



**Figure S1.** (left) CVs of 0.1mM Mn16-Cs (top) and Mn16-Rb (bottom) in 0.5M NaAc+HAc (pH 7) solutions at scan rates of 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500 mV/s, ITO electrode. (right) The relationships of square root of scan rates *vs* the oxidation peak currents of Mn<sup>4+</sup>.



Figure S2. UV-vis spectrum of Mn16-Cs (8.33\*10<sup>-6</sup>M) in solution.



Figure S3. UV-vis spectrum of Mn16-Rb (8.33\*10<sup>-6</sup>M) in solution.



**Figure S4.** (left) CVs of the films  $[PDDA/Mn16-Cs]_6$  (top) and  $[PDDA/Mn16-Rb]_6$  (bottom) in 0.5M NaAc + HAc (pH 7) solutions at scan rates of 40, 60, 80, 100, 120, 140, 160, 180 mV/s on ITO surfaces. (right) The lines show the relationships of scan rates *vs* the oxidation peak currents of Mn<sup>4+</sup>.



**Figure S5.** CVs of the films [PDDA/Mn16-Cs]<sub>3</sub> (top) and [PDDA/Mn16-Rb]<sub>3</sub> (bottom) on GCE electrodes with different pH (5, 6, 7) at scan rate of 50 mV/s.



Figure S6. XPS spectra of the films [PDDA/Mn16-Cs]<sub>10</sub>.



Figure S7. XPS spectra of the films [PDDA/Mn16-Rb]<sub>10</sub>.



**Figure S8.** UV-vis spectrum of Rubpy (2.14\*10<sup>-5</sup>M) in solution.



**Figure S9.** (left) CVs of the films  $[Mn16-Cs/Rubpy]_6$  (top) and  $[Mn16-Rb/Rubpy]_6$  (bottom) in 0.5M NaAc + HAc (pH 7) solutions at scan rates of 40, 60, 80, 100, 120, 140, 160, 180 mV/s on ITO surfaces. (right) The lines show the relationships of scan rates *vs* the oxidation peak currents.



Figure S10. XPS spectra of the films [Rubpy/Mn16-Cs]<sub>10</sub>.



Figure S11. XPS spectra of the films [Rubpy/Mn16-Rb]<sub>10</sub>.



SRD: 3.714 nm



SRD: 5.4 nm

SRD: 5.634 nm

Figure S12. AFM top images of the film [PDDA/Mn16-Rb]<sub>2</sub> (a), [PDDA/Mn16-Cs]<sub>2</sub> (b), [Mn16-Rb/Rubpy]<sub>2</sub> (c) and [Mn16-Cs/Rubpy]<sub>2</sub> (d) on ITO substrates in the scanning range of 1.5  $\mu$ m (a,b) and 3  $\mu$ m (c,d).



**Figure S13.** (top) The CVs of the films (PDDA/Mn16-Cs)<sub>6</sub> (left) and (PDDA/Mn16-Rb)<sub>6</sub> (right); (bottom) the CV cycles of the films (Mn16-Cs/Rubpy)<sub>3</sub> (left) and (Mn16-Rb/Rubpy)<sub>3</sub> (right) in their original states and after three days in 0.5M NaAc + HAc solution (pH 7) recorded on ITO at a scan rate of 50 mV/s. The black lines show the CVs before three days and the red lines show the CVs after three days



**Figure S14.** XPS spectra of the films [PDDA/Mn16-Cs]<sub>10</sub> after a long water oxidation process.



**Figure S15.** XPS spectra of the films [PDDA/Mn16-Rb]<sub>10</sub> after a long water oxidation process.



**Figure S16.** XPS spectra of the films [Rubpy/Mn16-Cs]<sub>10</sub> after a long water oxidation process.



**Figure S17.** XPS spectra of the films [Rubpy/Mn16-Rb]<sub>10</sub> after a long water oxidation process.