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Supporting Information for

β-Lactam and Penicillin Substituted Mesoionic Metal Carbenes Complexes

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General methods.

Unless noted otherwise, all manipulations were carried out under argon atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques. DMF, toluene, CH_2Cl_2 and CH_3CN were dried by passage through solvent purification columns containing activated alumina. Other solvents were HPLC grade and were used without purification. All reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without additional purification, unless noted otherwise. Flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel 60 (Merck, n° 1.09385, 230-400 mesh). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 400 or 500 MHz (¹H NMR) and at 101 or 126 MHz (¹³C NMR) using CDCl₃ or Acetonitrile-*d*₃ as solvents with the residual solvent signal as internal reference (CHCl₃ 7.26 and 77.2 ppm), (Acetonitrile 1.94, and 118.26 and 1.32 ppm). The following abbreviations are used to describe peak patterns when appropriate: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quadruplet), m (multiplet), and br (broad). The NMR peak assignments were based on the analysis of ¹H–¹³C –HMBC and HSQC recorded spectra along with previously reported data for related compounds. High-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) by the ESI technique was performed with an Agilent 6500 accurate mass apparatus with a Q-TOF analyser. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 681 spectrophotometer. Melting points were determined on a Koffler block.

Compounds **9**,¹ **10b**,² **10c**,³ **11**,⁴ and **18**⁵ were prepared according to previously described procedures. Benzyloxyacetyl chloride **10a** and Penicillin G potassium salt were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification.

General procedure for the synthesis of triazoles.

A mixture of organic azide (1.0 equiv), alkyne (1.2 equiv), sodium (L)-ascorbate (0.5 equiv) and $CuSO_4 \cdot 5H_2O$ (0.25 equiv) in DMF was stirred under argon at rt until completion of the reaction (TLC analysis). The reaction was quenched with water at 0 °C and allowed to reach rt. The mixture was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (x3). The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and the solvent removed under *vacuum*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (SiO₂) to afford the pure triazoles *cis*-12a, *cis*-12b, *trans*-12c and 19.

Triazole cis-12a.



Following the general procedure, a mixture of *p*-anisyl azide **11** (75 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1.00 equiv), alkyne *cis*-8a (172 mg, 0.53 mmol, 1.10 equiv), sodium (L)-ascorbate (50 mg, 0.25 mmol, 0.50 equiv) and CuSO₄·5H₂O (31 mg, 0.13 mmol, 0.25 equiv) in DMF (5 mL) was stirred under Ar at rt for 3 h. The crude obtained after workup was purified by SiO₂ chromatography (Hex/EtOAc 1:4) to yield *cis*-12a as a white solid (197 mg, 86%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.75 (s, 1H, N₃C=CH), 7.54 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.23 – 7.17 (m, 3H, Ph), 7.02 – 6.95 (m, 4H, 2H *p*-OMe-C₆H₄, 2H Ph), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 4.85 (d, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 1H, βlactam *cis*), 4.80 (d, *J* = 15.5 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂) 4.80 (d, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 1H, β-lactam *cis*), 4.29 (d, *J* = 11.3 Hz, 1H, O-CH₂), 4.21 (d, *J* = 15.5 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 4.19 (d, *J* = 11.3 Hz, 1H, O-CH₂), 3.85 (s, 3H, CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 3.80 (s, 3H, CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.0 (C, C=O), 160.1 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 160.0 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 142.6 (C, N₃C=CH), 136.5 (C, Ph), 130.4 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 130.1 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 128.3 (2CH, Ph), 128.3 (2CH, Ph), 128.0 (CH, Ph), 125.5 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 83.8 (CH, β-lactam), 72.3 (CH₂, O-CH₂), 61.9 (CH, β-lactam), 55.7 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 55.4 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 35.4 (CH₂, N-CH₂). IR (KBr): *v*_{max} 1759, 1611, 1518, 1455, 1304, 1253, 1176, 1045, 1033, 835, 738, 699. cm⁻¹. MS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₂₇H₂₇N₄O₄: 471.2027 [M+H]⁺; found 471.2018. Mp: 137–139 °C.

Triazole trans-12c.



