Supporting information

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1. General Information

All solvents were dried and used after distillation: dichloromethane and 1,2dichloroethane dried over CaH₂; THF dried over sodium, dimethylacetamide distilled over CaH₂; methanol distilled over K₂CO₃; acetone distilled over CaO. All mentioned solvents were stored over molecular sieves 4Å after distillation. All reagents were used as purchased for the reactions without further purification. All reactions involving transition metal complexes were conducted in oven-dried glassware. Reactions were performed in Schlenk flasks under a positive pressure of argon or nitrogen. The flasks were fitted with rubber septa and gas-tight syringes with stainless steel needles or double-cannula were used to transfer air- and moisture-sensitive liquids. Column chromatography was performed on silica 60 (Machery-Nagel GmbH & Co.KG, 0.063-0.2 mm) with the indicated eluent mixtures. Filtration processes were performed using filter paper 310 with particle retention $10 - 20 \mu m$ or SCHOTT-DURAN glass filter Por.4. High vacuum denotes pressure range 0.1 – 10⁻³ mbar. ¹H, ¹³C, and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX 500 or Bruker ARX 300 spectrometer. The chemical shifts are given in parts per million (ppm) on the delta scale (δ) and are referenced to tetramethylsilane (¹H, ¹³C NMR = 0.0 ppm). Abbreviations for NMR data: s = singlet; d = doublet; t = triplet; q = quartet; sep = septet; m = multiplet; bs = broad signal. Mass spectra were recorded on the Finnigan MAT95 spectrometer using electrospray ionization (ESI). UV-Vis spectra were recorded on Analytik Jena Specord 600 UV-Vis spectrometer. Emission spectra were recorded on corrected J&M TIDAS S700/CCD UV/NIR 2098 spectrometer combined with J&M TIDAS LSM monochromator with 75 W Xenon light source. The following compounds were synthesized according to known literature procedures: 9-(2-Bromophenyl)-9H-fluoren-[Aq(bdpSO₃)]^[2]. Bodipy^[3], 11^[5]. 9-ol^[1]. 8-Chloro 8-SMe Bodipy^[4], 13^[5]. [AuCl(NHC green)]^[5], 9·HBr^{[5],} [AuCl(9)]^[5], [Au(NTf₂)(NHC green)]^[5].

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2. Synthesis and Experimental Procedures



Synthesis of pyrrole 2. A mixture of 9-(2-bromophenyl)-9H-fluoren-9-ol^[1] (14.6 g, 27.0 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (1.0 g, 4.5 mmol), and K₂CO₃ (7.8 g, 56.4 mmol) in dry DMF (150 mL) was stirred at 100 °C for 20 h. After the solvent was distilled off under low vacuum, the residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (150 mL) and washed with brine (100 mL) and water (150 mL). The organic layer was separated, dried over MgSO₄, and filtered. Evaporation of the solution in a rotavap gave the product as a brown solid. The crude product was slurried with a mixture of CH₂Cl₂ and cyclohexane (ca. 20 mL, 1:1), and the resulting precipitate was collected by suction filtration to provide **2** as a white solid (8.7 g, 18.9 mmol, 70%). The characterization data of **2** match with literature data. ^[1]



Synthesis of pyrrole 3. A mixture of **2** (4.2 g, 9.0 mmol) and Cs₂CO₃ (9.1 g, 27.8 mmol) in THF/MeOH (3:1, 145 mL) was stirred for 24 h. After evaporation of the solvent, the residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL). The organic layer was washed with H₂O, dried over MgSO₄, filtered over a paper filter and evaporated in a rotavap to provide a dark orange solid. Recrystallization from CH₂Cl₂ and cyclohexane afforded **3** as a white crystalline solid (2.4 g, 7.7 mmol, 85 %). The characterization data of **3** match with literature data.^[1]

General Procedure A. Synthesis of Bodipy derivatives. To a solution of pyrrole **3** (0.33 mmol, 2.0 eq.) and aldehyde (0.16 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (3.0 mL) was added a catalytic amount of TFA (1 drop), and the solution was stirred at rt for 15 h under nitrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was poured into 5% aq. solution of NaHCO₃ and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 100 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (100 mL), followed by drying of the organic layer over MgSO₄ and filtration over a paper filter. After evaporation of the volatiles in a rotavap, the residue was dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (3.0 mL) and treated with DDQ (36 mg, 0.16 mmol). After stirring for 1 h, Et₃N (0.2 mL, 1.4 mmol) and BF₃·OEt₂ (0.3 mL, 2.4 mmol) were added at 0 °C, and the resulting mixture was stirred at rt for another 15 h at rt. The reaction mixture was poured into 5% aq. solution of NaHCO₃ and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 100 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (100 mL, followed by drying of the organic layer over MgSO₄ and filtration over a paper filter. After evaporation of the volatiles in a rotavap, the residue was dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (3.0 mL) and treated with DDQ (36 mg, 0.16 mmol). After stirring for 1 h, Et₃N (0.2 mL, 1.4 mmol) and BF₃·OEt₂ (0.3 mL, 2.4 mmol) were added at 0 °C, and the resulting mixture was stirred at rt for another 15 h at rt. The reaction mixture was poured into 5% aq. solution of NaHCO₃ and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 100 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (100 mL), followed by drying over MgSO₄ and filtration over paper filter. After evaporation of the volatiles in a rotavap under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by column chromatography. The product may be recrystallized from CH₂Cl₂ and MeOH.

General procedure B. Synthesis of alkoxy substituted products. A mixture of alkyl bromide (0.3 mmol, 1.5 eq.), alcohol (0.2 mmol, 1.0 eq.), K_2CO_3 (0.4 mmol, 2.0 eq.), and KI (0.6 mmol, 3.0 eq.) in dry acetone (3.0 mL) was heated to reflux for 15 h under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was poured into CH_2Cl_2 (200 mL), and washed with brine (100 mL). After drying over MgSO₄ and filtration over a paper filter, the volatiles were evaporated in a rotavap under reduced pressure. The remaining solid was purified by column chromatography (silica, CH_2Cl_2 100% \rightarrow $CH_2Cl_2/EtOH = 50/1$).

General Procedure C. Synthesis of NHC-metal complexes. A mixture of imidazolium salt (0.06 mmol, 1 eq.), K_2CO_3 (0.18 mmol, 3 eq.), and the corresponding metal source, [AuCl(SMe₂)] (0.06 mmol, 1 eq.) or [CuCl(SMe₂)] (0.06 mmol, 1 eq.) or [RhCl(cod)]₂ (0.03 mmol, 0.5 eq.) or [IrCl(cod)]₂ (0.03 mmol, 0.5 eq.) or [Pd(allyl)Cl]₂ (0.03 mmol, 0.5 eq.) in dry acetone (2.0 mL) was heated to reflux for 15 h under nitrogen atmosphere. CH₂Cl₂ (ca. 10 mL) was added to the reaction mixture and the solution filtered through a celite plug. The crude mixture obtained after evaporation of the volatiles was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane) to afford the desired complex.

General procedure D. Synthesis of 8-Amino Bodipy derivatives B1, B2, B3 and

B4: To a solution of the corresponding 8-Chloro-Bodipy^[3] (0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) propylamine (1.0 mmol, 2.0 eq.) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 2 h. After the addition of water (50 mL), the reaction mixture was poured into CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL) and the organic layer separated. The organic solution was washed with brine (25 mL) and water, dried over MgSO₄, filtered over a paper filter and evaporated on the rotavap under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 30/1).

Synthesis of individual compounds



Synthesis of 10. General Procedure A: Pyrrole **3** (100 mg, 0.33 mmol), 4-Hydroxybenzaldehyde (20 mg, 0.16 mmol), DDQ (36 mg, 0.16 mmol), Et₃N (0.2 mL, 1.4 mmol), BF₃OEt₂ (0.3 mL, 2.4 mmol) were placed in 25 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (5.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/4) and gave Bodipy **10** (46 mg, 38%) as a dark red powder.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ / ppm = 8.51 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (dt, J = 7.7, 0.9 Hz, 4H), 7.52 (td, J = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (td, J = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 4H), 7.28 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.20 (dtd, J = 11.1, 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 6H), 6.97 (dt, J = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 4H), 6.73 – 6.69 (m, 2H), 6.64 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.23 (s, 2H), 4.99 (s, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* / ppm = 161.4, 157.1, 156.7, 148.2, 143.0, 142.0, 141.3, 141.1, 132.5, 132.2, 130.5, 128.8, 128.0, 127.9, 126.7, 124.3, 124.3, 124.2, 120.6, 120.1, 115.1, 59.7, 53.4.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₅₃H₃₂BF₂N₂O [M+H]⁺ 761.25758, found 761.25657, calcd. for C₅₃H₃₁BF₂N₂NaO [M+Na]⁺ 783.23952, found 783.24024, calcd. for C₅₃H₃₁BFN₂O [M-F]⁺ 741.25135, found 741.25217.



Synthesis of 4. General Procedure B: Bodipy **10** (153 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1 eq.), 1,10-Dibromodecane (90 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.5 eq.), K_2CO_3 (55 mg, 0.4 mmol, 2 eq.), KI (100 mg, 0.6 mmol, 4 eq.) were placed in 10 mL round flask and dissolved in dry acetone (3.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/4) and gave **4** (55 mg, 28%) as a dark red powder.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ / ppm = 8.52 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.53 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 4H), 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.21 (dtd, *J* = 15.1, 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 6H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.41 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.85 (p, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.76 – 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.44 – 1.34 (m, 4H), 1.28 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 8H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 161.2, 160.6, 156.6, 148.3, 142.9, 142.3, 141.3, 141.1, 132.6, 131.9, 130.4, 128.7, 127.97, 127.93, 126.2, 124.29, 124.23, 124.20, 120.7, 120.1, 114.2, 68.0, 59.8, 34.0, 32.8, 29.38, 29.30, 29.2, 29.0, 28.7, 28.1, 25.9. HRMS (ESI positive): *m*/*z* calcd. for C₆₃H₅₁BBrF₂N₂O [M+H]⁺ 981.32254, found 981.32330, calcd. for C₆₃H₅₀BBrF₂N₂NaO [M+Na]⁺ 1003.30449, found 1003.30674, calcd. for C₆₃H₅₀BBrFN₂O [M-F]⁺ 961.31631, found 961.31873.



