March 31, 2021

# GVP THE GABELLI VALUE PLUS<sup>+</sup> TRUST

#### FOURTH QUARTER 2020 REPORT

The Gabelli Value Plus<sup>+</sup> Trust's investment goals are long term growth of capital with income as a secondary objective.

#### **INVESTING WITH GABELLI**

We are active, bottom up, value investors that seek to achieve capital appreciation relative to inflation over the long term regardless of market cycles.

We invest in businesses utilising our proprietary Private Market Value ("PMV") with a Catalyst<sup>™</sup> methodology. PMV is the value that we believe an informed buyer would be willing to pay to acquire an entire company in a private transaction.

We are not index benchmarked, and construct portfolios agnostic of market capitalisation and index weightings.

We have invested this way since 1977.

### PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS

GABELLI FUNDS

LON:	GVP
SEDOL:	BTLJYS4
ISIN:	GB00BTLJYS47

### PROFILE

Total Net Assets	£166 Million
Net Asset Value ("NAV") per share:	168.6p
LSE Market Price:	162.0p
Premium (Discount):	(3.9)%
Annual Ongoing Charges <sup>(a)</sup>	1.24%

(a) Ongoing Charges are calculated as a percentage of shareholder's funds, using average net assets over the period and calculated in line with AIC's recommended methodology. Annual Ongoing Charges as of March 31, 2020.

PORTFOLIO CHARACTERIST	105	
Number of Holdings:	101	Select Holdings:
Invested Capital:	100.0%	Aerojet Rocketdyne Holdings Inc
Average Equity Position:	0.8%	Cubic Corp
Top 10 Equity Positions:	25.0%	Johnson Controls International plc
US Dollar Exposure:	100.0%	Mueller Industries
British Pound Exposure:	0.1%	Navistar International
Euro Exposure:	(0.1)%	PNC Financial Services Group Inc
Weighted Average Dividend Yield	0.8%	PNM Resources Inc
Weighted Average Market Cap	13.2B	Republic Services
Large Cap (>\$10B)	36.4%	State Street Corp
Mid Cap (\$2-10B)	34.5%	Textron Inc
Small Cap (<\$2B)	29.1%	The select heldings are not necessarily representative of significan
Active Share <sup>1</sup> (v. Russell 2000 Value)	97.3%	The select holdings are not necessarily representative of significan portfolio positions and are subject to change.
Active Share <sup>1</sup> (v. Russell 3000 Value)	96.1%	

### CAPITAL ALLOCATION



Non Market Correlated\* 33%

Catalyst	Weights	Beta
Non Market Correlated	33%	N/A
Core PMV + Catalyst	67%	0.8

PMV with a Catalyst 67%

\*Non Market Correlated includes cash position Please visit www.gabelli.co.uk to view the Trust's KIID and Prospectus documents. Gabelli Value Plus\* Trust | 3 St. James's Place, London SW1A 1NP, United Kingdom | +44 (0)20 3206 2100 | www.gabelli.co.uk



#### SECTOR EXPOSURE

### PERFORMANCE (THROUGH 31/03/2021)

	2015***	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
In GBP [%]	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Q1	ITD***
GVP NAV *	0.77	38.10	1.48	(9.86)	18.89	0.76	15.02	75.40
GVP Market **	(1.50)	32.89	1.30	(11.42)	14.51	9.71	13.37	67.27
Russell 2000	(1.88)	44.75	4.63	(5.60)	20.59	16.53	11.48	119.77
Russell 2000 Value	(3.16)	57.21	(1.58)	(7.53)	17.59	1.63	19.85	98.43
Russell 3000	2.71	34.54	10.56	0.53	25.90	17.44	5.19	138.89
Russell 3000 Value	(0.17)	41.29	3.31	(3.01)	21.32	-0.06	10.67	89.63
GBP/USD Rate ****	1.4736	1.2340	1.3513	1.2668	1.3257	1.3631	1.3747	1.3747

Source: State Street, Bloomberg. All data are in GBP terms. \*NAV performance is net of all fees and expenses and based on the initial NAV of 99p on 19 February 2015. \*\*Market performance is based on the initial offering price of 100p on 19 February 2015 and reflects changes in closing market values on the LSE. \*\*\*Inception to Date and Year 2015 performance is from 19 February 2015. \*\*\*\*End of Period Exchange Rate.

