### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

# FORM FWP

Filing under Securities Act Rules 163/433 of free writing prospectuses

Filing Date: 2022-04-15 SEC Accession No. 0001213900-22-019909

(HTML Version on secdatabase.com)

### SUBJECT COMPANY

#### VanEck Merk Gold Trust

CIK:1546652| IRS No.: 000000000 | State of Incorp.:NY | Fiscal Year End: 0131 Type: FWP | Act: 34 | File No.: 333-238022 | Film No.: 22828702 SIC: 6221 Commodity contracts brokers & dealers 2 HANSON PLACE BROOKLYN NY 11217

Mailing Address

Business Address 2 HANSON PLACE BROOKLYN NY 11217 650-323-4341 X109

### FILED BY

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Free Writing Prospectus VanEck Merk Gold Trust 2022-04-14 Quarterly Webinar 0001546652 Pursuant to 433/164 333-238022



# MERK OUTLOOK WEBINAR

- OUTLOOK ON THE MARKETS & ECONOMY
- US DOLLAR, GOLD, AND THE FED
- MERK FUNDS

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#### VanEck Merk Gold Trust ("OUNZ") Disclosure

OUNZ must be preceded or accompanied by the prospectus. Before investing you should carefully consider the Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. This and other information is in the prospectus, a copy of which is available at <u>www.merkgold.com/prospectus</u>. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.

Investing involves risk, including possible loss of principal. The Trust is not an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 or a commodity pool for the purposes of the Commodity Exchange Act. Shares of the Trust are not subject to the same regulatory requirements as mutual funds. Because shares of the Trust are intended to reflect the price of the gold held in the Trust, the market price of the shares is subject to fluctuations similar to those affecting gold prices. Additionally, shares of the Trust are bought and sold at market price, not at net asset value ("NAV"). Brokerage commissions will reduce returns.

Commodities and commodity-index linked securities may be affected by changes in overall market movements and other factors such as weather, disease, embargoes, or political and regulatory developments, as well as trading activity of speculators and arbitrageurs in the underlying commodities.

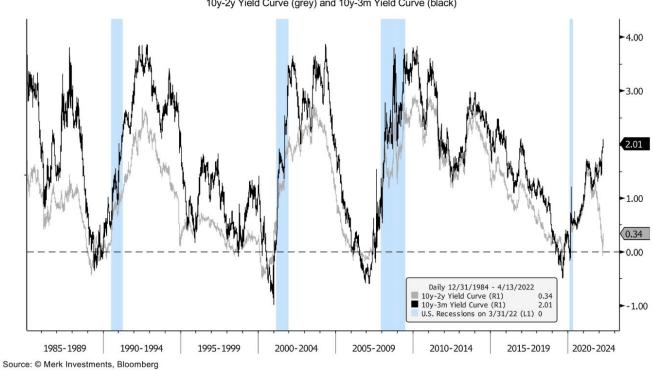
Trust shares trade like stocks, are subject to investment risk and will fluctuate in market value. The value of Trust shares relates directly to the value of the gold held by the Trust (less its expenses), and fluctuations in the price of gold could materially and adversely affect an investment in the shares. The price received upon the sale of the shares, which trade at market price, may be more or less than the value of the gold represented by them. The Trust does not generate any income, and as the Trust regularly issues shares to pay for the Sponsor's ongoing expenses, the amount of gold represented by each Share will decline over time. Investing involves risk, and you could lose money on an investment in the Trust.

The request for redemption of shares for gold is subject to a number of risks including but not limited to the potential for the price of gold to decline during the time between the submission of the request and delivery. Delivery may take considerable time depending on your location.

For a more complete discussion of the risk factors relative to the Trust, carefully read the prospectus. The sponsor of the Trust is Merk Investments LLC (the "Sponsor"). VanEck and Foreside Fund Services, LLC, provide marketing services to the Trust.

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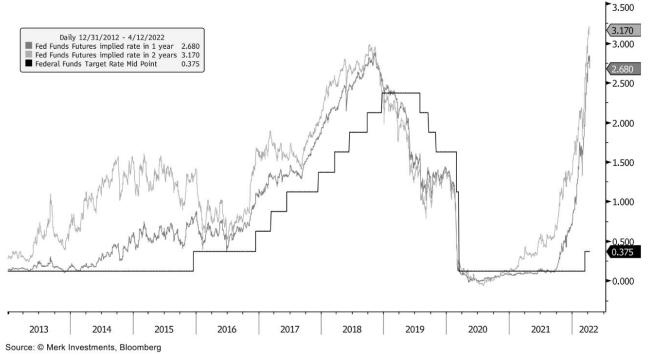
Yield Curve 10y-2y Yield Curve (grey) and 10y-3m Yield Curve (black)

The yield curve is the difference between a longer-maturity interest rate and a shorter-maturity interest rate.

