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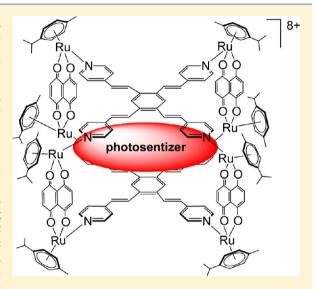
Encapsulation of Photosensitizers in Hexa- and Octanuclear Organometallic Cages: Synthesis and Characterization of Carceplex and Host-Guest Systems in Solution

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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: Cationic arene ruthenium assemblies of the general formulas $[Ru_6(p\text{-cymene})_6(\text{tris-pvb})_2(\mu_2\text{-Cl})_6]^{6+}$, $[Ru_6(p\text{-cymene})_6(\text{tris-pvb})_2(OO\cap OO)_3]^{6+}$ (tris-pvb = 1,3,5-tris{2-(pyridin-4-yl)vinyl}benzene), and $[Ru_8(p\text{-cymene})_8(NN\cap NN)_2(OO\cap OO)_4]^{8+}$ $(NN \cap NN = 1,2,4,5-\text{tetrakis}\{2-(\text{pyridin-4-yl})\text{vinyl}\}$ benzene, 1,2,4,5tetrakis{2-(pyridin-4-yl)ethynyl}benzene) have been obtained from the corresponding dinuclear arene ruthenium complexes [Ru₂(pcymene)₂ $(\mu$ -Cl)₂Cl₂] and $[Ru_2(p$ -cymene)₂ $(OO\cap OO)Cl_2]$ (OO∩OO = oxalato, 2,5-dioxido-1,4-benzoquinonato, 2,5-dichloro-1,4-benzoquinonato, 5,8-dioxido-1,4-naphthoquinonato, 5,8-dioxido-1,4-anthraquinonato, 6,11-dioxido-5,12-naphthacenedionato) by reaction with the multidentate ligands and silver trifluoromethanesulfonate. These cationic hexa- and octanuclear cages have been isolated and characterized as their triflate salts. Addition of coronene during the synthesis of the large hexanuclear assemblies leads to the direct encapsulation of coronene in the cavity of the trigonal-prismatic complexes. Photosensitizers such as porphin, phthalocyanine, and Zn-phthalocyanine present during the synthesis of these metallacages are encapsulated in five of these arene ruthenium complexes to



give photosensitizer-encapsulated systems. The host-guest properties of these systems were studied in solution by DOSY, 2D NOESY and 2D ROESY NMR spectroscopy. The H···H distances between guests and selected metalla-cages were estimated by 2D ROESY NMR spectroscopy and modelization. NMR analyzes indicate that the guest photosensitizers are completely encapsulated in two of these metalla-cages, while in the three other ruthenium cages NMR spectra reveal an equilibrium between empty and filled cages.

■ INTRODUCTION

The concept of drug delivery has stimulated considerable research activities in order to optimize the therapy and especially the photodynamic therapy (PDT) of cancer.² Indeed, due to the low selectivity of many photosensitizers for cancer cells and their poor solubility in water, the development of a vector-mediated selective drug delivery strategy is a major challenge in PDT. Photosensitizer delivery vectors such as gold nanoparticles,³ liposome,⁴ and even viruses⁵ have been developed to improve the selective accumulation of the photoactive compound in tumor cells. However, the missing photoprotection of the photosensitizer molecules toward unexpected activation can cause undesired skin lesions, which is the main side effect of PDT and therefore a limitation of these drug delivery vectors.

In recent years, a new type of drug delivery system based on cationic arene ruthenium cages that are water-soluble as the triflate salts has been developed in our group.⁶ These arene ruthenium cage systems have been used to encapsulate cytotoxic⁷ as well as photoactive⁸ molecules in order to

transport these molecules into cancer cells. These large organometallic cages are expected to selectively target cancer cells according to the enhanced permeability and retention effect (EPR effect).9 Moreover, the photoactivity of the hydrophobic photosensitizers is inhibited by their encapsulation in these metalla-cages, thus potentially avoiding the side effect of skin photosensitivity. As we demonstrated previously, the encapsulated porphin molecules (Figure 1) show no singlet oxygen production in ethanol/DMSO, as opposed to free porphin, which leads after excitation at 414 nm to a singlet oxygen quantum yield of 97% relative to Rose Bengal. Arene ruthenium metalla-cages are known for their adaptable cavity 10 and their host—guest properties, 11 which precondition them as versatile drug delivery systems.

In this study, we report an extension of our previous work by the synthesis of new hexa- and octanuclear arene ruthenium cages of the general formulas $[Ru_6(p\text{-cymene})_6(\text{tris-pvb})_2(\mu_2\text{-}$

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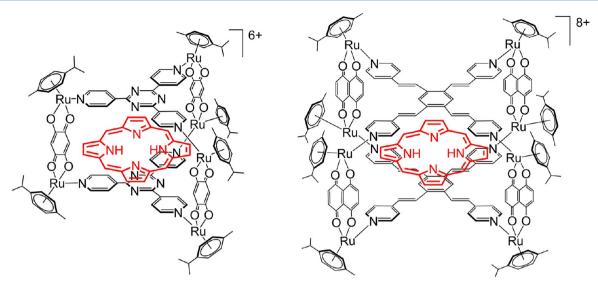
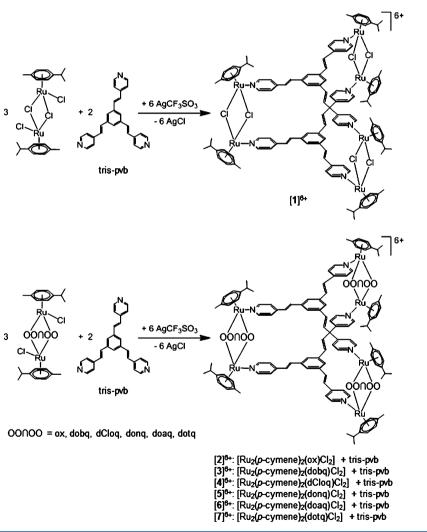


Figure 1. Porphin molecules encapsulated in hexa- and octanuclear arene ruthenium cages.8

Scheme 1. Synthesis of Hexanuclear Metalla-Assemblies Isolated as their Trifluoromethanesulfonate Salts



Cl)₆]⁶⁺, [Ru₆(*p*-cymene)₆(tris-pvb)₂(OO∩OO)₃]⁶⁺, and [Ru₈(*p*-cymene)₈(NN∩NN)₂(OO∩OO)₄]⁸⁺, isolated and characterized as the triflate salts, the abbreviations being tris-pvb = 1,3,5-tris{2-(pyridin-4-yl)vinyl}benzene, NN∩NN = 1,2,4,5-

tetrakis $\{2-(pyridin-4-yl)vinyl\}$ benzene (tetra-pvb), 1,2,4,5-tetrakis $\{2-(pyridin-4-yl)ethynyl\}$ benzene (tetra-peb), OO∩OO = oxalato (ox), 2,5-dioxido-1,4-benzoquinonato (dobq), 2,5-dichloro-1,4-benzoquinonato (dCloq), 5,8-dioxi-

Scheme 2. Synthesis of Octanuclear Metalla-Assemblies Isolated as their Trifluoromethanesulfonate Salts

do-1,4-naphthoquinonato (donq), 5,8-dioxido-1,4-anthraquinonato (doaq), 6,11-dioxido-5,12-naphthacenedionato (dotq). The photosensitizers porphin, phthalocyanine, and Znphthalocyanine have been successfully encapsulated in five of the new organometallic cages. The host—guest properties of these systems were studied by various NMR experiments, with the aim of developing new drug delivery systems and improving the photodynamic properties.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The synthesis of the arene ruthenium metalla-assemblies follows the same two-step strategy as in our previous work $^{6-8}$ and consists of reacting the dinuclear molecular clips $[Ru_2(p\text{-cymene})_2(\mu\text{-Cl})_2Cl_2]$, $[Ru_2(p\text{-cymene})_2(\cos Cl_2]$, $[Ru_2(p\text{-cymene})_2(dobq)Cl_2]$, $[Ru_2(p\text{-cymene})_2(dolq)Cl_2]$, $[Ru_2(p\text{-cymene})_2(dolq)Cl_2]$, and $[Ru_2(p\text{-cymene})_2(dolq)Cl_2]$ with the NNONN multidentate ligands (tris-pvb, tetra-pvb, and tetra-peb) in methanol in the presence of silver trifluoromethanesulfonate (halide scavenger). The silver chloride formed can be eliminated by filtration, and the resulting cationic p-cymene metalla-assemblies can be isolated as the trifluoromethanesulfonate salts in good yield (Schemes 1 and 2).

The addition of 1 equiv of coronene during the synthesis of the hexanuclear complexes $[3]^{6+}$ — $[7]^{6+}$ leads to the direct encapsulation of the guest molecule in the cavity of the trigonal-prismatic complexes. The smaller hexanuclear assemblies $[1]^{6+}$ and $[2]^{6+}$ do not have a large enough cavity to allow

the encapsulation of coronene. Using the same method, porphin, phthalocyanine, and Zn-phthalocyanine are also encapsulated in the cavity of the cages [3]⁶⁺, [5]⁶⁺, [7]⁶⁺, [9]⁸⁺, and [13]⁸⁺ (Schemes 3 and 4). However, these photosensitizers are completely encapsulated only in the cavity of the hexanuclear cage [3]⁶⁺ and the octanuclear cage [9]⁸⁺; in the hexanuclear cages [5]⁶⁺ and [7]⁶⁺, the NMR spectra reveal an equilibrium between empty and filled cages. In the case of the octanuclear cage [13]⁸⁺, only phthalocyanine and Zn-phthalocyanine are encapsulated, likewise showing an equilibrium between empty and filled cages. The octanuclear cage [13]⁸⁺ seems to be less flexible than the octanuclear cage [9]⁸⁺; therefore, it cannot withhold the small porphin in a stable faction

The infrared spectra of all compounds exhibit a strong absorption around $1260~\rm cm^{-1}$ due to the stretching vibrations $C_{\rm sp^3}$ –F of the trifluoromethanesulfonate anions, together with an absorption due to the stretching vibrations $C_{\rm sp^2}$ –H of the NN∩NN ligands around 3070 cm⁻¹. In addition to these absorptions, strong characteristic C=O stretching vibration bands are observed for complexes $[2]^{6+}$ – $[14]^{8+}$. In particular, bands around 1630 cm⁻¹ are due to the oxalato ligand and the bands at 1525 and 1500 cm⁻¹ are caused by the dobq and dCloq ligands, respectively, while absorptions around 1540 cm⁻¹ are due to the donq, doaq, and dotq ligands.

The electronic absorption spectra of the metalla-cages are characterized by an intense high-energy band centered at around 340 nm, which is assigned to a ligand-localized or

Scheme 3. Encapsulation of Photosensitizer Molecules in Hexanuclear Metalla-Cages

intraligand $\pi \to \pi^*$ transition as well as broad low-energy bands related to metal-to-ligand charge transfer (MLCT) transitions. In the case of the systems [porphin \subset cage]⁶⁺, an additional band caused by the characteristic absorption of porphin is observed at around 395 nm (Figure 2). Similarly, the systems [Zn-phthalocyanine \subset cage]⁶⁺ and [Zn-phthalocyanine \subset cage]⁸⁺ show an absorption around 690 nm due to Zn-phthalocyanine. Finally, for the systems [phthalocyanine \subset cage]⁶⁺ and [phthalocyanine \subset cage]⁸⁺, two absorptions around 670 and 710 nm are identified.

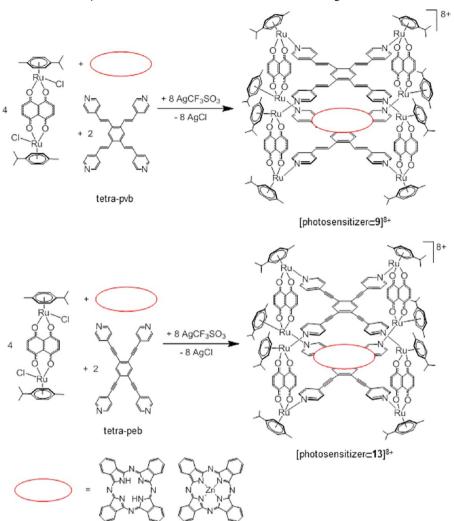
The formation of the systems [photosensitizer \subset cage]ⁿ⁺ (n = 6, 8; cage = 3, 5, 7, 9, 13) can be followed by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. During the formation of these systems, the signals associated with the different pyridyl, vinyl, and benzene protons of the tris-pvb, tetra-pvb, and tetra-peb panels are shifted upfield, while the signals of the ligands dobq, donq, and dotq are shifted downfield in comparison to the protons of the empty host complexes. On the other hand, the signals

corresponding to the *p*-cymene ligands, due to their localization in the periphery of the metalla-assemblies, are not affected by the presence of a guest molecule in the cavity.

The ¹H NMR spectrum of the system [Zn-phthalocyanine \subset 9]⁸⁺ shows that the signals associated with the pyridyl protons (H_{β}) of the tetra-pvb ligand are shifted upfield by 0.6 ppm, as compared to the corresponding signals for the empty cage (Figure 3). Similarly, the signals of the vinyl $(H_A \text{ and } H_B)$ and benzene (H_C) protons are shifted upfield by as much as 3.2 ppm, relative to those of the empty cage $[9]^{8+}$. The signals of the donq ligands are shifted downfield by ca. 0.4 ppm, while the p-cymene proton signals do not shift but split in some cases.

