

PROSPECTUS

VIRTUS VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST



April 30, 2021

Virtus Duff & Phelps Real Estate Securities Series

The Prospectus describes the Virtus Duff & Phelps Real Estate Securities Series (the "Series"), which is available as an underlying investment through a variable life insurance policy or a variable annuity contract (a "variable contract"). For information about your variable contract, including information about insurance-related expenses, see the prospectus for your variable contract.

The Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense. Please carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the Series before investing. For this and other information about any Virtus Variable Insurance Trust series, call 800-367-5877 or visit virtus.com for a prospectus. Read it carefully before you invest.

As permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, you may no longer receive paper copies of the Series' shareholder reports from your insurance company unless you specifically request paper copies from the insurance company. If your insurance company elects to use this method of delivery, the shareholder reports will be made available on a website, and the insurance company will notify you by mail each time a report is posted and provide you with a website link to access the report. Instructions for requesting paper copies will be provided by your insurance company. If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action.

You may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from the insurance company electronically by following the instructions provided by the insurance company.

You may elect to receive all future shareholder reports in paper free of charge from the insurance company. You can do so by contacting the insurance company. Your election to receive reports in paper likely will apply to all of the funds available in your insurance product, but you should ask your insurance company whether this is the case.

Virtus Duff & Phelps Real Estate Securities Series

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Virtus Duff & Phelps Real Estate Securities Series

Series Summary

Investment Objective

The Series has investment objectives of capital appreciation and income with approximately equal emphasis.

Fees and Expenses

The following table describes the fees and expenses you may pay if you buy and hold shares of the Virtus Duff & Phelps Real Estate Securities Series. The table does not include any fees or sales charges imposed under the variable contracts for which the Series is an investment option. If they were included, your costs would be higher.

Shareholder Fees <i>(fees paid directly from your investment)</i>	Class A	Class I
Shareholder Fees	None	None

Annual Series Operating Expenses <i>(expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment.)</i>	Class A	Class I
Management Fees	0.75%	0.75%
Distribution and/or Service (12b-1) Fees	0.25%	None
Other Expenses	0.20%	0.20%
Total Annual Series Operating Expenses	1.20%	0.95%
Less: Expense Reimbursement ^(a)	(0.10)%	(0.10)%
Total Annual Series Operating Expenses After Expense Reimbursement ^(a)	1.10%	0.85%

(a) The Series' investment adviser has contractually agreed to limit the Series' total annual operating expenses (excluding certain expenses, such as front-end sales charges, taxes, leverage and borrowing expenses (such as commitment, amendment and renewal expenses on credit or redemption facilities), interest, brokerage commissions, expenses incurred in connection with any merger or reorganization, unusual or infrequently occurring expenses (such as litigation), acquired fund fees and expenses, and dividend expenses, if any) so that such expenses do not exceed 1.10% for Class A Shares and 0.85% for Class I Shares through April 30, 2022. Following the contractual period, the adviser may discontinue these expense reimbursement arrangements at any time. The adviser may recapture operating expenses reimbursed and/or fees waived under these arrangements for a period of three years following the date such waiver or reimbursement occurred, provided that the recapture does not cause the Series to exceed its expense limit in effect at the time of the waiver or reimbursement, or at the time of recapture.

Example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Series with the cost of investing in other mutual funds. The example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the Series for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year, that the Series' total operating expenses remain the same and that the expense reimbursement arrangement remains in place for the contractual period. The example does not reflect variable contract fees and charges, and if it did, the costs shown would be higher. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Class A	\$112	\$371	\$650	\$1,446
Class I	\$87	\$293	\$516	\$1,157

Portfolio Turnover

The Series pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs. These costs, which are not reflected in Annual Series Operating Expenses or in the Example, affect the Series' performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Series' portfolio turnover rate was 26% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Series offers exposure to the equity real estate investment trust ("REIT") market utilizing a quality and relative value style with a fundamental security analysis approach designed to identify the most attractive investment candidates. The subadviser believes the value of a REIT extends beyond the value of the underlying real estate and that through fundamental research, it can uncover and exploit inefficiencies in the market.

Under normal circumstances, the Series invests at least 80% of its assets in publicly-traded REITs and companies that are principally engaged in the real estate industry. The Series concentrates its assets in the real estate industry.

Principal Risks

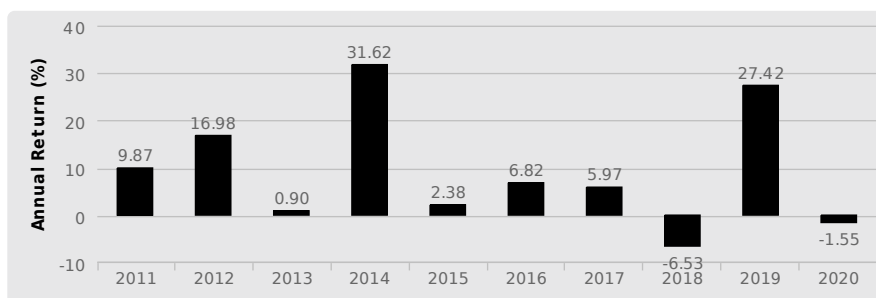
The Series may not achieve its objective(s), and it is not intended to be a complete investment program. The value of the Series' investments that supports your share value may decrease. If between the time you purchase shares and the time you sell shares the value of the Series' investments decreases, you will lose money. Investment values can decrease for a number of reasons. Conditions affecting the overall economy, specific industries or companies in which the Series invests can be worse than expected, and investments may fail to perform as the subadviser expects. As a result, the value of your shares may decrease. Purchase and redemption activities by separate accounts of participating insurance companies may impact the management of the Series and its ability to achieve its investment objective(s). The principal risks of investing in the Series are:

- > **Equity Securities Risk.** The value of the stocks held by the Series may be negatively affected by the financial market, industries in which the Series invests, or issuer-specific events. Focus on a particular style or in small or medium-sized companies may enhance that risk.
- > **Real Estate Investment Risk.** The Series may be negatively affected by changes in real estate values or economic conditions, credit risk and interest rate fluctuations, and changes in the value of the underlying real estate and defaults by borrowers.
- > **Industry/Sector Concentration Risk.** A Series that focuses its investments in a particular industry or sector will be more sensitive to conditions that affect that industry or sector than a non-concentrated Series. Such a focus may cause a decrease in the Series' value, perhaps significantly.
- > **Market Volatility Risk.** The value of the securities in the Series may go up or down in response to the prospects of individual companies and/or general economic conditions. Price changes may be short- or long-term. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issue, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Series and its investments, including hampering the ability of the Series' portfolio manager(s) to invest the Series assets as intended.
- > **Equity REIT Securities Risk.** The Series' value may be negatively affected by factors specific to the real estate market such as interest rates, leverage, property, and management. The Series' value may also be negatively affected by factors specific to investing through a pooled vehicle, such as poor management, concentration risk, or other risks typically associated with investing in small or medium market capitalization companies.
- > **Redemption Risk.** One or more large shareholders or groups of shareholders may redeem their holdings in the Series, resulting in an adverse impact on remaining shareholders in the Series by causing the Series to take actions it would not otherwise have taken.

