

CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND
Form N-CSRS
June 21, 2016
[Table of Contents](#)

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM N-CSR
CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED
MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT FILE NUMBER: 811-21484

EXACT NAME OF REGISTRANT AS SPECIFIED IN CHARTER:	Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES:	2020 Calamos Court, Naperville, Illinois 60563-2787
NAME AND ADDRESS OF AGENT FOR SERVICE:	John P. Calamos, Sr., President Calamos Advisors LLC 2020 Calamos Court Naperville, Illinois 60563-2787
REGISTRANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER, INCLUDING AREA CODE: (630) 245-7200	
DATE OF FISCAL YEAR END: October 31, 2016	
DATE OF REPORTING PERIOD: November 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016	

Table of Contents

Item 1. Report to Shareholders

Table of Contents

Experience and Foresight

About Calamos Investments

For over 35 years, we have helped investors like you manage and build wealth to meet their long-term individual objectives by working to capitalize on the opportunities of the evolving global marketplace. We launched our first mutual fund in 1985 and our first closed-end fund in 2002. Today, we manage six closed-end funds. Three are enhanced fixed income offerings, which pursue high current income from income and capital gains. Three are income-oriented total return offerings, which seek current income, with increased emphasis on capital gains potential. Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund (CSQ), falls into this latter category. Please see page 4 for a more detailed overview of our closed-end offerings.

We are dedicated to helping our clients build and protect wealth. We understand when you entrust us with your assets, you also entrust us with your achievements, goals and aspirations. We believe we best honor this trust by making investment decisions guided by integrity, by discipline, and by our conscientious research.

We believe an active, risk-conscious approach is essential for wealth creation. In the 1970s, we pioneered strategies that seek to participate in equity market upside and mitigate some of the potential risks of equity market volatility. Our investment process seeks to manage risk at multiple levels and draws upon our experience investing through multiple market cycles.

We have a global perspective. We believe globalization offers tremendous opportunities for countries and companies all over the world. In our view, this creates significant opportunities for investors. In our U.S., global and international portfolios, we are seeking to capitalize on the potential growth of the global economy.

We believe there are opportunities in all markets. Our history traces back to the 1970s, a period of significant volatility and economic concerns. We have invested through multiple market cycles, each with its own challenges. Out of this experience comes our belief that the flipside of volatility is opportunity.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Letter to Shareholders</u>	1
<u>The Calamos Closed-End Funds:</u>	
<u>An Overview</u>	4
<u>Investment Team Discussion</u>	5
<u>Schedule of Investments</u>	8
<u>Statement of Assets and Liabilities</u>	14
<u>Statement of Operations</u>	15
<u>Statements of Changes In Net Assets</u>	16
<u>Statement of Cash Flows</u>	17
<u>Notes to Financial Statements</u>	18
<u>Financial Highlights</u>	26
<u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	27
<u>About Closed-End Funds</u>	28
<u>Level Rate Distribution Policy</u>	29
<u>Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan</u>	29

Table of Contents

Letter to Shareholders

JOHN P. CALAMOS, SR.

Founder, Chairman and Global Chief Investment Officer

Dear Fellow Shareholder:

Welcome to your semiannual report for the six-month period ended April 30, 2016. In this report, you will find commentary from the management teams of the Calamos Funds, as well as a listing of portfolio holdings, financial statements and highlights and detailed information about the Fund's performance and positioning. I invite you to review not only the commentary for this Fund, but also to discuss with your financial advisor if there are other Calamos Funds that could be suitable for your asset allocation.

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund (CSQ) is an income-oriented total return fund. This means we are focused not only on delivering a competitive stream of distributions, but also on total return. We utilize dynamic asset allocation to pursue high current income with a less rate-sensitive approach, while also maintaining a focus on capital gains.

Distributions

During the period, the Fund provided a compelling monthly distribution of \$0.0825 per share. We believe the Fund's current annualized distribution rate, which was 10.03%* on a market price basis as of April 30, 2016, was very competitive, given the low interest rates in many segments of the bond market. In our view, the Fund's distributions illustrate the benefits of a multi-asset class approach and flexible allocation strategy.