The 2D ROESY and 2D NOESY experiments confirm the encapsulation of photosensitizers in the cavity of the metallacages [3]⁶⁺, [5]⁶⁺, [7]⁶⁺, [9]⁸⁺, and [13]⁸⁺ (Figures 4 and 5 and Figures S1–S3 (Supporting Information)). 2D nuclear Overhauser effect spectroscopy (NOESY), rotational frame nuclear Overhauser effect spectroscopy (ROESY), and diffusion

Scheme 4. Encapsulation of Phthalocyanine Derivatives in Octanuclear Metalla-Cages



ordered spectroscopy (DOSY) are powerful NMR techniques for investigating in solution the behavior of chemical complexes large molecular weights. For example, the 2D ROESY spectra of the system [phthalocyanineC3]6+ clearly show a strong nuclear Overhauser effect of the aromatic phthalocyanine protons with the pyridyl protons $(H_{\alpha} \text{ and } H_{\beta})$ and vinyl protons (H_A and H_B) of the tris-pvb ligands, together with a weaker ROE signal between these phthalocyanine protons and the vinyl dobq ligand protons (H_{dobq}) (Figure 4). Moreover, ROEs between the NH phthalocyanine protons and the vinyl protons of the tris-pvb ligands (H_A and H_B) are observed. Thus, interactions between phthalocyanine and the dobq molecular clip as well as between phthalocyanine and the tris-pvb panels are clearly established. Since no interaction between phthalocyanine and the p-cymene ligands is observed, we can conclude that the photosensitizer guest molecule is in fact encapsulated inside the cavity of the host complex $[3]^{6+}$.

In these large systems, ROESY experiments perform better than NOESY experiments for determining close intramolecular and intermolecular interactions. The [photosensitizer \subset cage]ⁿ⁺ systems have a molecular weight >3800, and the $\omega\tau_c$ value for such systems is close to 1.12 (where ω is the proton Larmor frequency and τ_c is the tumbling correlation time), where the NOE effect crosses the null point. Therefore, the NOE cross peaks are weak, can possess opposite signs, or can even be

absent. This behavior can be seen in the 2D NOESY spectrum of the $[porphin\subset 5]^{6+}$ system (Figure 5), in which both positive and negative NOE peaks are observed. Positive NOEs between the signals associated to the porphin protons and those of the donq ligands as well as between the porphin protons and those of the tris-pvb panels are indicative of a fast motion of the porphin molecule inside the cavity of $[5]^{6+}$ (Figure 5). In the case of phthalocyanine and Zn-phthalocyanine, this fast motion is not observed due to a significantly lower mobility of these larger photosensitizers in the cavity. Moreover, rapid rotation of the p-cymene moiety is also observed, as inferred from the positive NOEs between the p-cymene signals and those of the tris-pvb panels and the donq ligands. The correlation time of these fast internal motions has to be faster than the overall tumbling correlation time.

Thanks to the 2D ROESY measurements, approximate distances between protons of the photosensitizers and those of the cages were estimated for the two systems [Zn-phthalocyanine⊂13]⁸⁺ and [phthalocyanine⊂3]⁶⁺ (Tables 1 and 2). The 2D ROESY experiments were recorded with a spin-lock time of 300 ms. Under these conditions, only direct ROE cross peaks were observed and no three spin effect cross peaks were detected. Therefore, the ROE cross peaks represent genuine close intermolecular interactions between the phthalocyanine and the cage. The size of the complex allows

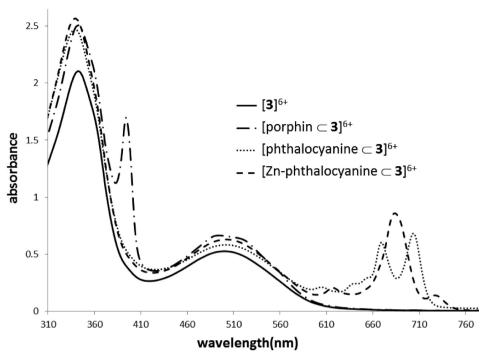


Figure 2. UV-visible spectra of the [photosensitizer $\subset 3$]⁶⁺ systems (1.0 \times 10⁻⁵ M in CH₂Cl₂).

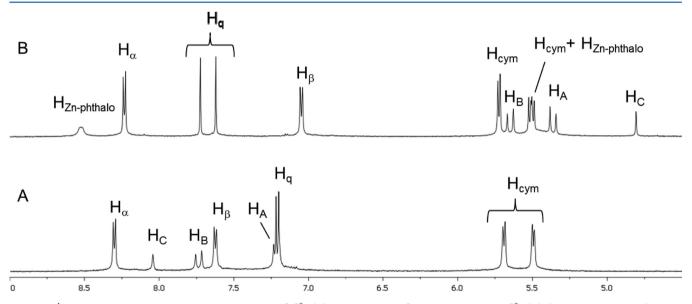


Figure 3. ¹H NMR comparison spectra of the empty cage [9]⁸⁺ (A) and the system [Zn-phthalocyanine⊂9]⁸⁺ (B) (in CD₃CN at 25 °C).

an estimation of 4.5 Å for the upper limit of the distances that can be detected. The derived distances have a high standard deviation (0.5 Å) for the complex [Zn-phthalocyanine \subset 13]⁸⁺ due to the broadness of the NMR signals, whereas for the system [phthalocyanine \subset 3]⁶⁺ the standard deviation for the estimated distances is 0.25 Å. Thus, the estimated distance (*d*) between the protons H2_{Zn-phthalo} of the Zn-phthalocyanine and the protons H_{donq} of the molecular clip is approximately 4 Å (3.5 Å < *d* < 4.5 Å). Roughly, the same distances are calculated between the H2_{Zn-phthalo} protons and the two different protons H_{α} and H_{β} of the tetra-peb panels. The protons H1_{Zn-phthalo} of the photosensitizer show only one correlation with the protons H $_{\beta}$ of the tetra-peb of the cage, and the distance with these protons is evaluated to be about 3.3 Å.

The 2D ROESY spectra of the system [phthalocyanine \subset 3]⁶⁺ show that the protons H1_{phthalo} of the photosensitizer are close to the protons H $_{\beta}$ and H_{A/B} of the tris-pvb at a distance ranging from 3.2 to 4.0 Å. The longer distances between the H1_{phthalo} protons and the H $_{\alpha}$ and H $_{C}$ protons of the panels are evaluated to be approximately 4.4 and 4.5 Å, respectively. Moreover, the protons H2_{phthalo} of the phthalocyanine seem to be at equivalent distances from the protons H $_{\alpha}$ and H $_{\beta}$ of the tris-pvb panels at about 3.9 Å and near the protons H_{dobq} of the molecular clip at a distance of 4.1 Å. The NH protons of the phthalocyanine are also close to the protons H $_{C}$ and H_{A/B} at distances between 3.2 and 4.0 Å.

Finally, the encapsulation of the photosensitizers within the metalla-assemblies $[3]^{6+}$, $[5]^{6+}$, $[7]^{6+}$, $[9]^{8+}$, and $[13]^{8+}$ was further studied by DOSY measurements (Figure 6 and Figures

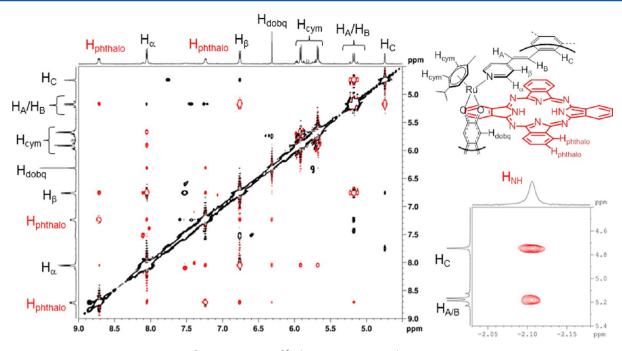


Figure 4. 2D ROESY spectrum of the system [phthalocyanine⊂3]⁶⁺ (in CD₃CN at 25 °C) and assignment of the aromatic protons.

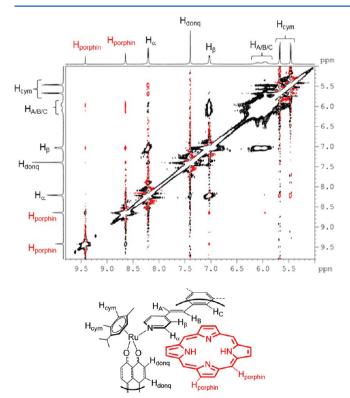


Figure 5. 2D NOESY spectrum of the system [porphin \subset 5]⁶⁺ (in CD₃CN at 25 °C) and assignment of the aromatic protons.

S4–S8 (Supporting Information)), which confirm the encapsulation of the photosensitizer guest molecules inside the cavity of the host metalla-cages. The DOSY experiments were recorded in CD₃CN and at 25 °C for all of the samples using the pulsed gradient stimulated echo pulse sequence. The DOSY spectra of the systems [phthalocyanine \subset 9]⁸⁺ and [Zn-phthalocyanine \subset 9]⁸⁺ show at \sim 4.5 × 10⁻¹⁰ m² s⁻¹ almost equivalent diffusion coefficients in comparison to the empty cage [9]⁸⁺, suggesting that the photosensitizers diffuse at the

same rate (within the experimental error) as the host metallacages. The diffusion coefficient D is given by the Stokes—Einstein equation:

$$D = \frac{kT}{6\pi\eta r}$$

where k is the Boltzmann constant, T is the temperature, η is the solvent viscosity, and r is the hydrodynamic radius of the compound. It is worth noting that, upon encapsulation of the guest in the metalla-cages, there is no significant change of the hydrodynamic radius of the metalla-cages. This results in similar diffusion coefficients for both the empty and filled metalla-cages, despite their different molecular weights.

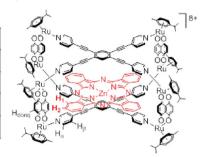
The H···H distances estimated by 2D ROESY measurements were also confirmed by modelization of the [photosensitizer \subset cage]ⁿ⁺ systems using Chem3D software. For example, in the [phthalocyanine \subset 13]⁸⁺ system (Figure 7), the distance between the planes of the phthalocyanine guest molecule and the tetra-peb panels is estimated at \sim 3.6 Å, and the distance between the NH protons of the phthalocyanine and the protons of the benzene moieties is expected to be 3.8 Å. Overall, the metrical parameters obtained by modelization fit well with those estimated by 2D ROESY measurements, thus further confirming the formation of the [photosensitizer \subset cage]ⁿ⁺ systems.

■ EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Considerations. [Ru2(p-cymene)2(μ -Cl)2Cl2], ¹⁴ [Ru2(p-cymene)2(dobq)Cl2], ¹⁵ [Ru2(p-cymene)2(dobq)Cl2], ^{6a} [Ru2(p-cymene)2(dobq)Cl2], ^{6b} [Ru2(p-cymene)2(dodq)Cl2], ^{6b} [Ru2(p-cymene)2(dodq)Cl2], ^{6c} [R

Table 1. Estimated H···H Distances of the System [Zn-phthalocyanine⊂13]⁸⁺ from 2D ROESY Measurements^a

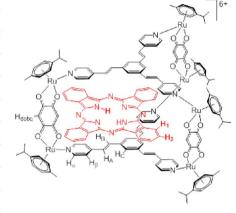
Protons concerned	Distance (Å)	SD (Å)
H1 _{Zn-phthalo} /H _β	3.3	±0.5
H2 _{Zn-phthalo} /H _{donq}	4.0	±0.5
H2 _{Zn-phthalo} /H _α	4.0	±0.5
H2 _{Zn-phthalo} /H _β	4.0	±0.5



^aSee Figure S2 (Supporting Information).

Table 2. Estimated H···H Distances of the System [Phthalocyanine⊂3]⁶⁺ from 2D ROESY Measurements^a

Protons concerned	Distance (Å)	SD (Å)
H1 _{phthalo} /H _α	4.4	±0.25
H1 _{phthalo} /H _β	3.5	±0.25
H1 _{phthalo} /H _{A/B}	3.8	±0.25
H1 _{phthalo} /H _C	4.5	±0.25
H2 _{phthalo} /H _α	3.9	±0.25
H2 _{phthalo} /H _β	3.9	±0.25
H2 _{phthalo} /H _{dobq}	4.1	±0.25
NH _{phthalo} /H _C	3.5	±0.25
NH _{phthalo} /H _{A/B}	3.7	±0.25



^aSee Figure 4.

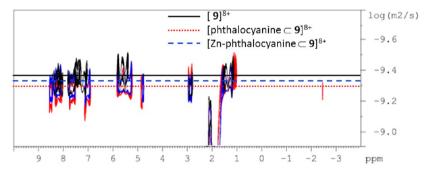


Figure 6. Superposition of the DOSY spectra of the empty metalla-cage $[9]^{8+}$, $[phthalocyanine \subset 9]^{8+}$, and $[Zn-phthalocyanine \subset 9]^{8+}$ (in CD_3CN at 25 °C).

internal standard. The 2D ROESY and NOESY experiments were recorded with 8 or 16 scans for each of the 400 t_1 increments. The duration of the spin-lock time in the ROESY and the mixing time in the NOESY experiments were 0.3 and 0.4 s, respectively. The spin lock in the ROESY was performed with a train of 180 (x) – 180 (-x)pulses for reducing the TOCSY magnetization transfer.¹⁹ The data were multiplied with a cosine window function in both dimensions prior to Fourier transformation and zero-filled to 2048 and 1024 points in ω_2 and ω_1 dimensions, respectively. The 2D DOSY experiments were recorded using the pulsed gradient stimulated echo sequence²⁰ and bipolar gradients for reducing eddy currents.²¹ The strength of the gradients was incremented from 2% (first value) to 95% (last value) in 32 or 64 regular steps. Typically 8 or 16 scans were recorded for each increment. The data were multiplied with exponential window functions prior to Fourier transformations. The DOSY software module of the Bruker Topspin program was used for processing the data in the F₁ dimension. Infrared spectra were

recorded as KBr pellets on a Perkin-Elmer FTIR 1720 X spectrometer. UV—visible absorption spectra were recorded on an Uvikon 930 spectrophotometer using precision cells made of quartz (1 cm). Electrospray ionization mass spectra were recorded in positive-ion mode with a Bruker FTMS 4.7T BioAPEX II mass spectrometer (University of Fribourg, Fribourg, Switzerland). Microanalyzes were performed by the Mikroelementarisches Laboratorium, ETH Zürich (Zürich, Switzerland). Atom labeling for characterization data is given in Chart 1.