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## Market Expectations of Fed Funds Rate in 1 and 2 Years What's Priced-in based on the +1-year and +2-year Fed Funds Futures Contract



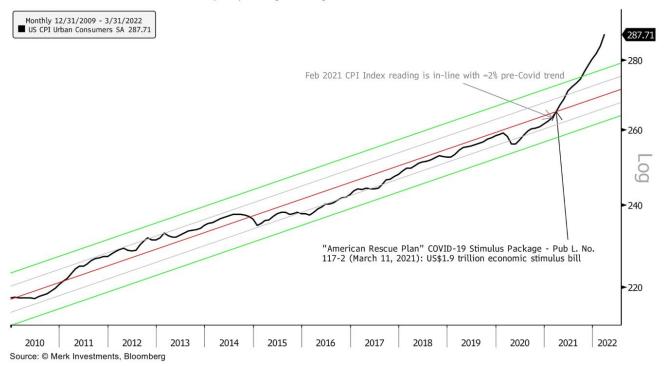
Fed Funds Futures contract: Fed funds futures are financial contracts that represent the market opinion of where the daily official federal funds rate will be at the time of the contract expiry.

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#### U.S. Consumer Price Index

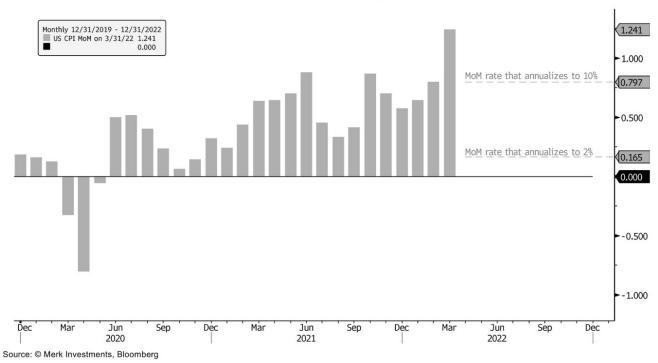




US CPI Urban Consumers NSA is a measure of the average change in the prices paid by urban consumers for a fixed market basket of goods and services; "NSA" refers to non-seasonally adjusted. YoY is the Year-over-Year percentage change.

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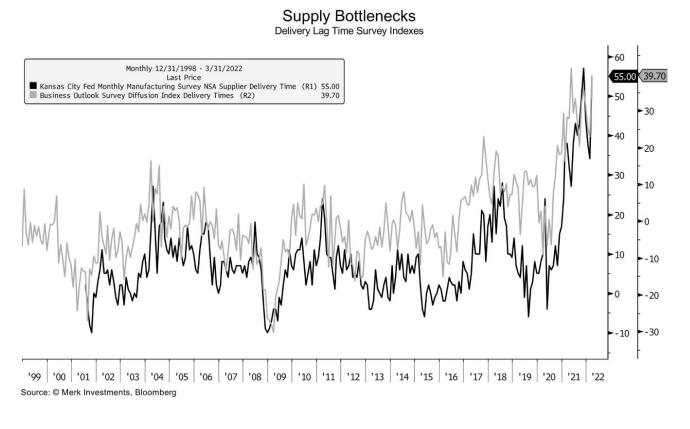


#### Consumer Price Index (CPI) Month-over-Month CPI MoM Rate of Change

US CPI Urban Consumers NSA is a measure of the average change in the prices paid by urban consumers for a fixed market basket of goods and services; "NSA" refers to non-seasonally adjusted. YoY is the Year-over-Year percentage change.