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the Trust before investing. Returns represent past performance and do not guarantee future results. Investment returns and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data presented. Visit www.gabelli.co.uk for performance information as of the most recent month end. Performance returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized. The Russell Indicies are unmanaged indicators of stock market performance. Dividends are considered reinvested. You cannot invest directly in an index. The Trust's NAV per share will fluctuate with changes in the market value of the Trust's portfolio securities. Stocks are subject to market, economic, and business risks that cause their prices to fluctuate. Changes in rates of exchange may cause the value of investments and the income from them to go up or down. Investors acquire shares of the Trust on a securities exchange at market value, which fluctuates according to the dynamics of supply and demand. When Trust shares are sold, they may be worth more or less than their original cost. Consequently, you can lose money by investing in the Trust.

### PORTFOLIO MANAGER COMMENTARY

The first quarter of 2021 couldn't have been more of a contrast to the first quarter of 2020. Last year, markets were hitting lows amid uncertainty regarding the ultimate reach of COVID-19 and the resulting economic wreckage at a time when even getting a test was exceedingly difficult. Now, not only have effective vaccines been developed, but most states have already either opened up their vaccine programs to all adults, or will in the very near future. Markets are at all-time highs amid optimism about the "reopening" of the economy and pent up demand for all sorts of activities and goods, especially travel, leisure, and entertainment. People are longing for the in person connections and experiences that have been so lacking for the last year, and we can see the light at the end of the proverbial tunnel of COVID-19.

There has also been a change in administration with President Biden's January inauguration. The President enacted his first major piece of legislation when he signed a \$1.9 trillion relief bill that featured another round of stimulus checks as well as additional funding for vaccination efforts. This will provide added fuel to an already hot economy, and could lead to higher inflation. The President also unveiled a \$2 trillion infrastructure plan, with clean energy, transportation, and clean water all being top priorities. Provisions of the bill will likely be hotly debated – including how it will be paid for, and its implications for both personal and corporate tax rates.

With this backdrop of a reopening economy and enormous stimulus, animal spirits were alive and well in financial markets. The stock market continued to rise in the first quarter, though finally with the long awaited shift to "value" that started in the fall of 2020, as the BOTL stocks (banks, oil, travel & leisure) led, along with cyclical and small capitalization stocks. Throughout the quarter, interest rates rose, with 10-year treasuries climbing above 1.7% at the end of March. This dynamic may eventually have some negative implications for overall valuations of equities (raising the discount rate on future cash flows) but also positive ones for banks and other financials that earn profits based on net interest margin ("NIM").

In some areas, the animal spirits escalated into a frenzy. In January, retail trading fostered by the Reddit group "WallStreetBets" and enabled by the online trading platform Robinhood propelled GameStop, and other stocks left for dead during the pandemic to astronomical new highs amid short squeezes. IPOs set a record in the first quarter with \$138 billion raised, comprised mostly of Special Purpose Acquisition Corporations ("SPACs") that go public with cash in hopes of making an acquisition. Merger and acquisition activity surged, totaling \$1.3 trillion globally during the quarter. Non-fungible tokens ("NFTs") also came to prominence in the quarter, with items ranging from digital art to tweets being sold in some cases for millions of dollars. Bitcoin continued its surge, closing the quarter near \$60,000. In late March, certain stocks experienced extraordinary volatility amid the unwinding of trades by family office Archegos Capital. It remains to be seen whether these events will cool some of the speculative fervor in financial markets, but they are a reminder to us to always let Mr. Market serve us, rather than inform us, about the value of companies.

We continue to use bottom-up research to seek excellent businesses that are trading materially below Private Market Value with one or more catalysts in place to surface value. We are pleased to see that M&A activity continues to rise, which has led to value being realized for some holdings in recent months, and we expect there will be more to come. While (y)our portfolio includes many companies that thrived even throughout the pandemic, we also own many - especially in the live entertainment and industrial sectors - whose earnings will rise significantly as normal economic activities resume. With the recent trends in the market and the economy, we believe the portfolio is well positioned to handle both the opportunities and challenges that emerge in the months and quarters ahead.