Synthesis of Metalla-Prisms [1]⁶⁺–[7]⁶⁺: General Procedure. A mixture of 1.5 equiv of molecular clip ([Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(μ -Cl)₂Cl₂], 55.1 mg; [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(ox)Cl₂], 56.7 mg; [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(dobq)Cl₂], 61.2 mg; [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(dCloq)Cl₂], 67.4 mg; [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(donq)Cl₂], 65.7 mg; [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(doaq)-Cl₂], 70.2 mg; [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(dotq)Cl₂], 74.7 mg; 0.09 mmol), 3 equiv of Ag(CF₃SO₃) (46.2 mg, 0.18 mmol), and 1 equiv of tris-pvb (23.2 mg, 0.06 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL) was stirred at reflux for 24 h

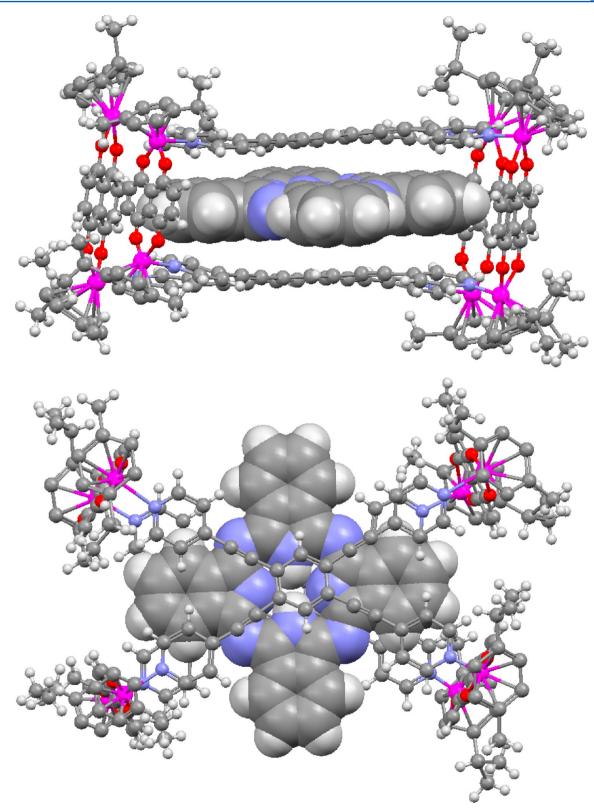


Figure 7. Chem 3D model of [phthalocyanine⊂13]8+: side and top views.

and then filtered. The solvent was removed, and the dark residue was dissolved in $\mathrm{CH_2Cl_2/CH_3CN}$ (1/1, 3 mL), before slowly adding diethyl ether to precipitate a dark red, dark purple, or dark green solid. The solid was filtered, washed with diethyl ether, and dried under vacuum

[$Ru_6(p\text{-}cymene)_6(tris\text{-}pvb)_2(\mu\text{-}Cl)_6$][CF_3SO_3]₆ ([1][CF_3SO_3]₆). Yield: 60.2 mg (61%). UV—vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 347 nm (ε =

1.61 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3067 (m, aromatic, C–H), 1262 (s, triflate, C–F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.72 (d, ³*J* = 6.7 Hz, 12H, H_α), 7.96 (s, 6H, H_C), 7.68 (d, ³*J* = 6.7 Hz, 12H, H_β), 7.66 (d, ³*J* = 16.4 Hz, 6H, H_B), 7.45 (d, ³*J* = 16.4 Hz, 6H, H_Δ), 5.83 (d, ³*J* = 6.1 Hz, 6H, H_{p-cym}), 5.79 (d, ³*J* = 6.1 Hz, 6H, H_{p-cym}), 5.61 (d, ³*J* = 6.1 Hz, 6H, H_{p-cym}), 5.54 (d, ³*J* = 6.1 Hz, 6H, H_{p-cym}), 2.87 (sept, ³*J* = 6.9 Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.04 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.31 (d, ³*J* =

Chart 1

6.9 Hz, 36H, CH(C H_3)₂). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 155.7 (CH $_{\alpha}$), 148.3 (C_{tris-pvb}), 138.2 (C'_{tris-pvb}), 136.2 (CH $_{\rm B}$), 128.0 (CH $_{\rm C}$), 126.7 (CH $_{\rm A}$), 123.6 (CH $_{\beta}$), 106.6 (C $_{\rm p-cym}$), 102.1 (C $_{\rm p-cym}$), 86.9 (CH $_{\rm p-cym}$), 85.9 (CH $_{\rm p-cym}$), 84.5 (CH $_{\rm p-cym}$), 31.7 (CH(CH $_3$)₂), 22.3 (CH(CH $_3$)₂), 22.3 (CH(CH $_3$)₂), 18.3 (CH $_3$). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 949.04 [1 + 3 CF $_3$ SO $_3$]³⁺. Anal. Calcd for C $_{120}$ H $_{126}$ Cl $_6$ F $_{18}$ N $_6$ O $_{18}$ Ru $_6$ S $_6$ ·4CH $_2$ Cl $_2$: C, 40.99; H, 3.72; N, 2.31. Found: C, 40.79; H, 3.88; N, 2.51.

[Ru₆(p-cymene)₆(tris-pvb)₂(ox)₃][CF₃SO₃]₆ ([2][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 62.1 mg (62%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 346 nm (ε = 0.94 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3069 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1631 (s, oxalato, C=O), 1261 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 7.83 (d, 3J = 6.2 Hz, 12H, H_α), 7.61 (s, 6H, H_C), 7.43 (d, 3J = 6.2 Hz, 12H, H_β), 7.39 (d, 3J = 16.4 Hz, 6H, H_B), 7.24 (d, 3J = 16.4 Hz, 6H, H_A), 5.80 (d, 3J = 6.1 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 5.64 (d, 3J = 6.1 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 2.79 (sept, 3J = 6.9 Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.14 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.31 (d, 3J = 6.9 Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂). ¹³C{ ¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 171.0 (CO), 152.1 (CH_α), 148.3 (Ct_{tris-pvb}), 136.5 (C'_{tris-pvb}), 136.5 (CH_B), 127.8 (CH_C), 125.1 (CH_A), 122.9 (CH_β), 102.3 (C_{p-cym}), 97.4 (C_{p-cym}), 82.0 (CH_{p-cym}), 81.4 (CH_{p-cym}), 30.9 (CH(CH₃)₂), 21.4 (CH(CH₃)₂), 17.2 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 966.08 [2 + 3 CF₃SO₃]³⁺, 1523.12 [2 + 4 CF₃SO₃]²⁺. Anal. Calcd for C₁₂₆H₁₂₆F₁₈N₆O₃₀Ru₆S₆·5CH₂Cl₂: C, 41.74; H, 3.64; N, 2.23. Found: C, 41.50; H, 3.77; N, 2.44.

[Ru₆(p-cymene)₆(tris-pvb)₂(dobq)₃][CF₃SO₃]₆ ([3][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 94.5 mg (90%). UV-vis $(1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M, CH}_2\text{Cl}_2)$: λ_{max} 343 nm (ε = 2.10 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 502 nm (ε = 0.53 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3069 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1525 (s, dobq, C=O), 1258 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.11 (d, ³J = 6.4 Hz, 12H, H_a), 7.78 (s, 6H, H_C), 7.54 (d, ³J = 6.4 Hz, 12H, H_β), 7.47 (d, ³J = 16.5 Hz, 6H, H_B), 7.26 (d, ³J = 16.5 Hz, 6H, H_A), 5.86 (d, ³J = 6.1 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 5.73 (s, 12H, H_{dobq}), 5.64 (d, ³J = 6.1 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 2.83 (sept, ³J = 6.9 Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.12 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.32 (d, ³J = 6.9 Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂). ¹³Cξ¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 185.2 (CO), 153.7 (CH_a), 148.5 (Ct_{tris-pvb}), 137.6 (C'_{tris-pvb}), 136.1 (CH_B), 128.2 (CH_C), 125.8 (CH_A), 123.9 (CH_β), 104.4 (C_{p-cym}), 102.4 (CH_{dobq}), 99.6 (C_{p-cym}), 84.5 (CH_{p-cym}), 82.7 (CH_{p-cym}), 32.0 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.4 (CH(CH₃)₂), 18.2 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 724.83 [3 + 2 CF₃SO₃]⁴⁺, 1016.43 [3 + 3 CF₃SO₃]³⁺, 1598.66 [3 + 4 CF₃SO₃]²⁺. Anal. Calcd for C₁₃₈H₁₃₂F₁₈N₆O₃₀Ru₆S₆·9CH₂Cl₂: C, 41.45; H, 3.55; N, 1.97. Found: C, 41.21; H, 3.68; N, 2.23.

[Ru₆(p-cymene)₆(tris-pvb)₂(dCloq)₃][CF₃SO₃]₆ ([4][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 103.3 mg (93%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 343 nm (ε = 2.13 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 520 nm (ε = 0.49 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3069 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1500 (s, dCloq, C=O), 1260 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.12 (d, ³J = 6.3 Hz, 12H, H_a), 7.78 (s, 6H, H_C), 7.55 (d, ³J = 6.3 Hz, 12H, H_β), 7.47 (d, ³J = 16.5 Hz, 6H, H_B), 7.26 (d, ³J = 16.5 Hz, 6H, H_A), 5.93 (d, ³J = 6.2 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 5.74 (d, ³J = 6.2 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 2.88 (sept, ³J = 6.9 Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.19 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.37 (d, ³J = 6.9 Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 178.7 (CO), 153.7 (CH_a), 148.7 (Ctris-pvb), 137.6 (C'tris-pvb), 136.3 (CH_B), 128.4 (CH_C), 125.8 (CH_A), 124.0 (CH_β), 107.1 (CdCloq), 104.9 (C_{p-cym}), 99.4 (C_{p-cym}), 84.4 (CH_{p-cym}), 83.4 (CH_{p-cym}), 32.2 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.3 (CH(CH₃)₂), 18.3 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 776.52 [4 + 2 CF₃SO₃]⁴⁺, 1085.35 [4 + 3 CF₃SO₃]³⁺, 1702.49 [4 + 4 CF₃SO₃]²⁺. Anal. Calcd for C₁₃₈H₁₂₆Cl₆F₁₈N₆O₃₀Ru₆S₆·7CH₂Cl₂·CH₃CN: C, 40.70; H, 3.32; N, 2.26. Found: C, 40.68; H, 3.55; N, 2.28.

[Ru₆(p-cymene)₆(tris-pvb)₂(donq)₃][CF₃SO₃]₆ ([5][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 96.7 mg (88%). UV-vis $(1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2)$: $\lambda_{\text{max}} 337 \text{ nm}$ ($\varepsilon = 1.72 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$), $\lambda_{\text{max}} 590 \text{ nm}$ ($\varepsilon = 0.05 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$), $\lambda_{\text{max}} 643 \text{ nm}$ ($\varepsilon = 0.08 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$), $\lambda_{\text{max}} 700 \text{ nm}$ ($\varepsilon = 0.09 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3059 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1535 (s, donq, C=O), 1259 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.23 (d, $^3J = 5.9 \text{ Hz}$, 12H, H_α), 7.67 (s, 6H, H_C), 7.42 (d, $^3J = 5.9 \text{ Hz}$, 12H, H_β), 7.35 (d, $^3J = 16.8 \text{ Hz}$, 6H, H_B), 7.19 (s, 12H, H_{donq}), 7.15 (d, $^3J = 16.8 \text{ Hz}$, 6H, H_A), 5.66 (d, $^3J = 6.1 \text{ Hz}$, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 2.81 (sept, $^3J = 6.9 \text{ Hz}$, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.08 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.30 (d, $^3J = 6.9 \text{ Hz}$, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂). ¹³C{¹H NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 171.7 (CO), 152.8 (CH_α), 148.4 (C_{tris-pyb}), 138.3 (CH_{donq}), 137.6 (C'_{tris-pyb}), 135.6 (CH_B), 127.9 (CH_C), 125.8 (CH_A), 123.5 (CH_β), 112.3 (C_{donq}), 104.4 (C_{p-cym}), 100.1 (C_{p-cym}), 85.0 (CH_{p-cym}), 83.9 (CH_{p-cym}), 31.4 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.3 (CH(CH₃)₂), 17.3 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1066.12 [5 + 3 CF₃SO₃]³⁺. Anal. Calcd for C₁₅₀H₁₃₈F₁₈N₆O₃₀Ru₆S₆·8CH₂Cl₂: C, 43.88; H, 3.59; N, 1.94. Found: C, 43.99; H, 3.57; N, 2.24.

[Ru₆(p-cymene)₆(tris-pvb)₂(doaq)₃][CF₃SO₃]₆ ([6][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 86.1 mg (76%). UV-vis $(1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2)$: λ_{max} 338 nm (ε = 1.85 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 560 nm (ε = 0.07 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 604 nm (ε = 0.12 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 653 nm (ε = 0.14 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3066 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1538 (s, doaq, C=O), 1261 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.67 (br s, 6H, H_{bq}), 8.28 (br s, 12H, H_α), 7.97 (br s, 6H, H_{cq}), 7.58 (br s, 6H, H_c), 7.37 (d, ³J = 5.8 Hz, 12H, H_β), 7.29 (m, 6H, H_B), 7.25 (s, 3H, H_{aq}), 7.24 (s, 3H, H_{aq}), 7.11 (m, 6H, H_A), 5.77 (d, ³J = 5.8 Hz, 6H, H_{p-cym}), 5.53 (d, ³J = 5.8 Hz, 6H, H_{p-cym}), 5.53 (d, ³J = 5.8 Hz, 6H, H_{p-cym}), 5.53 (d, ³J = 6.8 Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.13 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.32 (d, ³J = 6.8 Hz, 18H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.29 (d, ³J = 6.8 Hz, 18H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.29 (d, ³J = 6.8 Hz, 18H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.3C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 171.4 (CO), 170.4 (CO), 152.7 (CH_α), 148.3 (C_{tris-pvb}), 138.6 (CH_{bq}), 137.5 (C'_{tris-pvb}), 135.5 (CH_B), 134.2 (CH_{cq}), 134.1 (C_q), 128.2 (CH_{bq}), 127.8 (CH_C), 125.8 (CH_A), 123.5 (CH_B), 110.5 (C_q), 104.4 (C_{p-cym}), 83.6 (CH_{p-cym}), 85.0 (CH_{p-cym}), 84.8 (CH_{p-cym}), 83.7 (CH_{p-cym}), 83.6 (CH_{p-cym}), 81.0 (CH_{CH3})₂), 22.5 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.5 (CH(CH₃)₂), 17.6 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1115.80 [6 + 3 CF₃SO₃]³⁺. Anal. Calcd for C₁₆₂H₁₄₄F₁₈N₆O₃₀Ru₆S₆·15CH₂Cl₂·CH₃CN: C, 42.07; H, 3.49; N, 1.92. Found: C, 42.24; H, 3.50; N, 2.04.