Synthesis of 5-HBr. General Procedure B: 1,3-bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)-4-hydroxy-1H-imidazol-3-ium chloride (97 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1 eq.), Bodipy **4** (294 mg, 0.3 mmol), K₂CO₃ (55 mg, 0.4 mmol, 2 eq.), KI (100 mg, 0.6 mmol, 4 eq.) were placed in 10 mL round flask and dissolved in dry acetone (3.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (MeOH/CH₂Cl₂= 1/20) and gave **5-HBr** (64 mg, 23%) as a dark red powder.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ / ppm = 8.90 (dt, *J* = 4.6, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.52 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.98 (dq, *J* = 7.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.59 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42 – 7.32 (m, 8H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (dt, *J* = 17.5, 7.5 Hz, 6H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 6.79 – 6.73 (m, 2H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.25 (s, 2H), 4.52 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.57 (hept, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (hept, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.70 (ddt, *J* = 21.5, 14.2, 6.6 Hz, 4H), 1.40 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 1.37 – 1.15 (m, 30H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* / ppm = 161.3, 160.6, 156.6, 148.5, 148.3, 145.7, 145.1, 142.9, 142.3, 141.3, 141.1, 132.6, 132.31, 132.21, 132.0, 130.5, 130.4, 130.2, 128.8, 128.0, 127.9, 126.3, 126.1, 124.8, 124.7, 124.3, 124.3, 124.2, 120.7, 120.1, 114.2, 104.3, 75.9, 68.1, 59.8, 29.41, 29.32, 29.25, 29.23, 29.18, 29.12, 29.01, 28.6, 25.9, 25.5, 25.0, 24.37, 24.14, 23.5.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₉₀H₈₆BF₂N₄O₂ [M-Br]⁺ 1303.68119, found 1303.68127.



Synthesis of 7-HBr. General Procedure B: 1,3-bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-4-hydroxy-1H-imidazol-3-ium chloride (71 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 eq.), 4-(2-bromoethoxy)benz aldehyde (69 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.5 eq.), K_2CO_3 (55 mg, 0.4 mmol, 2 eq.), KI (100 mg, 0.6 mmol, 4 eq.) were placed in 10 mL round flask and dissolved in dry acetone (3.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (MeOH/CH₂Cl₂= 1/25) and gave **7-HBr** (55 mg, 50%) as a white powder.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ / ppm = 9.78 (s, 1H), 9.04 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.73 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.96 – 6.92 (m, 4H), 6.91 – 6.85 (m, 2H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 4.85 – 4.80 (m, 2H), 4.38 – 4.33 (m, 2H), 2.27 (s, 6H), 2.16 (s, 6H), 2.05 (s, 6H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 190.7, 163.0, 147.2, 141.6, 141.3, 134.8, 134.0, 132.0, 130.9, 130.7, 130.2, 129.88, 129.82, 126.6, 114.8, 103.3, 73.3, 66.1, 53.6, 21.2, 21.1, 17.85, 17.71.

HRMS (ESI positive): *m*/*z* calcd. for C₃₀H₃₃N₂O₃ [M-Br]⁺ 469.24857, found 469.24878.



Synthesis of 8-HBr General Procedure A: Pyrrole **3** (100 mg, 0.33 mmol), aldehyde **7-HBr** (88 mg, 0.16 mmol), DDQ (36 mg, 0.16 mmol), Et₃N (0.2 mL, 1.4 mmol), BF₃OEt₂ (0.3 mL, 2.4 mmol) were placed in 25 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (5.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (MeOH/CH₂Cl₂= 1/20) and gave **8-HBr** (82 mg, 43%) as a dark red powder.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ / ppm = 8.50 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.80 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.24 – 7.13 (m, 9H), 7.00 – 6.92 (m, 6H), 6.90 (s, 2H), 6.64 (dd, J = 8.1, 5.6 Hz, 4H), 6.16 (s, 2H), 4.62 – 4.57 (m, 2H), 4.17 – 4.11 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 6H), 2.00 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ / ppm = 159.6, 157.6, 154.7, 146.3, 145.7, 141.2, 139.79, 139.67, 139.64, 139.41, 139.06, 132.9, 132.2, 130.6, 130.0, 128.87, 128.63, 127.98, 127.89, 126.9, 126.15, 126.05, 125.3, 124.7, 122.44, 122.37, 122.25, 118.5, 118.2, 112.3, 100.8, 75.4, 75.11, 74.9, 70.8, 63.8, 57.8, 19.24, 19.20, 15.39, 15.22. HRMS (ESI positive): *m*/*z* calcd. for C₇₆H₅₈BF₂N₄O₂ [M-Cl]⁺ 1107.46154, found 1107.46219.



Synthesis of [CuBr(**8**)]. General Procedure C: Imidazolium salt **8-HBr** (71 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.), K_2CO_3 (25 mg, 0.18 mmol, 3 eq.), [CuBr(SMe₂)] (12.6 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.) were placed in dried 5 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry acetone (2.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/5) and gave [CuBr(**8**)] (52 mg, 69%) as a microcrystalline dark red powder.

¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂, 300 MHz): δ / ppm = 8.36 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 4H), 7.44 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 4H), 7.12 (dtd, *J* = 20.6, 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 8H), 6.92 (q, *J* = 0.7 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 0.9 Hz, 4H), 6.80 (dd, *J* = 1.3, 0.7 Hz, 2H), 6.60 – 6.52 (m, 4H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 6.11 (s, 2H), 4.16 – 4.09 (m, 2H), 4.02 – 3.95 (m, 2H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 2.00 (d, *J* = 0.6 Hz, 6H), 1.90 (d, *J* = 0.6 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) *δ* / ppm = 174.5 (C_{NHC}), 161.3, 159.7, 156.8, 148.1, 147.9, 143.2, 141.9, 141.4, 141.0, 139.6, 139.5, 135.8, 135.4, 134.8, 132.5, 132.0, 131.4, 130.6, 129.24, 129.14, 128.8, 128.1, 127.9, 127.1, 124.2, 124.0, 120.4, 120.2, 114.3, 99.4, 71.5, 66.3, 59.8, 29.7, 29.1, 20.9, 17.6.

HRMS (ESI positive): *m*/*z* calcd. for C₇₆H₅₇BCuF₂N₄O₂ [M-Cl]⁺ 1169.38332, found 1169.38430.



Synthesis of [AuCl(8)]. General Procedure C: Imidazolium salt 8-HBr (71 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.), K_2CO_3 (25 mg, 0.18 mmol, 3 eq.), [AuCl(SMe_2)] (17.7 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.) were placed in dried 5 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry acetone (2.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/5) and gave [AuCl(8)] (30 mg, 37%) as a microcrystalline dark red powder.

¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂, 500 MHz): δ / ppm = 8.49 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.58 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 4H), 7.22 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 4H), 7.06 (s, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H), 6.74 – 6.65 (m, 4H), 6.47 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.25 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 2H), 4.31 – 4.25 (m, 2H), 4.18 – 4.10 (m, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.13 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz, 6H), 2.03 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ/ppm = 178.3 (C_{NHC}), 168.0, 161.3, 159.6, 156.8, 148.1, 147.5, 147.3, 141.9, 141.4, 141.0, 140.0, 139.92, 139.86, 139.82, 135.50, 135.47, 135.30, 135.19, 134.95, 134.91, 132.5, 132.0, 130.92, 130.79, 130.6, 129.26, 129.22, 129.18, 129.13, 128.8, 128.1, 127.9, 127.1, 124.22, 124.07, 123.97, 120.39, 120.22, 114.3, 99.29, 99.22, 71.53, 71.51, 66.24, 66.22, 59.8, 53.9, 53.7, 53.4, 53.2, 53.00, 20.9, 17.56, 17.52, 17.40, 17.38.

HRMS (ESI positive): *m*/*z* calcd. for C₇₆H₅₇AuBF₂N₄O₂ [M-CI]⁺ 1303.42082, found 1303.42138.



Synthesis of [RhCl(cod)(8)]. General Procedure C: Imidazolium salt 8-HBr (71 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.), K_2CO_3 (25 mg, 0.18 mmol, 3 eq.), $[RhCl(cod)]_2$ (14.8 mg, 0.03 mmol, 0.5 eq.) were placed in dried 5 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry acetone (2.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/3) and gave [RhCl(cod)(8)] (54 mg, 67%) as a microcrystalline dark red powder.

¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂, 300 MHz): δ / ppm = 8.36 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (dt, *J* = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 4H), 7.43 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 4H), 7.17 – 7.02 (m, 8H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 6.84 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 0.9 Hz, 4H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 6.59 – 6.44 (m, 4H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 6.11 (s, 2H), 4.28 (s, 2H), 3.99 (dt, *J* = 4.6, 2.8 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (dt, *J* = 6.6, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 3.47 (s, 1H), 3.20 (s, 1H), 3.11 (s, 1H), 2.51 (s, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 1H), 1.98 (s, 3H), 1.84 (s, 3H), 1.69 (s, 4H), 1.50 – 1.39 (m, 4H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ / ppm = 180.7 (C_{NHC}) (d, $J(^{13}C - ^{103}Rh) = 53.0$ Hz), 163.2, 161.7, 158.7, 150.6, 150.0, 145.0, 144.0, 143.3, 142.9, 140.59, 140.46, 140.0, 139.3, 138.7, 137.4, 136.5, 134.5, 134.3, 133.8, 132.4, 131.2, 131.0, 130.6, 130.0, 129.84, 128.80, 126.1, 125.9, 122.4, 122.1, 116.3, 102.8, 97.6, 97.2, 72.7, 71.2, 70.0, 69.7, 68.1, 61.7, 34.8, 34.3, 33.5, 32.5, 31.6, 31.0, 30.4, 30.0, 28.8, 22.7, 21.3, 19.8. HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₈₄H₆₉BF₂N₄O₂Rh [M-Cl]⁺ 1317.45367, found 1317.45457.



Synthesis of [IrCl(cod)(**8**)]. General Procedure C: Imidazolium salt **8-HBr** (71 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.), K_2CO_3 (25 mg, 0.18 mmol, 3 eq.), [IrCl(cod)]₂ (20.2 mg, 0.03 mmol, 0.5 eq.) were placed in dried 5 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry acetone (2.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/3) and gave [IrCl(cod)(**8**)] (40 mg, 67%) as a microcrystalline dark red powder.

¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂, 300 MHz): δ / ppm = 8.36 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 4H), 7.44 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 4H), 7.11 (dtd, *J* = 20.1, 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 8H), 6.85 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 6H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 6.59 – 6.45 (m, 4H), 6.18 (s, 1H), 6.12 (s, 2H), 4.02 (dt, *J* = 4.0, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 3.98 – 3.82 (m, 4H), 2.89 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.81 (s, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.10 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 6H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 1.89 (s, 3H), 1.66 – 1.47 (m, 4H), 1.26 – 1.11 (m, 4H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ / ppm = 176.1 (C_{NHC}), 161.3, 156.8, 148.4, 148.1, 143.1, 142.1, 141.4, 141.0, 138.6, 138.5, 137.9, 137.1, 136.6, 135.5, 134.6, 132.5, 132.1, 132.0, 130.5, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 128.2, 128.1, 127.9, 126.9, 124.2, 124.1, 124.0, 120.4, 120.2, 114.4, 100.6, 82.1, 81.4, 70.8, 66.2, 59.8, 53.9, 53.7, 53.4, 53.2, 53.0, 51.8, 51.3, 33.7, 33.1, 31.9, 29.7, 29.4, 29.1, 28.5, 22.7, 20.8, 19.3, 18.0, 13.9.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₈₄H₆₉BF₂IrN₄O₂ [M-CI]⁺ 1407.51109, found 1407.51211, calcd. for C₈₆H₇₂BF₂IrN₅O₂ [M-CI+CH₃CN]⁺ 1448.53764, found 1448.53865.



