# **QUARTERLY FUND REVIEW** | As of March 31, 2023

# **MAXI** | Simplify Bitcoin Strategy PLUS Income ETF

#### **FUND OVERVIEW**

**The Simplify Bitcoin Strategy PLUS Income ETF (MAXI)** seeks capital gains and income by providing investors with exposure to bitcoin while simultaneously generating income by selling short-dated put or call spreads on the most liquid global equity indices.

The fund is designed to be a capital efficient way to simultaneously invest in bitcoin and potentially generate significant income. The fund can also be viewed as bitcoin exposure with a downside buffer, by virtue of the padding the income may create to any bitcoin drawdowns.\*

\*The fund does not invest in bitcoin directly; it invests in bitcoin futures.

### **PERFORMANCE REVIEW**

MAXI posted a nearly 70% return in 1Q, just behind that of Bitcoin futures, as banking sector volatility tested the fund's option sale strategy and slightly detracted from performance. Both the weakness in the dollar and lower yields were favorable for cryptocurrencies, forcing large cap stocks and bitcoin to diverge. With the potential for lower volatility alongside further equity market gains, MAXI will seek to generate returns versus its enhanced cash competitors and legacy currency assets via a more diversified basket of option sales.

# Performance as of 03/31/23 | Inception Date: 09/29/22

|   | CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN |        |        |                    | ANNUALIZED<br>TOTAL RETURN |                    |
|---|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
|   | 3 Мо                    | 6 Mo   | YTD    | Since<br>Inception | 1 Year                     | Since<br>Inception |
| NAV                                     | 69.81%                  | 47.61% | 69.81% | 47.61%             | _                          | _                  |
| Market Price                            | 68.96%                  | 46.48% | 68.96% | 46.48%             | _                          | _                  |
| Nasdaq Bitcoin<br>Reference Price Index | 72.37%                  | 47.82% | 72.37% | 46.71%             | _                          | _                  |

The performance data quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. In addition, investment returns and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. For performance data current to the most recent month-end, please call (855) 772-8488 or go to <a href="https://www.simplify.us/etfs">https://www.simplify.us/etfs</a>.



### FUND DETAILS as of 03/31/23

### **CURRENT HOLDINGS\***

| POSITION                                     | ALLOCATION |
|--|------------|
| B 06/08/23                                   | 191.25%    |
| CME Bitcoin Fut Apr23                        | 102.56%    |
| B 06/29/23                                   | 67.62%     |
| B 08/10/23                                   | 21.85%     |
| TREASURY BILL DN 9/23                        | 10.47%     |
| TLT US 04/06/23 P95                          | 0.01%      |
| SPXW US 04/06/23 C4600                       | 0.00%      |
| TLT US 04/06/23 P101                         | -0.02%     |
| Morgan Stanley Reverse Repo 04/04/2023 4.96% | -249.12%   |
| Cash   | 57.95%     |

|                                  | _     |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Gross Expense Ratio              | 0.97% |
| Net Expense Ratio                | _     |
| SEC 30-Day Yield                 | _     |
| SEC 30-Day Yield<br>Unsubsidized | _     |

#### **DEFINITIONS**

**K-1:** Schedule K-1 a federal tax document used to report the income, losses, and dividends of a business' or financial entity's partners or an S corporation's shareholders.

**Market Price:** The current price at which shares are bought and sold. Market returns are based upon the last trade price.

**NAV:** The dollar value of a single share, based on the value of the underlying assets of the fund minus its liabilities, divided by the number of shares outstanding. Calculated at the end of each business day.

**Option:** An option is a contract that gives the buyer the right to either buy (in the case of a call option) or sell (in the case of a put option) an underlying asset at a predetermined price ("strike") by a specific date ("expiry"). An "outright" is another name for a single option leg. A "spread" is when options are bought at one strike and an equal amount of options are sold at a different strike, all at the same expiry.

**Option-Writing Overlay:** An option selling strategy that is run on top of a core investment strategy in a satellite format

**Roll yield:** The amount of return generated in the futures market after an investor rolls a short-term contract into a longer-term contract and profits from the convergence of the futures price toward a higher spot or cash price.