[Ru₆(p-cymene)₆(tris-pvb)₂(dotq)₃][CF₃SO₃]₆ ([7][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 93.3 mg (79%). UV-vis $(1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2)$: λ_{max} 339 nm (ε = 2.07 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 528 nm (ε = 0.08 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 557 nm (ε = 0.18 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 611 nm (ε = 0.25 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3067 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1542 (s, dotq, C=O), 1261 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.75 (dd, ⁴J = 3.4 Hz, ³J = 5.5 Hz, 12H, H_{bq}), 8.32 (d, ³J = 5.4 Hz, 12H, H_α), 7.98 (dd, ⁴J = 3.4 Hz, ³J = 5.5 Hz, 12H, H_{cq}), 7.46 (s, 6H, H_C), 7.27 (br s, 12H, H_β), 7.15 (d, ³J = 16.0 Hz, 6H, H_B), 6.96 (d, ³J = 16.0 Hz, 6H, H_A), 5.84 (d, ³J = 6.1 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 5.62 (d, ³J = 6.1 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 2.93 (sept, ³J = 6.9 Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.15 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.30 (d, ³J = 6.9 Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂). ¹³C{¹H} NMR

(100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 170.0 (CO), 152.6 (CH_a), 148.2 (C_{tris-pvb}), 137.4 (C'_{tris-pvb}), 135.4 (CH_B), 134.7 (C_q), 133.9 (CH_{cq}), 128.2 (CH_{bq}), 127.7 (CH_C), 125.6 (CH_A), 123.4 (CH_β), 107.9 (C_q), 104.5 (C_{p-cym}), 100.4 (C_{p-cym}), 84.9 (CH_{p-cym}), 83.4 (CH_{p-cym}), 31.4 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.4 (CH(CH₃)₂), 17.8 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1166.46 [7 + 3 CF₃SO₃]³⁺. Anal. Calcd for C₁₇₄H₁₅₀F₁₈N₆O₃₀Ru₆S₆·12CH₂Cl₂: C, 44.99; H, 3.53; N, 1.69. Found: C, 44.94; H, 3.51; N, 1.95.

Synthesis of [coronene⊂3][CF₃SO₃]₆-[coronene⊂7]-[CF₃SO₃]₆: General Procedure. A mixture of 3 equiv of the molecular clip [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(dobq)Cl₂], [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(dolq)Cl₂], [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(donq)Cl₂], [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(dolq)Cl₂], [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(dolq)Cl₂], or [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(dolq)Cl₂] (0.09 mmol), 6 equiv of Ag(CF₃SO₃) (46.2 mg, 0.18 mmol), 1 equiv of coronene (9.0 mg, 0.03 mmol), and 2 equiv of tris-pvb (23.2 mg, 0.06 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL) was stirred at reflux for 24 h and then filtered. The solvent was removed, and the dark residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂/CH₃CN (1/1, 3 mL), before slowly adding diethyl ether to precipitate a dark red, dark purple, or dark green solid. The solid was filtered, washed with diethyl ether, and dried under vacuum.

[coronene \subset Ru₆(p-cymene)₆(tris-pvb)₂(dobq)₃][CF₃SO₃]₆([coronene \subset **3**][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 97.0 mg (85%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵) M, CH₂Cl₂): $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 344 nm (ε = 1.84 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 502 nm (ε = 0.47 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3069 (m, aromatic, C–H), 1524 (s, dobq, C=O), 1258 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.11 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.8 Hz, 12H, H_{α}), 8.06 (s, 12H, H_{cor}), 7.33 (d, ${}^{3}I = 5.8 \text{ Hz}$, 12H, H₆), 6.80 (m, 12H, H_{R/C}), 6.60 (m, 12H, H_A), 5.89 (s, 6H, H_{doba}), 5.88 (d, 3J = 6.1 Hz, 12H, H_{v-cvm}), 5.66 (d, 3J = 6.1 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 2.84 (sept, 3J = 6.9 Hz, 6H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 2.12 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.33 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.9$ Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂). ${}^{13}C\{{}^{1}H\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 185.2 (CO), 153.6 (CH_{α}), 148.4 (C_{tris-pvb}), 136.3 (C'_{tris-pvb}), 135.5 (CH_B), 129.0 (C_{cor}), 127.3 (CH_C), 126.6 (CH_{cor}), 124.8 (CH_A), 123.7 (CH_{β}), 122.8 (C_{cor}), 104.5 $(C_{p-\text{cym}})$, 12.10 (CH_{obq}) , 99.6 $(C_{p-\text{cym}})$, 85.5 $(CH_{p-\text{cym}})$, 82.7 $(CH_{p-\text{cym}})$, 32.0 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 22.4 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 18.2 (CH_3) . MS (ESI positive and etc.) m/z 724.83 $[3 + 2 CF_3CO_3]^{4+}$, 1016.42 $[3 + 3 CF_3CO_3]^{4+}$ C F ₃ S O ₃] ^{3 +}. Anal. Calcd $C_{162}H_{144}F_{18}N_6O_{30}Ru_6S_6\cdot 6CH_2Cl_2\cdot CH_3CN$: C, 46.98; H, 3.69; N, 2.26. Found: C, 46.95; H, 3.98; N, 2.34.

 $[coronene \subset Ru_6(p-cymene)_6(tris-pvb)_2(dCloq)_3][CF_3SO_3]_6$ ([coronene⊂4][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 103.1 mg (86%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10^{-5} M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 342 nm (ε = 2.61 × 10^{5} M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 518 nm (ε = 0.59 × 10^{5} M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3070 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1500 (s, dCloq, C=O), 1260 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.11 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.4 Hz, 12H, H_{α}), 8.03 (s, 12H, H_{cor}), 7.37 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.4$ Hz, 12H, H_{β}), 6.96 (m, 12H, $H_{B/C}$), 6.74 (m, 6H, H_A), 5.95 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.3$ Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 5.75 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.3$ Hz, 12H, $H_{p-\text{cym}}$), 2.89 (sept, ${}^{3}J = 6.9 \text{ Hz}$, 6H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 2.19 (s, 18H, CH_3), 1.38 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.9$ Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂). ${}^{13}C\{{}^{1}H\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 178.7 (CO), 153.6 (CH_a), 148.5 (C_{tris-pvb}), 136.4 (C'_{tris-pvb}), 135.7 (CH_B), 128.9 (C_{cor}), 127.4 (CH_C), 126.5 (CH_{cor}), 124.8 (CH_A), 123.8 (CH_{β}), 122.8 (C_{cor}), 107.2 (C_{dCloq}), 104.9 $(C_{p-\text{cym}})$, 99.4 $(C_{p-\text{cym}})$, 84.4 $(CH_{p-\text{cym}})$, 83.4 $(CH_{p-\text{cym}})$, 32.2 (CH- $(CH_3)_2$), 22.3 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 18.3 (CH_3) . MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 776.52 [4 + 2 CF₃SO₃]⁴⁺, 851.72 [coronene + 4 + 2 CF₃SO₃]⁴⁺, 1085.35 [4 + 3 CF₃SO₃]³⁺. Anal. Calcd for $C_{162}H_{138}Cl_6F_{18}N_6O_{30}Ru_6S_6\cdot 8CH_2Cl_2\cdot CH_3CN$: C, 43.74; H, 3.35; N, 2.08. Found: C, 43.69; H, 3.67; N, 2.18.

[coronene \subset Ru₆(p-cymene)₆(tris-pvb)₂(donq)₃][CF₃SO₃]₆([coronene \subset 5][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 96.0 mg (81%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 337 mm (ε = 1.91 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 588 nm (ε = 0.10 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 643 nm (ε = 0.10 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). λ_{max} 702 nm (ε = 0.10 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3053 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1535 (s, donq, C=O), 1259 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.23 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.1 Hz, 12H, H_{α}), 7.83 (s, 6H, H_C), 7.29 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.1 Hz, 12H, H_{β}), 7.26 (s, 12H, H_{donq}), 7.12 (m, 12H, H_{cor}), 6.96 (m, 6H, H_B), 6.78 (m, 6H, H_A), 5.67 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.1 Hz, 12H, H_{β -cym}), 2.82 (sept, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.9 Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.08 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.31 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.9 Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm)

171.8 (CO), 152.8 (CH $_{\alpha}$), 148.3 (C $_{\rm tris-pvb}$), 138.5 (CH $_{\rm donq}$), 137.0 (C' $_{\rm tris-pvb}$), 135.4 (CH $_{\rm B}$), 128.9 (C $_{\rm cor}$), 127.4 (CH $_{\rm cor}$), 126.4 (CH $_{\rm C}$), 125.3 (CH $_{\rm A}$), 123.5 (CH $_{\rm B}$), 122.8 (C $_{\rm cor}$), 112.5 (Cdonq), 104.5 (C $_{\rm p-cym}$), 100.2 (C $_{\rm p-cym}$), 85.1 (CH $_{\rm p-cym}$), 84.0 (CH $_{\rm p-cym}$), 31.5 (CH(CH $_{\rm 3}$) $_{\rm 2}$), 22.4 (CH(CH $_{\rm 3}$) $_{\rm 2}$), 17.3 (CH $_{\rm 3}$). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1066.12 [5 + 3 CF $_{\rm 3}$ SO $_{\rm 3}$] $^{3+}$ An al. Calcd for C $_{\rm 174}$ H $_{\rm 150}$ F $_{\rm 18}$ N $_{\rm 6}$ O $_{\rm 30}$ Ru $_{\rm 6}$ S $_{\rm 6}$ ·15CH $_{\rm 2}$ Cl $_{\rm 2}$ ·2CH $_{\rm 3}$ CN: C, 43.72; H, 3.54; N, 2.11. Found: C, 43.61; H, 3.51; N, 2.08.

[coronene $\subset Ru_6(p\text{-cymene})_6(tris\text{-pvb})_2(doaq)_3$][CF_3SO_3]₆ ([coronene \subset 6][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 80.8 mg (66%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻¹ M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 338 nm (ε = 2.13 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 560 nm (ε = 0.08 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 603 nm (ε = 0.13 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 653 nm (ε = 0.17 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3064 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1538 (s, doaq, C=O), 1261 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.74 (m, 6H, H_{bg}), 8.26 (dd, ${}^{3}J$ = 7.0 Hz, ${}^{3}J = 13.7$ Hz, 12H, H_{α}), 8.04 (m, 6H, H_{cq}), 7.64 (s, 12H, H_{cor}), 7.34 (s, 12H, H_{aq}), 7.17 (m, 12H, H_{β}), 6.66 (m, 18H, $H_{A/B/C}$), 5.78 (dd, ${}^{3}J = 2.7 \text{ Hz}$, ${}^{3}J = 5.4 \text{ Hz}$, 6H, H_{p-cym}), 5.72 (dd, ${}^{3}J = 2.7 \text{ Hz}$, ${}^{3}J = 5.4 \text{ Hz}$, 6H, H_{p-cym}), 5.56 (dd, ${}^{3}J = 2.7 \text{ Hz}$, ${}^{3}J = 5.4 \text{ Hz}$, 6H, H_{p-cym}), 5.53 (dd, ${}^{3}J = 2.7$ Hz, ${}^{3}J = 5.4$ Hz, 6H, H_{p-cym}), 2.88 (sept, ${}^{3}J = 6.8$ Hz, 6H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 2.12 (s, 18H, CH_3), 1.33 (d, ${}^3J = 6.8$ Hz, 18H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 1.30 (d, ${}^3J = 6.8$ Hz, 18H, $CH(CH_3)_2$). ${}^{13}C\{{}^{1}H\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 171.4 (CO), 170.6 (CO), 152.6 (CH_a) , 148.1 $(C_{tris-pvb})$, 138.8 (CH_{aq}) , 136.5 $(C'_{tris-pvb})$, 135.1 (CH_B) , 134.3 (CH_{cq}), 134.1 (C_q), 128.7 (C_{cor}), 128.3 (CH_{bq}), 127.1 (CH_C), 126.1 (CH_{cor}), 124.9 (CH_A), 123.3 (CH_{β}), 122.6 (C_{cor}), 110.6 (C_q), 104.4 (C_{p-cym}), 100.2 (C_{p-cym}), 85.0 (CH_{p-cym}), 84.8 (CH_{p-cym}), 83.7 (CH_{p-cym}), 83.6 (CH_{p-cym}), 31.4 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.5 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.2 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 17.6 (CH_3) . MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 800.11 [6 + 2 CF₃SO₃]⁴⁺, 1115.79 [6 + 3 CF₃SO₃]³⁺. Anal. Calcd for $C_{186}H_{156}F_{18}N_6O_{30}Ru_6S_6\cdot 7CH_2Cl_2 : \ C, \ \ 49.42; \ \ H, \ \ 3.65; \ \ N, \ \ 1.79.$ Found: C, 49.70; H, 3.84; N, 2.10.