Following the general procedure, a mixture of *p*-anisyl azide **11** (120 mg, 0.8 mmol, 1.0 equiv), alkyne **8c** (317 mg, 0.9 mmol, 1.1 equiv), sodium (L)-ascorbate (78 mg, 0.4 mmol, 0.5 equiv) and $CuSO_4 \cdot 5H_2O$ (49 mg, 0.2 mmol, 0.3 equiv) in DMF (6 mL) was stirred under Ar at rt for 5 h. The crude obtained after workup

was purified by SiO₂ chromatography (Hex/EtOAc 3:7) to yield *trans*-12c as a white solid (358 mg, 89%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.43 (s, 1H, N₃C=CH), 7.89 – 7.81 (m, 2H, Phth), 7.77 – 7.71 (m, 4H, 2H Phth+ 2H *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 5.27 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H, β-lactam *trans*), 5.04 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 4.89 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H, β-lactam *trans*), 4.25 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 3.88 (s, 3H, CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 3.80 (s, 3H, CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 159.9 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 165.0 (C, C=O, β-lactam), 160.5 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 159.9 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 142.8 (C, N₃C=CH), 134.6 (2CH, Phth), 131.8 (2C, Phth), 130.8 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 128.2 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 126.8 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 114.8 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 62.6 (CH, β-lactam), 60.2 (CH, β-lactam), 55.8 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 55.5 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 36.6 (CH₂, N-CH₂). IR (KBr): v_{max} 1767, 1720,1612, 1518, 1392, 1253, 1179, 1104, 1033, 834, 717, 530 cm⁻¹. MS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₂₈H₂₄N₅O₅: 510.1772 [M+H]⁺; found 510.1761. Mp: 168–170 °C.

General procedure for the synthesis of triazolium salts.

Method A. A mixture of triazole (1.0 equiv) and Meerwein's salt (1.3 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ was stirred under argon at rt until reaction completion (TLC analysis). The reaction was quenched with some drops of methanol. The solvent was removed under *vacuum* and the resulting residue was dissolved in the minimum amount of CH₂Cl₂ and precipitated with Et₂O. The solvents were decanted, and the solid was washed with Et₂O (x3) and *vacuum*-dried to yield pure triazolium salts *cis*-13b and *trans*-13c.

Method B. MeOTf (0.9 equiv) was added to a CH_2Cl_2 solution of triazole (1.0 equiv) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 4h, until no evolution of the reaction was observed. The solvent was removed under *vacuum* and the resulting residue was dissolved in the minimum amount of CH_2Cl_2 and precipitated with Et_2O . The solvents were decanted and the solid was washed with Et_2O (x3) and *vacuum*-dried to yield the pure triazolium salts *cis*-13a and 20.

Triazolium salt trans-13c.



Following *Method A*, treatment of **12c** (120 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) with Me₃OBF₄ (45 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.3 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (8 mL) afforded pure *trans*-13c as a light pink solid (127 mg, 88%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Acetonitrile- d_3): δ 8.82 (s, 1H, N₃C=CH), 7.90 – 7.81 (m, 4H, Phth), 7.78 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.23 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 5.27 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H, β -lactam *trans*), 5.10 – 4.99 (m, 2H, 1H β -lactam *trans*

+ 1H N-CH₂), 4.44 (d, *J* = 17.1 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 4.32 (s, 3H, CH₃, N-CH₃), 3.92 (s, 3H, CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 3.77 (s, 3H, CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Acetonitrile-*d*₃): δ 168.3 (2C, C=O, Phth), 165.8 (C, C=O, β-lactam), 163.3 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 161.5 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 140.7 (C, N₃C=CH), 135.9 (2CH, Phth), 132.7 (2C, Phth), 129.7 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 128.9 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 128.5 (CH, N₃C=CH), 127.6 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 124.5 (2CH, Phth), 124.1 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 116.5 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 115.5 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 63.8 (CH, β-lactam), 61.4 (CH, β-lactam), 56.8 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 39.4 (CH₃, N-CH₃), 34.3 (CH₂, N-CH₂).

IR (KBr): v_{max} 1770, 1718, 1516, 1392, 1258, 1179, 1057, 1027, 837, 719 cm⁻¹. MS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₂₉H₂₆N₅O₅: 524.1929 [M]⁺; found 524.1929. Mp: 245–247 °C.

Triazolium salt cis-13a.