**SEC 30-Day Yield:** The yield is calculated with a standardized formula and represents net investment income earned by a fund over a 30-day period, expressed as an annual percentage rate based on the fund's share price. The yield includes the effect of any fee waivers and/or reimbursements. Without waivers, yields would be reduced. This is also referred to as the "standardized yield", "30-Day Yield" and "Current Yield". The unsubsidized SEC 30-Day Yield does not reflect the effect of any fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements.

<sup>\*</sup>Holdings are subject to change without notice.



#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) before investing. To obtain an ETF's prospectus containing this and other important information, please call (855) 772-8488, or visit SimplifyETFs.com. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.

## An investment in the fund involves risk, including possible loss of principal.

The fund is actively-managed is subject to the risk that the strategy may not produce the intended results. The fund is new and has a limited operating history to evaluate.

The earnings and prospects of small and medium sized companies are more volatile than larger companies and may experience higher failure rates than larger companies. Small and medium sized companies normally have a lower trading volume than larger companies, which may tend to make their market price fall more disproportionately than larger companies in response to selling pressures and may have limited markets, product lines, or financial resources and lack management experience.

The Fund invests in ETFs (Exchange-Traded Funds) and is therefore subject to the same risks as the underlying securities in which the ETF invests as well as entails higher expenses than if invested into the underlying ETF directly.

**Bitcoin Risk:** The value of the Fund's investment in Bitcoin futures is subject to fluctuations in the value of bitcoins. The value of bitcoins is determined by the supply of and demand for bitcoins in the global market for the trading of bitcoins, which consists of transactions on electronic bitcoin exchanges ("Bitcoin Exchanges"). Pricing on Bitcoin Exchanges and other venues can be volatile and can adversely affect the value of Bitcoin futures. Currently, there is relatively small use of bitcoins in the retail and commercial marketplace in comparison to the relatively large use of bitcoins by speculators, thus contributing to price volatility that could adversely affect the Fund's investment in Bitcoin futures. Bitcoin transactions are irrevocable and stolen or incorrectly transferred bitcoins may be irretrievable. As a result, any incorrectly executed bitcoin transactions could adversely affect the value of the Fund's investment in Bitcoin futures.

**Cryptocurrency Risk:** Cryptocurrencies operate without central authority or banks and are not backed by any government. Cryptocurrencies may experience very high volatility, and related investment vehicles that invest in cryptocurrencies may be affected by such volatility. Cryptocurrency is not legal tender. Federal, state or foreign governments may restrict the use and exchange of cryptocurrency, and regulation in the U.S. is still developing. Cryptocurrency exchanges have stopped operating and have permanently shut down due to fraud, technical glitches, hackers or malware. Cryptocurrency exchanges are new, largely unregulated, and may be more exposed to fraud. If, in any year, the Fund were to fail to qualify for the special tax treatment accorded a regulated investment company (RIC), the Fund could be taxed in the same manner as an ordinary corporation subject to U.S. federal income tax on all its income at the Fund level. The resulting taxes could substantially reduce the Fund's net assets and the amount of income available for distribution.

**Cryptocurrency Tax Risk:** Because the Subsidiary is a controlled foreign corporation, any income received by the Fund from its investments in the Subsidiary will be passed through to the Fund as ordinary income, which may be taxed at less favorable rates than capital gains.

**Futures Contract Risk:** Futures contracts involve the following risks (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the forward or futures contract; (b) possible lack of a liquid secondary market; (c) leverage, which means a small percentage of assets in futures can have a disproportionately large impact on the Fund and the Fund can lose more than the principal amount invested; (d) losses are potentially unlimited; (f) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations;

**Wholly-Owned Subsidiary Risk:** The cost of investing in the Fund will be higher because you indirectly bear the expenses of the Subsidiary. The Subsidiary is not registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("1940 Act"), as amended, and, unless otherwise noted in this Prospectus, is not subject to all of the investor protections of the 1940 Act, such as limits on leverage when viewed in isolation from the Fund. The fund's subsidiary is the Simplify Bitcoin Strategy PLUS Income Cayman Fund.

While the option overlay is intended to improve the Fund's performance, there is no guarantee that it will do so. Utilizing an option overlay strategy involves the risk that as the buyer of a put or call option, the Fund risks losing the entire premium invested in the option if the Fund does not exercise the option. Also, securities and options traded in over-the-counter markets may trade less frequently and in limited volumes and thus exhibit more volatility and liquidity risk.

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