

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Regulation of bi-color fluorescence changes of AIE supramolecular self-assembly gels by the interaction with Al³⁺ and energy transfer

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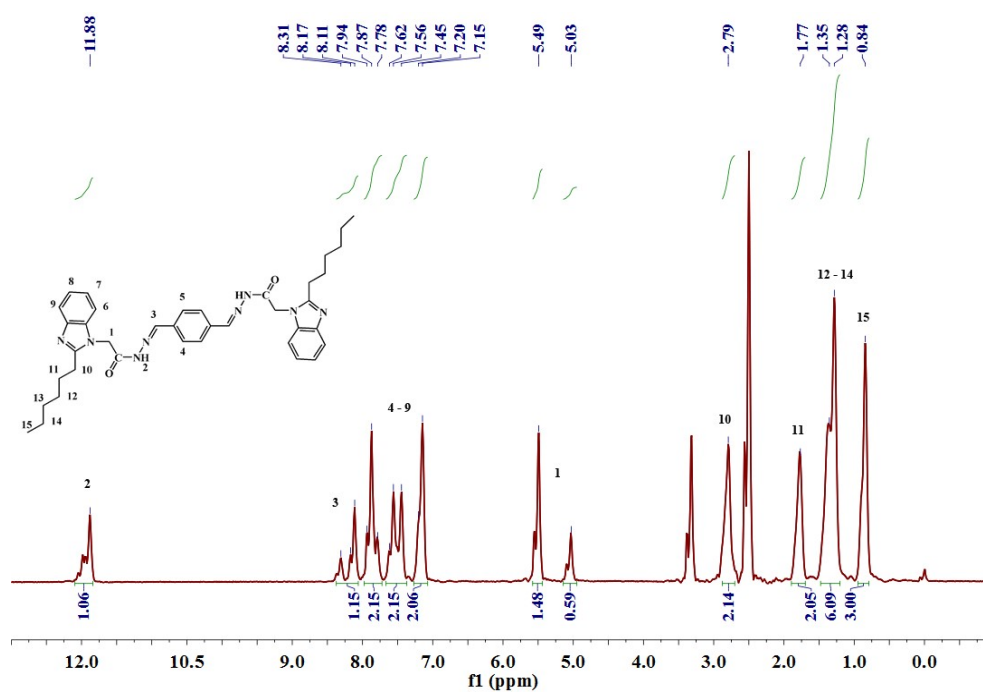


Fig. S1. ^1H NMR spectrum of **BD** in $\text{DMSO}-d_6$

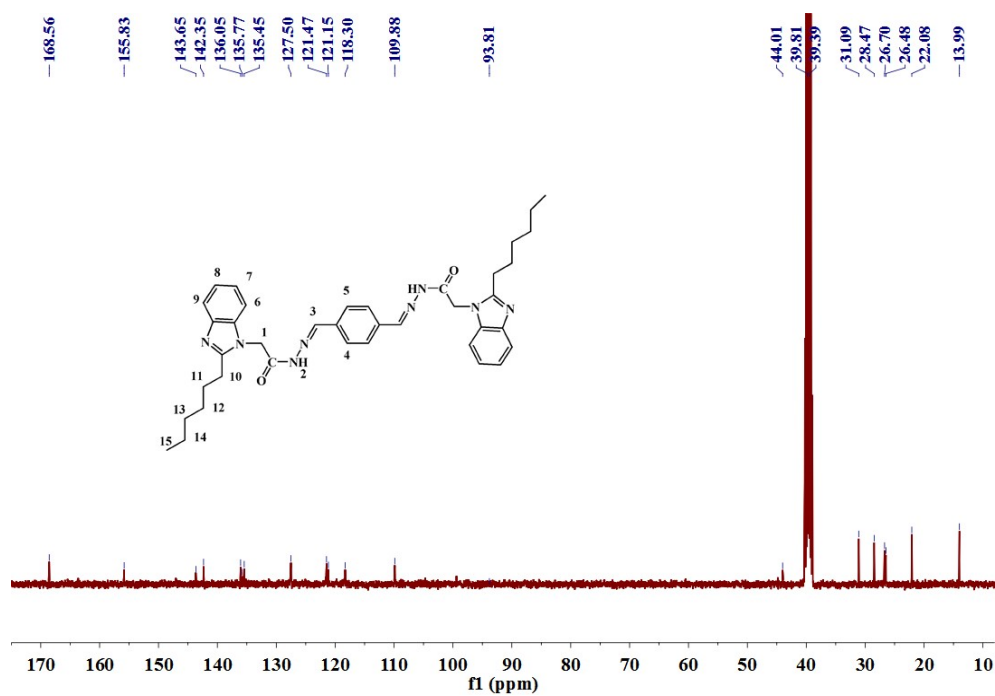


Fig. S2. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **BD** in $\text{DMSO-}d_6$