Following *Method B*, treatment of **12a** (277 mg, 0.6 mmol, 1.0 equiv) with MeOTf (80 μL, 0.7 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) afforded pure *cis*-**13a** as a white solid (367 mg, 98%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.74 (s, 1H, N₃C=CH), 7.62 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.26 (m, 5H, 3H Ph + 2H *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.03 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.01 – 6.96 (m, 2H, Ph), 6.76 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 5.04 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 1H, β-lactam *cis*), 5.01 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 1H, β-lactam *cis*), 4.78 (d, *J* =

16.4 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 4.70 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 4.35 – 4.26 (m, 4H, 3H N-CH₃ + 1H O-CH₂), 4.15 (d, *J* = 11.1 Hz, 1H, O-CH₂), 3.88 (s, 3H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 3.64 (s, 3H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.3 (C, C=O), 162.1 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 160.0 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 139.5 (C, N₃C=CH), 136.1 (C, Ph), 130.3 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 128.3 (2CH, Ph), 128.2 (2CH, Ph), 128.2 (CH, Ph), 128.0 (CH, N₃C=CH), 127.4 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 125.2 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 122.8 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 115.3 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 113.8 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 84.0 (CH, β-lactam), 72.6 (CH₂, O-CH₂), 62.4 (CH, β-lactam), 55.9 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 55.1 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 38.2 (CH₃, N-CH₃), 32.8 (CH₂, N-CH₂). IR (KBr): v_{max} 3065, 2939, 1763, 1611, 1516, 1264, 1177, 1159, 1031, 837, 737, 701, 639, 518 cm⁻¹. MS (ESI) *m*/*z* calculated for C₂₈H₂₉N₄O₄: 485.2183 [M]⁺; found 485.2178. Mp: 72–75 °C.

General procedure for the synthesis of Au-NHCs.

In a Schlenk flask charged with 4 Å molecular sieves, a mixture of triazolium salt (1.0 equiv), NMe₄Cl (1.5 equiv) and Ag₂O (0.8 equiv) was stirred at rt in the dark in a 1:10 CH₃CN/CH₂Cl₂ mixture until formation of the corresponding silver carbene (¹H NMR analysis). [AuCl(SMe₂)] complex (1.0 equiv) was then added and the mixture was stirred at rt until the reaction was completed (¹H NMR analysis). The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite and the volatiles were removed under *vacuum* to afford the corresponding carbene complexes *cis*-14a, *cis*-14b and *trans*-14c, which were purified through a short pad of SiO₂.

Au(I) complex cis-14a.



Following the general procedure, a mixture of *cis*-13a (100 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NMe₄Cl (26 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and Ag₂O (28 mg, 0.1 mmol, 0.8 equiv) in 10:1 CH₂Cl₂: CH₃CN (11 mL) was stirred under argon at rt overnight. [AuCl(SMe₂)] (46 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was then added and the mixture was stirred for another 2h. The residue was purified (SiO₂, CH₂Cl₂/MeOH 98:2) to yield *cis*-14a as a white solid (67 mg, 59%). Suitable crystals for X-ray analysis were

obtained from a CHCl₃/EtOAc/Hexane mixture of solvents. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.71 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.29 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 3H, Ph), 7.00 (dd, J = 6.6, 2.9 Hz, 2H, Ph), 6.95 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 6.82 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 5.00 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H, β-lactam *cis*), 4.90 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H, β-lactam *cis*), 4.49 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 4.43 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 4.29 – 4.24 (m, 4H, 3H N-CH₃ + 1H O-CH₂), 4.17 (d, J = 11.3 Hz, 1H, O-CH₂), 3.84 (s, 3H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 3.75 (s, 3H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 159.0 (C, N₃C=CAu), 141.6 (C, N₃C=CAu), 136.1 (C, Ph), 131.7 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 130.8 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 128.5 (2CH, Ph), 128.4 (2CH, Ph), 128.2 (CH, Ph), 125.3 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 124.8 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 114.6 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 114.1 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 83.9 (CH, β-lactam), 72.7 (CH₂, O-CH₂), 62.5 (CH, β-lactam), 55.8 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 55.4 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 37.5 (CH₃, N-CH₃), 34.6 (CH₂, N-CH₂). IR (KBr): v_{max} 1757, 1610, 1513, 1252, 1175, 1029, 836 cm⁻¹. MS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₂₈H₂₈AuN₄O₄: 681.1776 [M-Cl]⁺; found 681.1853. Mp: 119–122 °C.