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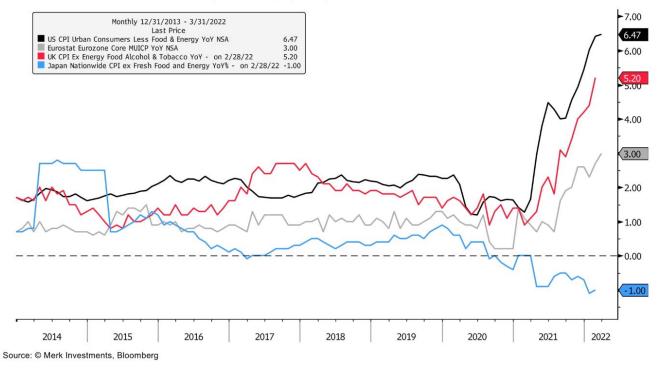


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#### G4 Inflation Rates

G4 (US, Eurozone, Japan, UK) Core CPI YoY Rates of Inflation

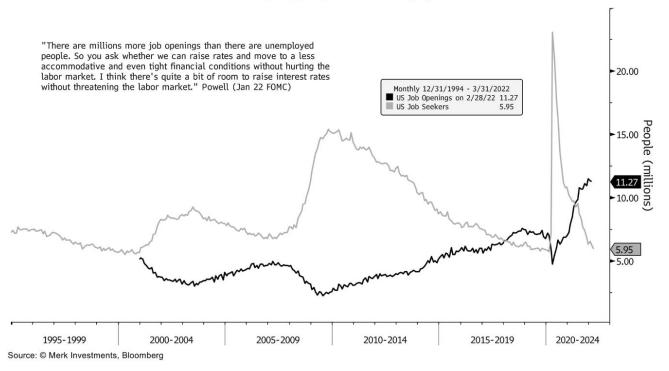


The breakeven inflation rate is a market-based measure of expected inflation. It is the difference between the yield of a nominal bond and an inflation-linked bond of the same maturity.

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## Job Openings vs Job Seekers Job Opening (black) and Job Seekers (grey)



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Commodities vs. Stocks

Commodity Index / S&P 500 Index with Regression Line and +/- 1 & 2 Standard Deviations

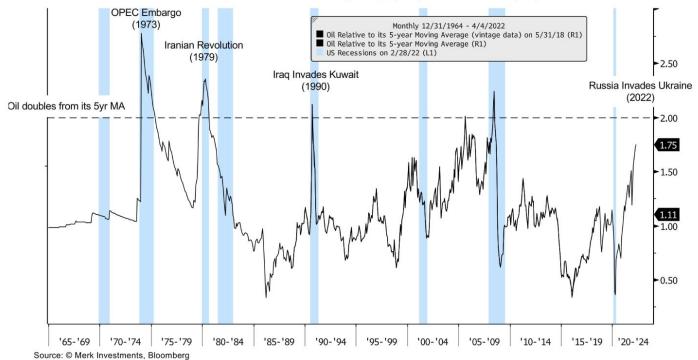
A regression line summarizes how well the proposed model actually fits the sample data obtained.

The standard deviation is a statistic that measures the dispersion of a dataset relative to its mean.

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#### **Oil Price Shocks**



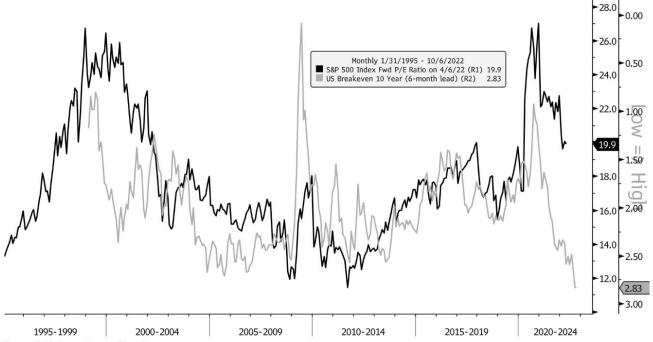
Oil Price Relative to its 5-Year Moving Average (black) and US Recessions (blue)

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#### S&P 500 Forward P/E Ratio and Inflation Expectations

S&P 500 Index Forward Price/Earnings Ratio (black) and 10-year Inflation Expectations (inverted in grey)



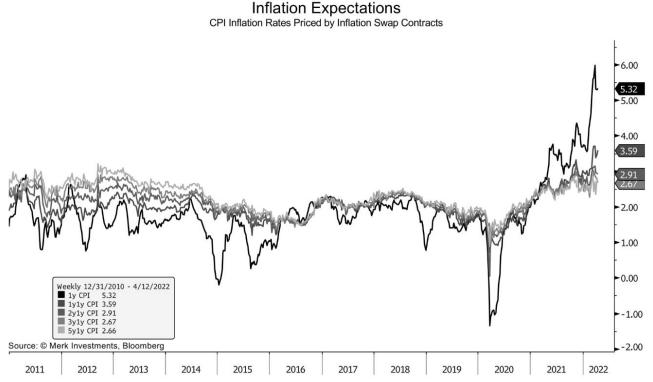
Source: © Merk Investments, Bloomberg

Forward P/E: A variation of the price-to earnings ratio (P/E ratio) which is based on a prediction of a company's future earnings.