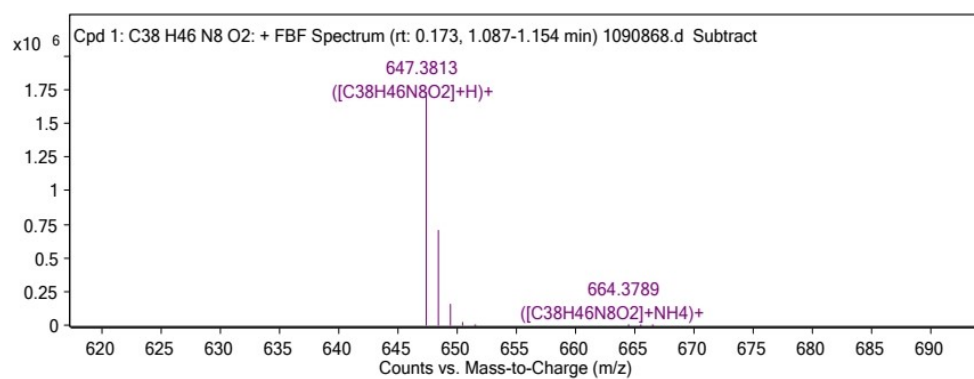


Fig. S3. ESI-MS spectrum of **BD**

Table S1 Gelation properties of the supramolecular gel **BDG**

Entry	Solvent	State ^a	CGC ^b (%)	T _{gel} ^c (°C, wt %)
1	water	P	\	\
2	cyclohexane	P	\	\
3	petroleum ether	P	\	\
4	THF	P	\	\
5	CHCl ₃	P	\	\
6	CH ₂ Cl ₂	P	\	\
7	acetone	P	\	\
8	DMF	G	2.5	74(2.5%)
9	DMF-H ₂ O	G	0.5	95(0.5%)
10	DMSO	G	2	82(2%)
11	DMSO-H ₂ O	G	0.5	102(0.5%)
12	methanol	P	\	\
13	ethanol	S	\	\
14	ethanol-H ₂ O	P	\	\
15	ethanediol	P	\	\
16	isopropanol	P	\	\
17	n-butyl alcohol	P	\	\
18	n-amyl alcohol	P	\	\
19	isopentanol	P	\	\
20	n-hexanol	P	\	\
21	ethyl acetate	P	\	\
22	acetonitrile	P	\	\
23	CCl ₄	P	\	\

^a G, P and S denote gelation, precipitation and solution, respectively

^b The critical gelation concentration (wt %, 10 mg/mL = 1.0%)

^c The gelation temperature (°C)

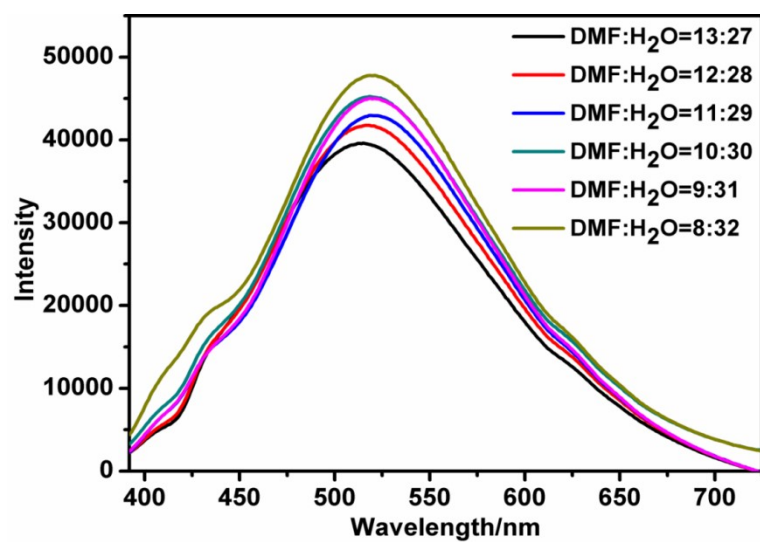


Fig. S4. fluorescent spectra of BDG with different water content
(0.5%, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 372 \text{ nm}$)

