## **Supporting Information**

## A highly selective TPE-based AIE fluorescent probe for silver ion

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Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound (1) in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S2.  $^{13}$ C NMR spectrum of compound (1) in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S3. High-resolution mass spectrum of compound (1).



Figure S4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound (3) in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S5. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound (3) in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S6. High-resolution mass spectrum of compound (3).



Figure S7. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound (4) in DMSO-*d*6.



Figure S8.  $^{13}$ C NMR spectrum of compound (4) in DMSO-*d*6.

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Figure S9. High-resolution mass spectrum of compound (4).



Figure S10 Emission spectra and excitation spectra of TBI-TPE CH<sub>3</sub>OH/ water=80 %, concentration = 10  $\mu$ M. Ex=335 nm, Em=525 nm.



Figure S11 Emission spectra and excitation spectra of TBI-TPE in CH\_3OH in the presence of Ag<sup>+</sup> (4  $\mu M$ ). Ex=370 nm, Em=525 nm.



Figure S12 SEM image of complex



Figure S13 The effect of pH on the fluorescence intensities at 525 nm between Ag+ and the probe (TBI-TPE=4  $\mu$ M, Ag<sup>+</sup> =12  $\mu$ M). ( $\lambda_{ex}$  = 370 nm)



Figure S14 Images of TBI-TPE in presence of a series of metal ions under UV light illumination ( $\lambda_{ex}$ = 365 nm).