Synthesis of [Pd(allyl)Cl(**8**)]. General Procedure C: Imidazolium salt **8-HBr** (71 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.), K_2CO_3 (25 mg, 0.18 mmol, 3 eq.), [Pd(allyl)Cl]₂ (11 mg, 0.03 mmol, 0.5 eq.) were placed in dried 5 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry acetone (2.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/2) and gave [Pd(allyl)Cl(**8**)] (37 mg, 48%) as a microcrystalline dark red powder.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ / ppm = δ 8.36 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (dt, *J* = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 4H), 7.44 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 4H), 7.19 – 7.12 (m, 4H), 7.08 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 4H), 6.85 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 6H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 6.61 – 6.51 (m, 4H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 6.13 (s, 2H), 4.73 (ddd, *J* = 18.8, 13.3, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (dd, *J* = 5.8, 2.9 Hz, 2H), 4.02 – 3.92 (m, 2H), 3.60 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.57 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 2.08 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 6H), 1.99 (s, 3H), 1.94 (s, 3H), 1.62 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ / ppm = 178.4 (C_{NHC}), 161.3, 159.8, 156.8, 148.6, 148.1, 143.1, 142.0, 141.4, 141.0, 138.9, 138.7, 136.5, 136.3, 136.1, 135.7, 132.5, 132.2, 131.9, 130.5, 128.7, 128.1, 127.9, 120.0, 124.2, 124.0, 120.5, 120.2, 114.4, 114.1, 100.2, 71.1, 70.9, 66.2, 59.8, 49.8, 29.7, 26.9, 20.8, 18.0, 17.9.

HRMS (ESI positive): *m*/*z* calcd. for C₇₉H₆₂BF₂N₄O₂Pd [M-Cl]⁺ 1253.39687, found 1253.39942.



Synthesis of 9-HBr.^[5] General Procedure B: Imidazolium salt-HCl (71 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 eq.), Bodipy $11^{[5]}$ (136 mg, 0.3 mmol), K₂CO₃ (55 mg, 0.4 mmol, 2 eq.), KI (100 mg, 0.6 mmol, 4 eq.) were placed in dried 10 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry acetone (4.0 mL). The crude orange product was purified by column chromatography (MeOH/CH₂Cl₂= 1/20) and gave **9-HBr** (77 mg, 50%) as an orange powder.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ / ppm = 9.19 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (s, 4H), 4.44 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.96 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.51 (s, 6H), 2.42 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 6H), 2.27 (s, 6H), 2.16 (s, 6H), 1.86 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.06 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 152.3, 147.5, 144.1, 141.7, 141.5, 135.5, 134.7, 134.1, 132.7, 130.9, 130.8, 130.6, 130.0, 129.9, 126.7, 102.6, 74.9, 31.3, 28.5, 28.2, 26.2, 21.19, 21.16, 17.9, 17.8, 17.2, 14.7, 13.5, 12.42, 12.40, 12.38.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₃₄H₅₆BF₂N₄O [M-Br]⁺ 693.45098, found 693.45194.



Synthesis of [AuCl(**9**)]. ^[5] General Procedure C: Imidazolium salt **9-HBr** (46 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.), K₂CO₃ (25 mg, 0.18 mmol, 3 eq.), [AuCl(SMe₂)] (17.7 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.) were placed in dried 5 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry acetone (2.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/5) and gave [AuCl(**9**)] (38 mg, 69%) as a microcrystalline, orange powder.

¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂, 300 MHz): δ / ppm = 7.08 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 4H), 6.42 (s, 1H), 4.04 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 3.07 – 2.88 (m, 2H), 2.51 – 2.42 (m, 10H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 6H), 2.20 (s, 6H), 2.15 (s, 6H), 1.84 – 1.73 (m, 2H), 1.68 – 1.47 (m, 6H), 1.08 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ / ppm = 178.0 (C_{NHC}), 152.1, 147.5, 144.4, 139.9, 139.8, 135.8, 135.5, 135.3, 134.9, 132.8, 131.0, 130.8, 129.22, 129.15, 98.6, 72.6, 31.2, 29.7, 28.4, 28.2, 26.9, 26.2, 20.9, 17.6, 17.4, 17.1, 14.6, 13.1, 12.1.



Synthesis of [RhCl(cod)(**9**)]. General Procedure C: Imidazolium salt **9-HBr** (46 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.), K_2CO_3 (25 mg, 0.18 mmol, 3 eq.), [RhCl(cod)]₂ (14.8 mg, 0.03 mmol, 0.5 eq.) were placed in dried 5 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry acetone (2.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/3) and gave [RhCl(cod)(**9**)] (41 mg, 72%) as a microcrystalline orange powder.

¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂, 300 MHz): δ / ppm = 6.92 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 4H), 6.17 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 3.62 – 3.48 (m, 1H), 3.45 (dd, *J* = 7.1, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 2.90 – 2.78 (m, 2H), 2.42 – 2.22 (m, 24H), 2.18 (s, 6H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 2.06 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 3H), 1.76 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.68 – 1.55 (m, 4H), 1.54 – 1.41 (m, 6H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ / ppm = 177.3 (C_{NHC}) (d, J(¹³C - ¹⁰³Rh) = 52.3 Hz), 152.0, 149.2, 144.5, 138.7, 138.6, 137.7, 137.0, 136.9, 135.6, 135.7, 134.8, 132.6, 130.6, 129.5, 129.3, 128.3, 128.1, 101.0, 93.6, 93.5, 93.4, 93.3, 71.9, 71.6, 71.5, 71.3, 37.1, 32.4, 31.8, 31.2, 30.0, 29.7, 29.3, 28.8, 28.5, 28.3, 26.9, 26.3, 22.7, 21.7, 21.5, 20.8, 18.19, 18.14, 17.1, 14.6, 13.9, 13.1, 12.1.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₅₁H₆₇BF₂N₄ORh [M-CI]⁺ 903.44310, found 903.44289.



Synthesis of [IrCl(cod)(**9**)]. General Procedure C: Imidazolium salt **9-HBr** (46 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.), K_2CO_3 (25 mg, 0.18 mmol, 3 eq.), [IrCl(cod)]₂ (20.2 mg, 0.03 mmol, 0.5 eq.) were placed in dried 5 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry acetone (2.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/3) and gave [IrCl(cod)(**9**)] (33 mg, 53%) as a microcrystalline orange powder.

¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂, 300 MHz): δ / ppm = 6.96 – 6.84 (m, 4H), 6.16 (s, 1H), 4.17 (dq, *J* = 5.8, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (td, *J* = 6.2, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 3.04 (dtd, *J* = 23.7, 7.4, 2.9 Hz, 2H), 2.89 – 2.75 (m, 2H), 2.39 – 2.33 (m, 8H), 2.33 – 2.27 (m, 6H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 6H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.67 – 1.55 (m, 4H), 1.52 – 1.41 (m, 5H), 1.26 – 1.16 (m, 4H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) *δ* / ppm = 174.7 (C_{NHC}), 152.1, 148.9, 144.5, 138.7, 138.6, 137.5, 136.8, 136.7, 135.9, 135.8, 134.8, 132.8, 132.5, 130.8, 129.4, 129.2, 128.3, 128.0, 100.7, 80.2, 79.6, 71.9, 55.2, 55.0, 33.1, 32.4, 31.2, 30.0, 29.7, 29.4, 28.5, 28.3, 26.9, 26.3, 21.4, 21.2, 20.80, 20.76, 18.26, 18.20, 17.1, 14.6, 13.1, 12.1.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₅₁H₆₇BF₂N₄OIr [M-CI]⁺ 993.50052, found 993.49966, calcd. for C₅₁H₆₇BF₂N₄OIr [M-CI+CH₃CN]⁺ 1034.52707, found 1034.52568.

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Synthesis of [Pd(allyl)Cl(**9**)]. General Procedure C: Imidazolium salt **9-HBr** (46 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.), K_2CO_3 (25 mg, 0.18 mmol, 3 eq.), [Pd(allyl)Cl]₂ (11 mg, 0.03 mmol, 0.5 eq.) were placed in dried 5 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry acetone (2.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/2) and gave [Pd(allyl)Cl(**9**)] (38 mg, 72%) as a microcrystalline orange powder.

¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂, 300 MHz): δ / ppm = 6.86 (ddq, *J* = 3.5, 1.3, 0.7 Hz, 4H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 4.65 (dddd, *J* = 13.2, 12.4, 7.4, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 3.78 – 3.64 (m, 2H), 2.93 – 2.77 (m, 2H), 2.38 – 2.28 (m, 11H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 6H), 2.18 – 2.15 (m, 6H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.93 (dq, *J* = 12.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 1.72 – 1.59 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 6H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) *δ* / ppm = 177.1 (C_{NHC}), 152.1, 149.1, 144.5, 138.9, 138.7, 136.6, 136.2, 136.0, 135.9, 135.4, 132.8, 132.4, 130.8, 128.94, 128.89, 128.86, 128.71, 112.7, 100.0, 72.1, 67.3, 58.5, 31.2, 29.7, 28.5, 28.3, 26.9, 26.3, 20.8, 18.79, 18.75, 18.65, 17.1, 14.6, 13.1, 12.1.

HRMS (ESI positive): *m*/*z* calcd. for C₄₆H₆₀BF₂N₄OPd [M-CI]⁺ 839.38631, found 839.38840, calcd. for C₄₈H₆₃BF₂N₅OPd [M-CI+CH₃CN]⁺ 880.41286, found 880.41527.

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Synthesis of 12. General Procedure B: Bodipy **10** (153 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1 eq.), Bodipy **11** (136 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.5 eq.), K_2CO_3 (55 mg, 0.4 mmol, 2 eq.), KI (100 mg, 0.6 mmol, 4 eq.) were placed in 10 mL round flask and dissolved in dry acetone (4.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/4) and gave **12** (110 mg, 49%) as a dark red powder.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ / ppm = 8.52 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 7.53 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (td, J = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 4H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 4H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 6.80 – 6.75 (m, 2H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.25 (s, 2H), 3.89 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.98 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.49 (s, 6H), 2.34 (p, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 4H), 2.29 (s, 6H), 1.80 (q, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 1.64 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 3H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ/ppm = 161.3, 160.4, 156.6, 152.1, 148.3, 144.4, 142.9, 142.1, 141.3, 141.1, 135.6, 132.6, 132.0, 130.8, 130.4, 128.8, 128.0, 127.9, 126.5, 124.3, 124.2, 124.2, 120.6, 120.0, 114.1, 67.4, 59.8, 53.4, 31.2, 28.7, 28.4, 26.5, 17.1, 14.8, 13.3, 12.4.

HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd. for C₇₅H₆₃B₂F₄N₄O [M+H]⁺ 1133.51241, found 1133.51382, calcd. for C₇₅H₆₂B₂F₃N₄O [M-F]⁺ 1113.50618, found 1113.50802, calcd. for C₇₅H₆₂B₂F₄N₄NaO [M+Na]⁺ 1155.49436, found 1155.49631.