The breakeven inflation rate is a market-based measure of expected inflation. It is the difference between the yield of a nominal bond and an inflation-linked bond of the same maturity.

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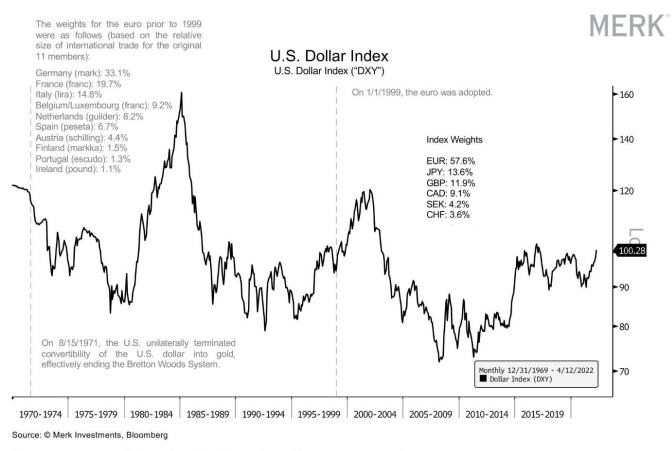
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Inflation swap contract: a derivative used to transfer inflation risk from one party to another through an exchange of cash flows. In a zero coupon inflation swap, only one payment is done at maturity where one party pays a fixed rate on a notional principal amount, while the other party pays a floating rate linked to an inflation index. 1y CPI: market-based 1 year forward CPI inflation expectations; 1y1y: inflation expectation for the year starting in a year; 2y1y: inflation expectations for the year starting in 2 years; 3y1y: : inflation expectations for the year starting in 3 years; 5y1y: inflation expectations for the year starting in 5 years

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The weights are roughly based on the relative sizes of the various economies.

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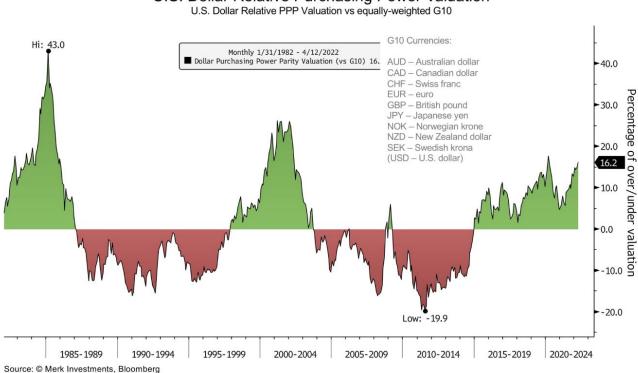
### U.S. Dollar Index ("DXY") with Log scale trend channel



The log scale trend channel draws a regression channel plotted on logarithmic scale from the first quotation. On logarithmic scales an equal amount of vertical change corresponds to an equal amount of percentage change, whereas on arithmetic scales an equal amount of vertical change corresponds to an equal amount of numerical change.

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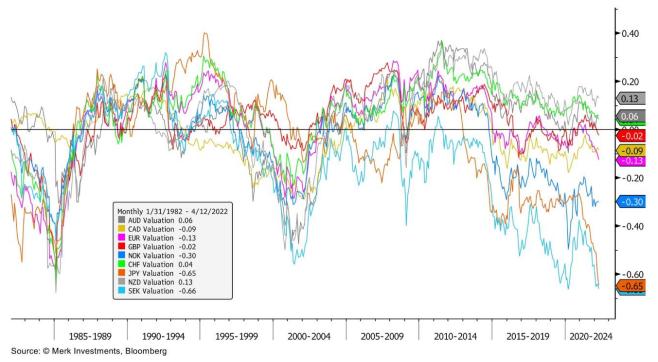


U.S. Dollar Relative Purchasing Power Valuation

The Relative PPP Framework suggests that nominal exchange rates tend to gravitate toward their long-run purchasing power parity (PPP) equilibrium values. The foundation for PPP is the so-called "law of one price," which suggests that identical goods should trade at the same price across countries when valued in terms of a common currency. Relative PPP extends the law of one price to a broad range of goods and services and takes into account trade impediments.