Au(I) complex trans-14c.



Following the general procedure, a mixture of **13c** (100 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NMe₄Cl (27 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and Ag₂O (29 mg, 0.1 mmol, 0.8 equiv) in 10:1 CH₂Cl₂:CH₃CN (16.5 mL) was stirred under argon at rt overnight. [AuCl(SMe₂)] (48 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was then added and the mixture was stirred for another 3 h. The residue was purified (SiO₂, CH₂Cl₂/MeOH 98:2) to yield **trans-13c** as a brownish white solid (69 mg, 57%).

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.93 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H, p-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.83 – 7.80 (m, 2H, Phth), 7.76 – 7.72 (m, 2H, Phth), 7.41 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H, p-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.00 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.1 Hz, 4H, p-OMe-C₆H₄), 5.35 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H, β-lactam *trans*), 4.90 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H, β-lactam *trans*), 4.79 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 4.48 (s, 3H, CH₃, N-CH₃), 4.35 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 3.87 (s, 3H, CH₃, p-OMe-C₆H₄). ¹³**C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.9 (2C, C=O, Phth),

165.4 (C, C=O, β-lactam), 161.1 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 160.9 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 158.8 (C, N₃C=CAu), 140.8 (C, N₃C=CAu), 134.7 (2CH, Phth), 132.0 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 131.7 (2C, Phth), 129.1 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 125.4 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 125.2, (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 123.9 (2CH, Phth), 115.4 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 114.7 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 62.1 (CH, β-lactam), 60.3 (CH, β-lactam), 55.9 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 55.6 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 38.1 (CH₃, N-CH₃), 34.7 (CH₂, N-CH₂). **IR (KBr):** ν_{max} 1767, 1720, 1514, 1390, 1253, 1176, 1103, 1030, 836, 717 cm⁻¹. **MS** (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₂₉H₂₅AuN₅O₅: 720.1516 [M-Cl]⁺; found 720.1510. **Mp:** (dec.).

General method for the synthesis of Pd/Pt-NHCs.

To a mixture of triazolium salt (1.0 equiv), potassium carbonate (1.1 equiv), $[K_2(PtCl_4)]$ or PdCl₂ (1.1 equiv) and potassium iodide (5.0 equiv), 5 mL of pyridine were added. The mixture was stirred under argon at 84 °C for 17-48 h. Pyridine was evaporated under vacuum and the residue was diluted with water and extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic layer was washed with water and brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed under *vacuum* and the crude product was purified by column chromatography (SiO₂) to afford the pure carbenes *cis*-15, 16a, 16b and 22.

Complex trans-16a.



Following the general method, a mixture of triazolium salt *trans*-13c (150 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), K_2CO_3 (38 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.1 equiv), $[K_2(PtCl_4)]$ (112 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and KI (66 mg, 0.4 mmol, 5.0 equiv) was stirred in pyridine (5 mL) at 84°C for 48 h, yielding, after purification (SiO₂, Hex/EtOAc 2:3), pure *trans*-16a(44 mg, 17%) as an orange solid. (47 mg of triazole *trans*-12c were also recovered during purification as previously described).⁶ ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ

8.26 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 8.17 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H, Py), 7.87 – 7.82 (m, 2H, Phth), 7.76 – 7.73 (m, 2H, Phth), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, Py), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.13 – 7.08 (m, 2H, Py), 7.06 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 5.38 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H, β-lactam *trans*), 5.22 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 5.13 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H, β-lactam *trans*), 5.02 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 4.45 (s, 3H, CH₃, N-CH₃), 3.89 (s, 3H, CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 3.87 (s, 3H, CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.8 (2C, C=O, Phth), 165.5 (C, C=O, β-lactam), 160.4 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 159.9 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 153.6 (2CH, Py), 139.6 (C, N₃C=CPt), 137.1 (CH, Py), 134.6 (2CH, Phth), 133.0 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 131.8 (2C, Phth), 129.0 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 127.7 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 127.3 (C, N₃C=CPt), 126.8 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 124.6 (2CH, Py),

123.9 (2CH, Phth), 114.7 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 113.7 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 63.7 (CH, β-lactam), 60.9 (CH, β-lactam), 55.7 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 55.5 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 38.1 (CH₃, N-CH₃), 35.1 (CH₂, N-CH₂). IR (KBr): v_{max} 1767, 1721, 1607, 1514, 1390, 1251, 1175, 834, 716 cm⁻¹. MS (ESI) *m/z* calculated forC₃₄H₃₁I₂N₆O₅Pt: 1052.0090 [M+H]⁺; found 1052.010. Mp: 187–189 °C.