Synthesis of [AuCl(NHC_red)]. General Procedure C: Imidazolium salt **5-HBr** (83 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.), K₂CO₃ (25 mg, 0.18 mmol, 3 eq.), [AuCl(SMe₂)] (17.7 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 eq.) were placed in dried 5 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry acetone (2.0 mL). The crude red product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/5) and gave [AuCl(NHC_red)] (54 mg, 59%) as a microcrystalline dark red powder.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ / ppm = 8.48 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 4H), 7.62 – 7.51 (m, 4H), 7.42 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 4H), 7.39 – 7.31 (m, 6H), 7.28 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 4H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 6.82 – 6.77 (m, 2H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.47 (s, 1H), 6.31 (s, 2H), 4.02 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.72 (h, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.63 (h, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.73 – 1.64 (m, 4H), 1.37 (dd, *J* = 13.1, 6.9 Hz, 12H), 1.34 – 1.25 (m, 12H), 1.23 (q, *J* = 5.7, 5.1 Hz, 12H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) *δ*/ppm = 179.4 (C_{NHC}), 161.1, 160.8, 156.8, 148.5, 148.1, 146.4, 145.9, 143.0, 142.5, 141.4, 141.0, 134.7, 132.6, 132.00, 130.55, 130.47, 130.44, 130.36, 128.7, 128.0, 127.9, 126.1, 124.15, 124.12, 124.04, 123.98, 120.6, 120.1, 114.2, 99.2, 72.8, 68.2, 59.8, 29.26, 29.22, 29.20, 29.00, 28.99, 28.70, 28.58, 25.8, 25.6, 24.4, 23.86, 23.84, 23.3, 0.8.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. For C₉₀H₈₆BF₂N₄O₂: 1303.68064 [M-AuCI] ⁺; found 1303.68222.

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Synthesis of 14. A mixture of [AuCl(NHC_red)] complex (20 mg, 0.013 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and Ag(NTf₂) (5.4 mg, 0.014 mmol, 1.05 eq.) were dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (1.5 mL), and reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min in the dark at rt under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was filtered *via* celite, and the filtrate was evaporated on the rotavap under reduced pressure. The crude material was rinsed with pentane (1 mL), dried *in high vacuum* and gave **14** (22 mg, 95%) as a dark red solid.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ / ppm = 8.49 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.57 (qd, *J* = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 4H), 7.42 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 4H), 7.35 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 6.1 Hz, 6H), 7.28 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 4H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 6.31 (s, 2H), 4.06 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.64 (p, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (h, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.75 – 1.66 (m, 4H), 1.34 (dd, *J* = 11.3, 6.9 Hz, 14H), 1.29 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 10H), 1.23 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 12H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ / ppm = 162.0, 161.1, 160.8, 156. 8, 149.0, 148.1, 146.3, 145.9, 142.9, 142.5, 141.4, 141.0, 134.4, 132.6, 132.0, 130.7, 130.6, 130.5, 130.1, 128.7, 128.0, 127.9, 126.1, 124.16, 124.10, 124.03, 123.98, 120.6, 120.1, 117.6, 114.2, 100.0, 73.0, 68.2, 59.8, 29.36, 29.28, 29.23, 29.21, 29.08, 29.01, 28.99, 28.77, 28.58, 25.8, 25.6, 24.1, 23.9, 23.6, 23.3.

High-resolution mass could not be obtained for this complex.



Synthesis of [Au(NTf₂)(NHC_green)].^[5] A mixture of [AuCl(NHC_green)]^[5] complex (13 mg, 0.013 mmol, 1.0 eq.), and Ag(NTf₂) (5.4 mg, 0.014 mmol, 1.05 eq.) were dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (1.0 mL), and reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min in the dark at rt under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was filtered through a celite plug, and the filtrate evaporated on the rotavap under reduced pressure. The crude material was rinsed with pentane (1 mL), dried *in high vacuum* and gave [Au(NTf₂)(NHC_green)] (15 mg, 91%) as an orange solid.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ / ppm = 7.55 (dt, *J* = 11.5, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 4.11 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.96 (dd, *J* = 10.7, 5.8 Hz, 2H), 2.58 (dt, *J* = 13.8, 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 2.45 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 2.29 (s, 6H), 1.82 (p, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.63 – 1.53 (m, 4H), 1.35 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 6H), 1.33 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 1.29 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 6H), 1.24 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 6H), 1.09 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) *δ* / ppm = 162.2, 152.1, 148.8, 146.2, 145.9, 144.3, 135.8, 134.4, 132.8, 130.7, 130.6, 130.0, 124.1, 124.0, 122.7, 120.2, 117.6, 115.0, 100.1, 72.6, 31.3, 29.7, 29.1, 28.8, 28.7, 28.2, 26.31, 24.1, 23.9, 23.6, 23.3, 17.1, 14.6, 13.2, 12.2.

High-resolution mass could not be obtained for this complex.



Synthesis of 15. To a solution of [AuCl(NHC_green)]^[5] (51.4 mg, 0.041 mmol) in dry EtOH (2.5 mL) and dry CH₂Cl₂ (1.5 mL), were added thiophenol (30 μ L, 0.28 mmol) and Et₃N (30 μ L, 0.21 mmol), and the resulting mixture was stirred for 30 min (open vessel). After evaporation of the solvent on the rotavap under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by dissolution/precipitation using CH₂Cl₂ and pentane to afford **15** as an orange solid (44.4 mg, 0.042 mmol, 82%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ / ppm = 7.59 (td, *J* = 7.8, 5.2 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 4.9 Hz, 4H), 6.78 (s, 5H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 4.09 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 3.01 – 2.94 (m, 2H), 2.74 (dp, *J* = 31.2, 6.9 Hz, 4H), 2.49 (s, 6H), 2.44 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 2.30 (s, 6H), 1.81 (p, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 1.66 – 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.52 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 6.8 Hz, 12H), 1.27 (dd, *J* = 23.2, 6.9 Hz, 12H), 1.09 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) *δ* / ppm = 181.0 (C_{NHC}), 152.1, 148.6, 146.5, 146.1, 144.40, 144.35, 135.8, 134.9, 132.8, 131.3, 130.7, 130.6, 130.5, 130.4, 127.2, 124.2, 124.0, 121.6, 99.2, 72.4, 53.9, 53.6, 53.4, 53.2, 53.0, 31.3, 29.1, 28.8, 28.7, 28.2, 26.3, 24.3, 23.91, 23.84, 23.4, 17.1, 14.6, 13.2, 12.17, 12.15, 12.12.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. C₅₅H₇₃AuBF₂N₄OS: 1083.52264 [M+H] ⁺; found 1083.52334.



Synthesis of 16. A solution of **13** (16.4 mg, 0.015 mmol, 1 eq.) and **14** (27.1 mg, 0.015 mmol, 1 eq.) in dry CH_2Cl_2 (1.5 mL) was stirred for 40 min in the dark. After the solvent was evaporated on the rotavap under reduced pressure, the resulting solid was rinsed with Et_2O (ca. 1 mL) and pentane (ca. 1.5 mL) and dried in high vacuum to give a dark violet solid **16** (34.6 mg, 0.012 mmol, 80%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ / ppm = 8.48 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.62 – 7.45 (m, 6H), 7.44 – 7.34 (m, 7H), 7.31 – 7.24 (m, 9H), 7.21 (tt, *J* = 7.5, 1.3 Hz, 5H), 7.15 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 6.79 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 6.74 – 6.69 (m, 2H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.50 (d, *J* = 19.6 Hz, 2H), 6.31 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 2H), 4.06 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 4.00 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (td, *J* = 6.6, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 3.44 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.97 – 2.91 (m, 2H), 2.69 – 2.55 (m, 4H), 2.49 (s, 9H), 2.45 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 2.28 (s, 6H), 1.77 (p, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 1.68 (dt, *J* = 14.2, 6.7 Hz, 4H), 1.52 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 1.45 – 1.27 (m, 14H), 1.24 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 3.0 Hz, 16H), 1.18 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 2.2 Hz, 12H), 1.15 – 1.07 (m, 24H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ/ppm = 177.1 (C_{NHC}), 160.8, 156.8, 152.1, 148.9, 148.7, 148.1, 146.2, 146.1, 145.7, 142.9, 141.4, 141.0, 135.8, 134.3, 132.8, 132.5, 132.0, 131.7, 130.7, 130.5, 130.0, 129.4, 128.7, 128.3, 128.0, 127.9, 126.1, 124.23, 124.15, 124.04, 123.98, 121.2, 120.6, 120.1, 118.7, 114.2, 100.25, 100.16, 73.1, 72.8, 68.2, 59.8, 31.2, 29.26, 29.21, 28.97, 28.93, 28.71, 28.66, 28.53, 28.23, 26.3, 25.8, 25.5, 24.5, 23.9, 23.8, 23.29, 23.27, 22.3, 17.1, 14.6, 13.8, 13.2, 12.2, 7.3.



Synthesis of 17. A solution of **15** (10.4 mg, 0.01 mmol, 1 eq.) and **14** (17.1 mg, 0.01 mmol, 1 eq.) in dry CH_2Cl_2 (2.0 mL) was stirred for 30 min in the dark under nitrogen atmosphere. After the solvent was evaporated on the rotavap under reduced pressure, the remaining solid was purified by dissolution/precipitation using CH_2Cl_2 (ca. 0.5 mL) and pentane (1.5 mL) to give **17** as a black solid (27.0 mg, 0.010 mmol, 98%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ / ppm = 8.48 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.60 – 7.46 (m, 6H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.39 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.18 (m, 14H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 5H), 6.81 – 6.74 (m, 4H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.51 (s, 1H), 6.47 (s, 1H), 6.31 (s, 2H), 6.24 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 4.06 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 4.00 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.89 – 3.83 (m, 2H), 2.97 – 2.91 (m, 2H), 2.54 (q, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 4H), 2.51 – 2.41 (m, 14H), 2.27 (s, 6H), 1.77 (p, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.73 – 1.62 (m, 4H), 1.56 – 1.45 (m, 4H), 1.34 (dq, *J* = 12.6, 6.7 Hz, 4H), 1.30 – 1.20 (m, 20H), 1.18 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 14H), 1.07 (dd, *J* = 12.3, 7.0 Hz, 28H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ / ppm = 173.71 (C_{NHC}), 173.58 (C_{NHC}), 161.1, 160.8, 156.8, 152.1, 148.8, 148.7, 148.1, 146.2, 146.1, 145.7, 144.3, 143.0, 141.4, 141.0, 135.8, 134.3, 134.3, 132.8, 132.54 132.3, 132.0, 131.6, 130.7, 130.5, 129.9, 128.7, 128.4, 128.0, 127.9, 126.2, 126.1, 124.20, 124.18, 124.15, 124.03, 123.98, 120.6, 120.1, 114.2, 100.01, 99.91, 73.1, 72.7, 68.2, 59.8, 53.9, 53.6, 53.4, 53.2, 53.0, 31.2, 29.3, 29.21, 29.19, 29.0, 28.9, 28.7, 28.63, 28.62, 28.53, 28.2, 26.3, 25.8, 25.5, 24.5, 23.9, 23.8, 23.28, 23.25, 17.1, 14.59, 13.1, 12.2.