#### LEADERS (1Q-2021)

	% of NAV	Contribution
HERC Holdings Inc	0.3	1.39%
Discovery Inc	0.9	1.37%
ViacomCBS Inc - A	0.2	0.98%
Freeport-McMoRan Inc	2.4	0.87%
Loral Space & Communications	1.5	0.84%

#### LAGGARDS (1Q-2021)

	% of NAV	Contribution
Sinclair Broadcast Group	1.8	(0.20)%
Kaman Corp	0.9	(0.10)%
Teladoc Inc	1.1	(0.10)%
Aerojet Rocketdyne	2.0	(0.08)%
Myers Industries Inc	1.5	(0.07)%

### LEADERS OF NOTE (1Q-2021)

<u>HERC Holdings Inc. (HRI - \$101.33- NYSE)</u>, based in Bonita Springs, FL, is the third largest equipment rental company in the United States after United Rentals and Sunbelt Rentals (owned by Ashtead plc). HRI was spun out of former parent Hertz on June 30, 2016. From the outset of its status as a public company, HRI set out to better match its rental EBITDA (REBITDA) margins of more closely in line with industry leaders United Rental (URI) and Sunbelt (AHT-LN). At the time, HRI REBITDA margins were near 38% with peers in the 47-48% range. The company has narrowed the gap considerably, with 2020 REBITDA margins of 43.4% driven by improved fleet management and several streamlining initiatives that have worked well. The \$50 billion rental industry continues to grow and remains highly fragmented, ripe for consolidation in a similar manner to the automotive aftermarket 20 years ago.

<u>Discovery Inc (DISCA - \$43.46 - NASDAQ)</u>, headquartered in New York, NY, operates media properties focused on non-scripted and factual content. Discovery's portfolio of premium brands includes the Discovery Channel, HGTV, Food Network, TLC, Travel Channel, MotorTrend, Animal Planet, as well as OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network in the U.S., Discovery Kids in Latin America, and Eurosport. Following the launch of its direct-to-consumer streaming service discovery+ in December 2020, the platform now has 11 million total paying subscribers globally. Discovery+ has distribution partnerships with Verizon in the U.S., Sky in the U.K. and Ireland, and Vodafone across several European markets. Discovery continues to be a key part of the pay-TV ecosystem.

<u>ViacomCBS Inc. (VIACA - \$47.17 - NYSE)</u>, located in New York, NY, is a pure-play content company that owns a stable of broadcast (CBS), cable (Showtime, MTV, Nickelodeon, BET and Comedy Central) and SVOD/AVOD (CBS All Access and Pluto TV) networks. CBS was founded in 1927, originally spun out Viacom in 1971; in turn, Viacom acquired CBS in 1999, separated in 2006 and remerged at the end of 2019. CBS is the most watched broadcaster in the US and the cable networks garner a 22% viewing share. ViacomCBS has appealing product – whether it is buying one-off interviews conducted by Oprah Winfery with Harry and Meghan or March Madness – and a differentiated service to Netflix, Apple and Amazon. Streaming revenue are projected to grow at a CAGR of 25% to \$7 billion by 2024 driven by OTT subscribers increasing to 75 million from 30 million and Pluto TV's 120 million from 43 million.

<u>Freeport-McMoRan Inc. (FCX - \$32.86 - NYSE)</u>, based in Phoenix, AZ, is a producer of copper, gold, and molybdenum from mines in the United States, South America, and Indonesia. The ramp-up of underground production at the Grasberg minerals district in Indonesia continues to advance on schedule. The successful completion of this ramp up is expected to enable PT Freeport Indonesia to generate average annual production for the next several years of 1.55 billion pounds of copper and 1.6 million ounces of gold at an attractive unit net cash cost, providing significant margins and cash flows. FCX has significant reserves, resources and future development opportunities within its portfolio of mining assets. FCX's preliminary estimated consolidated recoverable proven and probable reserves from its mines at December 31, 2020, include 113.2 billion pounds of copper, 28.9 million ounces of gold and 3.71 billion pounds of molybdenum.