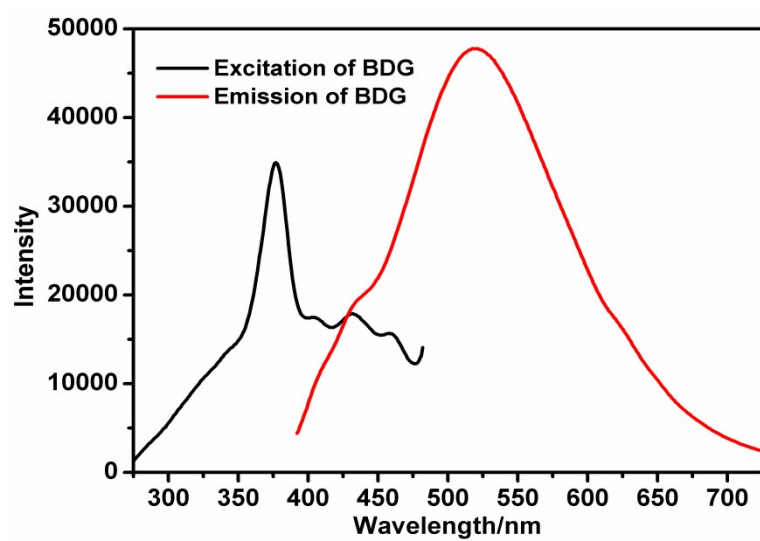


Fig. S5. Excitation spectrum and emission spectrum of BDG (0.5%, $V_{\text{DMF}} : V_{\text{water}} = 1 : 4$)

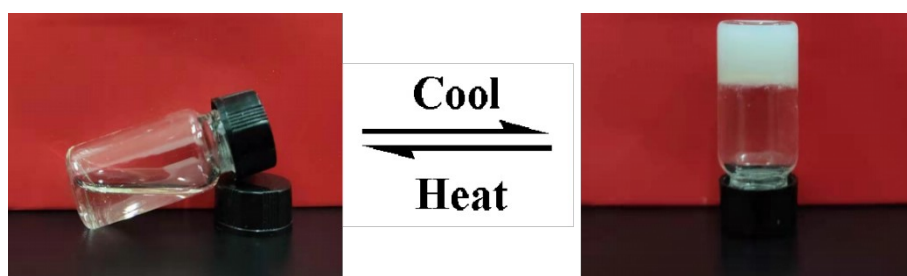


Fig. S6. Illustration for reversible gel-sol transformation of the BDG triggered by temperature (0.5%, $V_{\text{DMSO}} : V_{\text{water}} = 1 : 4$)

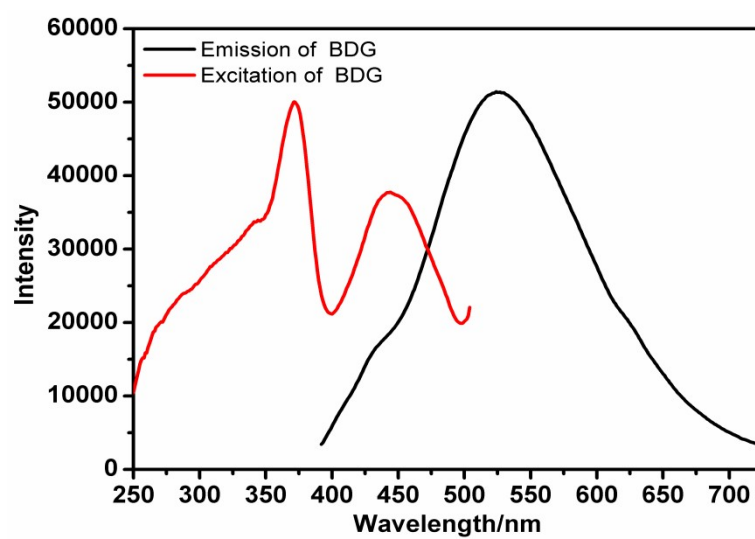


Fig. S7. Excitation spectrum and emission spectrum of BDG (0.5%, $V_{\text{DMSO}} : V_{\text{water}} = 1 : 4$)