We understand that many closed-end fund investors seek steady, predictable distributions instead of distributions that fluctuate. Therefore, this Fund has a level rate distribution policy. As part of this policy, we aim to keep distributions consistent from month to month, and at a level that we believe can be sustained over the long term. In setting the Fund's distribution rate, the investment management team and the Fund's Board of Trustees consider the interest rate, market and economic environment. We also factor in our assessment of individual securities and asset classes. (For additional information on our level rate distribution policy, please see *The Calamos Closed-End Funds: An Overview* on page 4 and *Level Rate Distribution Policy* on page 29.)

* Current Annualized Distribution Rate is the Fund's most recent distribution, expressed as an annualized percentage of the Fund's current market price per share. The Fund's 4/15/16 distribution was \$0.0825 per share. Based on our current estimates, we anticipate that approximately \$0.0423 is paid from ordinary income or capital gains and that approximately \$0.0402 represents a return of capital. Estimates are calculated on a tax basis rather than on a generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) basis, but should not be used for tax reporting purposes. Distributions are subject to re-characterization for tax purposes after the end of the fiscal year. This information is not legal or tax advice. Consult a professional regarding your specific legal or tax matters. Under the Fund's level rate distribution policy, distributions paid to common shareholders may include net investment income, net realized short-term capital gains and return of capital. When the net investment income and net realized short-term capital gains are not sufficient, a portion of the level rate distribution will be a return of capital. In addition, a limited number of distributions per calendar year may include net realized long-term capital gains. Distribution rate may vary.

Table of Contents

Letter to Shareholders

Market Review

The reporting period proved to be an extremely turbulent time in the financial markets, as changing sentiment fueled volatility and market rotation. During the final months of 2015, investors appeared to show concern about low commodity prices, global economic growth forecasts, and the implications of central bank policies including the Federal Reserve's move to raise short-term interest rates for the first time since 2006.

As 2016 began, markets fell sharply as investor apprehension increased. By mid-February, investors appeared more confident about the health of the U.S. economy and the likelihood of fewer Fed increases, while commodity prices stabilized. This increased optimism drove a rally in emerging markets, high yield bonds, and value and cyclical stocks. (A stronger economic environment can provide tailwinds for cyclically oriented companies and fewer hurdles for companies with less robust growth prospects.)

In this challenging environment, the S&P 500 Index gained 0.43% for the semiannual period. As for convertibles, the BofA Merrill Lynch All U.S. Convertibles Index fell 2.88%. The Credit Suisse High Yield Index returned 1.73%.

Our Use of Leverage**

We have the flexibility to utilize leverage in this Fund. **Over the long term, we believe that the judicious use of leverage provides us with opportunities to enhance total return and support the Fund's distribution rate.** Leverage strategies typically entail borrowing at short-term interest rates and investing the proceeds at higher rates of return. During the reporting period, we believed the prudent use of leverage would be advantageous given the economic environment, specifically the low borrowing costs we were able to secure. Overall, we believe the use of leverage will contribute favorably to the returns of the Fund, as we anticipate that the performance of the Fund's holdings will exceed the cost of borrowing.

Outlook

We do not believe a U.S. recession is imminent but the pace of expansion is likely to be measured in 2016. Similarly, we expect that the global economy will grow, but not at a robust pace overall. Around the world, fiscal policy remains an overarching cause of concern, as a lack of clarity on key regulatory issues casts a shadow over a number of sectors. We believe investors will be challenged by a host of uncertainties, including global growth concerns, the policies of the Fed and other central banks, the U.S. presidential election, commodity prices, and geopolitical uncertainties.

** Leverage creates risks that may adversely affect return, including the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value and market price of common shares, and fluctuations in the variable rates of the leverage financing. The Fund has a non-fundamental policy that it will not issue preferred shares, borrow money, or issue debt securities with an aggregate liquidation preference and aggregate principal amount exceeding 38% of the Fund's managed assets as measured immediately after the issuance of any preferred shares or debt. Prior to May 22, 2015, this leverage limitation was measured according to the Fund's total assets.

Table of Contents

Letter to Shareholders

Our teams continue to identify opportunities in this slower growth environment, but they recognize that selectivity and risk management remain crucial. We believe investment opportunities exist across many asset classes, but selectivity remains paramount. During the reporting period, swings in market sentiment illustrated investors' tendency to respond dramatically to events and data. Our portfolio management teams are holding to their long-term discipline, seeking to capitalize on short-term investor emotion as they position the funds for longer-term opportunities.