Complex trans-16b.



Following the general method, a mixture of triazolium salt *trans*-13c (100 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), K_2CO_3 (45 mg, 0.3 mmol, 2.0 equiv), PdCl₂ (32 mg,0.2 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and KI (135 mg, 0.8 mmol, 5.0 equiv) was stirred in pyridine (4 mL) at 84 °C for 24 h, yielding, after purification (SiO₂, Hex/EtOAc 1:1), pure *trans*-16b (79 mg, 50 %) as an orange solid. (Again, a small amount of triazole *trans*-12c was observed in the ¹H NMR of the crude).⁶ Suitable crystals for X-ray

analysis were obtained from an EtOAc/Hexane mixture. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.18 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 8.10 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H, Py), 7.80 – 7.74 (m, 2H, Phth), 7.69 – 7.64 (m, 2H, Phth), 7.56 – 7.50 (m, 1H, Py,), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 7.06 – 7.03 (m, 2H, Py,), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 5.33 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H, β -lactam *trans*), 5.07 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 5.07 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H, β -lactam *trans*), 4.98 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H, N-CH₂), 4.36 (s, 3H, CH₃), N-CH₃), 3.82 (s, 3H, CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 3.78 (s, 3H, CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.7 (2C, C=O, Phth), 165.4 (C, C=O, β -lactam), 160.6 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 160.0 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 153.3 (2CH, Py), 138.8 (C, N₃C=CPd), 137.3 (C, N₃C=CPd), 137.2 (CH, Py), 134.5 (2CH, Phth), 133.0 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 121.7 (2C, Phth), 129.1 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 127.2 (C, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 126.5 (2CH, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 63.6 (CH, β -lactam), 61.1 (CH, β -lactam), 55.6 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 55.4 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 35.1 (CH₃, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄), 131.7 (2C, N+CH₂), 35.6 (CH₂, N-CH₂). IR (KBr): ν_{max} 1767, 1721, 1514, 1390, 1251, 1175, 834, 716 cm⁻¹. MS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₃₄H₃₁N₆O₅₁/₂H: 962.9487 [M+H]⁺; found 962.9428. Mp: (dec.).

Complex 22.



Following the general method, a mixture of triazolium salt **20** (150 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), K_2CO_3 (62 mg, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv), PdCl₂ (44 mg,0.3 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and KI (185 mg, 1.1 mmol, 5.0 equiv) was stirred in pyridine (2 mL) at 80 °C for 17 h, yielding, after purification (SiO₂, Hex/AcOEt 1:1),

pure **23** (54 mg, 25 %) as an orange solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.96 (dt, *J* = 5.0, 1.6 Hz, 2H, Py), 7.72 (tt, *J* = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H, Py), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 2.0 Hz, 2H, Py), 7.45 – 7.21 (m, 10H, 2Ph), 6.04 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H, NH), 5.95 (s, 2H, N-CH₂), 5.67 – 5.60 (m, 2H, 1H β-lactam + 1H O-CH₂), 5.57 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H, β-lactam), 5.50 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1H, O-CH₂), 4.49 (s, 1H, β-lactam), 4.05 (s, 3H, N-CH₃), 3.63 (s, 2H, Ph-CH₂), 1.56 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.47 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.5 (C, C=O, β-lactam), 170.4 (C, C=O, HN-C=O), 167.6 (C, C=O,O-C=O), 154.0 (2CH, Py), 139.9 (C, N₃C=CPd), 137.9 (C, N₃C=CPd), 137.7 (CH, Py), 133.9 (C, Ph), 133.2 (C, Ph), 130.3 (2CH, Py), 129.7 (2CH, Ph), 129.3 (2CH, Ph), 129.2 (CH, Ph), 129.0 (2CH, Ph), 127.8 (CH, Ph), 124.6 (2CH, Ph), 70.4 (CH, β-lactam), 68.2 (CH, β-lactam), 65.0 (C, **C**(CH₃)₂), 60.1 (CH₂, N-CH₂), 58.9 (CH, β-lactam), 57.3 (CH₂, O-CH₂), 43.6 (CH₂, Ph-CH₂), 37.5 (CH₃, N-CH₃), 32.1 (CH₃), 27.6 (CH₃). IR (KBr): v_{max} 1782, 1749, 1678, 1447, 1201, 1180, 1153, 695 cm⁻¹. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C₂₇H₂₉I₂N₅O₄PdS: 879.906 [M-py + H]⁺; found 879.915. Mp: 148–152 °C. [α]²⁵_p = + 14.01 (*c* 0.40, CHCI₃).