Synthesis of 18. In 25 mL round flask **14** (6.15 mg, $4.0 \cdot \mu$ mol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) and a solution of [Ag(bdpSO₃)] (2.22 mg, $4.0 \cdot \mu$ mol) in acetonitrile (5 mL) was added. The AgCl precipitate formed immediately was separated by filtration through celite. The celite was washed with dichloromethane (10 mL) to extract the product completely. The combined filtrates were evaporated and dried overnight in high vacuum. Yield: 7.8 mg (99 %).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ / ppm = 8.44 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.49 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 6H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 6.27 (s, 2H), 3.97 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.60 – 2.39 (m, 12H), 2.33 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.68 – 1.61 (m, 4H), 1.34 – 1.13 (m, 42H), 0.99 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ / ppm = 161.69 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 161.3, 159.2, 158.6, 157.4, 149.3, 148.7, 146.8, 146.4, 143.5, 143.0, 141.9, 141.6, 139.8, 139.7, 135.6, 135.1, 133.1, 132.6, 131.3, 131.2, 131.1, 131.0, 130.7, 130.4, 130.3, 129.5, 129.3, 128.62, 128.55, 128.47, 126.7, 124.80, 124.72, 124.66, 124.55, 121.2, 120.7, 114.7, 100.3, 73.4, 68.7, 60.3, 29.84, 29.79, 29.77, 29.73, 29.61, 29.55, 29.31, 29.25, 29.12, 26.4, 26.1, 24.9, 24.5, 24.3, 24.0, 21.8, 17.6, 14.7, 14.0, 13.3, 13.1, 12.4. ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ / ppm = -144, 26 (q, *J*(¹¹B-¹⁹F) = 33 Hz) (green Bodipy), -146.43 (q, *J*(¹¹B-¹⁹F) = 33 Hz) (red Bodipy).

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₉₀H₈₅AuBF₂N₄O₂: 1499.63992 [M+H]⁺; found 1499.64152. HRMS (ESI negative): m/z calcd. for C₂₂H₂₄BF₂N₂O₃S: 445.1569 [M-H]⁻; found 445.1570.



Synthesis of IMes-HCI. General Procedure B: BocNH(CH₂)₅OTs (90 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.2 eq.), 4-hydroxy-1,3-dimesityl-1H-imidazol-3-ium chloride (75 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 eq.), K₂CO₃ (29 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 eq.), KI (105 mg, 0.63 mmol, 3 eq) were placed in a dried 5 mL Schlenk flask and dissolved in dry acetone (3 mL). The crude product was purified by column chromatography (MeOH/CH₂Cl₂ = 1/15) and gave IMes·HCl (55 mg, 48%) as a white powder.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 9.28 (s, 1H), 7.30 (s, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, 4H), 4.57 (s, 1H), 4.32 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.03 (q, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 6H), 2.22 (s, 6H), 2.14 (s, 6H), 1.84 – 1.60 (m, 3H), 1.50 – 1.14 (m, 12H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 156.2, 147.7, 141.7, 141.5, 134.9, 134.2, 131.3, 130.9, 130.1, 126.8, 102.2, 74.9, 29.6, 28.5, 28.0, 22.7, 21.3, 18.0.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₃₁H₄₄N₃O₃: 506.33772 [M-Cl]⁺; found 506.33840.



Synthesis of 19. The imidazolium salt (40 mg, 0.074 mmol) was dissolved in freshly distilled CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) in a dried 10 mL Schlenk flask, cooled to 0°C and treated with a solution of HCl in dioxane (4M, 28 μ L, 0.11 mmol, 1.5 eq) and stirred at rt for 15 h under nitrogen atmosphere. The volatiles was evaporated on the rotavap under reduced pressure, Et₃N (17.5 μ L, 0.11 mmol, 1.7 eq) and *meso*-Cl Bodipy^[3] (25 mg, 0.074 mmol) were added to the crude product, and the mixture dissolved in CH₂Cl₂:CH₃CN (1:1) (2 mL). The solution was stirred for 15 h at rt. Removal of the solvent on the rotavap under reduced pressure and purification of the residue by silica gel column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 1/1) as an eluent provides **19** as a yellow solid. Yield: 27 mg (49%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 9.26 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (s, 4H), 5.39 (t, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.47 (q, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 6H), 2.40 – 2.37 (m, 4H), 2.32 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 6H), 2.26 (s, 6H), 2.20 (s, 6H), 2.09 (s, 6H), 1.71 – 1.64 (m, 6H), 1.37 – 1.31 (m, 2H), 1.03 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 151.4, 147.5, 145.0, 141.5, 141.3, 134.8, 134.1, 131.3, 131.0, 129.9, 129.8, 129.6, 128.6, 126.9, 122.7, 102.6, 74.3, 52.1, 31.7, 27.9, 22.5, 21.20, 21.16, 17.6, 17.2, 15.1, 13.2, 12.0.

¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = -144.43 (q, $J(^{11}B^{-19}F) = 33$ Hz).

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for $C_{43}H_{57}BF_2N_5O$: 708.46310 [M-CI]⁺; found 708.46187.



Synthesis of 20. General Procedure C: To a 5 mL dried Schlenk flask equipped with a stirring bar containing **19** (15 mg, 0.02 mmol, 1.0 eq) and Ag₂O (2.3 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.5 eq) under a flow of the nitrogen gas, dry 1,2-dichloroethane (2 mL) was added and the flask was sealed. After stirring in the dark for 90 min at 55 °C, [AuCl(SMe₂)] (5.9 mg, 0.02 mmol, 1.0 eq) was added and the mixture was stirred for an additional 2 h at 60 °C. The resulting suspension was filtered through a short celite plug. The filtrate was collected and evaporated on the rotavap under reduced pressure. The product was purified by column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂) obtaining the product as a yellow solid. Yield: 9.6 mg (51%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 6.95 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 4H), 6.30 (s, 1H), 5.18 (t, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 3.42 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 6H), 2.40 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 2.32 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 2.24 (s, 6H), 2.12 (s, 6H), 2.06 (s, 6H), 1.64 – 1.57 (m, 4H), 1.31 – 1.25 (m, 4H), 1.04 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 168.2 (C_{NHC}), 151.3, 147.7, 145.7, 139.79, 139.75, 135.42, 135.39, 134.9, 131.1, 129.9, 129.55, 129.47, 128.7, 98.8, 72.6, 52.3, 32.0, 28.2, 22.9, 21.34, 21.27, 18.0, 17.8, 17.3, 15.2, 13.2, 12.2.

¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = -145.17 (q, $J(^{11}B^{-19}F) = 28$ Hz).

HRMS (ESI negative): m/z calcd. for $C_{43}H_{55}AuBCIF_2N_5O$: 938.38274 [M-H]⁻; found 938.38084.



Synthesis of B1. General Procedure D:

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 6.51 (s, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 3.50 (q, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H), 1.81 (h, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.08 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 4H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 148.3, 135.0, 132.2, 125.0, 123.9, 122.4, 114.9, 114.7, 113.8, 49.0, 22.3, 11.5.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₁₅BF₂N₃: 250.13216 [M+H]⁺; found 250.13233. Yield: 108 mg (87%).



Synthesis of B2. General Procedure D:

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 6.83 (s, 2H), 6.13 (s, 2H), 6.02 (s, 1H), 3.41 (q, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (s, 5H), 1.75 (h, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.04 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 147.5, 145.8, 123.3, 114.9, 48.8, 29.8, 22.6, 14.2, 11.5.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₁₄H₁₉BF₂N₃: 278.16346 [M+H]⁺; found 278.16357. Yield: 118 mg (85%).



Synthesis of B3. General Procedure D:

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 6.01 (s, 2H), 5.46 (s, 1H), 3.50 (q, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.50 (s, 6H), 2.36 (s, 6H), 1.70 (h, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 0.98 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 152.3, 147.4, 131.8, 123.2, 118.2, 54.4, 25.7, 15.7, 14.3, 11.3.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₁₆H₂₃BF₂N₃: 306.19476 [M+H]⁺; found 306.19482. Yield: 113 mg (74%).



Synthesis of B4. General Procedure D:

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 5.38 (s, 1H), 3.47 (q, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 2.47 (s, 6H), 2.42 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 2.29 (s, 6H), 1.69 (h, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.05 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 151.5, 145.2, 129.7, 128.6, 122.9, 54.5, 25.7, 17.3, 15.2, 13.3, 12.2, 11.4.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for $C_{20}H_{31}BF_2N_3$: 362.25736 [M+H]⁺; found 362.25743. Yield: 137 mg (76%).



Scheme S 1 Synthesis of blue Bodipy acetylene **21**. Reagents and conditions: a) Et₃N, Boc₂O, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 3 h; b) TMS-acetylene, Cul, [PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂], HN*i*Pr₂, rt, 24 h; c) TBAF, THF, rt, 60 min. d) TFA, CH₂Cl₂, 0°C, 60 min; then 8-SMe Bodipy^[4], Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂/ACN, rt, 24 h.



Synthesis of *tert*-butyl (4-bromophenethyl)carbamate. 2-(4-Bromophenyl)ethylamine (1.0 g, 5 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) and treated with Et₃N (1.05 mL, 7.5 mmol) and di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (1.43 g, 6.5 mmol). The solution was stirred at rt for 3 h. The reaction mixture was poured into 50 mL of water and washed with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 25 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (30 mL) and brine (30 mL), dried over MgSO₄ and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuum. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 3/1) to obtain the product as a white solid (1.28 g, 85%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 4.80 (bs, 1H), 3.28 (q, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.69 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.38 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 155.9, 138.1, 131.7, 130.6, 120.3, 41.7, 35.7, 28.5.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₁₃H₁₉BrNO₂: 300.05937 [M+H]⁺; found 300.05902.



Synthesis of *tert*-butyl (4-((trimethylsilyl)ethynyl)phenethyl)carbamate. A solution of *tert*-butyl (4-bromophenethyl) carbamate (500 mg, 1.67 mmol), Cul (29 mg, 0.15 mmol) and dichlorobis(triphenylphosphine)palladium (II) (50 mg, 0.07 mmol) in degassed $HNiPr_2$ (10 mL) was treated with TMS-acetylene (0.28 mL, 2.0 mmol) under nitrogen atmosphere, and stirred at rt for 3 h. The volatiles were evaporated on the rotavap under reduced pressure, the residue was dissolved in Et₂O (50 mL) and filtered through a celite plug, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuum. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/ 10) to yield *tert*-butyl (4-((trimethylsilyl)ethynyl)phenethyl)carbamate (291 mg, 55%) as a yellow solid.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 7.44 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 4.57 (s, 1H), 3.35 (q, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.79 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 0.26 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, chloroform-*d*) δ / ppm = 155.9, 139.7, 132.3, 128.8, 121.3, 105.1, 94.0, 41.7, 36.2, 28.5, 0.1.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for $C_{18}H_{28}NO_2Si$: 318.18838 [M+H]⁺; found 318.18887.