Conclusion

The market environment is always changing. To keep up-to-date on our views of the global financial markets and the opportunities that are emerging, I encourage you to visit our website on an ongoing basis. You'll find our blog and videos from our team, as well as a variety of pieces designed to help you and your financial advisor make sound asset allocation decisions that align with your long-term goals and risk tolerance.

As always, we thank you for your continued trust. All of us at Calamos Investments are honored that you have chosen us to help you achieve your financial goals.

Sincerely,

John P. Calamos, Sr.

Founder, Chairman and Global Chief Investment Officer

Before investing, carefully consider a Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. Please see the prospectus containing this and other information or call 800.582.6959. Please read the prospectus carefully. Performance data represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted.

The S&P 500 Index represents the U.S. stock market. The BofA ML All U.S. Convertibles Index is representative of the U.S. convertible market. The Credit Suisse High Yield Index is considered generally representative of the U.S. market for high yield bonds. Source: Lipper

Unmanaged index returns assume reinvestment of any and all distributions and, unlike fund returns, do not reflect fees, expenses or sales charges. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. Investments in overseas markets pose special risks, including currency fluctuation and political risks. These risks are generally intensified for investments in emerging markets. Countries, regions, and sectors mentioned are presented to illustrate countries, regions, and sectors in which a fund may invest. Fund holdings are subject to change daily. The Fund is actively managed. The information contained herein is based on internal research derived from various sources and does not purport to be statements of all material facts relating to the securities mentioned. The information contained herein, while not guaranteed as to the accuracy or completeness, has been obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. There are certain risks involved with investing in convertible securities in addition to market risk, such as call risk, dividend risk, liquidity risk and default risk, that should be carefully considered prior to investing. This information is being provided for informational purposes only and should not be considered investment advice or an offer to buy or sell any security in the portfolio.

Table of Contents

The Calamos Closed-End Funds: An Overview

In our closed-end funds, we draw upon decades of investment experience, including a long history of opportunistically blending asset classes in an attempt to capture upside potential while seeking to manage downside risk. We launched our first closed-end fund in 2002.

Closed-end funds are long-term investments. Most focus on providing monthly distributions, but there are important differences among individual closed-end funds. Calamos closed-end funds can be grouped into multiple categories that seek to produce income while offering exposure to various asset classes and sectors.

Portfolios Positioned to Pursue High Current Income from Income and Capital Gains

OBJECTIVE: U.S. ENHANCED FIXED INCOME
Calamos Convertible Opportunities and Income Fund

(Ticker: CHI)

Invests in high yield and convertible securities, primarily in U.S. markets

Calamos Convertible and High Income Fund

(Ticker: CHY)

Invests in high yield and convertible securities, primarily in U.S. markets

OBJECTIVE: GLOBAL ENHANCED FIXED INCOME

Calamos Global Dynamic Income Fund

(Ticker: CHW)

Invests in global fixed income securities, alternative investments and equities

Our Level Rate Distribution Policy

Closed-end fund investors often look for a steady stream of income. Recognizing this, Calamos closed-end funds have a level rate distribution policy in which we aim to keep monthly income consistent through the disbursement of net investment income, net realized short-term capital gains and, if necessary, return of capital. We set distributions at levels that we believe are sustainable for the long term. Our team is focused on delivering an attractive monthly distribution, while maintaining a long-term focus on risk management. The level of the funds' distributions can be greatly influenced by market conditions, including the interest rate environment. The funds' distributions will depend on the individual performance of positions the funds hold, our view of the benefits of retaining leverage, fund tax considerations, and maintaining regulatory requirements.

Portfolios Positioned to Seek Current Income, with Increased Emphasis on Capital Gains Potential

OBJECTIVE: GLOBAL TOTAL RETURN
Calamos Global Total Return Fund

(Ticker: CGO)

Invests in equities and higher-yielding convertible securities and corporate bonds, in both U.S. and non-U.S. markets

OBJECTIVE: U.S. TOTAL RETURN

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund

(Ticker: CSQ)

Invests in equities and higher-yielding convertible securities and corporate bonds, primarily in U.S. markets

Calamos Dynamic Convertible and Income Fund

(Ticker: CCD)

Invests in convertibles and other fixed income securities

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For more information about any of these funds, we encourage you to contact your financial advisor or Calamos Investments at 800.582.6959 (Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Central Time). You can also visit us at www.calamos.com.

For more information on our level rate distribution policy, please see page 29.

