Spontaneously Hierarchical Self-assembly of Nanofibres into Fluorescent Spherical Particles:

A Leap from Organogels to Macroscopic Solid Spheres

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Figure S1. Dynamic oscillatory data for SY1/EA gel (13 mg/mL) at 25°C. (a) Strain sweep at a frequency of 1 Hz. (b) Frequency sweep at a strain of 0.1%.

Figure S2. SEM images of the transformed solid from gel in the concentration of a) 15 mg/mL and b) 20 mg/mL.
Figure S3. Fluorescence spectra of hot solution, gel and SY1-ball.

Figure S4. SEM images of the liquid phase after the formation of SY1-balls. The images were measured after the solvent is evaporated.

Figure S5. a) TGA and b) DSC curves of as-prepared SY1 powder (black) and SY1-ball (red).
Figure S6. Molecular structure of the other triphenylamine derivatives which we have tried to mix with SY1 in toluene.

Figure S7. EDS analysis results of ST-ball for a) shell and b) core and the corresponding elements content. C) SEM photograph and elemental mapping images of ST-ball for d) O and e) Br with color superposition (O: purple, Br: blue).

Figure S8. Packing mode of TPA1 in the single crystal, the π-π, Br···Br and H···O H-bonding interactions are clearly indicated. Different atoms are denoted in different colors (O: red, Br: brown, N: blue, C: gray, H: white).
Figure S9. Responses of SY1-balls to various metal ions under a) day light, and b) 365 nm UV light.

Figure S10. EDS spectra of SY1-balls after treatment with a) Hg$^{2+}$, b) Fe$^{3+}$, c) all the tested ions.

Figure S11. SEM image of SY1-ball after adsorbing Fe$^{3+}$ or Hg$^{2+}$.