Hexafluorosilicate anion in formation of coordination cage: anion competition

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Electronic supplementary information (ESI) available: IR spectra and TGA-DSC curves of

 $[(SiF_6)@Cu_2L_4](BF_4)_2 \cdot MeOH, [(SiF_6)@Cu_2L_4](SiF_6) \cdot 6MeOH and [Cu(PF_6)_2L_2] \cdot C_3H_6O;$

 $\label{eq:crystallographic data of [(SiF_6) @Cu_2L_4](BF_4)_2 \cdot MeOH, [(SiF_6) @Cu_2L_4](SiF_6) \cdot 6 MeOH and \\$

 $[Cu(PF_6)_2L_2] \cdot C_3H_6O; UV \text{ spectra of } [(SiF_6)@Cu_2L_4](BF_4)_2 \cdot MeOH,$

 $[(SiF_6)@Cu_2L_4](SiF_6) \cdot 6 MeOH, [Cu(PF_6)_2L_2] \cdot C_3H_6O \text{ and } Cu(BF_4)_2; ESI-TOF-MS \text{ of } Cu(BF_6)@Cu_2L_4](SiF_6) \cdot 6 MeOH, [Cu(PF_6)_2L_2] \cdot C_3H_6O \text{ and } Cu(BF_4)_2; ESI-TOF-MS \text{ of } Cu(BF_6)@Cu_2L_4](SiF_6) \cdot 6 MeOH, [Cu(PF_6)_2L_2] \cdot C_3H_6O \text{ and } Cu(BF_4)_2; ESI-TOF-MS \text{ of } Cu(BF_6)@Cu_2L_4](SiF_6) \cdot 6 MeOH, [Cu(PF_6)_2L_2] \cdot C_3H_6O \text{ and } Cu(BF_4)_2; ESI-TOF-MS \text{ of } Cu(BF_6)@Cu_2L_4](SiF_6) \cdot 6 MeOH, [Cu(PF_6)_2L_2] \cdot C_3H_6O \text{ and } Cu(BF_4)_2; ESI-TOF-MS \text{ of } Cu(BF_6)@Cu_2L_4](SiF_6) \cdot 6 MeOH, [Cu(PF_6)_2L_4] \cdot C_3H_6O \text{ and } Cu(BF_6)@Cu_4D_4] \cdot C_4M_6O \text{ and } Cu(BF_6)@Cu_4D_4]$

[(SiF₆)@Cu₂L₄](BF₄)₂·MeOH; ¹³C NMR spectra of 1,2-bis(dimethyl(pyridin-3-

yl)silyl)ethane. CCDC 1955858, 1955860, 1955861. For ESI and crystallographic data in CIF or other electronic format see DOI:

1,2-bis(dimethyl(pyridin-3-yl)silyl)ethane (L)



[(SiF₆)@Cu₂L₄](BF₄)₂·MeOH





 $[Cu(PF_6)_2L_2] \cdot C_3H_6O$



Fig. S1 IR spectra of 1,2-bis(dimethyl(pyridin-3-yl)silyl)ethane (L), $[(SiF_6)@Cu_2L_4](BF_4)_2$ ·MeOH, $[(SiF_6)@Cu_2L_4](SiF_6)$ ·6MeOH and $[Cu(PF_6)_2L_2]$ ·C₃H₆O







Fig. S2 TG and DSC curves of $[(SiF_6)@Cu_2L_4](BF_4)_2 \cdot MeOH$, $[(SiF_6)@Cu_2L_4](SiF_6) \cdot 6MeOH$ and $[Cu(PF_6)_2L_2] \cdot C_3H_6O$

























Fig. S3 Packing structures and asymmetric units of $[(SiF_6)@Cu_2L_4](BF_4)_2$ ·MeOH, $[(SiF_6)@Cu_2L_4](SiF_6)$ ·6MeOH and $[Cu(PF_6)_2L_2]$ ·C₃H₆O.



[(SiF₆)@Cu₂L₄](SiF₆)·6MeOH





Wavelength (nm)

Fig. S4 UV spectral change on the catechol oxidation catalysis using the following catalyst.



Fig. S5 Electrospray time of flight ionization mass spectrometry (ESI-TOF-MS) data of $[(SiF_6)@Cu_2L_4](BF_4)_2$ ·MeOH. m/z range 0-4000 (top), m/e range 1100-1650 (bottom). m/z for $[(SiF_6)@Cu_2L_4](BF_4) \cdot MeOH^+ = 1589.46; m/z \text{ for } [(SiF_6)@Cu_2L_4](BF_4)^+ = 1557.41$

1250 1275 1300 1325 1350 1375 1400 1425 1450 1475 1500 1525 1550 1575 1600 1625

20191031_01_Sample01_PNU_HRP_2 13 (0.277) AM2 (Ar,30000.0,0.00,0.00); Cm(4:38) 301.1563

.1158.3002

1125 1150 1175 1200 1225

1134,300

0

1: TOF MS ES+ 9.86e6



Fig. S6 ¹³C NMR spectra of 1,2-bis(dimethyl(pyridin-3-yl)silyl)ethane (L)