November 2020 Monthly Comment as of 8 AM Chicago time November 29

We take advantage of the US Thanksgiving holiday weekend to publish on Sunday, with one trading day, Monday, remaining this month. November typically is poor for us, with an average monthly return of -1.3% before this year, the worst of any month, with losses most of the time. Not this year. We are having the best November in our history, up 9% at present. Positive vaccine news from Pfizer, Moderna, and AstraZeneca made this a phenomenal month globally. For our low-beta fund, the results are perhaps even better than first appears. This is our third best month out of 157, topped by only May 2009 (+14%) and September 2009 (+11%). With a month remaining, Q4 is already our third best quarter out of 53 at +12%, behind only Q2 and Q3 2009. Assuming promised wires arrive tomorrow, December 1 inflows will be the best since January 2015.

Where do we go from here? Near-term performance can be notoriously difficult to project. We'll stick to the facts of what has happened historically. Our seasonally strong period begins in December and runs through July. In past Decembers, we've made money 12 years out of 13 with an average gain of 1.0%. We did a quick study of near-term performance after our 10 best months. In the month after a top 10 month, we made money 8 of 10 times, averaging 5.0%. The worst performance was -1.4%. In the three months after a top 10 month, we made money 9 of 10 times, averaging 8.2% cumulatively over the period. The worst performance was also -1.4% cumulatively. In the six months after a top 10 month, we made money 10 of 10 times, averaging 16.3% cumulatively over the period. The worst performance was +8.6% cumulatively. In the 12 months after a top 10 month, we made money 9 of 10 times, averaging 27.2% cumulatively over the period. The worst performance was -1.8% cumulatively. Nevertheless, events can render your historical data meaningless. The COVID-19 selloff in March 2020 is an example of this, as previously March had been our one of our better months on average, where we made money 10 of 12 times. So past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Could Frontaura just be mimicking global markets such that if markets more developed than our universe retreat (and some of them are looking frothy) we will also decline? In which case, might this discussion of strong performance unwittingly be top ticking the market? We acknowledge anything is possible and we do agree that many markets globally are technically overbought and may need a period of rest or retreat. For us, however, at least historically, our bull runs tend to go in the same direction for about two years or so, with only minor interruptions. We remain down 4% for 2020 and we are still off 19% from our January 2018 all-time high, so it seems unlikely, in our opinion, that our rally that began April 2020 has peaked. More qualitatively, many things have turned our way after years of our investing style being out of favor. For example, changes from some point around or after the March low include US dollar weakening, foreign markets taking leadership from the US, small caps doing well, frontier market outflows possibly ebbing, yield-hungry local frontier investors rotating from fixed income to equities, COVID-19 affecting frontier countries less than expected, and (maybe just maybe) value coming out of the doldrums.

In closing, there are no guarantees from here and markets have a way of making you look foolish whenever you get too confident. We know this well. Certainly, there are plenty of things that could go wrong (although we do think this is a truism). Nevertheless, having invested in these markets for 13 years now, this feels like the real deal to us, after a few false starts. We've known throughout this long slog of recent years that eventually our time would come again, and as best we can tell, it is now at hand.

Frontaura Global Frontier Fund

Fund Objective & Investment Strategy

Bloomberg Tickers: FRGLFRO US, FRGLFRC KY

Investing exclusively in publicly traded companies in frontier markets, provide investors with a net return series that over multiple years exceeds that of the major global developed and emerging equity indices.

We seek to exploit pricing inefficiencies in frontier equity markets. Our investment approach uses both top-down country factors and bottom-up company factors. At the country level, we examine sovereign risk and calculate country scores that measure currency vulnerability. At the company level, we model each company's discounted cash flow using our proprietary valuation tool that accounts for expected exchange rate changes and fading rates of return on invested capital and profit growth as time passes. Ultimately, we aim to own solid businesses at attractive prices in stable or improving countries.

Performance through November 2020[1, 2]

