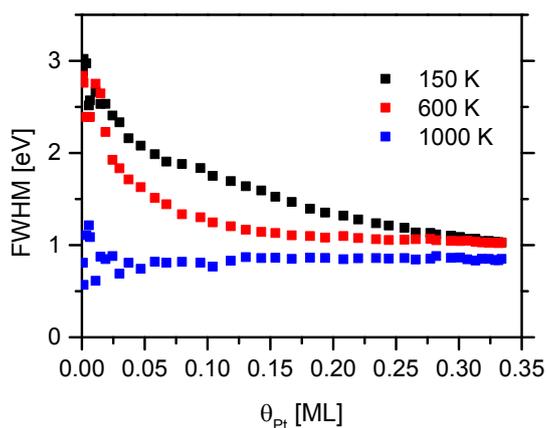
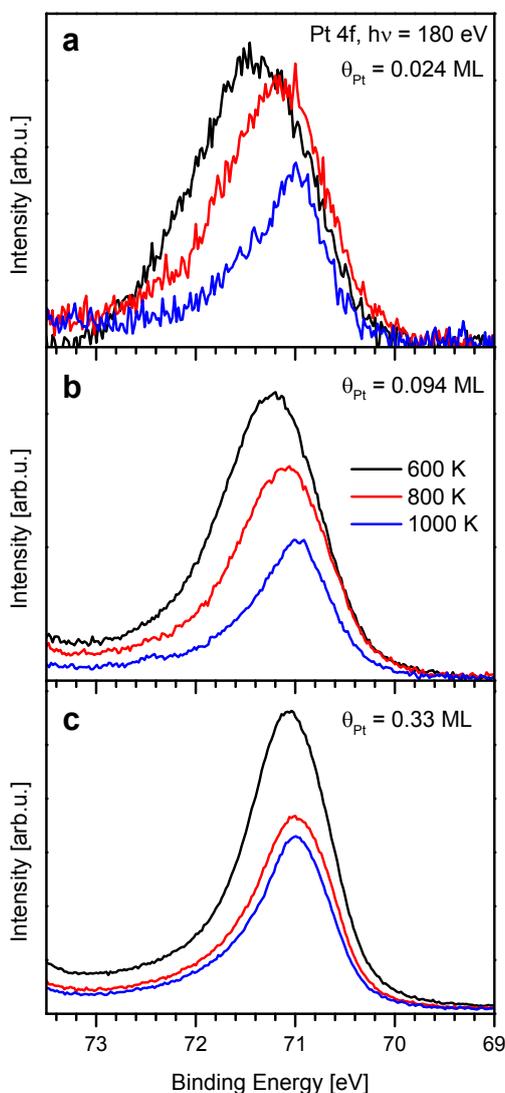


## Supporting Information



**Figure S1:** Full width at half maximum for Pt  $4f_{7/2}$  spectra of Pt nanoclusters on h-BN/Rh(111) prepared and recorded at 150 K and after annealing to 600 and 1000 K.  $h\nu = 180$  eV.



**Figure S2:** Selected Pt  $4f_{7/2}$  XP-spectra measured after annealing Pt nanocluster arrays on h-BN/Rh(111) to 600, 800 and 1000 K for  $\theta_{Pt} = 0.024$ , 0.094, and 0.33 ML.

## Additional supporting material:

### STM movies

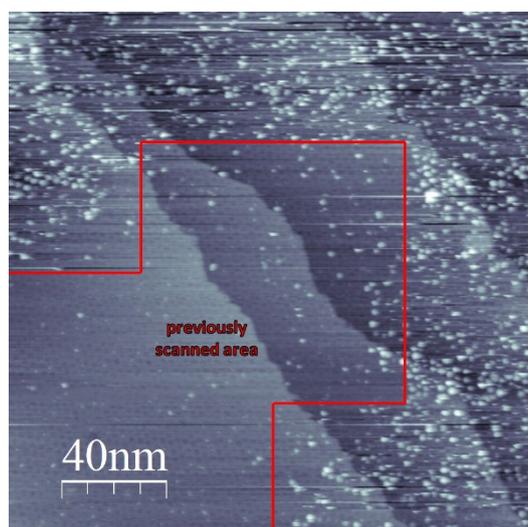
#### Stability of the clusters over time under UHV conditions

**180426\_20.avi:** STM video of 0.005 ML Pt clusters on hBN/Rh(111) covering 63 min at RT.  $U = -1.0$  V,  $I = 1.0$  nA.

**180507\_20:** STM video of 0.09 ML Pt clusters on hBN/Rh(111) covering 30 min at RT.  $U = -1.0$  V,  $I = 1.0$  nA.

#### Stability of the clusters in a CO atmosphere

**180420\_21and22.avi:** STM video of 0.09 ML Pt clusters on hBN/Rh(111) covering 169 min at RT. The Pt clusters are stable for 47 min. Then, upon dosing of  $2E-10$  mbar CO, the clusters are rapidly removed from the h-BN pores.  $U = 1.0$  V,  $I = 1.0$  nA.



**Figure S3:** STM image of a larger region after removal of Pt clusters including the same area of "180420\_21and22.avi" proves that the cluster depletion is tip induced.  $U = 1.0$  V,  $I = 1.0$  nA.