

## Supporting Information

### A solid-state molecular capsule based on *p*-Sulfonatocalix[7]arene and dicationic Diquat guest

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**General Comments.** ESI(+)-MS measurements were performed on a Micromass Bio-Q triple quadrupole mass spectrometer equipped with electrospray ion source, using a mixture of H<sub>2</sub>O/CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1) and 5% HCOOH as solvent. All chemicals were reagent grade and were used without further purification.

Reaction temperatures were measured externally; reactions were monitored by TLC on Merck silica gel plates (0.25 mm) and visualized by UV light and spraying with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>-Ce(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>. *p*-*tert*-butylcalix[7]arene was prepared following the procedure reported by Gutsche.<sup>1</sup> *p*-sulfonatocalix[7]arene was prepared following the procedure reported recently by us.<sup>2</sup> NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance-400 spectrometer [400 (<sup>1</sup>H) and 100.57 MHz (<sup>13</sup>C)].

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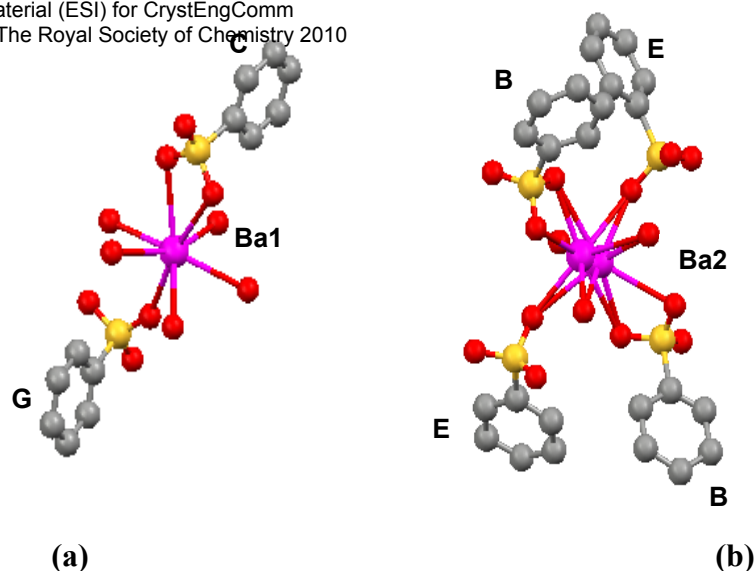
<sup>1</sup> D. R. Stewart, C. D. Gutsche, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1999, **121**, 4136.

<sup>2</sup> C. Gaeta, T. Caruso, M. Mincoelli, F. Troisi, E. Vasca, P. Neri, *Tetrahedron* 2008, **64**, 5370.

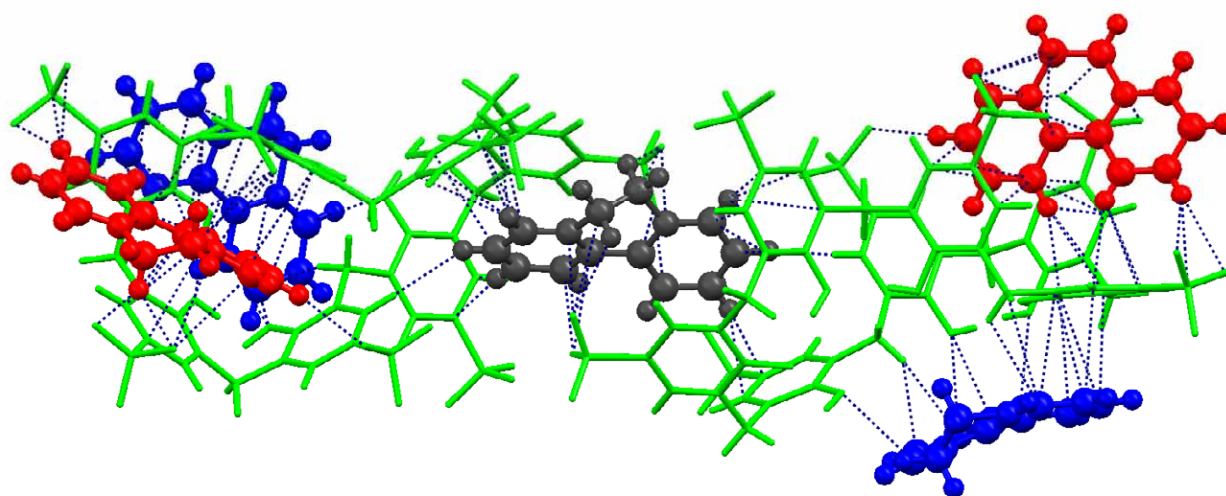
**Table S1.**  $\phi$  and  $\chi$  torsion angles ( $^{\circ}$ ) for *p*-sulfonatocalix[7]arene **1** (distorted double pinched conformation) and *p*-tert-butylcalix[7]arene (double pinched conformation).<sup>3</sup>

Torsion angles	<b>1</b>	<i>p</i> -tert-butylcalix[7]arene
C2 - C1 - C49 - C47	101.8(1.7)	98.5
C46 - C47 - C49 - C1	-86.8(1.8)	-89.0
C40 - C42 - C43 - C44	20(2)	-90.8
C39 - C40 - C42 - C43	66(2)	92.6
C33 - C35 - C36 - C37	89.6(1.9)	98.9
C32 - C33 - C35 - C36	-102.1(1.6)	-78.5
C26 - C28 - C29 - C30	81.8(1.8)	72.2
C25 - C26 - C28 - C29	-124.8(1.5)	-70.4
C19 - C21 - C22 - C23	108.0(1.6)	77.5
C18 - C19 - C21 - C22	-55.4(1.8)	-94.2
C12 - C14 - C15 - C16	85.9(1.7)	-94.4
C11 - C12 - C14 - C15	91.7(1.8)	91.1
C5 - C7 - C8 - C9	107.0(1.7)	89.2
C4 - C5 - C7 - C8	-95.35(1.8)	-98.4

<sup>3</sup> T. Harada, S. Shinkai, *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 2*, 1995, **12**, 2231.



**Figure S1.** (a) Ba1 and (b) Ba2 coordination in compound **1•2**. The aromatic rings belong to *p*-sulfonatocalix[7]arene molecules.



**Figure S2.** Closest contacts between *p*-sulfonatocalix[7]arene dimers and the three independent Diquat guest molecular cations.

The grey one is located on the crystallographic two-fold axis and is encapsulated between two  $\frac{3}{4}$  cone trimeric subunits of two different *p*-sulfonatocalix[7]arene molecules forming a dimer.

The red one is enclosed in the tetrameric unit by electrostatic interactions, the blue one lies externally and with one pyridinium moiety almost parallel to the phenolic ring of the *p*-sulfonatocalix[7]arene molecule.