Loral Space & Communications (LORL - \$37.67 - NASDAQ), headquartered in New York, NY, is a satellite-based communications services company. Loral owns 62.7% of Telesat, one of the world's largest providers of satellite services, which operate a fleet of telecommunications satellites used to broadcast video entertainment programming, distribute direct-to-home video and broadband data service, and other value added communications services. In November 2020, Telesat Canada announced that it entered into an agreement with Loral and Public Sector Pension Investment Board pursuant to which Telesat and Loral will become subsidiaries of Telesat Corporation, a new publicly traded Canadian incorporated and controlled company. The shares of Telesat Corporation will be listed on the Nasdaq Global Select Market. The transaction is expected to close in the second or third quarter of 2021, subject to regulatory and shareholder approvals, as well as other customary conditions.

### LAGGARDS OF NOTE (1Q-2021)

<u>Sinclair Broadcast Group (SBGI - \$29.26 - NASDAQ)</u>, headquartered in Hunt Valley, MD, is a diversified media company and provider of local sports and news. The Company owns and/or operates the largest collection of regional sports networks in the United States, provides services to 188 television stations in 88 markets, and has TV stations affiliated with all the major US broadcast networks. Sinclair's content is delivered via multiple-platforms, including over-the-air, multi-channel video program distributors, and digital platforms. In November 2020, Sinclair entered into agreements for a long-term enterprise-wide strategic partnership with Bally's Corporation to combine the latter's vertically integrated proprietary sports betting technology and expansive market access footprint with its premier portfolio of broadcast and local sports assets. This partnership is expected to enhance the gamification of live sports to provide audiences an interactive viewing experience and drive legalized sports betting monetization.

<u>Kaman Corp (KAMN - \$51.29 - NYSE)</u>, headquartered in Bloomfield, CT, produces aircraft bearings and components for commercial, military, and general aviation fixed and rotary wing aircraft as well as safe and arming solutions for missile and bomb systems for the U.S. and allied militaries. The Company also manufactures the K-MAX manned and unmanned medium-to-heavy lift helicopter. Despite management's efforts to mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19, operations continue to be adversely impacted, as approximately 50% of the Company's 2020 sales were anticipated to be in commercial end markets, which were particularly impacted by the effects of the pandemic. The defense and safe and arm devices end markets, however, have not been impacted by COVID-19.

<u>Teladoc Health Inc. (TDOC - \$181.75 - NYSE)</u>, headquartered in Purchase, NY, is a provider of virtual healthcare services with a portfolio of services and solutions covering a wide range of medical subspecialties from episodic needs, like flu and upper respiratory infections, to chronic, complicated medical conditions like cancer and congestive heart failure. Throughout the spread of COVID-19, the demand for virtual care visits accelerated sharply as several health plans waived consumer cost sharing and public health officials at all levels of government have encouraged the public to take advantage of virtual care services. These actions have driven many patients to use telemedicine for the first time. Over 2020, Teladoc held over 12.6 million virtual care visits, a 206% year on year increase.

<u>Aerojet Rocketdyne Holdings Inc (AJRD - \$46.96 - NYSE)</u>, headquartered in El Segundo, CA, agreed to be acquired by Lockheed Martin Corp. in December 2020. Aerojet Rocketdyne designs, develops, manufactures, and sells aerospace and defense products and systems in the U.S. Under terms of the agreement Aerojet shareholders will receive \$56.00 cash per share, including a \$5.00 pre-closing special dividend, valuing the deal at approximately \$5 billion. Aerojet's shareholders have approved the merger agreement and the transaction is expected to close in the second half of 2021, pending receipt of regulatory approvals.