 $[coronene \subset Ru_6(p-cymene)_6(tris-pvb)_2(dotq)_3][CF_3SO_3]_6$ ([coronene \subset 7][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 108.2 mg (85%). UV-vis (1.0 \times $\begin{array}{l} 10^{-5} \text{ M, CH}_2\text{Cl}_2)\colon \lambda_{\text{max}} \ 338 \text{ nm } (\varepsilon = 2.27 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}), \ \lambda_{\text{max}} \ 528 \\ \text{nm } (\varepsilon = 0.09 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}), \ \lambda_{\text{max}} \ 567 \text{ nm } (\varepsilon = 0.20 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}), \ \lambda_{\text{max}} \ 611 \text{ nm } (\varepsilon = 0.27 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}). \text{ IR (KBr, cm}^{-1}) \ 3064 \\ \end{array}$ (m, aromatic, C-H), 1543 (s, dotq, C=O), 1260 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.82 (dd, ⁴J = 3.4 Hz, ³J = 5.8 Hz, 12H, H_{ba}), 8.29 (d, ${}^{3}I = 6.1$ Hz, 12H, H_a), 8.06 (dd, ${}^{4}I = 3.4$ Hz, ${}^{3}I$ = 5.8 Hz, 12H, H_{cq}), 7.50 (s, 6H, H_{cor}), 7.02 (br s, 12H, H_{β}), 6.48 (br s, 12H, H_B/H_C), 6.27 (br s, 6H, H_A), 5.84 (d, $^3J = 6.2$ Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 5.62 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.2 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 2.94 (sept, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.9 Hz, 6H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 2.09 (s, 18H, CH_3), 1.31 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.9 Hz, 36H, $CH(CH_3)_2$). ¹³ $C{^1H}$ NMR (100 MHz, CD_3CN): δ (ppm) 170.1 (CO), 152.4 (CH $_{\alpha}$), 148.0 (C $_{\text{tris-pvb}}$), 136.1 (C $'_{\text{tris-pvb}}$), 134.9 (CH $_{\text{B}}$), 134.7 (C_q), 134.0 (CH_{cq}), 128.6 (C_{cor}), 128.3 (CH_{bq}), 126.7 (CH_C), 126.0 (\dot{CH}_{cor}), 124.6 (\dot{CH}_{A}), 123.2 (\dot{CH}_{β}), 122.5 (\dot{C}_{cor}), 108.1 (\dot{C}_{q}), 104.5 ($C_{p-\text{cym}}$), 100.4 ($C_{p-\text{cym}}$), 84.9 ($CH_{p-\text{cym}}$), 83.4 ($CH_{p-\text{cym}}$), 31.4 ($CH(CH_3)_2$), 22.4 ($CH(CH_3)_2$), 17.8 (CH_3). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1166.46 [7 + 3 CF_3SO_3]³⁺. Anal. Calcd for $C_{198}H_{162}F_{18}N_6O_{30}Ru_6S_6\cdot 9CH_2Cl_2$: C, 49.62; H, 3.62; N, 1.68. Found: C, 49.84; H, 3.92; N, 1.99.

Synthesis of [photosensitizer⊂3][CF₃SO₃]6, [photosensitizer⊂5][CF₃SO₃]6, and [photosensitizer⊂7]-[CF₃SO₃]6: General Procedure. A mixture of 3 equiv of molecular clip ([Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(dobq)Cl₂], 61.2 mg; [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(donq)-Cl₂], 65.7 mg; [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(dotq)Cl₂], 74.7 mg; 0.09 mmol), 6 equiv of Ag(CF₃SO₃) (46.2 mg, 0.18 mmol), 1 equiv of photosensitizer (porphin, 9.4 mg; phthalocyanine, 15.4 mg; Zn-phthalocyanine, 17.3 mg; 0.03 mmol), and 2 equiv of tris-pvb (23.2 mg, 0.06 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL) was stirred at reflux for 24 h and then filtered. The solvent was removed, and the dark residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂/CH₃CN (1/1, 3 mL), before slowly adding diethyl ether to precipitate a dark solid. The solid was filtered, washed with diethyl ether, and dried under vacuum.

[porphin \subset Ru₆(p-cymene)₆(tris-pvb)₂(dobq)₃][CF₃SO₃]₆([porphin \subset 3][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 104.0 mg (91%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 345 nm (ε = 2.49 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 395 nm (ε = 1.68 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 494 nm (ε = 0.66 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max}

520 nm (ε = 0.63 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3069 (m, aromatic, C–H), 1524 (s, dobq, C=O), 1257 (s, triflate, C–F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 9.56 (s, 4H, H_{porphin}), 8.76 (s, 8H, H_{porphin}), 8.12 (d, ³J = 5.7 Hz, 12H, H_α), 7.22 (d, ³J = 5.7 Hz, 12H, H_β), 6.32 (br s, 6H, H_B), 6.16 (br s, 12H, H_{A/C}), 5.97 (s, 6H, H_{dobq}), 5.89 (d, ³J = 6.0 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 5.66 (d, ³J = 6.0 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 2.85 (sept, ³J = 6.9 Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.12 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.34 (d, ³J = 6.9 Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂), -5.24 (s, 2H, NH). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 185.5 (CO), 153.6 (CH_α), 148.3 (Ct_{1is-pvb}), 135.2 (CH_B), 131.8 (C_{porphin}), 130.6 (CH_{porphin}), 124.5 (CH_{A/C}), 123.7 (CH_β), 104.7 (CH_{porphin}), 104.6 (C_{p-cym}), 102.7 (CH_{dobq}), 99.6 (C_{p-cym}), 84.5 (CH_{p-cym}), 82.8 (CH_{p-cym}), 32.1 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.4 (CH(CH₃)₂), 18.2 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 724.83 [3 + 2 CF₃SO₃]⁴⁺, 1016.43 [3 + 3 CF₃SO₃]³⁺. Anal. Calcd for C₁₅₈H₁₄₆F₁₈N₁₀O₃₀Ru₆S₆·7CH₂Cl₂·2Et₂O: C, 45.68; H, 3.99; N, 3.08. Found: C, 45.70; H, 4.10; N, 3.00.

 $[phthalocyanine \subset Ru_6(p-cymene)_6(tris-pvb)_2(dobq)_3][CF_3SO_3]_6$ ([phthalocyanine \subset 3][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 109.1 mg (91%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 340 nm (ε = 2.47 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 505 nm (ε = 0.58 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 606 nm (ε = 0.21 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 641 nm (ε = 0.24 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 656 nm (ε = 0.30 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 670 nm (ε = 0.60 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 672 (ε = 0.68 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), ε 10 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹) nm ($\varepsilon = 0.68 \times 10^5 \,\mathrm{M}^{-1} \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3072 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1520 (s, dobq, C=O), 1258 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.71 (dd, ${}^{4}J$ = 2.9 Hz, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.6 Hz, 8H, $H_{phthalocyanine}$), 8.05 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.6$ Hz, 12H, H_{α}), 7.24 (dd, ${}^{4}J = 2.9$ Hz, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.6 Hz, 8H, H_{phthalocyanine}), 6.76 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.6 Hz, 12H, H_{β}), 6.31 (s, 6H, H_{dobq}), 5.91 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.3 Hz, 12H, H_{β}, 5.67 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.3 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 5.20 (d, ${}^{3}J = 16.4$ Hz, 6H, H_{B}), 5.14 (d, ${}^{3}J = 16.4$ Hz, 6H, H_A), 4.74 (s, 6H, H_C), 2.87 (sept, $^3J = 6.9$ Hz, 6H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 2.11 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.36 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.9$ Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂), -2.11 (s, 2H, NH). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 185.3 (CO), 153.1 (CH $_{\alpha}$), 147.6 (C $_{\rm tris-pvb}$), 137.5 (C $_{\rm phthalocyanine}$), 133.7 (C' $_{\rm tris-pvb}$), 132.9 (CH $_{\rm B}$), 130.7 (CH $_{\rm phthalocyanine}$), 124.3 (CH $_{\rm C}$), 123.5 (CH $_{\beta}$), 123.3 (CH_A), 123.1 (CH_{phthalocyanine}), 104.6 (C_{p-cym}), 102.8 (CH_{dobq}), 99.7 (C_{p-cym}), 84.5 (CH_{p-cym}), 82.8 (CH_{p-cym}), 32.1 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.4 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 18.2 (CH_3) . MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 514.17 phthalocyanine, 724.83 $[3 + 2 CF_3SO_3]^{4+}$, 1016.43 $[3 + 3 CF_3SO_3]^{3+}$, 1598.18 $[3 + 4 CF_3SO_3]^{2+}$. Anal. Calcd for $C_{170}H_{150}F_{18}N_{14}O_{30}Ru_6S_6\cdot9CH_2Cl_2$: C, 45.03; H, 3.55; N, 4.11. Found: C, 45.00; H, 3.76; N, 4.10.

 $[Zn-phthalocyanine \subset Ru_6(p-cymene)_6(tris-pvb)_2(dobq)_3][CF_3SO_3]_6$ ([Zn-phthalocyanine \subset 3][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 110.1 mg (90%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 340 nm (ε = 2.57 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 505 nm (ε = 0.63 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 618 nm (ε = 0.20 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 685 nm (ε = 0.86 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 729 nm (ε = 0.14 $\times 10^5 \,\mathrm{M}^{-1} \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3064 (m, aromatic, C–H), 1523 (s, dobq, C=O), 1258 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.71 (br s, 8H, H_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 8.08 (d, 3J = 4.2 Hz, 12H, H_α), 7.23 (br s, 8H, H_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 6.79 (br s, 12H, H_β), 6.32 (s, 6H, H_{dobq}), 5.91 (d, ${}^{3}J = 5.9$ Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 5.68 (d, ${}^{3}J = 5.9$ Hz, 12H, $H_{p-\text{cym}}$), 5.22 (d, ${}^{3}J = 16.0 \text{ Hz}$, 6H, H_{B}), 5.10 (d, ${}^{3}J = 16.0 \text{ Hz}$, 6H, H_{A}), 4.66 (s, 6H, H_C), 2.87 (sept, ${}^{3}J = 6.8$ Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.12 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.35 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.8$ Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂). ${}^{13}C\{{}^{1}H\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 185.7 (CO), 153.2 (CH_a), 147.4 (C_{tris-pvb}), 139.1 (C_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 134.3 (C'_{tris-pvb}), 132.4 (CH_B), 130.4 $(CH_{Zn\text{-phthalocyanine}})$, 124.9 (CH_A) , 123.8 (CH_C) , 123.7 (CH_β) , 123.0 $(CH_{Zn-phthalocyanine})$, 104.6 (C_{p-cym}) , 102.8 (CH_{dobq}) , 99.7 (C_{p-cym}) , 84.5 (CH_{p-cym}) , 82.8 (CH_{p-cym}) , 32.1 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 22.4 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 18.2 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 576.08 Zn-phthalocyanine, 724.83 $[3 + 2 \text{ CF}_3\text{SO}_3]^{4+}$, 869.36 $[\text{Zn-phthalocyanine} + 3 + 2 \text{ CF}_3\text{SO}_3]^{4+}$, 1016.43 $[3 + 3 \text{ CF}_3\text{SO}_3]^{3+}$. Anal. Calcd for $C_{170}H_{148}F_{18}N_{14}O_{30}Ru_6S_6Zn\cdot7CH_2Cl_2\cdot4Et_2O: C$, 46.69; H, 4.10; N, 3.95. Found: C, 46.77; H, 3.90; N, 3.74.

[porphin⊂Ru₆(p-cymene)₆(tris-pvb)₂(donq)₃][CF₃SO₃]₆ ([porphin⊂**5**][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 79.2 mg (67%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 338 nm (ε = 3.07 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 393 nm (ε = 2.62 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 488 nm (ε = 0.38 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 563 nm (ε = 0.11 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 645 nm (ε = 0.13 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 703 nm (ε = 0.14 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3070

(m, aromatic, C–H), 1537 (s, dobq, C=O), 1260 (s, triflate, C–F).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 9.40 (s, 4H, H_{porphin}), 8.63 (s, 8H, H_{porphin}), 8.21 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.9 Hz, 12H, H_{α}), 7.39 (s, 12H, H_{donq}), 7.03 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.9 Hz, 12H, H_{β}), 6.12 (br s, 6H, H_{α}), 5.98 (br s, 12H, H_{α}), 5.67 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.1 Hz, 12H, H_{α}-cym), 5.46 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.1 Hz, 12H, H_{α}-cym), 2.83 (sept, ${}^{3}J$ = 7.0 Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.08 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.32 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 7.0 Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂), -5.16 (s, 2H, NH). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 171.9 (CO), 152.6 (CH_{α}), 147.9 (Ct₁-cym), 138.6 (CH_{donq}), 135.5 (C'_{tris-pvb}), 134.6 (CH_{α}), 131.8 (CH_{porphin}), 126.2 (CH_{α}), 124.4 (CH_{α}), 123.3 (CH_{α}), 112.6 (C_{donq}), 104.5 (C_{α -cym}), 104.4 (CH_{porphin}), 100.2 (C_{α -cym}), 85.1 (CH_{α -cym}), 84.0 (CH_{α -cym}), 31.4 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.3 (CH(CH₃)₂), 17.3 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1066.12 [5 + 3 CF₃SO₃]³⁺, 1673.75 [5 + 4 CF₃SO₃]²⁺. Anal. Calcd for C₁₇₀H₁₅₂F₁₈N₁₀O₃₀Ru₆S₆·3CH₂Cl₂·Et₂O: C, 49.62; H, 3.95; N, 3.27. Found: C, 49.53; H, 4.21; N, 3.09.

[phthalocyanine \subset Ru₆(p-cymene)₆(tris-pvb)₂(donq)₃][CF₃SO₃]₆ ([phthalocyanine⊂5][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 84.7 mg (70%) ([phthalocyanine \subset 5] 75%, [5] 25%, determined by ¹H NMR). UV-vis $(1.0 \times 10^{-5}$ M, CH_2Cl_2): λ_{max} 337 nm (ε = 2.56 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 609 nm (ε = 0.21 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 641 nm (ε = 0.31 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 656 nm (ε = 0.38 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 669 nm (ε = 0.59 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 704 nm (ε = 0.66 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3070 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1534 (s, dong, C=O), 1259 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.56 (dd, ⁴J = 2.9 Hz, ³J = 5.5 Hz, 8H, H_{phthalocyanine}), 8.16 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.7 Hz, 12H, H_{α}), 7.61 (s, 12H, H_{donq}), 6.93 (dd, ${}^{4}J$ = 2.9 Hz, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.5 Hz, 8H, $H_{\text{phthalocyanine}}$), 6.66 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.7 Hz, 12H, H_{β}), 5.69 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.9 Hz, 12H, $H_{p\text{-cym}}$), 5.47 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.9 Hz, 12H, $H_{p\text{-cym}}$), 5.15 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 16.4 Hz, 6H, H_{B}), 5.09 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 16.4 Hz, H_{CM}), 5.10 (d, H_{CM}), 6.10 (d, 6H, H_A), 4.68 (s, 6H, H_C), 2.85 (sept, ${}^{3}J = 7.0$ Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.07 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.33 (d, ${}^{3}J = 7.0$ Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂), -2.14 (s, 2H, NH). 13 C 1 H 1 NMR (100 MHz, CD 3 CN): δ (ppm) 172.1 (CO), 152.2 (CH_{α}), 147.4 (C_{tris-pvb}), 138.8 (CH_{donq}), 137.7 (C_{phthalocyanine}), 133.7 (C'_{tris-pvb}), 132.4 (CH_B), 130.4 (CH_{phthalocyanine}), 124.1 (CH_C), 123.4 (CH_{phthalocyanine}), 123.0 (CH_{β}), 123.0 (CH_A), 112.6 (C_{donq}), 104.6 ($C_{p-\text{cym}}$), 100.3 ($C_{p-\text{cym}}$), 85.2 ($CH_{p-\text{cym}}$), 84.0 ($CH_{p-\text{cym}}$), 31.5 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 22.4 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 17.3 (CH_3) . Due to the equilibrium between empty and filled complexes in solution, which does not allow the isolation of a single product, the molecular mass and the elemental composition were not determined.