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#### Non-Dollar G10 Currencies Relative Purchasing Power Valuation vs U.S. Dollar Non-dollar G10 vs U.S. Dollar – Relative PPP Valuation

Relative purchasing power parity (PPP): Nominal exchange rates tend to gravitate toward their long-run purchasing power parity (PPP) equilibrium values. The foundation for PPP is the so-called "law of one price," which suggests that identical goods should trade at the same price across countries when valued in terms of a common currency. Relative PPP extends the law of one price to a broad range of goods and services and takes into account trade impediments.

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Gold and Global Money Supply Gold (black) and Global M2 Money Supply in USD terms (grey)

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#### Gold Bull Market Analog

Gold price and Gold Bull Market Analog (shifted forward and repriced)



The definition of an analog is a thing that is like something else in some ways. The 1999 low is matched to the 2015 low and repriced to match the 1999 low price to the 2015 low price. The grey line shows what happened between 1999 and 2011.

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## OUNZ

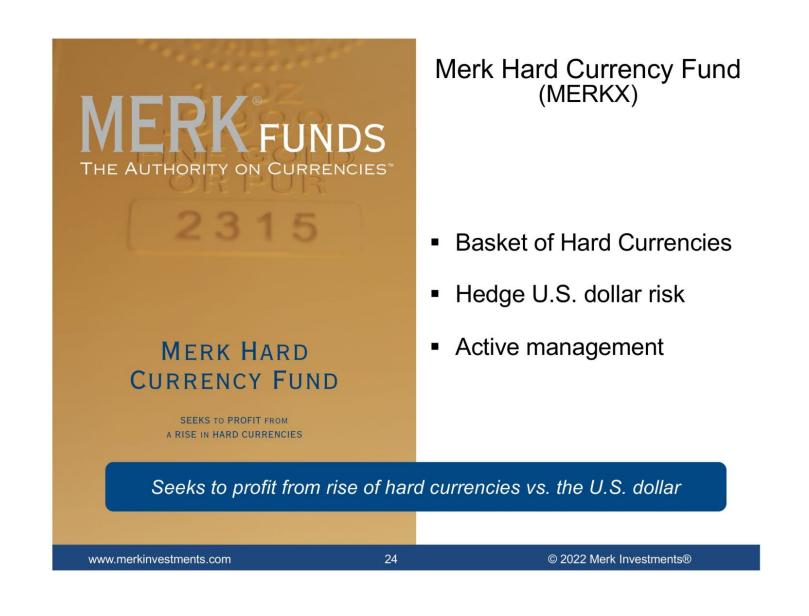
# VANECK<sup>®</sup> MERK<sup>®</sup> GOLD TRUST (OUNZ)

### THE GOLD ETF THAT DELIVERS



- Convenient and cost-efficient way to buy and hold gold through an exchange traded product
- Option to take delivery of physical gold if and when desired

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### MERKX Standardized Performance

#### Merk Hard Currency Fund®



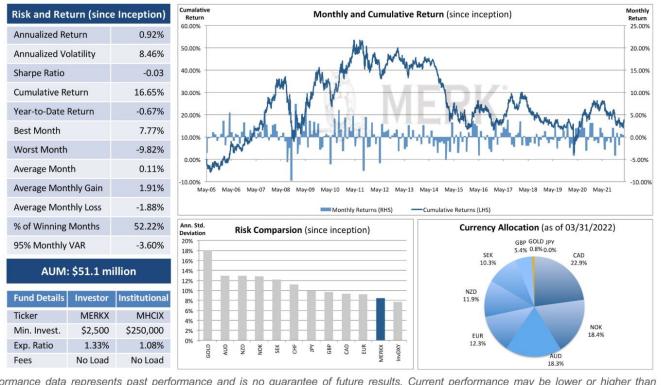
Seeks to profit from a rise in *hard currencies* relative to the U.S. dollar

Through 03/31/2022, the Merk Hard Currency Fund Investor Shares (MERKX) had a 1-year return of -4.27%, a 5-year return of 0.07%, a 10-year return of -2.10%, and a return of 0.92% since inception on 05/10/2005.

All performance figures greater than 1-year are annualized unless otherwise specified. Performance data represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than original cost. Please visit www.merkfunds.com for most recent month end performance. The expense ratio for MERKX is 1.33% for Investor Shares.