Performance

The following bar chart and table provide some indication of the risks of investing in the Series. The bar chart shows changes in the Series' performance from year to year over a 10-year period. The table shows how the Series' average annual returns compare to those of a broad-based securities market index. The Series' past performance is not necessarily an indication of how the Series will perform in the future. The Series' returns in the chart and table do not reflect the deduction of any separate account or variable contract charges. The returns would have been less than those shown if such charges were deducted.

Calendar Year Annual Total Returns for Class A Shares



Best Quarter: Q4/2011: 16.40% Worst Quarter: Q1/2020: -22.92% Year to date (3/31/21): 7.91%

Average Annual Total Returns (for the periods ended 12/31/20)	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years	Since Inception Class I (4/30/13)
Class A	-1.55%	5.83%	8.78%	—
Class I	-1.33%	6.08%	—	6.57%
FTSE Nareit Equity REITs Index (does not reflect fees or expenses)	-8.00%	4.77%	8.31%	5.47%

Class I Shares have been in existence only since April 30, 2013; therefore, limited performance information for Class I Shares is available to include here. However, the returns for Class I Shares for other periods would have been substantially similar to those shown for Class A Shares because Class I Shares and Class A Shares are invested in the same portfolio of securities. Class A Shares pay distribution and services (12b-1) fees and Class I Shares do not; therefore, had the Class I Shares been operational during the periods shown only for Class A Shares, investment performance for Class I Shares would have been higher than for Class A Shares.

The FTSE Nareit Equity REITs Index is a free-float market capitalization index measuring equity tax-qualified REITs, which meet minimum size and liquidity criteria, that are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and the NASDAQ National Market System. The FTSE Nareit Equity REITs Index is calculated on a total return basis with dividends reinvested. The index is unmanaged and not available for direct investment.

Updated performance information is available at virtus.com or by calling 800-367-5877.

Management

The Adviser and Subadviser

Virtus Investment Advisers, Inc. ("VIA") is the investment adviser to the Series.

Duff & Phelps Investment Management Co. ("Duff & Phelps"), an affiliate of VIA, is the subadviser to the Series.

Portfolio Managers

- > **Geoffrey P. Dybas, CFA**, Executive Managing Director and Global REIT Team Head at Duff & Phelps. Mr. Dybas has served as a Senior Portfolio Manager of the Series since 2007.
- > **Frank J. Haggerty, Jr., CFA**, Senior Managing Director and Senior Portfolio Manager at Duff & Phelps. Mr. Haggerty has served as a Portfolio Manager of the Series since 2007.

Purchase and Sale of Series Shares

The Series does not offer its shares to the general public. The Series currently offers shares only to the separate accounts of participating insurance companies. Virtus Variable Insurance Trust (the "Trust"), of which the Series is a separate investment portfolio, has entered into an agreement with the insurance company sponsor of each separate account (participation agreement) setting forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which the insurance company will purchase and redeem shares of the Series. For information concerning the purchase of units of the separate accounts, see the variable contract prospectus.

Tax Information

Since the separate accounts are the only shareholders of the Series, no discussion is included herein as to the federal income tax consequences at the shareholder level. For information concerning the federal income tax consequences to the purchasers of variable contracts, see the variable contract prospectus which describes the particular separate account and variable contract.

Payments to Insurance Companies and Other Financial Intermediaries

Series shares are generally available only through intermediaries, *i.e.*, the separate accounts. The Series (and/or its related companies) may pay the insurance companies (and/or their related companies) for distribution and/or other services; some of the payments may, in turn, go to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries. For example, the Series may make payments for sub-transfer agency services to one or more of the insurance companies. Such payments may create a conflict of interest for an intermediary by influencing the intermediary's investment recommendations, or be a factor in the insurance company's decision to include the Series as an underlying investment option in a variable contract. Ask your salesperson or review your variable contract prospectus for more information.

More About Principal Investment Strategies

Under normal circumstances, the Series invests at least 80% of its assets in publicly-traded real estate investment trusts (REITs) and companies that are principally engaged in the real estate industry. An issuer is considered principally engaged in the real estate industry for this purpose if at least 50% of its gross revenues or net profits come from the ownership, development, construction, financing, management or sale of real estate. The Series, however, does not make direct investments in real estate. The Series' policy of investing 80% of its assets in real estate related securities may be changed only upon 60 days' written notice to shareholders.

The Series concentrates its assets in the real estate industry.

The Series invests principally in equity REITs. Generally, REITs are publicly-traded companies that manage portfolios of real estate to earn profits for shareholders through investments in commercial and residential real estate. Equity REITs own real estate directly. The Series may invest in issuers of any capitalization. At December 31, 2020, the total market capitalization range of the issuers in which the Series was invested was \$2.3 billion to \$73.6 billion.

The subadviser uses a blended approach in its security selection process, combining a pursuit of growth and value. Securities are selected using a two-tiered screening process. First the subadviser screens the universe of eligible securities for those that it believes offer the potential for reasonably-priced initial appreciation and continued dividend growth and that show signs the issuer is an efficient user of capital. Securities that survive this screening are further evaluated based on interviews and fundamental research that focus on the issuer's strength of management and property, financial and performance reviews.

A security may be evaluated for sale if its market value exceeds the subadviser's estimated value, if its financial performance is expected to decline or if the subadviser believes the security's issuer fails to adjust its strategy to the real estate market cycle.

The Series' subadviser incorporates and integrates Environmental, Societal and Governance ("ESG") factors into its investment analysis and decision-making processes consistent with the Series' investment objectives and strategies. The subadviser's consideration of ESG factors is intended to improve investment outcomes and decrease risk by identifying companies believed to have better operations, the ability to attract and retain the best talent, increased customer satisfaction and market share, and other means of increasing earnings and cash flow over the long term. By incorporating ESG into its fundamental analysis, the subadviser seeks to improve its understanding of the risks and opportunities that companies face. The subadviser has access to independent, third-party ESG research through Sustainalytics, ISS and Bloomberg, and may use these sources in addition to its own research.

The Series' investment objectives are non-fundamental, which means they may be changed without shareholder approval.