Catalysis experiments.

General procedure for the cycloisomerisation of enyne **23**.⁷

Gold carbene complex (0.006 mmol, 3 mol%) and Sodium tetrakis[3,5bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]borate (NaBArF) (0.006 mmol, 3 mol%) were stirred under Ar in 2 mL of anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ for 15 min. A solution of enyne 23 (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in 2 mL of anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ was added in one portion to the resulting slurry. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt until completion of the reaction (TLC). The reaction crude was filtered through a short pad of Celite and SiO₂, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified through a short pad of SiO₂.

General procedure for hydrosilylation of alkynes.⁸

To a solution of catalyst (5 mg, 0.005 mmol, 1 mol%) in toluene (3 mL), phenylacetylene (54 μ L, 0.49 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and triethylsilane (86 μ L, 0.54 mmol, 1.1 equiv) were quickly added via syringe. After stirring at 100°C for 14 h the reaction was stopped and allowed to reach rt. The crude mixture was filtered through a short pad of SiO₂ and the solvent was removed under *vacuum*. The resulting mixtures were analysed by ¹H NMR spectroscopy.

Crystallographic data for 15:



All data were collected at low temperature using oil-coated shockcooled crystals at 120(2) K on a Bruker-AXS APEX II diffractometer with MoKa radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å). The structure was solved by direct⁹ and all non hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically using the least-squares method on F^{2} .¹⁰

Only one of three independent molecules present in the asymmetric unit is depicted as thermal ellipsoid plot at the 50% level. Hydrogen atoms and disorders of the pyridine ligand and of

the benzyl group connected to O2 are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°]: Pt1-C1 1.974(7), Pt1-I1 2.599(1), Pt1-I2 2.596(1), Pt1-N5 2.133(15), I1-Pt1-I2 178.2(1), C1-Pt1-N5 172.4(6), C1-Pt1-I1 87.9(2), C1-Pt1-I2 90.3(2), I1-Pt1-N5 91.2(9), I2-Pt1-N5 90.6(9).

15: $C_{33}H_{33}I_2N_5O_4Pt$, Mr = 1012.53, crystal size = 0.40 x 0.40 x 0.10 mm³, triclinic, space group *P* $\vec{1}, \alpha$ = 12.5954(5) Å, *b* = 20.4792(8) Å, *c* = 21.2634(9) Å, α = 91.735(2)°, θ = 106.457(2)°, γ = 94.822(2)°, V = 5233.0(4) Å³, Z = 6, 184964 reflections collected, 28040 unique reflections (R_{int} = 0.0747), R1 = 0.0501, wR2 = 0.0930 [I>2 σ (I)], R1 = 0.0954, wR2 = 0.1197 (all data), residual electron density = 4.102 e Å⁻³.

CCDC 2110874 contains the supplementary crystallographic data. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

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¹H and ¹³C NMR Spectra

MGM-BJ13-1h STANDARD PROTON PARAMETERS



MGM-BJ13-13c STANDARD PROTON PARAMETERS









MGM-BJ11.14.fid









MGM922B-13c STANDARD PROTON PARAMETERS





MGM818B single pulse decoupled gated NOE













MGM820 single pulse decoupled gated NOE

1.32 CD3CN













MGM822B-13c STANDARD PROTON PARAMETERS Selective band center: 5.42 (ppm); width: 9.8 (Hz)

10









MGM837CB-13c STANDARD PROTON PARAMETERS























MGM880B single pulse decoupled gated NOE



MGM947B-1h STANDARD PROTON PARAMETERS

2.0



f1 (ppm)

STANDARD PROTON PARAMETERS