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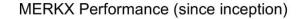


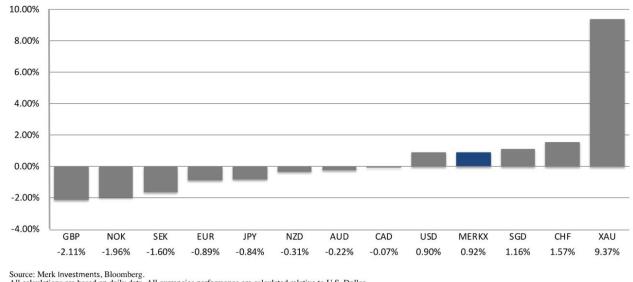
#### **MERKX** Performance

Performance data represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. All performance figures greater than 1-year are annualized unless otherwise specified. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than original cost. Please visit www.merkfunds.com for most recent month end performance. The Fund's expense ratio is 1.33% for Investor Shares. Source: Merk Investments, Bloomberg. Calculations since inception 05/10/2005-03/31/2022

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#### Annualized performance – since inception (05/10/05 - 03/31/22)

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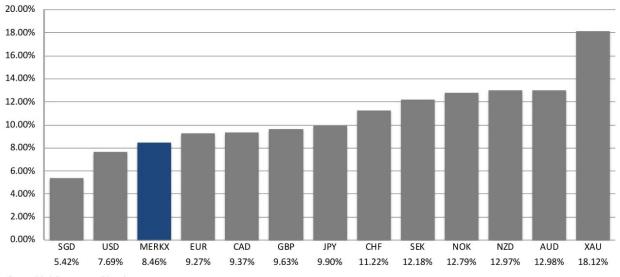
Performance data represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. All performance figures greater than 1-year are annualized unless otherwise specified. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than original cost. Please visit www.merkfunds.com for most recent month end performance. The Fund's expense ratio is 1.33% for Investor Shares. Source: Merk Investments, Bloomberg. Calculations for period 05/10/2005-03/31/2022

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Source: Merk Investments, Bloomberg. All calculations are based on daily data. All currencies performance are calculated relative to U.S. Dollar. USD: U.S. Dollar Currency Index (DXY); XAU: Gold Spot as U.S. Dollar per Troy Ounce

#### MERKX Volatility since inception



#### Annualized volatility - since inception (05/10/05 - 03/31/22)

Source: Merk Investments, Bloomberg. All calculations are based on daily data. All currencies performance data calculated relative to U.S. Dollar. USD: U.S. Dollar Currency Index (DXY); XAU: Gold Spot as U.S. Dollar per Troy Ounce

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#### **MERKX** Correlation

MERKX vs.	Since Inception	1 Year	YTD	Q1
AUD	0.63	0.88	0.83	0.83
CAD	0.62	0.79	0.78	0.78
CHF	0.79	0.63	0.62	0.62
EUR	0.90	0.75	0.72	0.72
GBP	0.67	0.76	0.73	0.73
JPY	0.21	0.28	0.28	0.28
NOK	0.79	0.89	0.86	0.86
NZD	0.61	0.85	0.84	0.84
SEK	0.78	0.82	0.78	0.78
SGD	0.64	0.83	0.83	0.83
USD	-0.90	-0.84	-0.81	-0.81
XAU	0.66	0.34	0.04	0.04

#### Correlation matrix - as of 03/31/2022

Source: Merk Investments, Bloomberg. All calculations are based on daily data as of 03/31/2022. All currencies performance data calculated relative to U.S. Dollar. USD: U.S. Dollar Currency Index (DXY); XAU: Gold Spot as U.S. Dollar per Troy Ounce

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Correlation: a statistical measurement that gives the degree of relationship between two variables. In a diversified portfolio, correlation represents the degree of relationship between the price movements of different assets in a portfolio. Fund inception: 05/10/2005.

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### Is Your Portfolio Ready?



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#### Notes

#### Indices and terms referred to in this presentation may include the following:

U.S. Dollar (DXY) Index and Inverse DXY: DXY is a measure of the value of the United States dollar relative to a static basket of currencies with Euro (EUR) 57.6% weight, Japanese yen (JPY) 13.6%, Pound Sterling (GBP) 11.9%, Canadian dollar (CAD) 9.1%, Swiss franc (CHF) 3.6% and Swedish krona (SEK) 4.2% weight. The DXY is a generally well-known measure of the value of the US dollar versus major foreign currencies, and as such makes a relevant reference point for directional currency strategies. The inverse of the DXY is the value of the currency basket relative to the U.S. dollar, i.e. short dollar and long foreign currencies. Because the Merk Hard Currency Fund is long foreign currencies (and therefore short dollar), using the inverse DXY allows for the logical comparison of performance relative to the Fund.