Temporary Defensive Strategy: When the subadviser believes there are extraordinary risks associated with investment in real estate related securities, the Series may take temporary defensive positions that are inconsistent with its principal investment strategies by investing up to 100% of its assets in short-term investments such as money market instruments, repurchase agreements, certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances. When this allocation happens, the Series may not achieve its investment objectives.

Please see "More About Principal Risks" for information about the risks of investing in the Series. Please refer to "Additional Risks Associated with Investment Techniques and Series Operations" for other investment techniques of the Series.

More About Principal Risks

The Series' investments are subject generally to market risk and the risk of selecting underperforming securities and asset classes, which may adversely affect the Series and lead to loss of principal.

Equity REIT Securities

Real estate investment trusts ("REITs") are financial vehicles that pool investor capital to purchase or finance real estate. Equity REITs invest primarily in direct ownership or lease of real property, and they derive most of their income from rents. Equity REITs can also realize capital gains by selling properties that have appreciated in value. Investing in equity REITs and REIT-like entities involves certain unique risks in addition to those risks associated with investing in

the real estate industry in general. REITs and REIT-like entities are typically small or medium market capitalization companies, and they are subject to management fees and other expenses. When the Series invests in REITs and REIT-like entities it will bear its proportionate share of the costs of the REITs' and REIT-like entities' operations. REITs and REIT-like entities are dependent upon management skill, may not be diversified, and are subject to heavy cash flow dependency and self-liquidation. REITs and REIT-like entities also are subject to the possibility of failing to qualify for tax-free pass-through of income. Also, because REITs and REIT-like entities typically are invested in a limited number of projects or in a particular market segment, these entities are more susceptible to adverse developments affecting a single project or market segment than more broadly diversified investments. In the event of a default by a borrower or lessee, a REIT may experience delays in enforcing its rights as a mortgagee or lessor and may incur substantial costs associated with protecting its investments. In addition, investment in REITs could cause the Series to possibly fail to qualify as a regulated investment company, depending upon the nature of dividends received by the Series.

Equity Securities

Generally, prices of equity securities are more volatile than those of fixed income securities. The prices of equity securities will rise and fall in response to a number of different factors. In particular, equity securities will respond to events that affect entire financial markets or industries (such as changes in inflation or consumer demand) and to events that affect particular issuers (such as news about the success or failure of a new product). Equity securities also are subject to "stock market risk," meaning that stock prices in general may decline over short or extended periods of time. When the value of the stocks held by the Series goes down, the value of the Series' shares will be affected.

- **Large Market Capitalization Companies Risk.** The value of investments in larger companies may not rise as much as smaller companies, or larger companies may be unable to respond quickly to competitive challenges, such as changes in technology and consumer tastes.
- **Small and Medium Market Capitalization Companies Risk.** Small and medium-sized companies often have narrower markets, fewer products or services to offer, and more limited managerial and financial resources than larger, more established companies. As a result, the performance of small and medium-sized companies may be more volatile, and they may face a greater risk of business failure, which could increase the volatility and risk of loss to the Series.

Industry/Sector Concentration Risk

The value of the investments of a Series that focuses its investments in a particular industry or market sector will be highly sensitive to financial, economic, political and other developments affecting that industry or market sector, and conditions that negatively impact that industry or market sector will have a greater impact on the Series as compared with a Series that does not have its holdings similarly concentrated. Since the Series concentrates its assets in real estate related securities, events negatively affecting the real estate industry are therefore likely to cause the value of the Series' shares to decrease, perhaps significantly.

Market Volatility

The value of the securities in which the Series invests may go up or down in response to the prospects of individual companies and/or general economic conditions. Price changes may be temporary or may last for extended periods.

Instability in the financial markets has exposed the Series to greater market and liquidity risk and potential difficulty in valuing portfolio instruments that it holds. In response to financial markets that experienced extreme volatility, and in some cases a lack of liquidity, the US Government has taken a number of unprecedented actions, including acquiring distressed assets from financial institutions and acquiring ownership interests in those institutions. The implications of government ownership and disposition of these assets are unclear. Additional legislation or government regulation may also change the way in which the Series itself is regulated, which could limit or preclude the Series' ability to achieve its investment objective. Local, regional or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, the spread of infectious illness or other public health issue, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on the Series and its investments, hampering the ability of the Series' portfolio manager(s) to invest the Series' assets as intended.

Real Estate Investment

Investing in companies that invest in real estate ("Real Estate Companies") exposes the Series to the risks of owning real estate directly, as well as to risks that relate specifically to the way in which Real Estate Companies are organized and operated. Real estate is highly sensitive to general and local economic conditions and developments, and characterized by intense competition and periodic overbuilding. Real Estate Companies may lack diversification due to ownership of a limited number of properties and concentration in a particular geographic region or property type.

- **REIT and REOC Securities Risks.** Investing in Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and REIT-like entities involves certain unique risks in addition to those risks associated with investing in the real estate industry in general. REITs and REIT-like entities are dependent upon management skill, may not be diversified, and are subject to heavy cash flow dependency and self-liquidation. REITs and REIT-like entities also are subject to the possibility of failing to qualify for tax-free pass-through of income. Also, because REITs and REIT-like entities typically are invested in a limited number of projects or in a particular market segment, these entities are more susceptible to adverse developments affecting a single project or market segment than more broadly diversified investments. In the event of a default by a borrower or lessee, a REIT may experience delays in enforcing its rights as a mortgagee or lessor and may incur substantial costs associated with protecting its investments. In addition, investment in REITs could cause the Series to possibly fail to qualify as a regulated investment company. A Real Estate Operating Company (“REOC”) is similar to an equity REIT in that it owns and operates commercial real estate, but unlike a REIT it has the freedom to retain all its funds from operations and, in general, faces fewer restrictions than a REIT. REOCs do not pay any specific level of income as dividends, if at all, and there is no minimum restriction on the number of owners nor limits on ownership concentration. The value of a Series’ REOC securities may be adversely affected by the same factors that adversely affect REITs. In addition, a corporate REOC does not qualify for the federal tax treatment that is accorded a REIT. A Series also may experience a decline in its income from REOC securities due to falling interest rates or decreasing dividend payments.

Redemption

The redemption by one or more large variable contract owners of their holdings in the Series could have an adverse impact on the remaining variable contract owners in the Series by, for example, accelerating the realization of capital gains and/or increasing the Series’ transaction costs.

Management of the Series

The Adviser

VIA has served as the investment adviser to the Series since November 2010, VIA, located at One Financial Plaza, Hartford, CT 06103, acts as the investment adviser for over 60 mutual funds and as adviser to institutional clients. As of December 31, 2020, VIA had approximately \$39.9 billion in assets under management. VIA has acted as an investment adviser for over 80 years and is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Virtus Investment Partners, Inc., a publicly traded multi-manager asset management business.