Period	Frontaura	MSCI Frontier Small Cap	MSCI Frontier	MSCI Emerging	MSCI EAFE	S&P 500
2015 Q1	- 3%	-4%	- 3%	2%	5%	1%
2015 Q2	3%	2%	0%	1%	1%	0%
2015 Q3	- 6%	-6%	- 11%	- 18%	- 10%	- 6%
2015 Q4	1%	-1%	- 1%	1%	5%	7%
2016 Q1	- 1%	-1%	- 1%	6%	- 3%	1%
2016 Q2	4%	5%	0%	1%	- 1%	2%
2016 Q3	2%	4%	3%	9%	6%	4%
2016 Q4	1%	6%	0%	- 4%	- 1%	4%
2017 Q1	4%	12%	9%	11%	7%	6%
2017 Q2	7%	3%	6%	6%	6%	3%
2017 Q3	3%	3%	8%	8%	5%	4%
2017 Q4	3%	3%	6%	7%	4%	7%
2018 Q1	2%	-1%	5%	1%	- 2%	- 1%
2018 Q2	- 7%	-9%	- 15%	- 8%	- 1%	3%
2018 Q3	- 5%	-4%	- 2%	- 1%	1%	8%
2018 Q4	- 3%	-5%	- 4%	- 7%	- 13%	- 14%
2019 Q1	2%	-1%	7%	10%	10%	14%
2019 Q2	3%	0%	5%	1%	4%	4%
2019 Q3	- 5%	-3%	-1%	- 4%	- 1%	2%
2019 Q4	-1%	2%	7%	12%	8%	9%
2020 Q1	-22%	-24%	-27%	-24%	-23%	-20%
2020 Q2	6%	12%	15%	18%	15%	21%
2020 Q3	4%	8%	8%	10%	5%	9%
2020 Q4	12%	6%	6%	14%	12%	8%
2008	- 28%		- 54%	- 53%	- 43%	- 37%
2009	46%		12%	79%	32%	26%
2010	37%		24%	19%	8%	15%
2011	- 15%	-29%	- 19%	- 18%	- 12%	2%
2012	18%	6%	9%	18%	17%	16%
2013	26%	32%	26%	- 3%	23%	32%
2014	- 3%	6%	7%	- 2%	- 5%	14%
2015	- 5%	-8%	- 14%	- 15%	- 1%	1%
2016	7%	15%	3%	11%	1%	12%
2017	17%	23%	32%	37%	25%	22%
2018	- 13%	-17%	- 16%	- 15%	- 14%	- 4%
2019	-1%	-2%	18%	18%	22%	31%
2020	-4%	-3%	-3%	13%	4%	15%
ITD	76%		-13%	25%	26%	210%

Holdings Summary[2]

Country	Holding
Philippines	16%
Kazakhstan	9%
Vietnam	9%
Rwanda	7%
Côte d'Ivoire	6%
Nigeria	6%
Papua New Guinea	6%
Sri Lanka	6%
Ghana	5%
Colombia	5%
USA (cash only)	4%
Pakistan	3%
Turkey	3%
Bangladesh	3%
Egypt	2%
Senegal	2%
Ecuador	2%
Uganda	2%
Kenya	1%
Botswana	1%
Niger	1%
Tanzania	1%
Paraguay	1%

Region	Holding
Sub-Saharan Africa	32%
Southeast Asia	30%
South Asia	12%
Eurasia	9%
Latin America & Caribbean	7%
Middle East / North Africa	5%
USA (cash only)	4%

Sector	Holding
Financials	46%
Consumer Staples	26%
Communication Services	6%
Cash	5%
Energy	4%
Consumer Discretionary	3%
Health Care	3%
Industrials	2%
Utilities	2%
Real Estate	1%
Materials	1%

Portfolio Statistics	
Portfolio Price to LTM Earnings	6.5
Portfolio Price to Book	0.99
Portfolio LTM Dividend Yield	6.0%
Weighted Average ROEE	15.8%
Weighted Median ROEE	21.0%
Positions	40
Countries	22
Weighted Average Market Cap	$1,338m
Weighted Median Market Cap	$452m
Portfolio Turnover (12 Months)	37%
Portfolio Turnover (ITD)	30%
Standard Deviation (36 Months)	14%
Standard Deviation (ITD)	14%
Beta to S&P 500 (36 Months)	0.45
Beta to S&P 500 (ITD)	0.48
Assets Under Management	$98m

Terms

Subscriptions	Monthly. New investor minimum $250,000. Additional subscriptions may be any amount.
Redemptions	Quarterly with three-month notice. No initial lock-up. Exit restrictions apply.[2]
New Investor Terms[2]	**Series A**: 2% mgt fee, 10% incentive, 4-qtr exit. **Series B**: 2% mgt fee, 0% incentive, 8-qtr exit. **Relative Performance Series**: 1.75% mgt fee, 20% incentive vs. FM ETF hurdle, 8-qtr exit. **Absolute Performance Series**: 1.50% mgt fee or 30% incentive vs. 5% hurdle, 8-qtr exit. For all series above, mgt fee cut 25bp at $200m real fee-paying AUM and another 25bp at $400m.

Service Providers

Attorney	Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP
Auditor	RSM US LLP
Fund Administrator	Michael J. Liccar & Co.
Global Custodian	Bank of New York Mellon

1 Frontaura returns are actual returns, net of all fees, through 29 November 2020 with a subject-to-change estimate for the current month, for an investor joining the fund at inception, making no further contributions, making no withdrawals, and converting to Series B. Investors joining on other dates, making additional contributions, making withdrawals, or remaining in the Legacy Series after 2019 may have different returns. ITD returns commence 1 November 2007. Index returns are on a total return basis, net of any withholding tax for a US investor, through 27 November 2020 as final index values for the current month are not available at the time of publication.

2 Click here for disclosures including: current and future terms and redemption requirements, performance calculations, indices we show, and our holdings and portfolio statistics calculations.

Disclaimer

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