## **Supporting Information**

Unveiling the effects of *in situ* generated arene anion radical and imine radical on catecholase like activity: A DFT supported experimental investigation

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Fig. S1 FTIR spectrum of complex 1.



Fig. S2 FTIR spectrum of complex 2







(b)

Fig. S3 UV-Vis spectra of complexes.



Fig.S4 ESI-MS spectrum of complex 1.



Fig. S5 ESI-MS spectrum of complex 2.



(b) Fig. S6 Cyclic voltammetry of (a) complex 1 and (b) complex 2



Fig. S7 Solid UV-Vis spectra of complexes.



**Fig. S8** Detection of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> formation during oxidation of 3,5-DTBC observed spectrophotometrically



(b)

Fig. S9 (a) Dependence of rate of reaction on substrate concentration for Complex 1 and  $2(100 \ \mu\text{M})$  and (b) Lineweaver–Burk plots for Complex 1 and 2 at 25°C in Acetonitrile (100  $\ \mu\text{M}$ ) for oxidation of Catechol



Fig. S10 ESI-MS spectra of reaction mixture of complex 1 and 3,5-DTBC recorded at different time interval.



Fig. S11 ESI-MS spectra of reaction mixture of complex 2 and 3,5-DTBC recorded at different time interval.



**Table S1** Selected parameters for vertical excitation (UV-vis absorptions) of 1 and 2. Electronic excitation energies (eV), oscillator strengths (*f*), configurations of the two lowest lying excited states of 1 and 2; calculation of the  $S_0-S_n$  energy gaps based on optimized ground-state geometries (UV-vis absorption) (CH<sub>3</sub>CN used as solvent)

Process	Electronic	Composition	Excitation energy	Oscillator	$\lambda_{exp}$ (nm)
	transitions		(λ)	strength	_
				(f)	
Complex 1					
Absorption	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$	$HOMO \rightarrow$	1.4238 eV (871	0.0002	050 080
		LUMO (100%)	nm)		930-980
Absorption	$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$	$HOMO \rightarrow$	1.8920 eV (655	0.0045	
		LUMO+1	nm)		610-690
		(96%)			
Complex 2					
Absorption	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$	$HOMO \rightarrow$	1.2853 eV (965	0.0029	050 090
		LUMO (100%)	nm)		930-980
Absorption	$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$	$HOMO-1 \rightarrow$	2.0339 eV (610	0.0104	
		LUMO (36%)	nm)		
		$HOMO-2 \rightarrow$			610 600
		LUMO (13%)			010-090
		$HOMO-3 \rightarrow$			
		LUMO (51%)			



**Fig. S13**Frontier molecular orbitals involved in the two lowest UV-vis absorption bands of complex **1** in acetonitrile.



Fig. S14 Frontier molecular orbitals involved in the two lowest UV-vis absorption bands of complex 2 in acetonitrile.