Pursuant to the Investment Advisory Agreement with the Series and subject to the direction of the Trust’s Board of Trustees, VIA is responsible for managing the Series’ investment program in conformity with the stated policies of the Series as described in this prospectus. VIA, with the approval of the Trust’s Board of Trustees, has selected Duff & Phelps, an affiliate of VIA, to serve as subadviser and perform the day-to-day portfolio management of the Series. Duff & Phelps, subject to the supervision of VIA, is responsible for deciding which securities to purchase and sell for the Series and for placing the Series’ transactions.

The Series pays VIA an investment management fee that is accrued daily against the value of the Series’ net assets at the following annual rate:

1 st \$1 billion	\$1+ billion through \$2 billion	Over \$2 billion
0.75%	0.70%	0.65%

For its last fiscal year, the Series paid advisory fees at the rate of 0.75% of its average net assets.

The Trust has entered into an expense limitation agreement with VIA whereby VIA has agreed to reimburse the Series for expenses necessary or appropriate for the operation of the Series (excluding certain expenses, such as front-end sales charges, taxes, leverage and borrowing expenses (such as commitment, amendment and renewal expenses on credit or redemption facilities), interest, brokerage commissions, expenses incurred in connection with any merger or reorganization, unusual or infrequently occurring expenses (such as litigation), acquired fund fees and expenses, and dividend expenses, if any) to the extent that such expenses exceed 1.10% of the Series’ Class A Shares and 0.85% of the Series’ Class I Shares average net assets. This expense limitation agreement is in place through April 30, 2022. After April 30, 2022, VIA may discontinue this expense reimbursement arrangement at any time. VIA may recapture

operating expenses reimbursed under an expense reimbursement arrangement for a period of three years following the date such waiver or reimbursement occurred, provided that the recapture does not cause the Series to exceed its expense limit in effect at the time of the waiver or reimbursement, or at the time of recapture.

VIA serves as a manager of managers of the Series. In this capacity, VIA: (i) sets the Series' overall investment strategies; (ii) evaluates, selects, and recommends to the Board one or more subadvisers needed to manage all or part of the assets of the Series; (iii) monitors and evaluates the subadvisers' investment programs and results as well as the performance of the subadvisers relative to the applicable benchmark indexes; and (iv) reviews the Series' compliance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions.

The Trust and VIA have received shareholder approval to rely on an exemptive order from the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") that permits VIA, subject to certain conditions and without the approval of shareholders to: (a) select both unaffiliated subadvisers and certain wholly owned affiliated subadvisers to manage all or a portion of the assets of a Series, and enter into subadvisory agreements with such subadvisers; (b) materially amend subadvisory agreements with such subadvisers; and (c) continue the employment of an existing subadviser on the same subadvisory agreement terms where an agreement has been assigned because of a change in control of the subadviser. In such circumstances, shareholders would receive notice of such action, including, if applicable, instructions regarding how to obtain the information concerning the new subadviser that normally is provided in a proxy statement.

The Subadviser

Duff & Phelps, an affiliate of VIA, has served as the subadviser to the Series since August 2007, and previously served as investment adviser to the Series. Duff & Phelps acts as subadviser to mutual funds and as adviser or subadviser to closed-end funds and to institutional clients. Duff & Phelps had approximately \$10.6 billion in assets under management as of December 31, 2020. Duff & Phelps' offices are located at 200 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60606.

From its investment advisory fee, VIA, not the Series, pays Duff & Phelps for its subadvisory services at the rate of 50% of the net advisory fee.

Board of Trustees' Approval of Investment Advisory and Subadvisory Agreements

The Trust's annual report to shareholders for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 contains a discussion regarding the basis for the Trust's Board of Trustees' approval of the investment advisory and investment subadvisory agreements for the Series.

Portfolio Management

- > **Geoffrey P. Dybas, CFA.** Mr. Dybas joined Duff & Phelps in 1995 and serves as Executive Managing Director and Global REIT Team Head and co-founder for all dedicated REIT portfolios managed by Duff & Phelps. His primary responsibilities include sharing portfolio management and trading decisions, and conducting research on the equity REIT universe.
- > **Frank J. Haggerty, Jr., CFA.** Mr. Haggerty joined Duff & Phelps in 2005 and serves as Senior Managing Director and Senior Portfolio Manager, providing portfolio management for the dedicated REIT products managed by Duff & Phelps. Prior to joining Duff & Phelps, Mr. Haggerty was a senior analyst and portfolio manager at ABN AMRO Asset Management for seven years.

The statement of additional information ("SAI") provides additional information about the portfolio managers' compensation, other accounts managed by the portfolio managers and the portfolio managers' ownership of securities in the Series.

Additional Risks Associated with Investment Techniques and Series Operations

Information about the Series' principal investment strategies and risks appears in the Series Summary section and the sections entitled "More About Principal Investment Strategies" and "More About Principal Risks" above.

The information below describes other investment strategies that the Series may use that are not principal strategies and the risks of those strategies, arranged in alphabetical order, as well as other operational risks. Further descriptions of these investment strategies and practices can be found in the SAI.

The greater an investment in a particular asset class by the Series, the greater the impact to the Series of the risks related to the class.

Convertible Securities

Convertible securities are bonds, debentures, notes, preferred stock, rights, warrants or other securities that may be converted into or exchanged for a prescribed amount of common stock or other security of the same or a different issuer or into cash within a particular period of time at a specified price or formula. A convertible security generally entitles the holder to receive interest paid or accrued on debt instruments or the dividend paid on preferred stock until the convertible security matures or is redeemed, converted or exchanged. If a convertible security is called for redemption, the respective Series may have to redeem the security, convert it into common stock or sell it to a third party at a price and time that is not beneficial for the Series. The value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates rise and, because of the conversion feature, tends to vary with fluctuations in the market value of the underlying securities. Securities convertible into common stocks may have higher yields than common stocks but lower yields than comparable nonconvertible securities.

Cybersecurity

With the increased use of technologies such as the Internet to conduct business, the Series have become potentially more susceptible to operational and information security risks through breaches in cybersecurity. In general, a breach in cybersecurity can result from either a deliberate attack or an unintentional event. Cybersecurity breaches may involve, among other things, infection by computer viruses or other malicious software code or unauthorized access to the digital information systems, networks or devices of the Series or their service providers (including, but not limited to, the Series' investment adviser, transfer agent, custodian, administrators and other financial intermediaries) through "hacking" or other means, in each case for the purpose of misappropriating assets or sensitive information (including, for example, personal shareholder information), corrupting data or causing operational disruption or failures in the physical infrastructure or operating systems that support the Series. Any such cybersecurity breaches or losses of service may cause the Series to lose proprietary information, suffer data corruption or lose operational capacity, which, in turn, could cause the Series to incur regulatory penalties, reputational damage, additional compliance costs associated with corrective measures, and/or financial loss. While the Series and their service providers have established business continuity plans and risk management systems designed to prevent or reduce the impact of cybersecurity attacks, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems due in part to the ever-changing nature of technology and cybersecurity attack tactics, and there is a possibility that certain risks have not been adequately identified or prepared for. Cybersecurity risks may also impact issuers of securities in which the Series invest, which may cause the Series' investments in such issuers to lose value.