4 CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND SEMIANNUAL REPORT

Table of Contents

Investment Team Discussion

STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND (CSQ)

INVESTMENT TEAM DISCUSSION

Please discuss the Fund's strategy and role within an asset allocation.

Calamos Strategic Total Return Fund (CSQ) is a total-return-oriented offering that seeks to provide a steady stream of income paid out on a monthly basis. We invest in a diversified portfolio of equities, convertible securities and high yield securities. The allocation to each asset class is dynamic, and reflects our view of the economic landscape as well as the potential of individual securities. By combining these asset classes, we believe that we are well positioned over the long term to generate capital gains as well as income. This broader range of security types also provides us with increased opportunities to manage the risk/reward characteristics of the portfolio over full market cycles. Through this approach, we seek to offer investors an attractive monthly distribution as well as equity participation.

We believe our exposure to the equity markets will allow us to manage the Fund's risk during high periods of market volatility and enable us to optimize our performance going forward.

While we invest primarily in securities of U.S. issuers, we favor those companies that are actively participating in globalization with geographically diversified revenue streams and global business strategies. We emphasize companies that we believe offer reliable debt servicing, respectable balance sheets and good prospects for sustainable growth. We continue to remain cautiously optimistic with respect to the U.S. equity market and look forward to continued growth through modest economic improvement.

How did the Fund perform over the reporting period?

The Fund decreased 0.78% on a net asset value (NAV) basis and gained 1.95% on a market price basis for the six-month period ended April 30, 2016, while the S&P 500 Index finished almost flat with a 0.43% gain and the Credit Suisse High Yield Index returned 1.73% for the same period.

At the end of the reporting period, the Fund's shares traded at a 10.19% discount to net asset value.

How do NAV and market price return differ?

Closed-end funds trade on exchanges, where the price of shares may be driven by factors other than the value of the underlying securities. The price of a share in the market is called market value. Market price may be influenced by factors unrelated to the performance of the fund's holdings, such as general market sentiment or future expectations. A fund's NAV return measures the actual return of the individual securities in the portfolio, less fund expenses. It also measures how a manager was able to capitalize on market opportunities. Because we believe closed-end funds are best utilized as a long-term holding within asset allocations, we believe that NAV return is the better measure of a fund's performance. However, when managing the fund, we strongly consider actions and policies that we believe will optimize its overall price performance and returns based on market value.

TOTAL RETURN* AS OF 4/30/16

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Common Shares Inception 3/26/04

	6 Months	1 Year	Since Inception**
On Market Price	1.95%	-4.33%	5.13%
On NAV	-0.78%	-1.60%	6.47%

*Total return measures net investment income and net realized gain or loss from Fund investments, and change in net unrealized appreciation or depreciation, assuming reinvestment of income and net realized gains distributions.

**Annualized since inception.

SECTOR WEIGHTINGS

Consumer Discretionary	17.8%
Information Technology	17.1
Financials	14.4
Industrials	12.7
Health Care	12.2
Energy	7.6
Consumer Staples	6.8
Telecommunication Services	3.4
Utilities	2.5
Materials	2.3

Sector Weightings are based on managed assets and may vary over time. Sector Weightings exclude any government/sovereign bonds or options on broad market indexes the Fund may hold.

Table of Contents

Investment Team Discussion

ASSET ALLOCATION AS OF 4/30/16

Fund asset allocations are based on total investments and may vary over time.

Please discuss the Fund's distributions during the period.

We employ a level rate distribution policy within this Fund with the goal of providing shareholders with a consistent distribution stream. In each month of the period, the Fund distributed \$0.0825 per share, resulting in a current annualized distribution rate of 10.03% of market price as of April 30, 2016.

We believe that both the Fund's distribution rate and level remained attractive and competitive, as low interest rates limited yield opportunities in much of the marketplace. For example, as of April 30, 2016, the dividend yield of S&P 500 Index stocks averaged approximately 2.19%. Yields also were low within the U.S. government bond market, with the 10-year U.S. Treasury and 30-year U.S. Treasury yielding 1.83% and 2.68%, respectively.

What factors influenced performance over the reporting period?

The Fund has a wide set of investment parameters that allow us to take advantage of investment opportunities around the world through numerous types of investment vehicles. By optimizing the advantages of such flexibility, the Fund was able to maintain its exposure to the equity markets, which improved during the period despite bouts of significant volatility. In addition, convertibles and bonds provided income to the portfolio for the year.