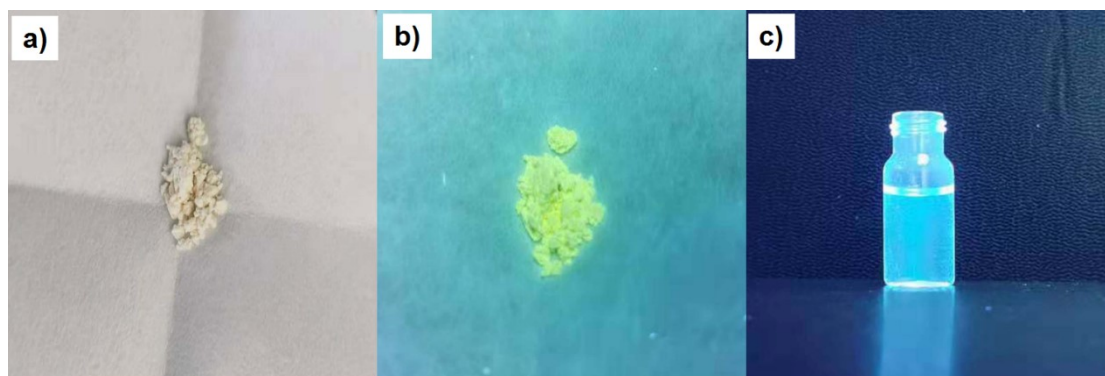


Fig. S8. The photos of BD powder (25 °C) were taken under a) daylight and b) UV light, respectively. c) The photo of BD in DMF (1×10^{-4} M, 25°C) were taken under UV light

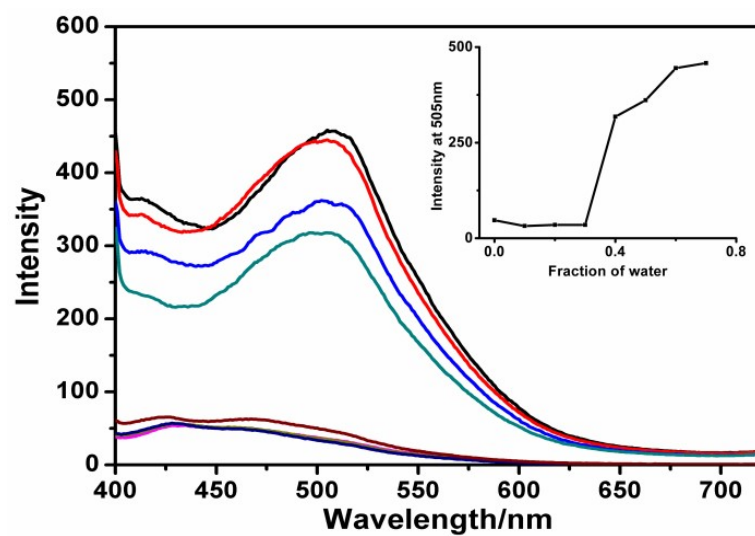


Fig. S9. Fluorescence spectra of BD (3×10^{-4} M) in a DMF/H₂O mixed solution at different vol % ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 372$ nm). Inset: Fluorescence intensity of BD at 505 nm in the presence of different fraction of water from 0 to 70%

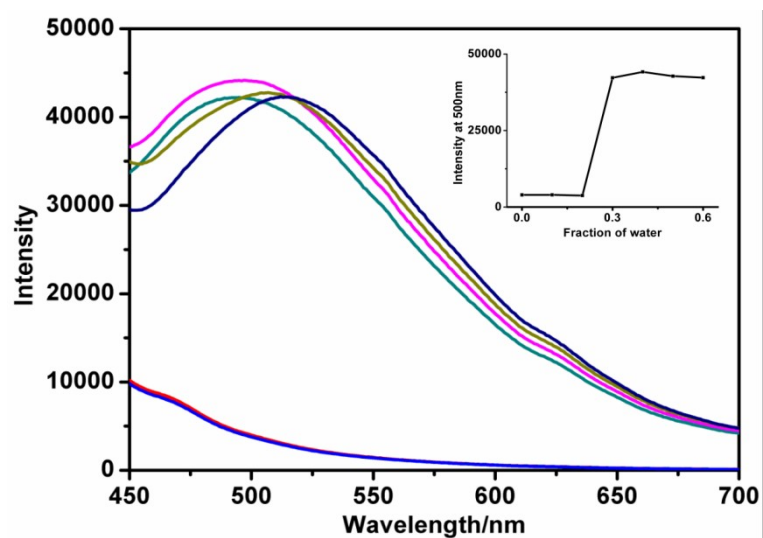


Fig. S10. Fluorescence spectra of BD (3×10^{-4} M) in a DMSO/H₂O mixed solution at different vol % ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 372$ nm). Inset: Fluorescence intensity of BD at 510 nm in the presence of different fraction of water from 0 to 60%