Derivatives

Derivative transactions are contracts whose value is derived from the value of an underlying asset, index or rate, including futures, options, non-deliverable forwards, forward foreign currency exchange contracts and swap agreements. The Series may use derivatives to hedge against factors that affect the value of its investments, such as interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates. The Series may also utilize derivatives as part of its overall investment technique to gain or lessen exposure to various securities, markets, volatility, dividend payments and currencies.

Derivatives typically involve greater risks than traditional investments. It is generally more difficult to ascertain the risk of, and to properly value, derivative contracts. Many derivatives, and particularly those that are privately negotiated, are complex and often valued subjectively. Improper valuations can result in increased cash payment requirements to counterparties or a loss of value to the Series. The prices of derivatives may move in unexpected ways, especially in abnormal market conditions. Derivatives are usually less liquid than traditional securities and are subject to counterparty risk (the risk that the other party to the contract will default or otherwise not be able to perform its contractual obligations). In addition, some derivatives transactions may involve potentially unlimited losses.

Derivative contracts entered into for hedging purposes may also subject the Series to losses if the contracts do not correlate with the assets, indexes or rates they were designed to hedge. Gains and losses derived from hedging transactions are, therefore, more dependent upon the subadviser's ability to correctly predict the movement of the underlying asset prices, indexes or rates.

As an investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”), the Series is required to identify on its books (often referred to as “asset segregation”) liquid assets, or engage in other SEC-approved measures, to “cover” open positions with respect to certain kinds of derivative instruments. If the Series invests in such instruments and has insufficient cash to meet such requirements, it may have to sell other investments, including at disadvantageous times.

Governments, agencies and/or other regulatory bodies may adopt or change laws or regulations that could adversely affect the Series’ ability to invest in derivatives as the Series’ subadviser intends. The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”), among other things, grants the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the “CFTC”) and SEC broad rulemaking authority to implement various provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act including comprehensive regulation of the over-the-counter (“OTC”) derivatives market. The implementation of the Dodd-Frank Act could adversely affect the Series by placing limits on derivative transactions, and/or increasing transaction and/or regulatory compliance costs. For example, the CFTC has adopted rules that apply a new aggregation standard for position limit purposes, which may further limit the Series’ ability to trade futures contracts and swaps.

There are also special tax rules applicable to certain types of derivatives, which could affect the amount, timing and character of the Series’ income or loss and hence of its distributions to shareholders by causing holding period adjustments, converting short-term capital losses into long-term capital losses, and accelerating the Series’ income or deferring its losses. The Series’ use of derivatives may also increase the amount of taxes payable by shareholders or the resources required by the Series or its adviser and/or subadviser(s) to comply with particular regulatory requirements.

ESG

Although the Series’ subadviser’s consideration of ESG factors is intended to aid the subadviser in evaluating the financial risks and rewards of a given investment and is not expected to by itself determine an investment decision for the Series, the subadviser’s consideration of ESG factors could nevertheless cause the Series to perform differently compared to funds that do not have such considerations or could result in the Series’ forgoing opportunities to buy or sell investments when it might otherwise be advantageous to do so. There are significant differences in interpretations of what it means for a company to have positive ESG factors. While the subadviser believes its interpretations are reasonable, the portfolio decisions it makes may differ from other investors’ or investment managers’ views.

Exchange-Traded Funds (“ETFs”)

ETFs invest in a portfolio of securities designed to track a particular market segment or index. The risks associated with investing in ETFs generally reflect the risks of owning shares of the underlying securities the ETF is designed to track, although lack of liquidity in an ETF could result in its value being more volatile than the underlying portfolio of securities. Assets invested in ETFs incur a layering of expenses, including operating costs and advisory fees that Series shareholders indirectly bear; such expenses may exceed the expenses the Series would incur if it invested directly in the underlying portfolio of securities the ETF is designed to track. Shares of ETFs trade on a securities exchange and may trade at, above, or below their net asset value.

Illiquid and Restricted Securities

Certain securities in which the Series invests may be difficult to sell at the time and price beneficial to the Series, for example due to low trading volumes or legal restrictions. When there is no willing buyer or a security cannot be readily sold, the Series may have to sell at a lower price or may be unable to sell the security at all. The sale of such securities may also require the Series to incur expenses in addition to those normally associated with the sale of a security.

Leverage

When the Series makes investments in futures contracts, forward contracts, swaps and other derivative instruments, the futures contracts, forward contracts, swaps and certain other derivatives provide the economic effect of financial leverage by creating additional investment exposure, as well as the potential for greater loss. When the Series uses leverage through activities such as borrowing, entering into short sales, purchasing securities on margin or on a when-issued basis, or purchasing derivative instruments in an effort to increase its returns, the Series has the risk of magnified capital losses that occur when losses affect an asset base, enlarged by borrowings or the creation of liabilities, that exceeds the net assets of the Series. The value of the shares of the Series employing leverage will be more volatile and sensitive to market movements. Leverage may also involve the creation of a liability that requires the Series to pay interest.

Operational

An investment in the Series, like any mutual fund, can involve operational risks arising from factors such as processing errors, human errors, inadequate or failed internal or external processes, failures in systems and technology, changes in personnel and errors caused by third-party service providers. The occurrence of any of these failures, errors or breaches could result in a loss of information, regulatory scrutiny, reputational damage or other events, any of which could have a material adverse effect on the Series. While the Series seeks to minimize such events through controls and oversight, there may still be failures that could cause losses to the Series.

Securities Lending

The Series may loan portfolio securities with a value up to one-third of its total assets to increase its investment returns. If the borrower is unwilling or unable to return the borrowed securities when due, the lending Series can suffer losses. In addition, there is a risk of delay in receiving additional collateral or in the recovery of the securities, and a risk of loss of rights in the collateral, in the event that the borrower fails financially. There is also a risk that the value of the investment of the collateral could decline, causing a loss to the Series.

Short-Term Investments

Short-term investments include money market instruments, repurchase agreements, certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances and other short-term instruments that are not U.S. Government securities. These securities generally present less risk than many other investments, but they are generally subject to credit risk and may be subject to other risks as well.