 $[Zn-phthalocyanine \subset Ru_6(p-cymene)_6(tris-pvb)_2(donq)_3][CF_3SO_3]_6$ ([Zn-phthalocyanine \subset 5][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 88.2 mg (70%). Due to the broadness of the signal, the equilibrium between empty and filled cages has not been determined by ¹H NMR. UV-vis $(1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M},$ CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 336 nm (ε = 2.60 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 619 nm (ε = 0.25 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 654 nm (ε = 0.25 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 686 nm (ε = 1.02 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3070 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1537 (s, donq, C=O), 1259 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.53 (br s, 8H, H_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 8.20 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.8 Hz, 12H, H_a), 7.42 (br s, 12H, H_{donq}), 6.94 (br s, 8H, H_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 5.68 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.2 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 5.47 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.2 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 2.83 (sept, ${}^{3}J = 7.0$ Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.08 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.32 (d, ${}^{3}J = 7.0$ Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂). ${}^{13}C\{{}^{1}H\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 171.9 (CO), 153.7 (C_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 152.5 (CH_{α}), 147.7 (C_{tris-pvb}), 139.1 (C_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 138.5 (CH_{donq}), 129.8 (CH_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 122.8 (CH_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 122.8 (CH_{β}), 112.4 (C_{donq}), 104.5 (C_{p-cym}), 100.2 (C_{p-cym}), 85.1 (CH_{p-cym}), 84.0 (CH_{p-cym}) , 31.4 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 22.3 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 17.3 (CH_3) . Due to the equilibrium between empty and filled complexes in solution, which does not allow the isolation of a single product, the molecular mass and the elemental composition were not determined.

[porphin⊂ $Ru_{6}(p-cymene)_{6}(tris-pvb)_{2}(dotq)_{3}][CF_{3}SO_{3}]_{6}(porphin⊂7][CF_{3}SO_{3}]_{6})$. Yield: 106.1 mg (83%). UV—vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 339 nm (ε = 2.70 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 393 nm (ε = 2.29 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 489 nm (ε = 0.16 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 526 nm (ε = 0.12 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 567 nm (ε = 0.27 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 612 nm (ε = 0.33 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3070 (m, aromatic, C–H), 1542 (s, dobq, C=O), 1260 (s, triflate, C–F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 9.11 (s, 4H, H_{porphin}), 8.88 (br s, 12H, H_{bq}), 8.26 (d, ^{3}J = 5.7 Hz, 12H, H_α), 8.26 (s, 8H, H_{porphin}), 8.11 (br s, 12H, H_{cq}), 6.79 (br s, 12H, H_β), 5.85 (d, ^{3}J = 6.0 Hz, 12H,

 H_{p-cym}), 5.61 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.0 Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 2.95 (sept, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.9 Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.12 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.32 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.9 Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂), -5.22 (s, 2H, NH). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 170.2 (CO), 152.4 (CH_α), 147.8 (C_{tris-pvb}),142.5 (C_{porphin}), 134.9 (C_{dotq}), 134.1 (CH_{cq}), 128.4 (CH_{bq}), 123.1 (CH_β), 108.2 (C_{dotq}), 104.6 (C_{p-cym}), 104.0 (CH_{porphin}), 100.4 (C_{p-cym}), 84.9 (CH_{p-cym}), 83.4 (CH_{p-cym}), 31.4 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.5 (CH(CH₃)₂), 17.8 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1166.46 [7 + 3 CF₃SO₃]³⁺, 1824.64 [7 + 4 CF₃SO₃]²⁺. An al. Calcd for C₁₉₄H₁₆₄F₁₈N₁₀O₃₀Ru₆S₆·2CH₂Cl₂·3Et₂O: C, 53.03; H, 4.26; N, 2.96. Found: C, 52.99; H, 4.16; N, 2.75.

 $[phthalocyanine \subset Ru_6(p-cymene)_6(tris-pvb)_2(dotq)_3][CF_3SO_3]_6$ ([phthalocyanine⊂7][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 98.7 mg (78%) ([phthalocyanine \subset 7] 54%, [7] 46%, determined by ¹H NMR). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 336 nm (ε = 3.08 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 530 nm (ε = 0.12 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 530 nm (ε = 0.27 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 569 nm (ε = 0.27 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 611 nm (ε = 0.46 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 638 nm (ε = 0.33 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 654 nm (ε = 0.26 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 670 nm (ε = 0.61 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 705 nm (ε = 0.71 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3070 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1542 (s, dotq, C=O), 1260 (s, triflate, C–F). 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 9.00 (dd, 4 J = 3.4 Hz, ${}^{3}J = 6.1$ Hz, 12H, H_{bq}), 8.26 (dd, ${}^{4}J = 3.4$ Hz, ${}^{3}J = 6.1$ Hz, 12H, H_{co}), 8.25 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.2$ Hz, $12\dot{H}$, H_{α}), 8.15 (dd, ${}^{4}J = 3.0$ Hz, ${}^{3}J = 5.5$ Hz, 8H, H_{phthalocyanine}), 6.49 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.2$ Hz, 12H, H_{β}), 6.33 (dd, ${}^{4}J = 3.0$ Hz, ${}^{3}J = 5.5$ Hz, 8H, H_{phthalocyanine}), 5.86 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.1$ Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 5.61 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.1$ Hz, 12H, $H_{p-\text{cym}}$), 4.97 (d, ${}^{3}J = 16.4$ Hz, 6H, H_{B}), 4.92 (d, ${}^{3}J = 16.4 \text{ Hz}$, 6H, H_A), 4.49 (s, 6H, H_C), 2.96 (sept, ${}^{3}J = 6.9 \text{ Hz}$, 6H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 2.09 (s, 18H, CH_3), 1.33 (d, ${}^3J = 6.9$ Hz, 36H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), -2.37 (s, 2H, NH). ${}^{13}C\{{}^1H\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 170.4 (CO), 152.1 (CH_a), 147.3 (C_{tris-pvb}), 137.4 (C_{phthalocyanine}), 135.0 (C_{dotq}), 134.4 (CH_{cq}), 133.5 (C'_{tris-pvb}), 132.3 (CH_B), 129.9 (CH_{phthalocyanine}), 128.6 (CH_{bq}), 124.0 (CH_C), 123.2 (CH_A), 122.9 (CH_{β}), 122.7 (CH_{phthalocyanine}), 108.1 (C_{dotq}), 104.6 (C_{p-cym}), 100.4 (C_{p-cym}), 85.0 (CH_{p-cym}), 83.4 (CH_{p-cym}), 31.5 ($CH(CH_3)_2$), 22.5 ($CH(CH_3)_2$), 17.9 (CH_3). Due to the equilibrium between empty and filled complexes in solution, which does not allow the isolation of a single product, the molecular mass and the elemental composition were not determined.

 $[Zn-phthalocyanine \subset Ru_6(p-cymene)_6(tris-pvb)_2(dotq)_3][CF_3SO_3]_6$ ($[Zn-phthalocyanine \subset 7][CF_3SO_3]_6$). Yield: 96.0 mg (71%), ($[Zn-phthalocyanine \subset 7][CF_3SO_3]_6$). phthalocyanine ⊂ 7] 38%, [7] 62%, determined by ¹H NMR). UV-vis $\begin{array}{l} \text{(1.0 \times 10^{-5} \, M, CH_2Cl_2): } \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 339 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 2.61 \times 10^5 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \\ \text{531 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.12 \times 10^5 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 571 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.25 \times 10^5 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 616 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.40 \times 10^5 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 687 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.40 \times 10^5 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm} \; (\varepsilon = 0.51 \, \text{M}^{-1} \, \text{cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 61$ $\times 10^{5} \,\mathrm{M}^{-1} \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3070 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1543 (s, dotq, C=O), 1261 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 9.00 (br s, 12H, $\rm H_{bq}$), 8.29 (br s, 24H, $\rm H_{cq}$ et $\rm H_{\alpha}$), 8.13 (br s, 8H, $H_{Zn\text{-phthalocyanine}}$), 6.52 (br s, 12H, H_{β}), 6.35 (br s, 8H, $H_{Zn-phthalocyanine}$), 5.85 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.0$ Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 5.62 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.0$ Hz, 12H, H_{p-cym}), 4.97 (br s, 12H, H_B et H_A), 4.50 (br s, 6H, H_C), 2.94 (sept, ${}^{3}J = 7.0$ Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.14 (s, 18H, CH₃), 1.31 (d, ${}^{3}J =$ 7.0 Hz, 36H, CH(CH₃)₂). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 170.4 (CO), 153.4 ($C_{Zn\text{-}phthalocyanine}$), 152.1 (CH_{α}), 147.1 $(C_{tris-pvb})$, 138.8 $(C_{Zn\text{-phthalocyanine}})$, 134.6 (C_{dotq}) , 133.9 (CH_{cq}) , 131.1 (CH_B), 129.3 (CH_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 128.2 (CH_{bq}), 123.9 (CH_C), 123.4 (CH_A) , 123.0 (CH_β) , 122.5 $(CH_{Zn\text{-phthalocyanine}})$, 107.9 (C_{dotq}) , 104.5 $(C_{p\text{-cym}})$, 100.3 $(C_{p\text{-cym}})$, 84.9 $(CH_{p\text{-cym}})$, 83.4 $(CH_{p\text{-cym}})$, 31.4 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 22.4 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 17.8 (CH_3) . Due to the equilibrium between empty and filled complexes in solution, which does not allow the isolation of a single product, the molecular mass and the elemental composition were not determined.

Synthesis of Metalla-Cubes [8]⁸⁺–[10]⁸⁺: General Procedure. A mixture of 2 equiv of molecular clip ([Ru₂(*p*-cymene)₂(dobq)Cl₂], 55.7 mg; [Ru₂(*p*-cymene)₂(donq)Cl₂], 60.0 mg; [Ru₂(*p*-cymene)₂(dotq)Cl₂], 68.0 mg; 0.082 mmol), 4 equiv of Ag(CF₃SO₃) (42.1 mg, 0.164 mmol), and 1 equiv of tetra-pvb (20.0 mg, 0.041 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL) was stirred at reflux for 24 h and then filtered. The solvent was removed, and the dark residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂/CH₃CN (1/1, 3 mL), before slowly adding diethyl ether to

precipitate a dark red or dark green solid. The solid was filtered, washed with diethyl ether, and dried under vacuum.

 $[Ru_8(p\text{-cymene})_8(\text{tetra-pvb})_2(\text{dobq})_4][CF_3SO_3]_8$ ([8][CF_3SO_3]_8). Yield: 85.0 mg (90%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10^{-5} M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 321 nm ($\varepsilon = 1.34 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$), $\lambda_{\text{max}} 505 \text{ nm}$ ($\varepsilon = 0.49 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1}$ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3066 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1523 (s, dobq, C=O), 1258 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.02 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.3$ Hz, 16H, H_a), 7.57 (s, 4H, H_c), 7.31 (d, ${}^{3}J =$ 6.3 Hz, 16H, H_{β}), 7.29 (d, ${}^{3}J = 16.1$ Hz, 8H, H_B), 6.65 (d, ${}^{3}J = 16.1$ Hz, 8H, H_A), 5.92 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.2$ Hz, 16H, H_{p-cym}), 5.72 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.2$ Hz, 16H, H_{p-cym}), 5.62 (s, 8H, H_{dobq}), 2.84 (sept, ${}^{3}J = 6.9$ Hz, 8H, $CH(CH_{3})_{2}$), 2.19 (s, 24H, CH_{3}), 1.31 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.9$ Hz, 48H, CH(CH₃)₂). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 184.4 (CO), 153.5 (CH_a), 149.5 (C_{tetra-pvb}), 138.3 (C'_{tetra-pvb}), 138.1 (CH_B), 131.5 (CH_A), 127.1 (CH_C), 123.9 (CH_{β}), 104.3 (C_{p-cym}), 102.2 (CH_{dobq}) , 99.5 (C_{p-cym}) , 84.4 (CH_{p-cym}) , 82.7 (CH_{p-cym}) , 32.1 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 22.4 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 18.3 (CH_3) . MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1003.09 [8 + 4 CF₃SO₃]⁴⁺, 1387.11 [8 + 5 CF₃SO₃]³⁺. Anal. Calcd for $C_{180}H_{172}F_{24}N_8O_{40}Ru_8S_8\cdot 3CH_2Cl_2$: C, 45.20; H, 3.69; N, 2.30. Found: C, 45.04; H, 3.94; N, 2.52.