Bloomberg Dollar (BBDXY) Index: an index tracks the performance of a basket of ten leading global currencies versus the U.S. dollar, weighted by the share of international trade and FX liquidity.

Deutsche Bank Currency Returns (DBCR) Index: an equal-weighted blend of the most widely used investment strategies among active currency managers. It captures long term systematic returns available in the world currency markets. As a non-directional index, the DBCR provides a useful comparison to absolute return currency strategies like the Merk Absolute Return Currency Fund.

JPMorgan 3-Month Global Cash Index: measures the performance of money market securities denominated in foreign currencies.

Citigroup 3-Month U.S. T-Bill Index: an index that tracks the performance of U.S. Treasury bills with a remaining maturity of three months.

S&P 500 Total Return Index (SPXT): a broad-based measurement of changes in stock market conditions based on the average performance of 500 widely held common stocks. Performance figures assume that all dividends are reinvested.

MSCI EAFE (Europe Australasia Far East) Index: a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets, excluding the US & Canada. As international equity investment returns are a combination of equity returns and currency returns, the MSCI EAFE provides a useful comparison to a strategy including U.S. equities and currencies, like the Merk Currency Enhanced US Equity Fund.

MSCI EAFE US \$ Hedged Net Index: a currency hedged variant of the above, designed to represent the return without the currency exposure if the index.

MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index: a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance of emerging markets.

Barclays Capital Aggregate US Bond Index (BONDS): is a broad-based benchmark that measures the investment grade, U.S. dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bond market, including Treasuries, government-related and corporate securities, MBS (agency fixed-rate and hybrid ARM pass-throughs), ABS, and CMBS.

FTSE NAREIT US All REITS Index: spans the commercial real estate space across the US economy. It provides exposure to all investment and property sectors.

DJ-UBS Commodity Total Return Index: a diversified benchmark for commodities' fully collateralized returns.

Barclays US TIPS Index: measures the performance of the US Treasury Inflation Protected Securities ("TIPS") market.

Alpha: a measure of risk-adjusted return. The excess return of the fund relative to the return of the benchmark is the fund's alpha.

Beta: a measure of systematic risk based on the covariance of the portfolio's return with the return of the overall market. The market has a beta of 1.

Sharpe Ratio: a measure of the excess return per unit of risk in an investment asset or a trading strategy.

Correlation: a measure of how two securities or asset classes move in relation to each other.

Standard Deviation: a measure of volatility.

VAR: VAR refers to value at risk, which gives the worst expected loss given some confidence level over a given time horizon for a given distribution of returns. 95% Monthly VAR suggests a 95% probability a monthly loss is no greater than stated assuming a normal distribution of returns. Investors must be aware that this does not capture the worst case scenario and that losses may be greater as the distribution of future returns is unknown.

CRY Index: Thomson Reuters/Core Commodity CRB Commodity Index, an arithmetic average of commodity futures prices with monthly rebalancing.

Barcap US Corp HY YTW – 10 Year Spread: A measure reflecting risk premia in the market; specifically, the Barclays Capital US Corporate High Yield to Worst minus the US Generic Government 10 Year Yield.

Other indices as defined on the respective pages. Indices are unmanaged; an investment cannot be made directly in an index.

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#### Notes (continued)

Singapore dollar (SGD): official currency of Singapore.

Spot Gold (XAU): current market price at which an asset is bought or sold for immediate payment and delivery. It is differentiated from the forward price or the futures price, which are prices at which an asset can be bought or sold for delivery in the future.

Russell 2000 Index: a small-cap stock market index of the bottom 2,000 stocks in the Russell 3000 Index. The Russell 2000 is used as a benchmark primarily for mutual funds that identify themselves as "small-cap", while the S&P 500 index is used primarily for large capitalization stocks.

S&P 500 Index: a capitalization-weighted index of 500 stocks designed to measure performance of the broad U.S. domestic economy through change in the aggregate market value representing all major industries.

S&P 500 Financials Index: a capitalization-weighted index of S&P 500 stocks that represent the financial sector as defined by Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) Level 1 Sector group, calculated by Bloomberg.

VIX Short-Term Futures Index: an index that measures the return from a daily rolling long position in the VIX futures contract traded on the Chicago Board Options Exchange. The short-term index is comprised of the first and second contract months.