<u>Myers Industries Inc (MYE - \$19.76 - NYSE)</u>, headquartered in Akron, OH, is a manufacturer of polymer products and distributor for the tire, wheel, and under-vehicle service industry. While impacted by the effects of the global pandemic in 2020, recovery momentum accelerated over the course of the year and culminated in strong fourth quarter top-line growth of 8% on an organic basis and 18% including the recent acquisition of Elkhart Plastics. Management's 'One Myers' strategy remains focused on four strategic pillars: 1) driving organic growth through sales and commercial excellence, innovation, and eCommerce; 2) complementing organic growth through bolt-on acquisitions within existing plastics technologies that can expand opportunities in current and adjacent markets; 3) committing to operational excellence through additional self-help initiatives in purchasing, pricing and SG&A optimization; and 4) developing a high-performance mindset and culture.

#### INVESTMENT POLICY REVIEW

GVP's investment objective is to seek capital appreciation by investing predominantly in equity securities of U.S. companies of any market capitalisation. In selecting such securities, the Manager utilises its proprietary Private Market Value ("PMV") with a Catalyst<sup>™</sup> methodology. PMV is the value that the Manager believes an informed industrial buyer would be willing to pay to acquire an entire company. The Manager arrives at a PMV valuation by a rigorous assessment of fundamentals (focusing on the balance sheet, earnings, and free cash fl ow) from publicly available information and judgment gained from its comprehensive, accumulated knowledge of a variety of sectors.

The Manager's fundamental research seeks to identify investments typically featuring, but not limited to, differentiated franchise businesses with organic cash flow, balance sheet opportunities, and operational flexibility. The Manager will seek to identify businesses whose securities trade in the public markets at a significant discount to their PMV estimate which the Manager refers to as a "Margin of Safety".

Having identified such securities, the Manager will seek to identify one of more "catalysts" that will narrow or eliminate the discount associated with the Margin of Safety. Catalysts can come in many forms including, but not limited to, corporate restructurings (such as demergers and asset sales), operational improvements, regulatory or managerial changes, special situations (such as liquidations), and mergers and acquisitions.

The Manager seeks value creation through its process of bottom up stock selection and its implementation of a disciplined portfolio construction process.

The Manager believes that its investment programme, oriented towards businesses with barriers to new entrants, lends itself to companies which can price their products above their costs and typically deliver growth and shareholder value over the long term, regardless of prevalent macro-economic conditions. Thus the Manager's process of securities selection in identifying and valuing businesses from the perspective of an owner or strategic buyer can help orient its portfolio to a variety of catalyst-driven situations that may eventually lead to a takeover or merger. After a merger or acquisition is announced, the Manager may deem it attractive to invest, or remain invested, in the announced merger transaction. This is known as traditional merger arbitrage investing, with the return potential based on the announced acquisition price relative to the current market price, or the spread. The Manager believes that such announced merger investments offer an attractive component of its investment programme, with returns contingent on the closing of a transaction and generally unrelated to the broad market conditions. The Manager's approach to traditional merger investing is a natural extension of its long standing research driven investment process.

Please visit us on the Internet. Our homepage at http://www.gabelli.co.uk contains information about the Gabelli Value Plus+ Trust. We welcome your comments and questions via e-mail at GVPTeam@gabelli.com or by phone +44(0)2032062100.

### DISCLOSURE

(1) Portfolio composition is reflective of the portfolio as of the date of this report, but is not necessarily indicative of the composition of the portfolio in the future which may be significantly different than are shown here. The classifications of market capitalisation, sector, and geography for the Company and indices were sourced from FactSet Systems and data is believed to be reliable. For market capitalization classifications, greater than \$10 billion is considered large cap, \$2-\$10 billion is mid cap, and less than \$2 billion is small cap. Market Capitalisation, sector and geographic exposures reflect that of equity investments only. Capital Allocation: Announced Merger/Non Market Correlated includes cash and cash equivalent positions.

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The Ordinary Shares have not been nor will be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "U.S. Securities Act") or with any securities regulatory authority of any state or other jurisdiction of the United States and the Ordinary Shares may not be offered, sold, exercised, resold, transferred or delivered, directly or indirectly, within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. Persons (as defined in Regulation S under the U.S. Securities Act), except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act and in compliance with any applicable securities laws of any state or other jurisdiction in the United States. The Company has not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "U.S. Investment Company Act") and investors will not be entitled to the benefits of the U.S. Investment Company Act.

This document has not been approved for the purposes of section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 ("FSMA").

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