Unrated Fixed Income Securities

The Series' subadviser has the authority to make determinations regarding the quality of unrated fixed income securities for the purposes of assessing whether they meet the Series' investment restrictions. However, analysis of unrated securities is more complex than that of rated securities, making it more difficult for the subadviser to accurately predict risk. Unrated fixed income securities may not be lower in quality than rated securities, but due to their perceived risk they may not have as broad a market as rated securities, making it more difficult to sell unrated securities.

U.S. and Foreign Government Obligations

Obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies, authorities and instrumentalities and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States only guarantee principal and interest will be timely paid to holders of the securities. The entities do not guarantee that the value of Series shares will increase, and in fact the market values of such obligations may fluctuate. In addition, not all U.S. Government securities are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States; some are the obligation solely of the entity through which they are issued. There is no guarantee that the U.S. Government would provide financial support to its agencies and instrumentalities if not required to do so by law. Foreign obligations may not be backed by the government of the issuing country, and are subject to foreign investing risks.

Distribution Plan (Class A Shares only)

The Trust, on behalf of each series of the Trust, including Class A Shares of the Virtus Duff & Phelps Real Estate Securities Series, has adopted a plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Distribution Plan"). The Trust has entered into an Underwriting Agreement relating to the Distribution Plan with VP Distributors, LLC (the "Distributor") located at One Financial Plaza, Hartford, CT 06103. The Distributor is an affiliate of the adviser, and serves as principal underwriter for the Trust. The Distribution Plan permits the use of Series assets to help finance the distribution of the shares of the Series.

Under the Distribution Plan, the Trust, on behalf of each Series, is permitted to pay to the Distributor (who may in turn pay other service providers) up to a total of 0.25% of the average daily net assets of Class A of the Series, as payment for services rendered in connection with the distribution of shares. Because these fees are paid out of Series assets on an ongoing basis, over time these costs will increase the cost of your investment and may cost you more than other types of sales charges.

More About the Trust and the Series

Organization of the Trust

The Trust was organized as a Massachusetts business trust on February 18, 1986. It was subsequently reorganized into a Delaware statutory trust on February 14, 2011. The Trust currently consists of eight series of which the Series is one. The Trust's business and affairs are managed by its Board of Trustees.

Shares of Beneficial Interest

Shares (including fractional shares) of the Series have equal rights with regard to voting, redemptions, dividends, distributions and liquidations with respect to the Series. All voting rights of the separate accounts as shareholders are passed through to the variable contract owners. Shareholders of all series of the Trust currently vote on the election of Trustees and other matters. On matters affecting an individual series such as the Series (such as approval of an advisory or subadvisory agreement or a change in fundamental investment policies), a separate vote of that series is required. On matters affecting an individual class (such as approval of matters relating to a Distribution Plan for a particular class of shares), a separate vote of that class is required. The Trust is not required to hold annual shareholder meetings.

Series shares attributable to any insurance company assets and Series shares for which no timely instructions from variable contract owners are received will be voted by the appropriate insurance company in the same proportion as those shares for which instructions are received.

The assets received by the Trust for the issue or sale of shares of the Series, and all income, earnings, profits and proceeds thereof, subject only to the rights of creditors, are allocated to the Series, and constitute the underlying assets of the Series. The underlying assets of the Series are required to be segregated on the books of account, and are to be charged with the expenses of the Series and with a share of the general expenses of the Trust. Any general expenses of the Trust not readily identifiable as belonging to a particular series shall be allocated by or under the direction of the Trustees in such manner as the Trustees determine to be fair and equitable.

Taxes

The Trust intends for the Series to qualify as a regulated investment company ("RIC") by satisfying the requirements under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), including requirements with respect to diversification of assets, distribution of income, and sources of income. In general, a series that qualifies as a RIC will be relieved of federal income tax on its net investment income and net capital gains distributed to its shareholders. In addition, the Trust intends for the Series to comply with the investment diversification requirements for variable contracts contained in the Code. Moreover, the Trust intends to distribute sufficient net investment income and net capital gains of the Series to avoid imposition of any federal excise tax.

Accordingly, the Trust intends that, at the close of each quarter of the taxable year, (i) not more than 25% of the market value of the Series' total assets will be invested in the securities of a single issuer and (ii) with respect to 50% of the market value of the Series' total assets, not more than 5% of the market value of the Series' total assets will be invested in the securities of a single issuer and the Series will not own more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of a single issuer.

Actual and deemed distributions of ordinary income and net capital gains generally are taxable to the Series' shareholders, which in this case are the separate accounts. Because the sole shareholders of the Series will be the separate accounts, no discussion is included in this prospectus as to the federal income tax consequences at the shareholder level. For information concerning the federal income tax consequences to purchasers of the variable contracts, please see the variable contract prospectuses.

Disruptive Trading and Market Timing

As an investment vehicle for variable contracts, which are designed as long-term investments, the Series is not appropriate for "market timing" or other trading strategies that entail rapid or frequent investment and trading. Frequent purchases, redemptions and transfers, transfers into and then out of the Series in a short period of time, and transfers of large amounts at one time may be indicative of market timing and otherwise disruptive trading ("Disruptive Trading"), which can have risks and harmful effects for other investors. These risks and harmful effects include:

- dilution of the interests of long-term investors, if market timers or others transfer into the Series at prices that are below the true value or exchange out of the Series at prices that are higher than the true value;

- an adverse effect on portfolio management, such as causing the Series to maintain a higher level of cash than would otherwise be the case, or causing the Series to liquidate investments prematurely; and
- increased brokerage and administrative expenses.

Funds that invest primarily in international securities may be more susceptible to pricing arbitrage opportunities because of time zone differences between the closing of international and domestic markets. Funds that invest primarily in small and mid-cap securities may be more susceptible to arbitrage opportunities because of the less liquid nature of small and mid-cap securities. In addition, funds that hold significant investments in high yield bonds may also be susceptible to market timing because high yield bonds are often thinly traded so that their market prices may not accurately reflect current market developments. To the extent that the Series invests in these types of securities, it may be more susceptible to the risks of Disruptive Trading.

In order to attempt to protect Trust investors, the Trust's Board of Trustees has adopted market timing policies reasonably designed to discourage Disruptive Trading. The Trust reserves the right to amend these policies at any time without prior notice. Because the record owners of the Series are the insurance companies and not the variable contract owners, the Trust is not ordinarily in a position to monitor for or uncover Disruptive Trading by variable contract owners. Therefore, under the Trust's policies, the Trust delegates to each insurance company the duty to establish and maintain policies and procedures designed to detect, monitor and deter (including, without limitation, by rejecting specific purchase orders) investors (or their agents) whose purchase and redemption activity follows a Disruptive Trading pattern, and to take such other actions as the insurance company may deem necessary to discourage or reduce Disruptive Trading activities. An insurance company may only modify such policies and procedures if it provides reasonable notice to the Trust and the Trust's Chief Compliance Officer. Please see your variable contract prospectus for information relating to applicable restrictions on purchases or transfers through your variable contract.