In terms of economic sectors, our overweight to the consumer discretionary sector contributed to performance versus the S&P 500 Index, particularly holdings in the retail catalog industry. In addition, our allocation to industrials, especially in the conglomerates industry, was helpful.

Selection in financials, especially in diversified banks, hindered performance. Further, our holdings in telecommunication services, in particular in the integrated communication services industry, also lagged.

Overall, convertibles lagged equities during the period, which dampened performance.

How is the Fund positioned?

Given our outlook for a continued period of muted economic growth, we are favoring quality growth companies over cyclicals. We are emphasizing investments in companies with what we believe to be solid cash flow generation and stronger balance sheets. From a thematic and sector perspective, we see opportunities in the information technology sector, consumer companies tied to global consumption, and businesses positioned to benefit from improving fundamentals in Europe. We are cautious about companies that we believe are vulnerable to regulatory headwinds, such as pharmaceutical companies. We believe our active, risk-managed investment approach positions us to take advantage of the volatility and opportunities in global equities and convertible securities.

We are also cognizant that rising interest rates can have a detrimental effect on longer-term fixed income securities. We make managing the duration of our portfolio a priority to mitigate the potential impact.

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In terms of positioning, we maintained a relatively high allocation to U.S. stocks and convertibles. We are excited about the opportunities in the convertible market as steady issuance makes additional choices in the space available. Accordingly, we believe we have been able to take advantage by making attractive choices and establishing meaningful exposure in those investments.

6 CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND SEMIANNUAL REPORT

Table of Contents

Investment Team Discussion

SINCE INCEPTION MARKET PRICE AND NAV HISTORY THROUGH 4/30/16

Performance data quoted represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. The principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that your shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Returns at NAV reflect the deduction of the Fund's management fee, debt leverage costs and all other applicable fees and expenses. You can obtain performance data current to the most recent month end by visiting www.calamos.com.

The portfolio currently holds large absolute allocations to the information technology, consumer discretionary and financials sectors. We expect our positioning to benefit in the future as more companies seek solutions to enhance and improve productivity and business performance. We believe these sectors remain poised to benefit from many of our long-term secular themes, including increased accessibility to data and robust consumer demand for products and services that provide access to information.

The average credit quality of the portfolio is higher than that of the Credit Suisse High Yield index. This is typical for the Fund, as our credit process tends to guide us away from the most speculative corporate securities. We view the lowest-credit tiers of the market as less attractive because of valuations and our outlook for a slower-growth global economy.

What are your closing thoughts for Fund shareholders?

Thus far, 2016 has delivered on the higher volatility, relatively lower total return environment we had anticipated at the start of the year. We believe market volatility likely will continue, as modest global economic growth, geopolitical tensions, upcoming elections and divergent central bank policies influence markets. Favorable factors within the U.S. include solid job creation, low interest rates and limited inflationary pressures. Potential risks to the economy include deflation, fiscal policy and onerous regulations. There are signs of improvement in Europe as mixed but improved economic data reflects resilience despite persistent low inflation. Japan's economy remains lackluster, although we saw many bottom-up investment opportunities born out of increased capital efficiency. China's recent releases reveal a pickup in economic data but also divergence between weaker industrial data versus stronger demand in consumption and services.

Equity and equity-sensitive securities continue to offer what we believe are attractive risk/reward characteristics from a long-term perspective. We continue to pursue our strategic objective to participate in a significant portion of equity market upside while aiming to reduce volatility versus global equities across a complete market cycle.

Table of Contents**Schedule of Investments** April 30, 2016 (Unaudited)