Synthesis of *tert*-butyl (4-ethynylphenethyl)carbamate. *Tert*-butyl(4-((trimethylsilyl)ethynyl)phenethyl)carbamate (250 mg, 0.79 mmol) was dissolved in freshly distilled THF (3 mL) and treated with a solution of TBAF in THF (1.58 mL, 1.58 mmol, 1 M in THF) and stirred at rt for 1 h. After evaporation of the solution on the rotavap under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/cyclohexane = 1/3) to yield tert-butyl (4-ethynylphenethyl)carbamate (184 mg, 95%) as a yellow oil.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 4.60 (s, 1H), 3.37 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.07 (s, 1H), 2.81 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 156.0, 140.2, 132.5, 129.0, 120.3, 83.7, 79.5, 54.0, 41.7, 36.3, 28.6, 20.9, 14.3.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₁₅H₁₉NNaO₂: 268.13080 [M+Na]⁺; found 268.13092.


Synthesis of 21. *Tert*-butyl (4-ethynylphenethyl)carbamate (100 mg, 0.41 mmol) was dissolved in 3 mL of CH₂Cl₂, the reaction mixture was cooled to 0°C and treated with trifluoroacetic acid (200 μ L) and stirred at rt for 1 h. The solution was evaporated and to the crude material was added 8-SMe Bodipy^[4] (110 mg, 0.41 mmol) and Et₃N (112 μ L, 0.8 mmol) in the solvent mixture 1:1 of CH₂Cl₂ and CH₃CN (2 mL), and the solution was stirred for 24 h at rt. Solvent removal on the rotavap under reduced pressure and purification by column chromatography on silica using CH₂Cl₂ as an eluent gave Bodipy **21** as a yellow solid (68 mg, 46%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.79 (s, 2H), 6.16 (s, 2H), 5.99 (s, 1H), 3.83 (q, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.10 (s, 1H), 3.07 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (s, 6H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ / ppm = 147.9, 145.5, 137.6, 133.1, 128.8, 123.3, 121.6, 115.3, 83.1, 78.0, 47.3, 34.9, 27.1, 14.3.

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for $C_{21}H_{21}BF_2N_3$: 364.17911 [M+H]⁺; found 364.17939.

$$F = N + IPr + IP$$

Synthesis of 22-dbu. A vial was charged with [AuCl(NHC_green)]^[5] (4.0 mg, 0.004 mmol, 1.0 eq) and 21 (1.5 mg, 0.004 mmol, 1.0 eq) and dissolved in a minimum amount of CH₂Cl₂ ~200 μ L. To the reaction mixture, DBU (3.0 μ L, 0.02 mmol, 5.0 eq) was added and the solution stirred at rt for 15 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL) and washed two times with brine (50 mL) and two times with water (50 mL). The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and the volatiles evaporated on the rotavap under reduced pressure. The remaining orange solid 22-dbu was used in further experiments without additional purification (5.9 mg, 99%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ / ppm = 7.55 (m, 2H, p-H_{Ar}), 7.35 (m, 4H, m-H_{Ar}), 7.23 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, *m*-H_{Ar-bdp}), 7.06 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, o-H_{Ar-bdp-blue}), 6.89 (br. s, 2H, γ -H bpd-blue), 6.45 (s, 1H, NC(OR)CHN), 6.17 (bs, 2H, β -H bdp-blue), 4.02 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H, alkyl chain -CH₂O-), 3.86 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H, alkyl chain -CH₂-Ar bdp-blue), 3.46 – 3.28 (m, 6H, DBU), 3.03 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H, alkyl chain -CH₂-NH-bdp-blue), 2.91 (m, 4H, DBU + alkyl chain CH₂ bdp-green), 2.75 – 2.56 (m, 4H, CH *i*Pr), 2.48 (s, 6H, CH₃ bdp-blue), 2.45 (s, 6H, CH₃ bdp-green), 2.43 – 2.37 (m, 4H, CH₂CH₃ bdp-green), 2.25 (s, 6H, CH₃ bdp-green), 2.12 - 1.89 (m, 2H, alkyl chain CH₂), 1.81 - 1.45 (m, 12H, DBU + alkyl chain), 1.41 - 1.31 (m, 12H, CH_3 *i*Pr), 1.26 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 6H, CH_3 *i*Pr), 1.21 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H, CH₃ *i*Pr), 1.05 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H, CH₂<u>CH₃</u> bdp-green).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ /ppm = 185.1 (C_{NHC}), 166.2, 152.1, 148.7, 148.5, 146.4, 146.0, 145.9, 145.7, 144.3, 135.8, 135.0, 134.2, 132.8, 132.4, 130.7, 130.6, 130.5, 130.4, 130.4, 128.3, 125.4, 124.2, 124.2, 124.1, 124.0, 99.6, 72.4, 48.7, 47.4, 43.9, 41.1, 37.9, 34.5, 32.0, 31.9, 31.3, 29.6. 29.6, 29.4, 29.1, 29.0, 28.7, 28.2, 26.6, 26.3, 24.6, 24.4, 24.1, 24.0, 23.88, 23.84, 23.77, 23.37, 23.29, 22.7.

¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ / ppm = -145.40 (q, *J*(¹¹B-¹⁹F) = 33 Hz) (green Bodipy), -147.51 (q, *J*(¹¹B-¹⁹F) = 28 Hz) (blue Bodipy).

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₇₀H₈₇AuB₂F₄N₇O: 1336.67545 [M+H]⁺; found 1336.67735.



Synthesis of 24-dbu. A vial was charged with [AuCl(NHC_red)] (6.1 mg, 0.004 mmol, 1.0 eq) and **21** (1.5 mg, 0.004 mmol, 1.0 eq) and dissolved in a minimum amount of $CH_2Cl_2 \sim 200 \ \mu$ L. To the reaction mixture, DBU (6.0 μ L, 0.02 mmol, 10 eq) was added and the solution was stirred at rt for 48 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (50 mL), and washed two times with brine (50 mL) and two times with water (50 mL). The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and the volatiles evaporated on the rotavap under reduced pressure. The remaining **24-dbu** as a red solid was used in further experiments without additional purification (8.0 mg, 99%).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 8.44 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.57 – 7.50 (m, 4H), 7.40 – 7.32 (m, 10H), 7.27 – 7.22 (m, 4H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.42 (s, 1H), 6.27 (s, 2H), 6.23 – 6.13 (m, 3H), 3.97 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 3.91 – 3.80 (m, 4H), 3.46 – 3.32 (m, 6H, DBU) 3.02 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.72 – 2.55 (m, 4H), 2.48 (s, 6H), 2.31 – 2.29 (m, 2H, DBU) 1.89 – 1.61 (m, 12H, DBU + alkyl chain), 1.38 – 1.19 (m, 40H, CH₃ *i*Pr + alkyl chain).

¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ -146.44 (q, $J(^{11}B^{-19}F) = 31$ Hz), -147.52 (q, $J(^{11}B^{-19}F) = 31$ Hz) (blue Bodipy).

HRMS (ESI positive): m/z calcd. for C₁₁₁H₁₀₄AuB₂F₄N₇O₂: 1862.8112 [M+H]⁺; found 1862.8116.

3. UV/Vis and Fluorescence Data

3.1 Evaluation of red-green FRET



Figure S 1 Individual absorbance spectra of Bodipys **11** and **4**, Bodipy dyad **12**, and Widenhoefer complex **16** in CH₂Cl₂ (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 2 Emission spectra of compounds 11 (λ_{ex} = 500 nm) and 14 (λ_{ex} = 620 nm) in CH₂Cl₂ (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 3 Excitation spectrum of Bodipy dyad 12 in CH₂Cl₂ (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 4 Concentration dependence of emission intensity for (a) **11** ($\lambda_{ex} = 500$ nm, $\lambda_{em,max} = 535$ nm) and (b) Bodipy **4** ($\lambda_{ex} = 620$ nm, $\lambda_{em,max} = 648$ nm) in CH₂Cl₂ (5.0 μ M). Red circles represent extrapolated emission intensities at the respective concentrations.



Figure S 5 Plot of excitation wavelength *vs.* ratio of emission intensities of individual compound **11** ($\lambda_{em,max} = 535$ nm) and **4** ($\lambda_{em,max} = 648$ nm) in CH₂Cl₂ (5.0 μ M). The maximum I_{535}/I_{648} value is 36.6 at 505 nm.



Figure S 6 Emission spectrum of individual compounds **11** and **4** in CH₂Cl₂ solution (5.0 μ M) photo-excited at 505 nm showed the maximum I_{535}/I_{648} value.

Procedure of FRET experiments. To a quartz cuvette containing a solution of gold acetylide complex **13** (5.0 μ M) or gold thiolate **15** (5.0 μ M) in CH₂Cl₂, a stock solution of gold-NTf₂ complex **14** (1.0 eq.) (stored at -20 °C until use), was added dropwise in one portion. The emission intensities at 535 and 648 nm were monitored every interval 5 seconds over the measurement time.

(a)



Figure S 7 (a) Time profile of emission intensities at 535 and 648 nm for a mixture of gold acetylide complex **13** (5.0 μ M) and gold-NTf₂ complex **14** (5.0 μ M) in CH₂Cl₂ (λ_{ex} = 505 nm). (b) Emission spectrum of **13** (5.0 μ M) in CH₂Cl₂ before and after addition of **14** (5.0 μ M) in (a).



(b)

(a)



Figure S 8 (a) Time profile of emission intensities at 535 and 648 nm for a mixture of gold thiolate complex **17** (5.0 μ M) and gold-NTf₂ complex **14** (5.0 μ M) in CH₂Cl₂ ($\lambda_{ex} = 505$ nm). (b) displayed range from 0 to 1 h of (a). (c) Emission spectrum of **17** (5.0 μ M) in CH₂Cl₂ before (0 h) and after addition of **14** (5.0 μ M) in (a).

3.2 Monitoring ion pairing using red-green FRET



FRET experiments. All experiments were carried out in quartz cuvettes with path lengths of 10.0 mm. A cuvette was charged with the respective Bodipy ion-paired dyad **18** (2.0 mL, 1.00 μ M) in toluene or 1,2-dichloroethane solution. Next, the measurement was started and the fluorescence intensity at the designated wavelength was observed (530 nm for the green emission and 648 nm for the red emission). After approximately 1 min (when the intensity of fluorescence signal remains constant), portions of freshly distilled DMAc or phenylacetylene in toluene solution (0.18M) were added to the cuvette (typical range 5 μ L - 100 μ L). After each aliquot, the fluorescence intensity at the specific wavelength was monitored. The next aliquot was added when the fluorescence level was found to remain constant after 30 s. The titration was terminated when addition of a new aliquot did not lead to further change in the fluorescence signal. The fluorescence data were finally corrected for dilution of the sample. In order to obtain the respective fluorescence intensity for the fully separated ion pair an (8M) solution of NBu₄Br in 1,2-dichloroethane was added (10 μ L, 0.08 mmol).



Figure S 9 Absorbance spectra of [Ag(bdpSO₃)] (green), (red) 14 and 18 (black) in toluene solution (2.0 μ M).



Figure S 10 Plot of excitation wavelength *vs.* observed fluorescence intensity for the corresponding [Ag(bdpSO₃)] ($l_{em,max} = 530$ nm) and for the red Bodipy ($l_{em,max} = 648$ nm) in **18** (close pair) in toluene solution (2.0 μ M).