U.S. 10Y Treasury Bonds: represented here by calculating the inverse of Bloomberg's U.S. Generic Government 10 Year Yield Index (USGG10YR Index) comprised of on-the-run government bill/not/bond indices.

Spain 10Y Treasury Bonds: represented here by calculating the inverse of Bloomberg's Spanish Generic Government 10 Year Yield Index (GSPG10YR Index) comprised of Spanish government bonds that the market considers to be benchmark issue.

G10: refers to 10 countries/currency areas: Australia (AUD), Canada (CAD), Switzerland (CHF), Eurozone (EUR), United Kingdom (GBP), Japan (JPY), Norway (NOK), New Zealand (NZD), Sweden (SEK), and United States (USD).

US Corp IG Bonds: represented here by Bloomberg US Corporate Bond Index (Investment Grade) for GICS Level I sectors Utilities, Industrials, Consumer Staple, Communications, Health Care and Financials. The Bloomberg USD Corporate Bond Index is a rules-based market-value weighted index engineered to measure the investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable, corporate bond market. It includes USD-denominated securities publicly issued by U.S. and non-U.S. corporate issuers. To be included in the index a security must have a minimum par amount of 250 million.

EM USD Bond Aggregate: represented here by Bloomberg Barclays EM USD Aggregate TR Index Unhedged USD. Bloomberg Barclays Emerging Markets Hard Currency Aggregate Index is a flagship hard currency Emerging Markets debt benchmark that includes USD-denominated debt from sovereign, quasi-sovereign, and corporate EM issuers.

U.S. Mortgage Backed Securities: represented here by Bloomberg Barclays US MBS Index TR Value Unhedged USD. The Bloomberg Barclays US MOrtgage Backed Securities (MBS) Index tracks agency mortgage backed pass-through securities (both fixed-rate and hybrid ARM) guaranteed by Ginnie Mae (GNMA), Fannie Mae (FNMA), and Freddie Mac (FHLMC). The index is constructed by grouping individual TBA-deliverable MBS pools into aggregates or generics based on program, coupon and vintage.

Pan-European IG Bond Aggregate: represented here by Bloomberg Barclays Pan-European Aggregate TR Index Value Unhedged EUR. The Bloomberg Barclays Pan-European Aggregate Index tracks fixed-rate, investment-grade securities issued in the following European currencies: Euro, British pounds, Norwegian krone, Danish krone, Swedish krona, Czech koruna, Hungarian forint, Polish zloty, and Slovakian koruna. Inclusion is based on the currency of the issue, and not the domicile of the issuer.

Pan-European HY Bond Aggregate: represented here by Bloomberg Barclays Pan-European High Yield TR Index Value Unhedged EUR. The Bloomberg Barclays Pan-European High Yield Index measures the market of non-investment grade, fixed-rate corporate bonds denominated in the following currencies: euro, pounds sterling, Danish krone, Norwegian krone, Swedish krona, and Swiss franc. Inclusion is based on the currency of issue, and not the domicile of the issuer.

G4: G4 or Group of Four refers to the U.S., U.K., Germany, and Japan

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#### Mutual Fund Risk Disclosure

Information contained herein may discuss Fund performance and holdings. Performance data quoted represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than original cost. For performance current to the most recent month-end, please visit our website at www.merkfunds.com/fund.

Since the Fund primarily invests in foreign currencies, changes in currency exchange rates affect the value of what the Fund owns and the price of the Fund's shares. Investing in foreign instruments bears a greater risk than investing in domestic instruments for reasons such as volatility of currency exchange rates and, in some cases, limited geographic focus, political and economic instability, emerging market risk, and relatively illiquid markets. The Fund is subject to interest rate risk, which is the risk that debt securities in the Fund's portfolio will decline in value because of increases in market interest rates. If the U.S. dollar fluctuates in value against currencies the Fund is exposed to, your investment may also fluctuate in value. As a non-diversified fund, the Merk Hard Currency Fund will be subject to more investment risk and potential for volatility than a diversified fund because its portfolio may, at times, focus on a limited number of issuers. For a more complete discussion of these and other Fund risks please refer to the Fund's prospectus.

Before investing you should carefully consider the Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. This and other information is in the prospectus, a copy of which may be obtained by calling 1-866-MERK FUND or visiting the Fund's website. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest. Foreside Fund Services, LLC, distributor.

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#### Disclosure

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