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
CORPORATE BONDS (26.2%)		
Consumer Discretionary (6.3%)		
1,400,000	Altice Luxembourg, SA* 7.750%, 05/15/22	\$ 1,401,750
550,000	Argos Merger Sub, Inc.*m 7.125%, 03/15/23	562,031
5,955,000	CalAtlantic Group, Inc.m 5.375%, 10/01/22	6,137,372
6,482,000	CCO Holdings, LLC / CCO Holdings Capital Corp. 6.625%, 01/31/22	6,887,125
2,300,000	CCO Safari II, LLC*m 4.908%, 07/23/25	2,478,250
1,749,000	Century Communities, Inc.m 6.875%, 05/15/22	1,707,461
5,000,000	Dana Holding Corp. 6.750%, 02/15/21	5,184,375
12,230,000	DISH DBS Corp.m 5.875%, 07/15/22	11,962,469
5,000,000	6.750%, 06/01/21	5,193,750
3,500,000	5.125%, 05/01/20	3,535,000
3,300,000	Dufry Finance, SCA* 5.500%, 10/15/20	3,436,125
1,390,000	GameStop Corp.* 6.750%, 03/15/21	1,367,413
1,315,000	5.500%, 10/01/19m	1,282,125
2,171,000	Golden Nugget Escrow, Inc.* 8.500%, 12/01/21	2,255,126
4,500,000	Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company 7.000%, 05/15/22m	4,871,250
400,000	5.125%, 11/15/23	415,250
4,000,000	L Brands, Inc. 6.875%, 11/01/35	4,400,000
2,750,000	5.625%, 02/15/22m	3,031,875
2,435,000	Liberty Interactive, LLCm 8.250%, 02/01/30	2,556,750
3,280,000	Meritage Homes Corp.m 7.000%, 04/01/22	3,540,350
2,500,000	7.150%, 04/15/20	2,700,000
2,600,000	Numericable-SFR, SA* 6.000%, 05/15/22	2,619,500
1,400,000	7.375%, 05/01/26	1,424,500
1,650,000	Reliance Intermediate Holdings, LP* 6.500%, 04/01/23	1,727,344
8,610,000	Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd.m 7.500%, 10/15/27	9,933,787
1,308,000	Sally Holdings, LLC / Sally Capital, Inc.m 5.625%, 12/01/25	1,403,648
7,800,000	Sirius XM Radio, Inc.* 6.000%, 07/15/24	8,258,250
2,900,000	Time, Inc.*m 5.750%, 04/15/22	2,789,437
3,895,000	ZF North America Capital, Inc.*m 4.750%, 04/29/25	3,946,122

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PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
Consumer Staples (0.8%)		
2,102,000	Alphabet Holding Company, Inc. 7.750%, 11/01/17	\$ 2,127,151
2,150,000	Fresh Market, Inc.*^ 9.750%, 05/01/23	2,121,781
4,700,000	JBS USA, LLC*m 5.750%, 06/15/25	4,347,500
1,054,000	NBTY, Inc.* 7.625%, 05/15/21	1,072,445
3,031,000	Post Holdings, Inc.m 7.375%, 02/15/22	3,199,599
1,105,000	7.750%, 03/15/24*	1,206,522
		14,074,998
Energy (3.4%)		
6,169,000	Atwood Oceanics, Inc.m 6.500%, 02/01/20	4,090,818
1,330,000	Bill Barrett Corp. 7.000%, 10/15/22	975,888
2,340,000	Bonanza Creek Energy, Inc. 6.750%, 04/15/21	921,375
6,250,000	Calfrac Holdings, LP*m 7.500%, 12/01/20	3,125,000
	Calumet Specialty Products Partners, LP	
2,400,000	7.625%, 01/15/22	1,614,000
664,000	6.500%, 04/15/21	460,650
	Carrizo Oil & Gas, Inc.m	
3,035,000	7.500%, 09/15/20	3,076,731
1,250,000	6.250%, 04/15/23	1,209,375
7,847,000	Cimarex Energy Companym 5.875%, 05/01/22	8,277,251
5,430,000	Drill Rigs Holdings, Inc.* 6.500%, 10/01/17	3,366,600
	Energy Transfer Equity, LPm	
1,850,000	5.500%, 06/01/27	1,596,781
575,000	5.875%, 01/15/24	537,984
4,600,000	Gulfmark Offshore, Inc. 6.375%, 03/15/22	2,104,500
1,832,000	Gulfport Energy Corp.m 7.750%, 11/01/20	1,858,335
3,470,000	MPLX, LP* 4.875%, 06/01/25	3,358,665
	Oasis Petroleum, Inc.m	
4,965,000	6.500%, 11/01/21	4,539,872
1,200,000	6.875%, 01/15/23	1,078,500
680,000	Rice Energy, Inc. 7.250%, 05/01/23	688,075
6,500,000	SEACOR Holdings, Inc.m 7.375%, 10/01/19	6,045,000
2,302,000	SM Energy Companym 6.500%, 11/15/21	2,129,350
3,340,000	Trinidad Drilling, Ltd.* 7.875%, 01/15/19	2,726,275
8,245,000	W&T Offshore, Inc. 8.500%, 06/15/19	1,355,272

