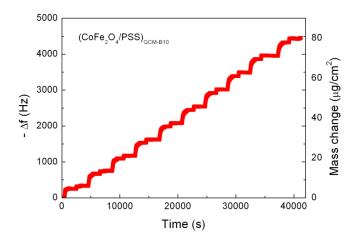
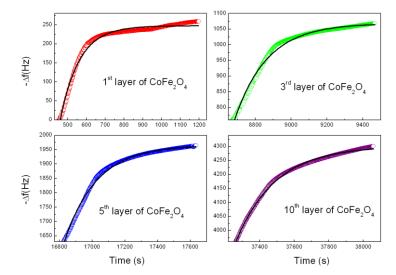
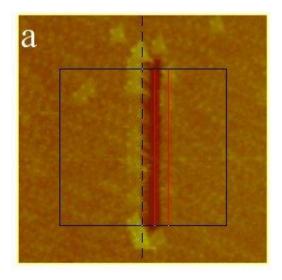
## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

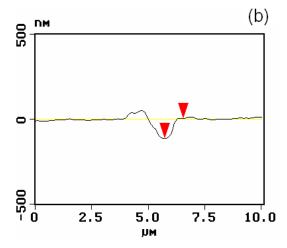


ESI 1 Deposition of multilayered films of (CoFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/PSS)<sub>QCM-B10</sub> monitored by QCM for a time window larger than eleven hours. Magnetic dispersions (at different nanoparticle concentration) and fixed polyelectrolyte concentration were introduced alternately into the QCM cell (*in situ*), which mimics a LbL procedure.



ESI 2 Adsorption isotherms for the  $1^{st}$ ,  $3^{rd}$ ,  $5^{th}$ , and  $10^{th}$  CoFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticle layers, assembled using colloidal dispersion samples.





ESI 3 (a) Typical AFM image (10  $\mu$ m²), showing the spot selected by AFM tip on the sample containing 10-bilayers of CoFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/PSS; (b) topographic profice of the step.