Figure S 11 Plot of excitation wavelength *vs.* ratio of emission intensities of green Bodipy ($l_{em,max} = 530$ nm) and red Bodipy ($l_{em,max} = 648$ nm) components in **18** (close pair) in toluene solution (2.0 μ M).



Figure S 12 Plot of excitation wavelength *vs.* ratio of individual fluorophore emission intensities of [Ag(bdpSO₃)] (at $l_{em,max} = 530$ nm) and **14** (at $l_{em,max} = 648$ nm) in toluene solution (2.0 μ M).



Figure S 13 Plot of excitation wavelength *vs.* observed fluorescence intensity for the corresponding green Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 530$ nm) and for the red Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 648$ nm) components in **18** (not close pair) in toluene solution (2.0 μ M) after addition of NBu₄Br solution in 1,2-dichloroethane (8M, 10 μ L, 8.00 mmol).



Figure S 14 Plot of excitation wavelength *vs.* ratio of emission intensities for the corresponding green Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 530$ nm) and for the red Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 648$ nm) components in the separated cation and anion in dyad **18** in toluene solution (2.0 μ M) after addition (8M) solution of NBu₄Br in 1,2-dichloroethane (10 μ L, 8.00 mmol).



Scheme S 2 General reaction scheme for the FRET ion pair titration experiment.



Figure S 15 Plot of added volume of DMAc *vs.* change of fluorescence intensity (λ_{exc} = 500 nm) for the corresponding green Bodipy (at $l_{em,max}$ = 530 nm) and for the red Bodipy (at $l_{em,max}$ = 648 nm) components in **18** in toluene solution (1.0 μ M) after addition of DMAc. Simultaneous drop of the FRET fluorescence intensity signal at 648 nm and corresponding gain of intensity at 530 indicates a separation of **18** complex and separation of the FRET pair after the addition of the specific amount of DMAc.



Figure S 16 Plot of changes of the relative fluorescence intensity ($\lambda_{exc} = 500 \text{ nm}$) of acceptor red Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 648 \text{ nm}$) to donor green Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 530 \text{ nm}$) components in **18** in toluene solution (1.0 μ M) *vs.* volume of added dimethylacetamide.



Figure S 17 Plot of added volume of phenylacetylene solution (μ L) in toluene (c = 0.18 M, 10μ L = 900 eq) vs. change of fluorescence intensity ($\lambda_{exc} = 500$ nm) for the corresponding green Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 530$ nm) and for the red Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 648$ nm) components in the **18** in toluene solution (1.0 μ M).

3.3 Evaluation of the blue-green-red triad



FRET experiments. A quartz cuvette was filled with blue-green dyad **22-dbu** in 2 mL of 1,2-dichloroethane solution (5.0 μ M). Next, the measurement was started and the fluorescence intensity at the emission maximum of the corresponding fluorophore was observed at the designated wavelength (at 535 nm for the green emission and at 652 nm for the red emission). After approximately 1 min (once the fluorescence signal intensity remained constant), a solution of **14** (5 μ M, 1.0 eq) in 1,2-dichloroethane was added. The time of addition is indicated with arrows. After approx. 1-2 min more of the **14** complex solution (5 μ M, 1.0 eq) in 1,2-dichloroethane was added and a formation of the Widenhoefer dimer was observed.

The reported fluorescence are peak intensities. For selected examples, it was shown that changes in peak intensities are the same as changes in integrated intensities. This is possible since the Bodipy units are remote tags, which are not influenced to a significant extent by the nature of the organometallic complex.



Figure S 18 Emission spectra of **21**, [AuCl(NHC_green)] and **14** (at λ_{ex} = 423 nm) in 1,2-DCE (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 19 Absorbance spectra of blue-green dyad 22 (cyan) and 14 in 1,2-DCE (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 20 Absorbance spectra of blue-red 24 (pink), 14, 21 and [AuCl(NHC_green)] in 1,2-DCE (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 21 Plot of emission spectra of blue-red **24** complex (**pink**) and blue-green **22** (**cyan**) (at $\lambda_{ex} = 423$ nm) in 1,2-DCE (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 22 Plot of emission spectra (at $\lambda_{ex} = 423$ nm) of **21 (blue)** and absorbance spectra of [AuCl(NHC_green)] (green) in 1,2-DCE (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 23 Plot of emission spectra (at $\lambda_{ex} = 423$ nm) of **21** (blue) and absorbance spectra of **14** (red) in 1,2-DCE (5.0 μ M).

Triad or Dyad-Dyad. Convincing evidence for the chemical formation of the triad was presented. However, the absorption and emission spectra of the red and the blue Bodipy show some overlap and based on this, excitation energy can also be transferred from the blue Bodipy directly to the red Bodipy. If this were the predominant energy transfer mechanism, the triad would be better described as a dyad-dyad from a photophysical point of view. However, the overlap of the emission spectrum of the blue Bodipy with the absorption spectrum of the green Bodipy is much larger than the overlap with the absorption spectrum of the red Bodipy (Figs. S22, 23). Based on this it is likely, that the majority of the excitation energy is channeled along the blue-green-red triad. A simple experiment provides additional information. Blue phenyl acetylene 21 and [AuCl(NHC_red)] were reacted in the presence of dbu (analogous to the synthesis of 22) to provide 24 dbu (scheme 8) and the fluorescence monitored. The red fluorescence observed directly after mixing represents the cross-talk intensity, any additional red fluorescence observed during the slow formation of the dyad corresponds to the formation of the blue-red dyad and blue-red FRET, as does any decrease in the blue fluorescence. The formation of the dyad leads to an approx. 30% increase in the red emission, but the blue emission is at ca. 50% of the initial value. Based on this it is concluded, that the direct blue-red FRET is the minor pathway and the blue-green-red system reported is best described as a triad.



Figure S 24 Plot of excitation wavelength *vs.* observed fluorescence intensities for the corresponding blue-green dyad **22** system for the blue Bodipy component (at $l_{em,max}$ = 487 nm) and for the green Bodipy component (at $l_{em,max}$ = 535 nm) and for **14** (at $l_{em,max}$ = 652 nm) in 1,2-DCE solution (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 25 Plot of emission spectra of **14** complex in 1,2-DCE solution ($\lambda_{ex} = 423$ nm) at different concentrations (2.5 - 10.0 μ M).



Figure S 26 Plot of absorbance ratio of blue-green dyad **22** system to individual **14** complex ($\lambda_{ex,max} = 636$ nm) in 1,2-DCE solution (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 27 Left: Plot of excitation wavelength *vs.* ratio of emission intensities of blue Bodipy component (at $l_{em,max} = 487$ nm) relatively to green Bodipy component (at $l_{em,max} = 535$ nm) within the blue-green dyad **22** system in 1,2-DCE solution (5.0 μ M). Right: Plot of excitation wavelength *vs.* ratio of emission intensities of blue Bodipy component (at $l_{em,max} = 487$ nm) within the blue-green dyad **22** system relatively to the individual **14** complex (at $l_{em,max} = 652$ nm) in 1,2-DCE solution (5.0 μ M).



Scheme S 3 Reaction of the formation of the blue-green-red triad FRET system 23 via gold acetylide system 22.



Excitation wavelength 423 nm

Figure S 28 Plot of the time-dependent fluorescence intensities (subtracted values of red cross-talk intensity) for the green Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 535$ nm) and (at $l_{em,max} = 652$ nm) for the red Bodipy components at $\lambda_{exc} = 423$ nm within the formed blue-green-red triad **23** after additions of **14** complex (n eq). Initial concentration of complexes in 1,2-DCE solution (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 29 Plot of the time-dependent fluorescence intensities for the blue Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 487 \text{ nm}$), for the green Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 535 \text{ nm}$) and for the red Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 652 \text{ nm}$) components at $\lambda_{exc} = 423 \text{ nm}$ within the formed blue-green-red triad **23** after additions of **14** complex (n eq). Initial concentration of complexes in 1,2-DCE (5.0 μ M).



Excitation wavelength 500 nm

Figure S 30 Plot of the time-dependent fluorescence intensities for the green Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 535 \text{ nm}$) and for the green Bodipy (at $l_{em,max} = 652 \text{ nm}$) components at $\lambda_{exc} = 500 \text{ nm}$ within the blue-green-red triad **23** after additions of **14** complex (1.0 eq). Initial concentration of complexes in 1,2-DCE (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 31 Emission spectra (λ_{ex} = 423 nm) of triad system **23** in 5.0 µM 1,2-DCE solution before (black = blue-green dyad **22**) and after addition of **14** solution (2.5 - 12.5 µM / 0.5 – 2.5 eq) in 1,2-DCE.



Figure S 32 Emission spectra ($\lambda_{ex} = 423$ nm) of dyad system **22** (solid line) in 5.0 μ M 1,2-DCE solution before and after addition of (2.5 - 10 μ M / 0.5 – 2.0 eq) **14** solution in 1,2-DCE. Emission spectra of individual **14** in different concentrations (2.5 - 10.0 μ M) (dashed line) in 1,2-DCE solution.

3.4 Fluorescence and absorbance spectra for synthesized complexes



Figure S 33 Absorbance (black) and emission (red, $\lambda_{exc} = 636$ nm) spectra of [AuCl(NHC_red)] complex in 1,2-dichloroethane solution.



Figure S 34 Absorbance (black) and emission (red, $\lambda_{exc} = 636$ nm) spectra of [CuBr(8)] complex in 1,2-dichloroethane solution (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 35 Absorbance (black) and emission (red, $\lambda_{exc} = 636$ nm) spectra of [RhCl(cod)(8)] complex in 1,2-dichloroethane solution (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 36 Absorbance (black) and emission (red, $\lambda_{exc} = 636$ nm) spectra of [AuCl(8)] complex in 1,2-dichloroethane solution (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 37 Absorbance (black) and emission (red, $\lambda_{exc} = 636$ nm) spectra of [IrCl(cod)(8)] complex in 1,2-dichloroethane solution (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 38 Absorbance (black) and emission (red, $\lambda_{exc} = 523$ nm) spectra of [IrCl(cod)(9)] in 1,2-dichloroethane solution (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 39 Absorbance (black) and emission (red, $\lambda_{exc} = 523$ nm) spectra of [Pd(allyl)Cl(9)] in 1,2-dichloroethane solution (5.0 μ M).



Figure S 40 Left: absorbance (black) and emission (red, $\lambda_{exc} = 444$ nm) spectra of Coumarin 153 in ethanol solution. Right: integrated fluorescence intensity *vs.* absorbance plot for Coumarin 153.

3.5 Fluorescence quantum yield



Figure S 41 Left: absorbance (black) and emission (red, $\lambda_{exc} = 444$ nm) spectra of **20** complex in 1,2-dichloroethane solution. Right: integrated fluorescence intensity *vs.* absorbance plot for **20** complex.