Table of Contents

Schedule of Investments April 30, 2016 (Unaudited)

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
2,150,000	Western Refining, Inc.m 6.250%, 04/01/21	\$ 2,000,844
		57,137,141
	Financials (2.2%)	
	Ally Financial, Inc.	
3,100,000	7.500%, 09/15/20	3,497,188
1,536,000	8.000%, 11/01/31	1,846,080
5,100,000	AON Corp.m 8.205%, 01/01/27	6,502,500
	DuPont Fabros Technology, LPm	
1,100,000	5.875%, 09/15/21	1,156,375
785,000	5.625%, 06/15/23	812,966
3,401,000	First Cash Financial Services, Inc.m 6.750%, 04/01/21	3,356,362
260,000	Iron Mountain, Inc.*m 6.000%, 10/01/20	275,275
6,025,000	Jefferies Finance, LLC*m 7.375%, 04/01/20	5,588,187
11,000,000	Neuberger Berman Group, LLC*m 5.875%, 03/15/22	11,466,730
2,400,000	Quicken Loans, Inc.*m 5.750%, 05/01/25	2,260,500
		36,762,163
	Health Care (2.6%)	
5,580,000	Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc.* 6.500%, 03/01/24	5,932,237
983,000	Alere, Inc. 6.500%, 06/15/20	975,628
6,285,000	Community Health Systems, Inc.m 7.125%, 07/15/20	6,084,666
1,270,000	Endo International, PLC*m 7.750%, 01/15/22	1,320,800
2,600,000	Endo, Ltd.*^ 6.000%, 07/15/23	2,562,625
8,905,000	HCA Holdings, Inc.m 5.875%, 05/01/23	9,405,906
1,025,000	Hologic, Inc.*m 5.250%, 07/15/22	1,080,734
1,700,000	Jaguar Holding Company II / Pharmaceutical Product Development, LLC*m 6.375%, 08/01/23	1,776,500
3,600,000	Mallinckrodt International Finance, SA / Mallinckrodt CB, LLC*^ 5.625%, 10/15/23	3,384,000
2,915,000	Teleflex, Inc.m 5.250%, 06/15/24	3,051,641
3,600,000	Tenet Healthcare Corp.^ 6.750%, 06/15/23	3,577,500
4,500,000		4,173,750

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PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
	Valeant Pharmaceuticals International, Inc.*m 7.000%, 10/01/20	
1,800,000	VPII Escrow Corp.* 6.750%, 08/15/18	\$ 1,743,750
		45,069,737
	Industrials (3.8%)	
6,070,000	ACCO Brands Corp.m 6.750%, 04/30/20	6,449,375
5,080,000	Deluxe Corp.m 6.000%, 11/15/20	5,305,425
2,105,000	Garda World Security Corp.* 7.250%, 11/15/21	1,723,469
4,605,000	H&E Equipment Services, Inc.m 7.000%, 09/01/22	4,648,172
	Icahn Enterprises, LPm	
4,800,000	6.000%, 08/01/20	4,791,000
1,595,000	5.875%, 02/01/22	1,530,203
265,000	4.875%, 03/15/19	264,503
	Meritor, Inc.m	
3,756,000	6.750%, 06/15/21	3,518,902
1,867,000	6.250%, 02/15/24	1,668,631
	Michael Baker International, LLC*m	
1,943,000	8.250%, 10/15/18	1,867,709
1,572,047	8.875%, 04/15/19	1,135,804
5,720,000	Navistar International Corp.^ 8.250%, 11/01/21	4,154,150
8,000,000	Terex Corp.m 6.500%, 04/01/20	8,000,000
5,000,000	TransDigm, Inc. 6.500%, 07/15/24	5,053,125
2,300,000	United Continental Holdings, Inc.m 6.375%, 06/01/18	2,426,500
11,500,000	United Rentals North America, Inc.m 7.625%, 04/15/22	12,305,000
		64,841,968
	Information Technology (3.0%)	
3,000,000	Activision Blizzard, Inc.*m 5.625%, 09/15/21	3,157,500
	Amkor Technology, Inc.m	
4,500,000	6.625%, 06/01/21	4,384,687
3,080,000	6.375%, 10/01/22	2,933,700
1,250,000	Anixter, Inc.*m 5.500%, 03/01/23	1,280,469
11,000,000	Belden, Inc.*m 5.500%, 09/01/22	11,213,125
3,280,000	Cardtronics, Inc.m 5.125%, 08/01/22	3,294,350
	CDW, LLC / CDW Finance Corp.	
2,600,000	6.000%, 08/15/22	2,783,625
809,000	5.000%, 09/01/23m	828,719
2,350,000	CommScope Technologies Finance, LLC*m 6.000%, 06/15/25	2,417,563
7,800,000	First Data Corp.* 7.000%, 12/01/23	8,053,500
2,900,000	Nuance Communications, Inc.*m 5.375%, 08/15/20	2,983,375

