# Vermeer Global Fund

December 2019



## Investment Objective

The aim of the fund is to generate long term capital growth. The fund invests in a diversified portfolio of global equities that have an attractive growth potential. The portfolio will hold between 30 and 60 stocks.

### Rolling Performance - Class A GBP

1 Month 3 Months 6 Months 1 Year 3 Year 2017 2018 2019 ITD

0.98% 2.45% 7.02% 25.90% 46.77% 18.99% -2.03% 25.90% 49.59%
\*\*ITD Date 5th December 2016\*

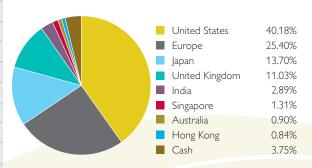
Portfolio Manager	Tim Gregory
Inception Date:	5th December 2016
Base Currency:	Sterling
Dealing:	Daily
Initial Charge:	None
AUM:	£21.9million
Estimated Yield:	1.57%
No. of Holdings:	60
Active Share:	87.2%
Current Available Platforms:	FNZ, Transact, Transact Nominees, Platform Securities,
	RBC, Pershing, Rensburg Nominees, 7IM, Novia, Allfunds,
	Ascentric

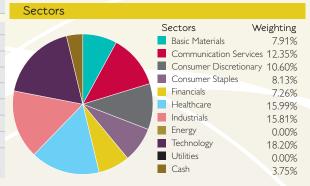
Share Class	AMC	OCF*	Min.Invest	Price
Class A	0.45%	0.70%	£3million	149.585759
Class A1	0.45%	0.70%	\$5million	-
Class A2	0.25%	0.50%	£20million	104.153526
Class A3	0.25%	0.50%	£20million	113.406288
Class B	0.75%	1.00%	£5,000	135.687264
Class B1	0.75%	1.00%	\$7,500	124.583243
Class C	0.75%	1.00%	£5,000	142.817619
				*Ongoing Charge Fee

Full explanation of the Fund's charges can be found on the KIID and Costs & Charges sheet

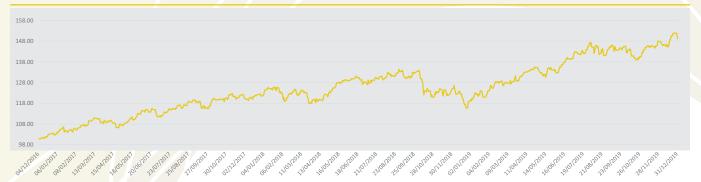
Top 10 Stock Holdings	
Stock	Position
Varta AG	6.44%
Microsoft	4.45%
Keyence	3.44%
Apple	3.23%
Roche	2.72%
Walt Disney	2.68%
Ferrari NV	2.47%
Davide Campari-Milano	2.33%
Cisco Systems	2.14%
Sony	2.13%
Cash	3.75%

#### Geographical Split





## Performance Chart - Class A GBP



Mont	hly Perfo	rmance Da	ita - Clas	s A GBP								
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
2017	1.83%	3.16%	0.96%	-1.35%	5.19%	-1.18%	3.36%	3.97%	-2.29%	2.66%	0.39%	1.12%
2018	1.29%	1.17%	-3.96%	2.87%	4.95%	-0.70%	1.07%	3.13%	0.03%	-7.61%	1.36%	-4.90%
2019	3.79%	2.40%	3.61%	2.88%	-1.43%	5.33%	5.12%	-1.75%	1.15%	-2.29%	3.84%	0.98%

## Commentary

In 2019 the Vermeer Global Fund returned 25.9% for Sterling based investors, benefitting from the strong performance of global equities over the year. As a result of the victory for the Conservative Party in the UK general election, the Pound recovered strongly towards the end of the year, negatively impacting the performance of the portfolio.

Global equities rose 23.1% over the year, appearing able to move forward on every headline that the trade tensions between the US and China were easing and ultimately this culminated in expectations that a "phase 1" trade deal will finally be signed on 15<sup>th</sup> January. Markets also benefitted from the easing of interest rates by the Federal Reserve and a continuation of ultra-low interest rate policy around the world.

Over the month the top five contributors to performance were Varta, Apple, Ciena, Cranswick and Sony. The top five detractors to performance were Walt Disney, Treasury Wine Estates, Ferrari, Kose and Deutsche Telekom.

The Fund has been steadily adding to its UK exposure throughout 2019 and the decisive election result for the Conservatives in December removed a degree of political uncertainty, which should lead to an improvement in consumer confidence. The Fund added a new position in Pets at Home, which we have monitored for a while and believe that the company is in the process of completing a successful business model transition with a new management team, which were appointed in 2016. New management has driven market share gains in the retail business and is returning the veterinary division to profitability. The company is expected to benefit from what we believe is a secular growth trend in consumers' increasing appetite to spend on their pets. Pets, in the developed world, are increasingly being treated as part of the family and there is no expense spared on their health and happiness.

The Fund increased its position in Japan in December, adding new positions in Kyocera and Obic. Kyocera is an electronic components manufacturer which has a great opportunity to benefit from government mandated 5G spending which will help drive earnings growth. It also has a significant corporate governance opportunity which we believe will be a key investor focus in 2020, sells for a cheap multiple and has the opportunity to buy back a sizeable portion of its equity. Obic is a high-quality software provider for small and medium sized firms. We believe that growth here will continue, along with solid cash generation as more and more Japanese companies upgrade their IT systems.

In December the Fund took profits in hearing aid company Amplifon, rotating the position into medical device company Philips. We believe that Philips is now correctly being treated as a complete health care company and has great long-term margin potential, particularly in the imaging division which is likely to help drive solid earnings growth with a valuation that is currently attractive compared to peers. The company is also focussing on providing better health care services to hospitals by using data generated from their equipment to help improve patient outcomes.

We do not expect a repeat of the excellent returns we saw in 2019. We believe that in large part interest rate cuts and permanent optimism on a trade war resolution have been priced into the market and therefore have pulled forward much of the expected return of 2020 into the latter stages of 2019, when stocks rose over 8% in US Dollar terms in the final quarter. However, we are optimistic about the strength of the companies we have invested in and the growth and value creation opportunities that lie ahead of them in what we expect to continue to be a low growth world.