The Trust may also take certain actions to stop Disruptive Trading, including imposing redemption fees for the Series and ceasing sales of additional shares of the Series to a separate account through which variable contract owners are engaging in Disruptive Trading. Because the Trust reserves discretion in applying these policies, they may not be applied uniformly. In addition, the Trust, as required under SEC regulations, has entered into an agreement with each insurance company under which the insurance companies have agreed to provide the Trust or its designee with information about variable contract owner transactions in the Series upon request.

Although the Trust will endeavor to ensure that each insurance company can and does identify and deter Disruptive Trading by its variable contract owners, the Trust cannot control their efforts or guarantee their success at deterrence. In addition, the Trust cannot guarantee that monitoring by the insurance companies and the Trust will be 100% successful in detecting all Disruptive Trading activity. Consequently, there is a risk that some investors could engage in Disruptive Trading while others will bear the effects of their Disruptive Trading activities.

Portfolio Holdings

A description of the Trust's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the Series' portfolio securities is available in the SAI.

Investing in the Series

Shares of the Series are not available to the public directly. You may invest in the Series by buying a variable accumulation annuity contract or a variable universal life insurance policy from an insurance company and directing the allocation of the net purchase payment(s) to the investment option corresponding to the Series. The appropriate insurance company will, in turn, invest payments in shares of the Series as the investor directs at the net asset value next determined.

The Series offers Class A Shares and Class I Shares. Both share classes may not be available for purchase through your variable contract. See your variable contract prospectus for a description of the available share class(es).

Sales Charge and Surrender Charges

The Series does not assess any sales charge, either when it sells or when it redeems securities. The sales charges that may be assessed under the variable contracts or policies are described in the variable contract prospectuses, as are other charges.

Determination of Net Asset Value

The Series calculates a share price for each class of its shares. The share price (net asset value or “NAV”) for each class is based on the net assets of the Series and the number of outstanding shares of that class. In general, each Series calculates a share price for each class by:

- adding the values of all securities and other assets of the Series;
- subtracting liabilities; and
- dividing the result by the total number of outstanding shares of that class.

Assets: Equity securities are valued at the official closing price (typically last sale) on the exchange on which the securities are primarily traded, or, if no closing price is available, at the last bid price. Shares of other investment companies are valued at such companies’ NAVs. Debt instruments, including restricted securities, are valued based on evaluated quotations received from independent pricing services or from dealers who make markets in such securities. Other assets, such as accrued interest, accrued dividends and cash are also included in determining the Series’ NAV. As required, some securities and assets are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by, or under the direction of, the Board of Trustees.

Liabilities: Accrued liabilities for class-specific expenses (if any), distribution fees, service fees and other liabilities are deducted from the assets of each class. Accrued expenses and liabilities that are not class-specific (such as management fees) are allocated to each class in proportion to each class’s net assets except where an alternative allocation can be more appropriately made.

Net Asset Value (“NAV”): The liabilities allocated to a class are deducted from the proportionate interest of such class in the assets of the applicable Series. The resulting amount for each class is then divided by the number of shares outstanding of that class to produce each class’s NAV per share.

The NAV per share of each class of the Series is determined as of the close of regular trading (generally 4:00 PM Eastern Time) on days when the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”) is open for trading. The Series will not calculate its NAV per share class on days when the NYSE is closed for trading. If the Series (or underlying fund, as applicable) holds securities that are traded on foreign exchanges that trade on weekends or other holidays when the Series does not price its shares, the NAV of the Series’ shares may change on days when shareholders will not be able to purchase or redeem the Series’ shares.

Fair Valuation

If market quotations are not readily available or available prices are not reliable, the Series determines a “fair value” for an investment according to policies and procedures approved by the Board of Trustees. The types of assets for which such pricing might be required include: (i) securities whose trading has been suspended; (ii) securities where the trading market is unusually thin or trades have been infrequent; (iii) debt instruments that have recently gone into default and for which there is no current market quotation; (iv) a security whose market price is not available from an independent pricing source and for which otherwise reliable quotes are not available; (v) securities of an issuer that has entered into a restructuring; (vi) a security whose price as provided by any pricing source does not, in the opinion of the adviser/subadviser, reflect the security’s market value; (vii) foreign securities subject to trading collars for which no or limited trading takes place; (viii) securities where the market quotations are not readily available as a result of “significant” events; and (ix) securities whose principal exchange or trading market is closed for an entire business day on which the Series needs to determine its NAV. This list is not inclusive of all situations that may require a security to be fair valued, nor is it intended to be conclusive in determining whether a specific event requires fair valuation.

The value of any portfolio security held by the Series for which market quotations are not readily available shall be determined in good faith and in a manner that assesses the security’s “fair value” on the valuation date (i.e., the amount that the Series might reasonably expect to receive for the security upon its current sale), based on a consideration of all available facts and all available information, including, but not limited to, the following: (i) the fundamental analytical data relating to the investment; (ii) the value of other relevant financial instruments, including derivative securities, traded on other markets or among dealers; (iii) an evaluation of the forces which influence the market in which these securities are purchased and sold (e.g., the existence of merger proposals or tender offers that might affect the value of the security); (iv) the type of the security; (v) the size of the holding; (vi) the initial cost of the security; (vii) trading volumes on markets, exchanges or among broker-dealers; (viii) price quotes from dealers and/or pricing services; (ix) values of baskets of securities traded on other markets, exchanges, or among dealers; (x) changes in interest rates; (xi) information obtained from the issuer, analysts, other financial institutions and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange traded securities); (xii) an analysis of the company’s financial statements; (xiii) government (domestic or

foreign) actions or pronouncements (xiv) recent news about the security or issuer; (xv) whether two or more dealers with whom the adviser/subadviser regularly effects trades are willing to purchase or sell the security at comparable prices; and (xvi) other news events or relevant matters.

Certain non-U.S. securities may be fair valued in cases where closing prices are not readily available or are deemed not reflective of readily available market prices. For example, significant events (such as movement in the U.S. securities market, or other regional and local developments) may occur between the time that non-U.S. markets close (where the security is principally traded) and the time that a Series calculates its NAV (generally, at the close of regular trading on the NYSE (generally 4 p.m. Eastern time) that may impact the value of securities traded in these non-U.S. markets. In such cases, the Series fair value non-U.S. securities using an independent pricing service which considers the correlation of the trading patterns of the non-U.S. security to the intraday trading in the U.S. markets for investments such as ADRs, financial futures, ETFs, and certain indexes, as well as prices for similar securities. Because the frequency of significant events is not predictable, fair valuation of certain non-U.S. common stocks may occur on a frequent basis.