 $[Ru_8(p\text{-cymene})_8(\text{tetra-pvb})_2(\text{donq})_4][CF_3SO_3]_8$ ([9][CF_3SO_3]_6). Yield: 68 mg (69%). UV–vis (1.0 \times 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 368 nm $(\varepsilon = 1.83 \times 10^5 \,\mathrm{M}^{-1} \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}), \, \lambda_{\mathrm{max}} \,645 \,\mathrm{nm} \,(\varepsilon = 0.13 \times 10^5 \,\mathrm{M}^{-1} \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}),$ λ_{max} 702 nm ($\varepsilon = 0.14 \times 10^5 \,\text{M}^{-1} \,\text{cm}^{-1}$). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3060 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1537 (s, dong, C=O), 1260 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.31 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.8 Hz, 16H, H_a), 8.04 (s, 4H, H_C), 7.74 (d, ${}^{3}J = 16.2$ Hz, 8H, H_B), 7.64 (d, ${}^{3}J = 5.8$ Hz, 16H, H_{β}), 7.23 (s, 8H, H_{donq}), 7.22 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 16.2 Hz, 8H, H_A), 7.21 (s, 8H, H_{donq}), 5.70 (d, ${}^{3}J = 5.7$ Hz, 16H, H_{p-cym}), 5.50 (d, ${}^{3}J = 5.7$ Hz, 16H, H_{p-cym}), 2.85 (sept, ${}^{3}J = 6.9$ Hz, 8H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 2.12 (s, 24H, CH₃), 1.33 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.9$ Hz, 48H, CH(CH₃)₂). ${}^{13}C({}^{1}H)$ NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 171.9 (CO), 171.7 (CO), 152.9 (CH_a), 148.3 (C_{tetra-pvb}), 138.4 (CH_{donq}), 135.8 (C'_{tetra-pvb}), 131.3 (CH_B), 128.5 (CH_A), 125.2 (CH_C), 124.2 (CH_β), 112.4 (C_{donq}), 104.5 $(C_{p-\text{cym}})$, 100.1 $(C_{p-\text{cym}})$, 85.1 $(CH_{p-\text{cym}})$, 85.0 $(CH_{p-\text{cym}})$, 84.1 $(CH_{p-\text{cym}})$, 31.4 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 22.4 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 22.3 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 17.3 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1053.36 [9 + 4 CF₃SO₃]⁴⁺, 1453.85 [9 + 5 CF₃SO₃]³⁺. Anal. Calcd for C₁₉₆H₁₈₀F₂₄N₈O₄₀Ru₈S₈·8CH₂Cl₂·CH₃CN: C, 44.75; H, 3.63; N, 2.28. Found: C, 44.52; H, 3.51; N, 2.39.

[Ru₈(p-cymene)₈(tetra-pvb)₂(dotq)₄][CF₃SO₃]₈ ([10][CF₃SO₃]₈) Yield: 79.1 mg (74%). UV-vis $(1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2)$: λ_{max} 368 nm $(\varepsilon = 1.14 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1})$, λ_{max} 485 nm $(\varepsilon = 0.12 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1})$, λ_{max} 485 nm $(\varepsilon = 0.12 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1})$, λ_{max} 522 nm $(\varepsilon = 0.11 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1})$, λ_{max} 572 nm $(\varepsilon = 0.13 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1})$, λ_{max} 615 nm $(\varepsilon = 0.18 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1})$. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3070 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1543 (s, dotq, C=O), 1260 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.87 (dd, ⁴J = 3.4 Hz, 3J = 6.0 Hz, 8H, H_{bq}), 8.79 (dd, 4J = 3.4 Hz, 3J = 6.0 Hz, 8H, H_{bq}), 8.31 (d, 3J = 6.1 Hz, 16H, H_{lpha}), 8.19 (dd, 4J = 3.4 Hz, 3J = 6.0 Hz, 8H, H_{co}), 8.02 (dd, ${}^{4}J$ = 3.4 Hz, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.0 Hz, 8H, H_{co}), 7.26 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.1 Hz, $16\dot{H}$, H_{β}), 7.10 (br s, 8H, H_{B}), 6.84 (br s, 2H, $\dot{H_{C}}$), 6.61 (br s, 8H, H_A), 5.89 (d, 3J = 6.0 Hz, 8H, $H_{p\text{-cym}}$), 5.88 (d, 3J = 6.0 Hz, 8H, $H_{p\text{-cym}}$), 5.78 (br s, 2H, H_C), 5.66 (d, 3J = 6.0 Hz, 8H, $H_{p\text{-cym}}$), 5.65 (d, $^{3}J = 6.0 \text{ Hz}, 8H, H_{p-\text{cym}}), 2.97 \text{ (sept, } ^{3}J = 6.9 \text{ Hz}, 8H, CH(CH_{3})_{2}), 2.16$ (s, 24H, CH₃), 1.34 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.9 Hz, 24H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.33 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.9 Hz, 24H, CH(CH₃)₂). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 170.2 (CO), 169.8 (CO), 152.5 (CH $_{\alpha}$), 147.9 (C $_{\text{tetra-pvb}}$), 134.8 (C_{dotq}) , 134.7 (C_{dotq}) , 134.0 (CH_{cq}) , 132.0 (CH_{C}) , 131.5 $(C'_{tetra-pvb})$, 130.4 (CH_B), 128.4 (CH_{bq}), 128.2 (CH_{bq}), 127.8 (CH_A), 125.4 (CH_C) , 123.9 (CH_β) , 108.0 (C_{dotq}) , 104.5 (C_{p-cym}) , 100.4 (C_{p-cym}) , 85.0 (CH_{p-cym}) , 85.0 (CH_{p-cym}) , 83.4 (CH_{p-cym}) , 31.4 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 22.5 (CH(CH₃)₂), 17.8 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1153.40 $[10 + 4 \text{ CF}_3\text{SO}_3]^{4+}$, 1587.82 $[10 + 5 \text{ CF}_3\text{SO}_3]^{3+}$. Anal. Calcd for $C_{228}H_{196}F_{24}N_8O_{40}Ru_8S_8$: C, 52.57; H, 3.79; N, 2.15. Found: C, 52.36; H, 4.06; N, 2.21.

Synthesis of Metalla-Cubes [11]⁸⁺-[14]⁸⁺: General Procedure. A mixture of 2 equiv of molecular clip ([Ru₂(*p*-cymene)₂(dobq)Cl₂], 55.7 mg; [Ru₂(*p*-cymene)₂(dCloq)Cl₂], 61.4 mg; [Ru₂(*p*-cymene)₂(donq)Cl₂], 60.0 mg; [Ru₂(*p*-cymene)₂(dotq)-Cl₂], 68.0 mg; 0.082 mmol), 4 equiv of Ag(CF₃SO₃) (42.1 mg, 0.164

mmol), and 1 equiv of tetra-peb (19.8 mg, 0.041 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL) was stirred at reflux for 24 h and then filtered. The solvent was removed, and the dark residue was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2/CH_3CN (1/1, 3 mL), before slowly adding diethyl ether to precipitate a dark red, dark purple, or dark green solid. The solid was filtered, washed with diethyl ether, and dried under vacuum.

[Ru₈(p-cymene)₈(tetra-peb)₂(dobq)₄][CF₃SO₃]₈ ([11][CF₃SO₃]₈). Yield: 85 mg (90%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 342 nm (ε = 2.32 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 499 nm (ε = 0.58 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3064 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1525 (s, dobq, C=O), 1258 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.06 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.7 Hz, 16H, H_α), 7.84 (s, 4H, H_C), 7.38 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.7 Hz, 16H, H_β), 5.93 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.1 Hz, 16H, H_{p-cym}), 5.71 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.1 Hz, 16H, H_{p-cym}), 5.63 (s, 8H, H_{dobq}), 2.83 (sept, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.9 Hz, 8H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.17 (s, 24H, CH₃), 1.30 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.9 Hz, 48H, CH(CH₃)₂). 13 C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 184.2 (CO), 153.7 (CH_α), 134.0 (C4_{tetra-peb}), 133.3 (CH_C), 128.5 (CH_β), 126.7 (C1_{tetra-peb}), 104.5 (C_{p-cym}), 102.5 (CH_{dobq}), 99.9 (C_{p-cym}), 94.3 (C2_{tetra-peb}), 92.6 (C3_{tetra-peb}), 84.6 (CH_{p-cym}), 82.8 (CH_{p-cym}), 32.1 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.4 (CH(CH₃)₂), 18.3 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1008.14 [11 + 4 C F ₃ S O ₃ + H C 1] ⁴⁺. A n a 1. C a 1 c d f o r C₁₈₀H₁₅₆F₂₄N₈O₄₀Ru₈S₈·4CH₂Cl₂·4Et₂O: C, 45.94; H, 3.93; N, 2.14. Found: C, 45.69; H, 4.11; N, 2.41.

[Ru₈(p-cymene)₈(tetra-peb)₂(dCloq)₄][CF₃SO₃]₈ ([12][CF₃SO₃]₈). Yield: 86 mg (86%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 317 nm (ε = 1.44 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 522 nm (ε = 0.57 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3070 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1504 (s, dCloq, C=O), 1260 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.06 (d, ³J = 5.6 Hz, 16H, H_α), 7.84 (s, 4H, H_C), 7.41 (d, ³J = 5.6 Hz, 16H, H_β), 6.01 (d, ³J = 6.1 Hz, 16H, H_{p-cym}), 5.83 (d, ³J = 6.1 Hz, 16H, H_{p-cym}), 2.88 (sept, ³J = 6.9 Hz, 8H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.24 (s, 24H, CH₃), 1.35 (d, ³J = 6.9 Hz, 48H, CH(CH₃)₂). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 177.8 (CO), 153.5 (CH_α), 134.4 (C4_{tetra-peb}), 133.5 (CH_C), 128.8 (CH_β), 126.6 (C1_{tetra-peb}), 107.2 (C_{dCloq}), 105.0 (C_{p-cym}), 99.8 (C_{p-cym}), 94.5 (C2_{tetra-peb}), 92.5 (C3_{tetra-peb}), 84.5 (CH_{p-cym}), 83.5 (CH_{p-cym}), 32.2 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.3 (CH(CH₃)₂), 18.3 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1068.48 [12 + 4 CF₃SO₃]⁴⁺, 1077.05 [12 + 4 CF₃SO₃] + H C1] ⁴⁺. A n a 1. C a 1 c d f o r C₁₈₀H₁₄₈Cl₈F₂₄N₈O₄₀Ru₈S₈·6CH₂Cl₂·Et₂O: C, 41.86; H, 3.14; N, 2.06. Found: C, 41.64; H, 3.43; N, 2.36.

[Ru₈(p-cymene)₈(tetra-peb)₂(donq)₄][CF₃SO₃]₈ ([13][CF₃SO₃]₈). Yield: 71 mg (72%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} 308 nm (ε = 1.62 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 389 nm (ε = 0.44 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 431 nm (ε = 0.41 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 650 nm (ε = 0.12 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), λ_{max} 701 nm (ε = 0.14 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3059 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1535 (s, donq, C=O), 1262 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.20 (d, ³J = 6.6 Hz, 16H, H_α), 7.79 (s, 4H, H_C), 7.27 (d, ³J = 6.6 Hz, 16H, H_β), 7.09 (s, 16H, H_{donq}), 5.70 (d, ³J = 6.2 Hz, 16H, H_{p-cym}), 5.49 (d, ³J = 6.2 Hz, 16H, H_{p-cym}), 2.83 (sept, ³J = 6.9 Hz, 8H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.12 (s, 24H, CH₃), 1.29 (d, ³J = 6.9 Hz, 48H, CH(CH₃)₂). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 171.1 (CO), 153.1 (CH_α), 138.3 (CH_{donq}), 133.6 (C4_{tetra-peb}), 133.4 (CH_C), 127.8 (CH_β), 126.5 (C1_{tetra-peb}), 111.7 (C_{donq}), 104.5 (C_{p-cym}), 100.5 (C_{p-cym}), 93.6 (C2_{tetra-peb}), 92.4 (C3_{tetra-peb}), 85.1 (CH_{p-cym}), 83.9 (CH_{p-cym}), 31.4 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.2 (CH(CH₃)₂), 17.3 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1058.14 [13 + 4 C F ₃ S O ₃ + H C 1] ⁴⁺. Anal. Calcd for C₁₉₆H₁₆₄F₂₄N₈O₄₀Ru₈S₈·SCH₂Cl₂·2Et₂O: C, 46.79; H, 3.64; N, 2.09. Found: C, 46.57; H, 3.90; N, 2.46.

[Ru₈(p-cymene)₈(tetra-peb)₂(dotq)₄][CF₃SO₃]₈ ([14][CF₃SO₃]₈). Yield: 77 mg (72%). UV-vis (1.0 × 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 317 nm (ε = 1.57 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 376 nm (ε = 1.00 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 399 nm (ε = 0.80 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 522 nm (ε = 0.13 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 568 nm (ε = 0.23 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 612 nm (ε = 0.30 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3070 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1543 (s, dotq, C=O), 1262 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.64 (dd, ⁴J = 3.3 Hz, ³J = 5.9 Hz, 16H, H_{bq}), 8.24 (d, ³J = 6.6 Hz, 16H, H_α), 7.92 (dd, ⁴J = 3.3 Hz, ³J = 5.9 Hz, 16H, H_{cq}), 7.69 (s, 4H, H_C), 7.13 (d, ³J = 6.6 Hz, 16H, H_β), 5.89 (d, ³J = 6.2 Hz, 16H, H_{β-cym}), 2.98 (sept, ³J =

6.9 Hz, 8H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.22 (s, 24H, CH₃), 1.32 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.9 Hz, 48H, CH(CH₃)₂). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 169.4 (CO), 152.9 (CH_{α}), 134.5 (C_{dotq}), 134.0 (CH_{cq}), 133.5 (C4_{tetra-peb}), 133.3 (CH_C), 128.0 (CH_{bq}), 127.8 (CH_{β}), 126.5 (C1_{tetra-peb}), 107.5 (C_{dotq}), 104.4 (C_{β -cym}), 100.7 (C_{β -cym}), 93.6 (C2_{tetra-peb}), 92.5 (C3_{tetra-peb}), 85.2 (CH_{β -cym}), 83.4 (CH_{β -cym}), 31.5 (CH(CH₃)₂), 22.4 (CH(CH₃)₂), 17.9 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1158.17 [14 + 4 CF₃SO₃ + HCl]⁴⁺, 1582.14 [14 + 5 CF₃SO₃]³⁺. Anal. Calcd for C₂₂₈H₁₈₀F₂₄N₈O₄₀Ru₈S₈·11CH₂Cl₂·Et₂O: C, 47.06; H, 3.45; N, 1.81. Found: C, 47.00; H, 3.65; N, 1.95.

