ratio, the higher the excess return expected of the fund, given the amount of risk involved. **Upside Capture**: explains how well a fund performs in time periods where the benchmark's returns are greater than zero. **Downside Capture**: explains how well a fund performs in time periods where the benchmark's returns are less than zero. **Active Share**: a term used to describe the share of a portfolio's holdings that differ from that portfolio's benchmark index. It is calculated by comparing the weight of each holding in the Fund to that holding's weight in the benchmark. Positions with either a positive or negative weighting versus the benchmark have Active Share. An Active Share of 100% implies zero overlap with the benchmark. Active Share was introduced in 2006 in a study by Yale academics, M. Cremers and A. Petajisto, as a measure of active portfolio management.

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