The value of a security, as determined using the Series' fair valuation procedures, may not reflect such security's market value.

Redemptions

The Series will redeem any shares presented for redemption by the insurance companies holding such shares. Your insurance company's policies on when and whether to redeem Series shares are described in your variable accumulation annuity contract prospectus or variable universal life insurance policy. The Series expects to meet redemption requests, both under normal circumstances and during periods of stressed market conditions, by using cash, by selling portfolio assets to generate cash, or by borrowing funds under a line of credit, subject to availability of capacity in such line of credit.

Financial Highlights

The financial highlights table provided below is intended to help you understand the Series' financial performance for the past five years. Certain information reflects financial results for a single share. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned (or lost) on an investment in the Series (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). These figures do not include the imposition of separate account fees or expenses. If such fees or expenses were reflected, performance would be lower. This information has been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, the independent registered public accounting firm for the Series. Their report and the Series' financial statements are included in the Series' annual report to shareholders and incorporated by reference in the SAI.

Virtus Duff & Phelps Real Estate Securities Series—Class A Shares

	1/1/20 to 12/31/20	1/1/19 to 12/31/19	1/1/18 to 12/31/18	1/1/17 to 12/31/17	1/1/16 to 12/31/16
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$ 18.54	16.40	19.23	20.31	22.85
Net Investment Income (Loss) ⁽¹⁾	0.22	0.30	0.28	0.25	0.34
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)	(0.52)	4.20	(1.41)	0.92	1.17
Total from Investment Operations	(0.30)	4.50	(1.13)	1.17	1.51
Dividends from Net Investment Income	(0.20)	(0.34)	(0.30)	(0.29)	(0.43)
Distributions from Net Realized Gains	(0.33)	(2.02)	(1.40)	(1.96)	(3.62)
Total Distributions	(0.53)	(2.36)	(1.70)	(2.25)	(4.05)
Change in Net Asset Value	(0.83)	2.14	(2.83)	(1.08)	(2.54)
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$ 17.71	18.54	16.40	19.23	20.31
Total Return ⁽²⁾	(1.55)%	27.42	(6.53)	5.97	6.82 ⁽⁴⁾
Net Assets, End of Period (in thousands)	\$71,741	77,044	65,357	77,564	81,243
Ratio of Net Operating Expenses to Average Net Assets ⁽³⁾	1.14% ⁽⁶⁾	1.16 ⁽⁶⁾	1.16	1.16	1.17 ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾
Ratio of Gross Operating Expenses to Average Net Assets (before waivers and reimbursements) ⁽³⁾	1.20%	1.20	1.19	1.21	1.25
Ratio of Net Investment Income to Average Net Assets	1.30%	1.57	1.54	1.24	1.42 ⁽⁴⁾
Portfolio Turnover Rate	26%	44%	20	24	35

Virtus Duff & Phelps Real Estate Securities Series—Class I Shares

	1/1/20 to 12/31/20	1/1/19 to 12/31/19	1/1/18 to 12/31/18	1/1/17 to 12/31/17	1/1/16 to 12/31/16
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$18.51	16.35	19.19	20.27	22.81
Net Investment Income (Loss) ⁽¹⁾	0.34	0.40	0.34	0.30	0.35
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)	(0.60)	4.14	(1.43)	0.93	1.22
Total from Investment Operations	(0.26)	4.54	(1.09)	1.23	1.57
Dividends from Net Investment Income	(0.22)	(0.36)	(0.35)	(0.35)	(0.49)
Distributions from Net Realized Gains	(0.33)	(2.02)	(1.40)	(1.96)	(3.62)
Total Distributions	(0.55)	(2.38)	(1.75)	(2.31)	(4.11)
Change in Net Asset Value	(0.81)	2.16	(2.84)	(1.08)	(2.54)
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$17.70	18.51	16.35	19.19	20.27
Total Return ⁽²⁾	(1.33)%	27.78	(6.36)	6.25	7.10 ⁽⁴⁾
Net Assets, End of Period (in thousands)	\$4,152	2,173	215	207	199
Ratio of Net Operating Expenses to Average Net Assets ⁽³⁾	0.89% ⁽⁶⁾	0.91 ⁽⁶⁾	0.91	0.91	0.92 ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾
Ratio of Gross Operating Expenses to Average Net Assets (before waivers and reimbursements) ⁽³⁾	0.95%	0.95	0.94	0.96	1.00
Ratio of Net Investment Income to Average Net Assets	2.08%	2.04	1.85	1.49	1.46 ⁽⁴⁾
Portfolio Turnover Rate	26%	44	20	24	35

Footnote Legend:

- (1) Computed using average shares outstanding.
- (2) The total return does not include the expenses associated with the annuity or life insurance policy through which you invest.
- (3) The Series will also indirectly bear their prorated share of expenses of any underlying funds in which it invests. Such expenses are not included in the calculation of this ratio.

- (4) State Street Bank & Trust, custodian for the Series through January 29, 2010, reimbursed the Series for out-of-pocket custody expenses overbilled for the period 1998 through January 29, 2010. Custody fees reimbursed were excluded from the Ratio of Net Expenses to Average Net Assets and Ratio of Net Investment Income (Loss) to Average Net Assets. If included the impact would have been to lower the Ratio of Net Expenses to Average Net Assets and increase the Ratio of Net Investment Income (Loss) to Average Net Assets by 0.02% (Class A) and 0.03% (Class I), respectively. Custody fees reimbursed were included in Total Return. If excluded the impact would have been to lower the Total Return by 0.03%.
- (5) Net expense ratios include proxy expenses.
- (6) Due to a change in expense cap, the ratio shown is a blended expense ratio.



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You can find more information about the Series in the following documents:

Annual and Semiannual Reports

Annual and semiannual reports contain more information about the Series' investments. The annual report discusses the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Series' performance during the last fiscal year.

Statement of Additional Information (SAI)

The SAI contains more detailed information about the Series. It is incorporated by reference and is legally part of the prospectus.

To obtain free copies of these documents, you can download copies at virtus.com or you can request copies by calling us toll-free at 800-367-5877. You can also call this number to request other information about the Series or to make shareholder inquiries.

Information about the Series (including the SAI) can be reviewed and copied at the Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. For information about the operation of the Public Reference Room, call 202-551-8090. This information is also available on the SEC's Internet site at www.sec.gov. You may also obtain copies upon payment of a duplicating fee by writing the Public Reference Section of the SEC, Washington, DC 20549-6009 or by electronic request at publicinfo@sec.gov.