Synthesis of [photosensitizer \subset 9][CF₃SO₃]₈ and [photosensitizer \subset 13][CF₃SO₃]₈: General Procedure. A mixture of 4 equiv of [Ru₂(p-cymene)₂(donq)Cl₂] (60.0 mg, 0.082 mmol), 8 equiv of Ag(CF₃SO₃) (42.1 mg, 0.164 mmol), 1 equiv of photosensitizer (phthalocyanine, 10.8 mg; Zn-phthalocyanine, 12.1 mg; 0.021 mmol), and 2 equiv of tetra-pvb or tetra-pvb (tetra-pvb, 20.0 mg; tetra-peb, 19.8 mg; 0.041 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL) was stirred at reflux for 24 h and then filtered. The solvent was removed, and the dark residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂/CH₃CN (1/1, 3 mL), before slowly adding diethyl ether to precipitate a dark green solid. The solid was filtered, washed with diethyl ether, and dried under vacuum.

 $[phthalocyanine \subset Ru_8(p-cymene)_8(tetra-pvb)_2(donq)_4][CF_3SO_3]_8$ ([phthalocyanineC9][CF₃SO₃]₆). Yield: 82.5 mg (76%). UV-vis (1.0 \times 10⁻⁵ M, CH₂Cl₂): $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 354 mm (ε = 1.99 \times 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 614 nm (ε = 0.22 \times 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 647 nm (ε = 0.29 \times 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 678 nm (ε = 0.71 \times 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 712 nm (ε = 0.86 $\times 10^{5} \, \mathrm{M}^{-1} \, \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$). IR (KBr, cm $^{-1}$): 3053 (m, aromatic, C–H), 1535 (s, donq, C=O), 1260 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.51 (d, ${}^{3}J = 7.3$ Hz, 8H, $H_{\text{phthalocyanine}}$), 8.20 (d, ${}^{3}J = 5.8$ Hz, 16H, H_{α}), 7.68 (s, 8H, H_{donq}), 7.58 (s, 8H, H_{donq}), 7.02 (d, $^{3}J = 5.8$ Hz, 16H, H_{β}), 5.69 (d, ${}^{3}J = 5.6$ Hz, 16H, H_{p-cym}), 5.67 (d, ${}^{3}J = 16.0$ Hz, 8H, H_B), 5.49 (d, ${}^3J = 5.6$ Hz, 8H, H_{p-cym}), 5.46 (d, ${}^3J = 5.6$ Hz, 8H, H_{p-cym}), 5.45 (br s, 8H, $H_{phthalocyanine}$), 5.33 (d, ${}^{3}J = 16.0$ Hz, 8H, H_{A}), 4.84 (s, 4H, H_{C}), 2.88 (sept, ${}^{3}J = 6.9$ Hz, 8H, $CH(CH_{3})_{2}$), 2.10 (s, 24H, CH₃), 1.37 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.9$ Hz, 24H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.36 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.9$ Hz, 24H, CH(CH₃)₂), -2.46 (s, 2H, NH). 13 C 1 H 1 NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 172.2 (CO), 172.0 (CO), 152.0 (CH_a), 146.6 (C_{tetra-pvb}), 139.0 (CH_{donq}), 138.8 (CH_{donq}), 137.4 (C_{phthalocyanine}), 131.4 (C'_{tetra-pvb}), 129.3 (CH_{phthalocyanine}), 126.6 (CH_B), 125.9 (CH_A), 123.9 (CH_β), 122.6 (CH_{phthalocyanine}), 119.9 (CH_C), 112.7 (C_{donq}), 104.7 (C_{p-cym}), 100.1 (C_{p-cym}), 85.1 (CH_{p-cym}), 85.0 (CH_{p-cym}), 84.3 (CH_{p-cym}), 84.2 (CH_{p-cym}), 31.5 ($CH(CH_3)_2$), 22.4 ($CH(CH_3)_2$), 22.4 (CH(CH₃)₂), 17.3 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 915.52 [phthalocyanine + $9 + 3 \text{ CF}_3\text{SO}_3$]⁵⁺, 1181.91 [phthalocyanine + 9 + 4 CF_3SO_3 ⁴⁺, 1625.19 [phthalocyanine + 9 + 5 CF_3SO_3]³⁺. Anal. Calcd $for \ \ C_{228}H_{198}F_{24}N_{16}O_{40}Ru_8S_8\cdot 9CH_2Cl_2 \!\!: \ C, \ 46.76; \ H, \ 3.58; \ N, \ 3.68.$ Found: C, 46.75; H, 3.86; N, 3.46.

 $[Zn-phthalocyanine \subset Ru_8(p-cymene)_8(tetra-pvb)_2(donq)_4]$ - $[CF_3SO_3]_8$ ($[Zn-phthalocyanine \subset 9][CF_3SO_3]_8$). Yield: 79.1 mg (72%). UV-vis $(1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2)$: λ_{max} 343 nm $(\varepsilon = 1.22 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1})$, λ_{max} 411 nm $(\varepsilon = 0.73 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1})$, λ_{max} 626 nm $(\varepsilon = 0.20 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1})$, λ_{max} 669 nm $(\varepsilon = 0.20 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1})$, λ_{max} 694 nm (ε = 1.02 × 10⁵ $\rm M^{-1}$ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3059 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1537 (s, donq, C=O), 1258 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.50 (br s, 8H, H_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 8.21 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.8 Hz, 16H, H_{α}), 7.69 (s, 8H, H_{donq}), 7.59 (s, 8H, H_{donq}), 7.03 (d, $^{3}J =$ 5.8 Hz, 16H, H_{β}), 5.69 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.0 Hz, 16H, H_{p-cym}), 5.62 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 16.1 Hz, 8H, H_B), 5.49 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.0 Hz, 8H, H_{p-cym}), 5.47 (br s, 8H, H_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 5.46 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.0 Hz, 8H, H_{p-cym}), 5.34 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 16.1 Hz, 8H, H_A), 4.78 (s, 4H, H_C), 2.89 (sept, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.9 Hz, 8H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 2.09 (s, 24H, CH_3), 1.37 (d, ${}^3J = 6.9$ Hz, 24H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 1.35 (d, ${}^3J = 6.9$ Hz, 24H, $CH(CH_3)_2$). ${}^{13}C\{{}^{1}H\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 172.3 (CO), 172.0 (CO), 153.5 $(C_{Zn-phthalocyanine})$, 152.0 (CH_{α}) , 146.4 $(C_{tetra-pvb})$, 139.0 (CH_{donq}) , 138.9 (CH_{donq}), 138.8 (C_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 131.5 (C'_{tetra-pvb}), 129.0 $(CH_{Zn\text{-phthalocyanine}})$, 126.5 (CH_B) , 126.1 (CH_A) , 124.0 (CH_β) , 122.5 $(CH_{Zn\text{-}phthalocyanine})$, 119.7 (CH_C) , 112.8 (C_{donq}) , 104.7 $(C_{p\text{-}cym})$, 100.2 $(C_{p\text{-}cym})$, 85.2 $(CH_{p\text{-}cym})$, 85.1 $(CH_{p\text{-}cym})$, 84.3 $(CH_{p\text{-}cym})$, 84.2 (CH_{p-cym}) , 31.5 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 22.4 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 22.4 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$,

17.3 (CH₃). MS (ESI positive mode): m/z 1197.63 [Zn-phthalocyanine + 9 + 4 CF₃SO₃]⁴⁺, 1646.52 [Zn-phthalocyanine + 9 + 5 C F ₃ S O ₃]³⁺. A n a l . C a l c d f o r C₂₂₈H₁₉₆F₂₄N₁₆O₄₀Ru₈S₈Zn·7CH₂Cl₂·2CH₃CN: C, 47.34; H, 3.59; N, 4.16. Found: C, 47.37; H, 3.90; N, 4.18.

 $[phthalocyanine \subset Ru_8(p\text{-}cymene)_8(tetra\text{-}peb)_2(donq)_4][CF_3SO_3]_8 \\ ([phthalocyanine \subset \textbf{13}][CF_3SO_3]_8). \ \ Yield: \ \ 59 \ \ mg \ \ (59\%) \ \ ([phthalocyanine \subset \textbf{13}]_8)_8 \\ ([phth$ nine \subset 13] 19%, [13] 81%, determined by ¹H NMR). UV-vis (1.0 \times $\begin{array}{l} 10^{-5} \text{ M, CH}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{): } \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 315 nm } (\varepsilon = 1.73 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 455} \\ \text{nm } (\varepsilon = 0.43 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 610 nm } (\varepsilon = 0.15 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 644 nm } (\varepsilon = 0.19 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 675 nm } (\varepsilon = 0.30 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}), \lambda_{\text{max}} \text{ 707 nm } (\varepsilon = 0.36 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}). \text{ IR (KBr, 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}), Max} \\ \end{array}$ cm⁻¹): 3064 (m, aromatic, C-H), 1538 (s, donq, C=O), 1259 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.56 (br s, 8H, $H_{Phthalocyanine}$), 8.38 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.4 \text{ Hz}$, 16H, H_{α}), 7.64 (s, 8H, H_{donq}), 7.62 (s, 8H, H_{donq}), 6.82 (d, $^{3}J = 6.4$ Hz, 16H, H_{β}), 5.83 (br s, 8H, $H_{Phthalocyanine}$), 5.76 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.1$ Hz, 8H, H_{p-cym}), 5.72 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.1$ Hz, 8H, H_{p-cym}), 5.52 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.1 Hz, 8H, H_{p-cym}), 5.49 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.1 Hz, 8H, H_{p-cym}), 4.56 (s, 4H, H_C), 2.86 (sept, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.8 Hz, 8H, CH(CH₃)₂), 2.08 (s, 24H, CH₃), 1.36 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.8 Hz, 24H, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.34 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.8 Hz, 24H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), -2.26 (s, 2H, NH). ¹³ $C{^1H}$ NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 172.2 (CO), 171.9 (CO), 152.7 (CH_a), 139.0 (CH_{donq}), 138.9 (CH_{donq}), 134.8 (CH_C), 132.5 (C4_{tetra-peb}), 128.6 (CH_{Phthalocyanine}), 128.1 (CH_{β}), 122.8 (CH_{Phthalocyanine}), 121.7 17.3 (CH₃). Due to the equilibrium between empty and filled complexes in solution, which does not allow the isolation of a single product, the molecular mass and the elemental composition were not determined.

 $[Zn-phthalocyanine \subset Ru_8(p-cymene)_8(tetra-peb)_2(donq)_4]$ - $[CF_3SO_3]_8$ ($[Zn\text{-phthalocyanine} \subset 13][CF_3SO_3]_8$). Yield: 72 mg (67%) ([Zn-phthalocyanine⊂13] 79%, [13] 21%, determined by ¹H NMR). UV-vis $(1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2)$: $\lambda_{\text{max}} 330 \text{ nm}$ ($\varepsilon = 2.72 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$), $\lambda_{\text{max}} 407 \text{ nm}$ ($\varepsilon = 1.01 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$), $\lambda_{\text{max}} 455 \text{ nm}$ ($\varepsilon = 0.62 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$), $\lambda_{\text{max}} 623 \text{ nm}$ ($\varepsilon = 0.37 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$), $\lambda_{\text{max}} 658 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$), $\lambda_{\text{max}} 658 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$), $\lambda_{\text{max}} 658 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1}$ nm (ε = 0.43 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹), $\lambda_{\rm max}$ 690 nm (ε = 1.27 × 10⁵ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3064 (m, aromatic, C–H), 1537 (s, donq, C=O), 1258 (s, triflate, C-F). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 8.55 (br s, 8H, $H_{Zn-phthalocyanine}$), 8.38 (d, ${}^{3}J = 6.3$ Hz, 16H, H_{α}), 7.64 (s, 8H, H_{donq}), 7.62 (s, 8H, H_{donq}), 6.82 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.3 Hz, 16H, H_{β}), 5.81 (br s, 8H, H_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 5.76 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.1 Hz, 8H, H_{p-cym}), 5.72 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.1 Hz, 8H, H_{p-cym}), 5.50 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.1 Hz, 8H, H_{p-cym}), 4.56 (s, 4H, H_C), 2.88 (sept, ${}^{3}J$ = 6.8 Hz, 8H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 2.08 (s, 24H, CH_3), 1.36 (d, 3J = 6.8 Hz, 24H, $CH(CH_3)_2$), 1.34 (d, ${}^3I = 6.8$ Hz, 24H, $CH(CH_3)_2$). ${}^{13}C\{{}^{1}H\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CD₃CN): δ (ppm) 172.2 (CO), 172.0 (CO), 154.0 (C_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 152.7 (CH_{\alpha}), 139.3 (C_{Zn-phthalocyanine}), 139.0 (CH_{\donq}), 138.9 (CH_{\donq}), 134.7 (CH_{\chi}), 132.5 (C4_{\text{teta-peb}}), 129.3 $(CH_{Zn-phthalocyanine})$, 128.1 (CH_{β}) , 122.7 $(CH_{Zn-phthalocyanine})$, 121.9 $(C1_{tetra-peb})$, 112.5 (Cd_{onq}) , 104.7 (C_{p-cym}) , 100.8 (C_{p-cym}) , 92.2 $(C3_{\text{tetra-peb}})$, 90.6 $(C2_{\text{tetra-peb}})$, 85.4 $(CH_{p\text{-cym}})$, 85.4 $(CH_{p\text{-cym}})$, 84.0 (CH_{p-cym}) , 31.5 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 22.5 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 22.3 $(CH(CH_3)_2)$, 17.3 (CH₃). Due to the equilibrium between empty and filled complexes in solution, which does not allow the isolation of a single product, the molecular mass and the elemental composition were not determined.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

S Supporting Information

Figures giving selected 2D DOSY, 2D ROESY, and 2D NOESY spectra of different empty and filled metalla-cages. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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Author Contributions

All authors have contributed equally to this manuscript. All authors have given approval to the final version of the manuscript before submission.

Notes

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ABBREVIATIONS

tris-pvb, 1,3,5-tris{2-(pyridin-4-yl)vinyl}benzene; tetra-pvb, 1,2,4,5-tetrakis{2-(pyridin-4-yl)vinyl}benzene; tetra-peb, 1,2,4,5-tetrakis{2-(pyridin-4-yl)ethynyl}benzene; ox, oxalato; dobq, 2,5-dioxido-1,4-benzoquinonato; dCloq, 2,5-dichloro-1,4-benzoquinonato; donq, 5,8-dioxido-1,4-naphthoquinonato; doaq, 5,8-dioxido-1,4-anthraquinonato; dotq, 6,11-dioxido-5,12-naphthacenedionato

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