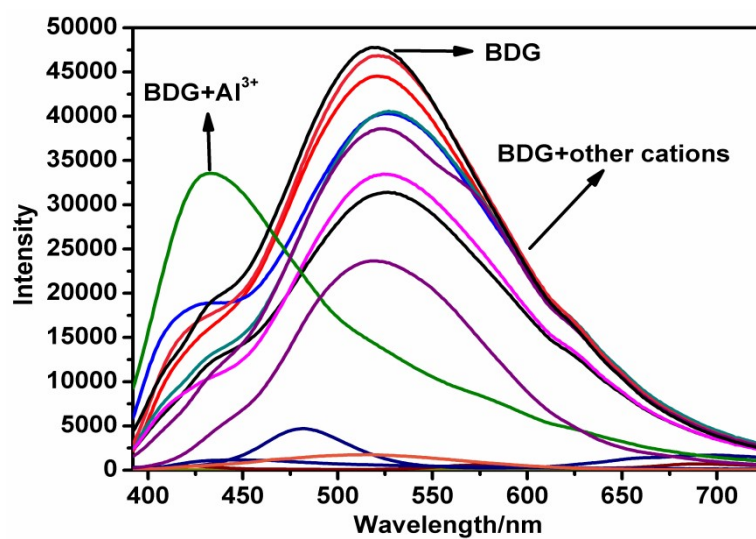


Fig. S11. Fluorescence spectra ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 372 \text{ nm}$) of BDG (0.5%, $V_{\text{DMF}} : V_{\text{water}} = 1 : 4$) in the presence of various cations (10.0 equiv.). Respectively, using 0.1 M nitrate solution as the sources at room temperature

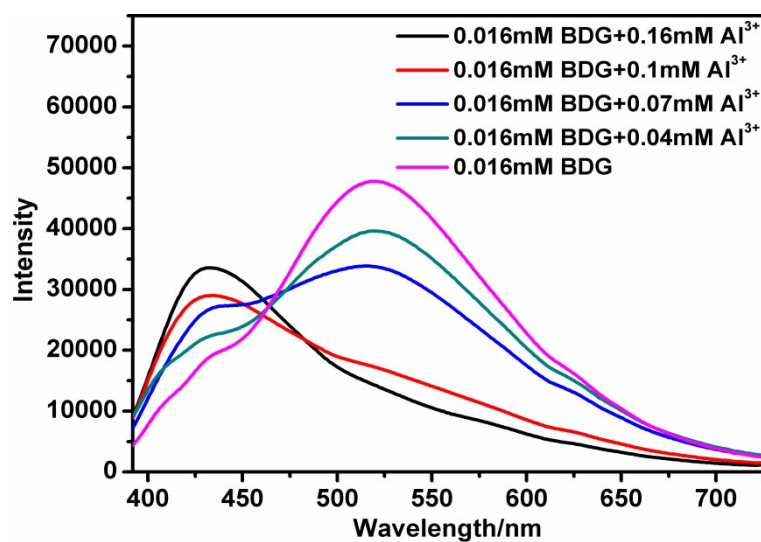


Fig. S12. Fluorescent titration spectra ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 372 \text{ nm}$) of BDG (7.7 mM) upon addition of Al^{3+} in DMF/ H_2O ($V_{\text{DMF}} : V_{\text{water}} = 1 : 4$)