Quantum yield was determined according to the literature procedure (U. Resch-Genger, K. Rurack, *Pure Appl. Chem.*, **2013**, 85, 2005–2026) using Coumarin 153 (from Sigma-Aldrich, BioReagent, suitable for fluorescence) as the standard. Absorption and emission spectra were obtained over a range of concentrations (100 nM to 0.5 μ M, in 1,2-dichloroethane), where a linear correlation between concentration and absorption was observed. The absorbance was within the range of 0.01 to 0.10. The quantum yield was calculated according to the equation:

$$\varphi_x = \varphi_{st}(\frac{r_x}{r_{st}})(\frac{\eta_x}{\eta_{st}})^2$$

where the subscripts *st* and *x* denote standard and test respectively, φ_x is the fluorescence quantum yield, *r* is the gradient from the plot of integrated fluorescence intensity vs. absorbance, and η is the refractive index of the solvent. $\varphi_{st} = 0.95$ in EtOH.

 φ (**20**) = 0.35

4. NMR Spectra



Red Bodipy derivatives

Figure S 42 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 10 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 43 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 10 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 44 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 4 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 45 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 4 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 46 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 5-HBr in CDCl₃.



Figure S 47 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 5·HBr in CDCl₃.



Figure S 48 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 7 · HBr in CDCl₃.






Bodipy-tagged metal complexes



Figure S 52 ¹H-NMR spectrum of [CuBr(8)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 53 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of [CuBr(8)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 54 ¹H-NMR spectrum of [AuCl(8)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 55 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of [AuCl(8)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 56 ¹H-NMR spectrum of [RhCl(cod)(8)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 57 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of [RhCl(cod)(8)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 58 ¹H-NMR spectrum of [IrCl(cod)(8)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 59 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of [IrCl(cod)(8)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 60 ¹H-NMR spectrum of [Pd(allyl)Cl(8)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 61 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of [Pd(allyl)Cl(8)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 62 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 9 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 63 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 9 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 64 ¹H-NMR spectrum of [AuCl(9)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 65 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of [AuCl(9)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 66 ¹H-NMR spectrum of [RhCl(cod)(9)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 67 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of [RhCl(cod)(9)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 68 ¹H-NMR spectrum of [IrCl(cod)(9)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 69 13 C-NMR spectrum of [IrCl(cod)(9)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 70 ¹H-NMR spectrum of [Pd(allyl)Cl(9)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 71 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of [Pd(allyl)Cl(9)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 72 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 12 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 73 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 12 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 74 ¹H-NMR spectrum of [AuCl(NHC_red)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 75 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of [AuCl(NHC_red)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 76 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 14 in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 77 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 14 in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 78 ¹H-NMR spectrum of [AuCl(NHC_green)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 79 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of [AuCl(NHC_green)] in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 80 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 15 in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 81 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 15 in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 82 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 16 in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 83 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 16 in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 84 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 17 in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 85 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 17 in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 86 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 18 in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 87 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 18 in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 88 ¹⁹F-NMR spectrum of 18 in CD₂Cl₂.

Blue Bodipy derivatives



Figure S 89 ¹H-NMR spectrum of IMes-HCI in CDCI₃.



Figure S 90 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of IMes-HCI in CDCI₃.



Figure S 91 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 19 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 92 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of **19** in CDCl₃.



Figure S 93 ¹⁹F-NMR spectrum of **19** in CDCl₃.



Figure S 94 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 20 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 95 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 20 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 96 ¹⁹F-NMR spectrum of 20 in CDCI₃.



Figure S 97 ¹H-NMR spectrum of B1 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 98 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of B1 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 99 ¹H-NMR spectrum of B2 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 100 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of B2 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 101 ¹H-NMR spectrum of B3 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 102 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of B3 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 103 ¹³H-NMR spectrum of B4 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 104 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of B4 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 105 ¹H-NMR spectrum of *tert*-butyl (4-bromophenethyl)carbamate in CDCl₃.



Figure S 106 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of *tert*-butyl (4-bromophenethyl)carbamate in CDCl₃.



Figure S 107 ¹H-NMR spectrum of *tert*-butyl (4-((trimethylsilyl)ethynyl)phenethyl) carbamate in CDCl₃.



Figure S 108 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of *tert*-butyl (4-((trimethylsilyl)ethynyl)phenethyl) carbamate in CDCl₃.



Figure S 109 ¹H-NMR spectrum of *tert*-butyl (4-ethynylphenethyl)carbamate in CDCl₃.



Figure S 110 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of *tert*-butyl (4-ethynylphenethyl)carbamate in CDCl₃.



Figure S 111 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 21 in CDCl₃.



Figure S 112 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 21 in CDCl₃.

Blue-green-red triad



Figure S 113 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 22-dbu in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 114 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of 22-dbu in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 115 ¹⁹F-NMR spectrum of 22-dbu in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 116 ¹H-NMR spectrum of 24-dbu in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S 117 ¹⁹F-NMR spectrum of 24-dbu in CD₂Cl₂.

IPrAuNTf₂ + DBU interaction



Figure S 118 ¹H-NMR spectrum of IPrAuNTf₂ in CDCl₃.



Figure S 119 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of IPrAuNTf₂ in CDCl₃.



Figure S 120 ¹H-NMR spectrum of DBU in CDCl₃.



Figure S 121 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of DBU in CDCl₃.



Figure S 122 ¹H-NMR spectrum of IPrAuNTf₂ + DBU (1:1 mixture) in CDCl₃.



Figure S 123 ¹³C-NMR spectrum of IPrAuNTf₂ + DBU (1:1 mixture) in CDCl₃.
5. High-resolution mass spectrometry



Figure S 124 HRMS spectrum of 10. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 125 HRMS spectrum of 14. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 126 HRMS spectrum of 5-HBr. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 127 HRMS spectrum of 7-HBr. (ESI Positive)



Accurate Mass Measurement

Figure S 128 HRMS spectrum of 8-HBr. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 129 HRMS spectrum of [CuBr(8)]. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 130 HRMS spectrum of [AuCl(8)]. (ESI Positive)



Accurate Mass Measurement

Figure S 131 HRMS spectrum of [RhCl(cod)(8)]. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 132 HRMS spectrum of [IrCl(cod)(8)]. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 133 HRMS spectrum [Pd(allyl)Cl(8)]. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 134 HRMS spectrum of 9-HBr. (ESI Positive)



Accurate Mass Measurement

Figure S 135 HRMS spectrum of [RhCl(cod)(9)]. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 136 HRMS spectrum of [IrCl(cod)(9)]. (ESI Positive)



Accurate Mass Measurement

Figure S 137 HRMS spectrum of [Pd(allyl)Cl(9)]. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 138 HRMS spectrum of 12. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 139 HRMS spectrum of [AuCl (NHC_red)]. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 140 HRMS spectrum of 15. (ESI Positive)

Mass spectrum



Figure S 141 HRMS spectrum of 18. (ESI Negative)



Figure S 142 HRMS spectrum of 18. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 143 HRMS spectrum of IMes-HCI. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 144 HRMS spectrum of 19. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 145 HRMS spectrum of 20. (ESI Negative)



Figure S 146 HRMS spectrum of 20. (ESI Positive)



| # | Meas. m/z | m/z | Ion Formula | Adduct | Sum Formula | err [mDa] | err [ppm] | mSigma | e [¯] Conf | Z |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------------|--------|-------------|------------|------------|--------|---------------------|----|
| 1 | 230.12607 | 230.12593 | C12H14BFN3 | M | C12H14BFN3 | 0.09 | 0.37 | 7.0 | even | 1+ |
| 1 | 250.13233 | 250.13216 | C12H15BF2N3 | M+H | C12H14BF2N3 | 0.06 | 0.23 | 11.7 | even | 1+ |
| 1 | 272.11428 | 272.11411 | C12H14BF2N3Na | M+Na | C12H14BF2N3 | 0.05 | 0.17 | 4.6 | even | 1+ |
| 1 | 521.23992 | 521.23899 | C24H28B2F4N6Na | 2M+Na | C12H14BF2N3 | 0.10 | 0.18 | 2.2 | even | 1+ |

Figure S 147 HRMS spectrum of B1. (ESI Positive)



| # | Meas. m/z | m/z | Ion Formula | Adduct | Sum Formula | err [mDa] | err [ppm] | mSigma | e Conf | Z |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------------|--------|-------------|------------|------------|--------|--------|----|
| 1 | 230.16516 | 230.16517 | C14H20N3 | Μ | C14H20N3 | 0.02 | 0.07 | 9.8 | even | 1+ |
| 1 | 258.15732 | 258.15723 | C14H18BFN3 | Μ | C14H18BFN3 | 0.17 | 0.65 | 3.7 | even | 1+ |
| 1 | 278.16357 | 278.16346 | C14H19BF2N3 | M+H | C14H18BF2N3 | 0.15 | 0.54 | 3.0 | even | 1+ |
| 1 | 300.14555 | 300.14541 | C14H18BF2N3Na | M+Na | C14H18BF2N3 | 0.12 | 0.39 | 7.2 | even | 1+ |
| 1 | 577.30263 | 577.30159 | C28H36B2F4N6Na | 2M+Na | C14H18BF2N3 | 0.08 | 0.14 | 19.1 | even | 1+ |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

Figure S 148 HRMS spectrum of B2. (ESI Positive)



| # | Meas. m/z | m/z | Ion Formula | Adduct | Sum Formula | err [mDa] | err [ppm] | mSigma | e Conf | Z |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------------|--------|-------------|------------|------------|--------|--------|----|
| 1 | 258.19642 | 258.19647 | C16H24N3 | M | C16H24N3 | 0.06 | 0.22 | 6.3 | even | 1+ |
| 1 | 286.18863 | 286.18853 | C16H22BFN3 | M | C16H22BFN3 | 0.20 | 0.70 | 5.1 | even | 1+ |
| 1 | 306.19482 | 306.19476 | C16H23BF2N3 | M+H | C16H22BF2N3 | 0.24 | 0.78 | 2.6 | even | 1+ |
| 1 | 328.17681 | 328.17671 | C16H22BF2N3Na | M+Na | C16H22BF2N3 | 0.19 | 0.59 | 9.3 | even | 1+ |
| 1 | 633.36517 | 633.36419 | C32H44B2F4N6Na | 2M+Na | C16H22BF2N3 | 0.10 | 0.16 | 5.4 | even | 1+ |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

Figure S 149 HRMS spectrum of B3. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 150 HRMS spectrum of B4. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 151 HRMS spectrum of *tert*-butyl (4-bromophenethyl)carbamate. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 152 HRMS spectrum of *tert*-butyl (4-((trimethylsilyl)ethynyl)phenethyl)carbamate. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 153 HRMS spectrum of *tert*-butyl (4-ethynylphenethyl)carbamate. (ESI Positive)



Accurate Mass Measurement

Figure S 154 HRMS spectrum of 21. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 155 HRMS spectrum of 22-dbu. (ESI Positive)



Figure S 141 HRMS spectrum of 22-dbu. (ESI Negative)



 # Meas. m/z
 m/z Ion Formula
 Adduct Sum Formula
 |err| [mDa] |err| [ppm] mSigma e⁻ Conf z

 1
 1862.8116
 1862.8112
 C111H105AuB2F4N7O2
 M+H
 C111H104AuB2F4N7O2
 2.5
 1.4
 409.4 even
 1+

Figure S 156 HRMS spectrum of 24-dbu. (ESI Positive)

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