See accompanying Notes to Schedule of Investments

CALAMOS STRATEGIC TOTAL RETURN FUND SEMIANNUAL REPORT 9

Table of Contents**Schedule of Investments** April 30, 2016 (Unaudited)

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT		VALUE
7,000,000	ViaSat, Inc.m 6.875%, 06/15/20	\$ 7,258,125
		50,588,738
	Materials (1.2%)	
2,250,000	Alcoa, Inc.m 5.125%, 10/01/24	2,200,781
3,000,000	ArcelorMittal, SA^ 6.125%, 06/01/25	2,945,625
1,231,000	Chemtura Corp.m 5.750%, 07/15/21	1,232,539
	First Quantum Minerals, Ltd.*	
787,000	7.000%, 02/15/21	638,454
777,000	6.750%, 02/15/20	648,309
	INEOS Group Holdings, SA*^	
3,200,000	6.125%, 08/15/18	3,260,000
600,000	5.875%, 02/15/19	611,625
3,650,000	New Gold, Inc.* 7.000%, 04/15/20	3,563,312
1,340,000	Sealed Air Corp.*m 5.250%, 04/01/23	1,432,963
3,600,000	Trinseo Materials Operating, SCA* 6.750%, 05/01/22	3,726,000
		20,259,608
	Telecommunication Services (1.7%)	
	CenturyLink, Inc.	
1,956,000	6.750%, 12/01/23m	1,940,107
975,000	7.500%, 04/01/24	978,047
	Frontier Communications Corp.m	
3,380,000	7.625%, 04/15/24	3,018,762
2,880,000	10.500%, 09/15/22*	2,973,600
1,550,000	11.000%, 09/15/25*	1,571,313
187,000	6.875%, 01/15/25	156,379
2,415,000	Intelsat Jackson Holdings, SA* 8.000%, 02/15/24	2,494,997
200,000	Neptune Finco Corp.*m 10.125%, 01/15/23	220,125
	Sprint Corp.m	
8,980,000	7.875%, 09/15/23	7,015,625
2,960,000	7.125%, 06/15/24	2,227,400
2,015,000	7.250%, 09/15/21	1,622,075
4,450,000	T-Mobile USA, Inc.m 6.625%, 04/01/23	4,761,500
		28,979,930
	Utilities (1.2%)	

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2,900,000	AES Corp.m 7.375%, 07/01/21	3,322,313
8,150,000	AmeriGas Finance Corp.m 7.000%, 05/20/22	8,633,906
7,491,000	Calpine Corp.*m 7.875%, 01/15/23	7,982,597
		19,938,816
TOTAL CORPORATE BONDS (Cost \$468,342,630)		444,661,534

**PRINCIPAL
AMOUNT**

VALUE

CONVERTIBLE BONDS (14.5%)		
Consumer Discretionary (5.4%)		
	Jarden Corp.m	
13,445,000	1.125%, 03/15/34	\$ 17,408,720
8,300,000	1.500%, 06/15/19	13,064,200
18,800,000	Liberty Interactive, LLC (Time Warner Cable, Inc., Time Warner, Inc.)m§ 0.750%, 03/30/43	32,418,250
14,750,000	Liberty Media Corp. 1.375%, 10/15/23	14,852,218
9,000,000	Priceline Group, Inc.m 1.000%, 03/15/18	13,297,680
		91,041,068
Financials (0.9%)		
7,676,000	Ares Capital Corp.m 4.750%, 01/15/18	7,999,812
3,400,000	IAS Operating Partnership, LP* 5.000%, 03/15/18	3,277,753
3,500,000	Starwood Property Trust, Inc.m 4.550%, 03/01/18	3,566,343
		14,843,908