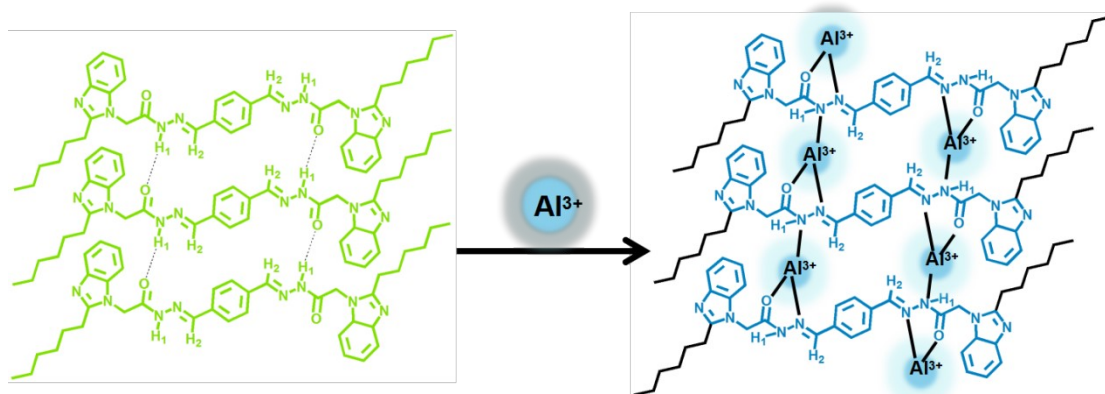


Fig. S13. Proposed sensing mechanism of BDG for Al^{3+}

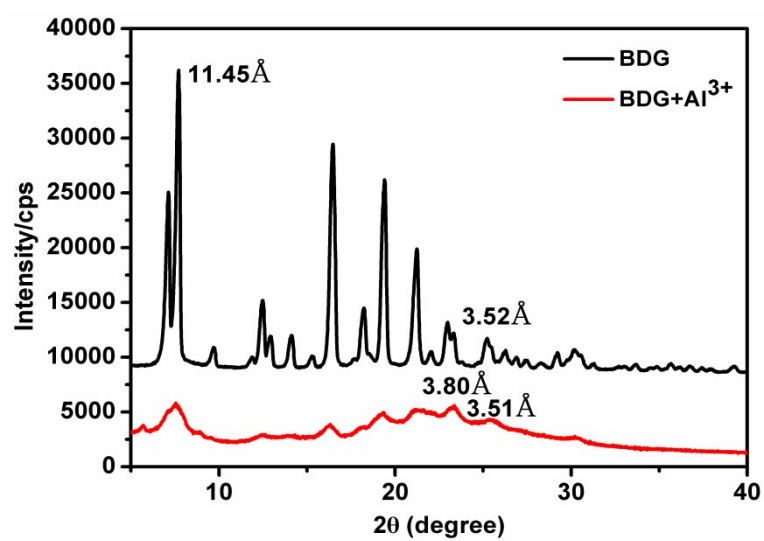


Fig. S14. The powder X-ray diffraction pattern of the xerogel BDG and BDG-Al

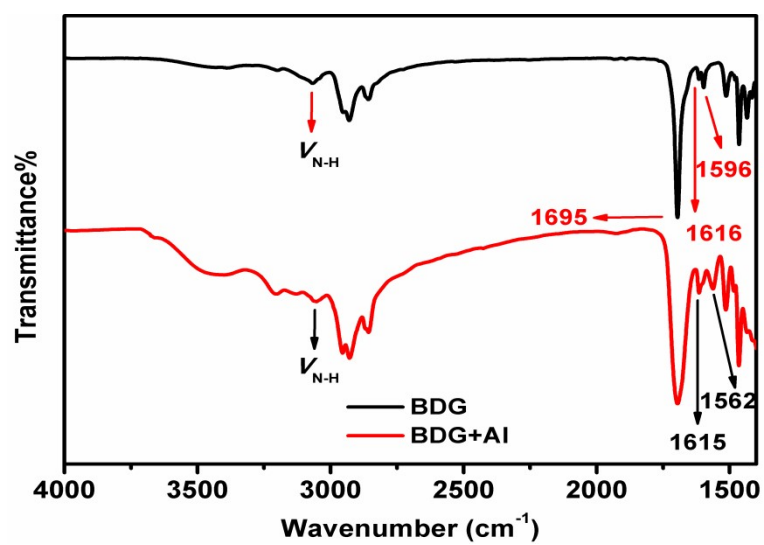


Fig. S15. FT-IR spectra of the xerogel BDG and BDG-Al

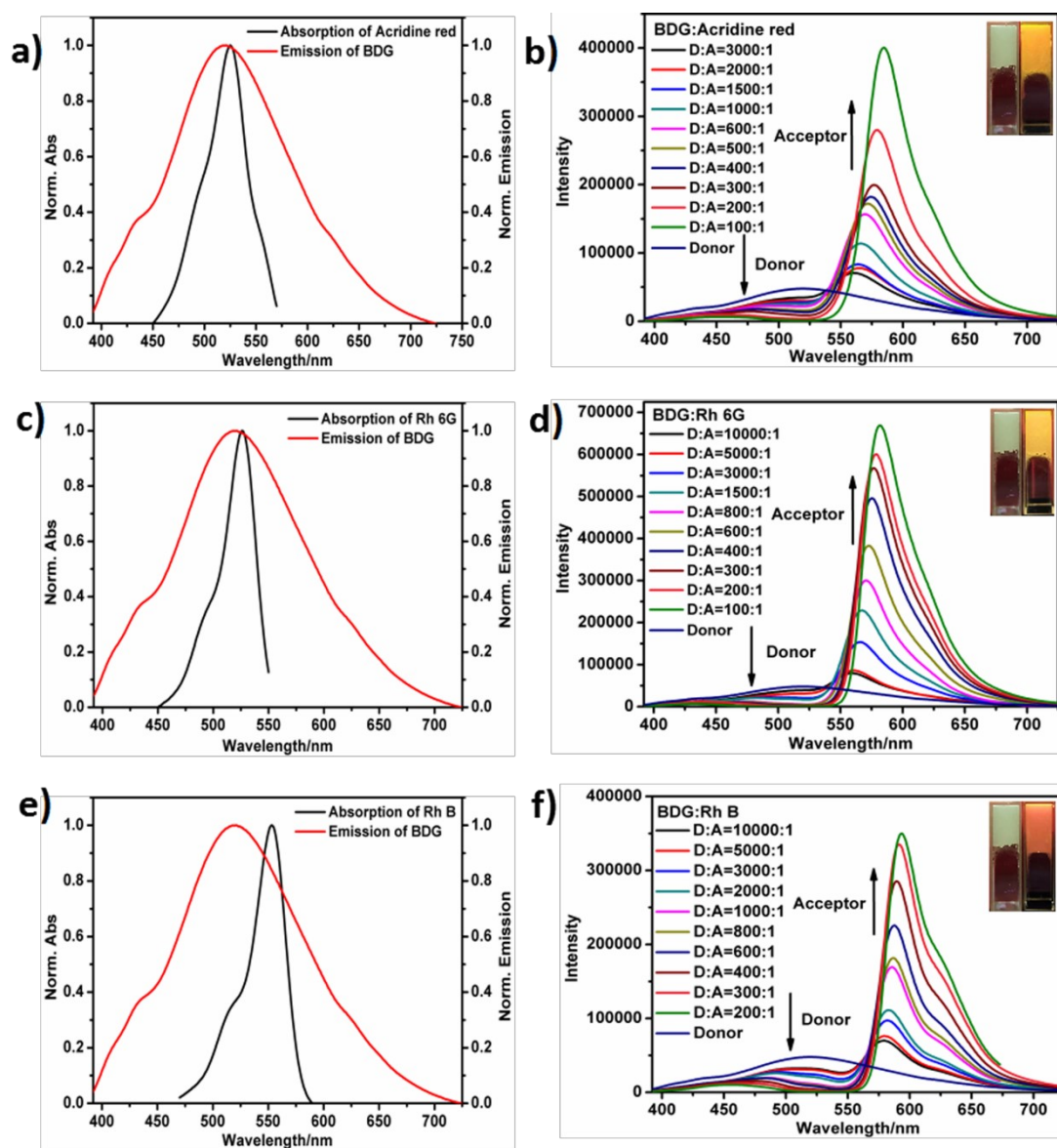


Fig. S16. Normalized emission spectrum of BDG (7.7 mM), absorption spectrum of (a) Acridine red (1×10^{-5} M), (c) Rh B (1×10^{-5} M) and (e) Rh 6G (1×10^{-5} M). Fluorescence spectra of BDG (7.7 mM) in gel with different concentrations of (b) Acridine red (77 μ M, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 372$ nm, Inset: photographs of BDG, BDG/acridine red), (d) Rh 6G (77 μ M, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 372$ nm, Inset: photographs of BDG, BDG/Rh 6G) and (f) Rh B (38.5 μ M, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 372$ nm, Inset: photographs of BDG, BDG/Rh B under UV light)

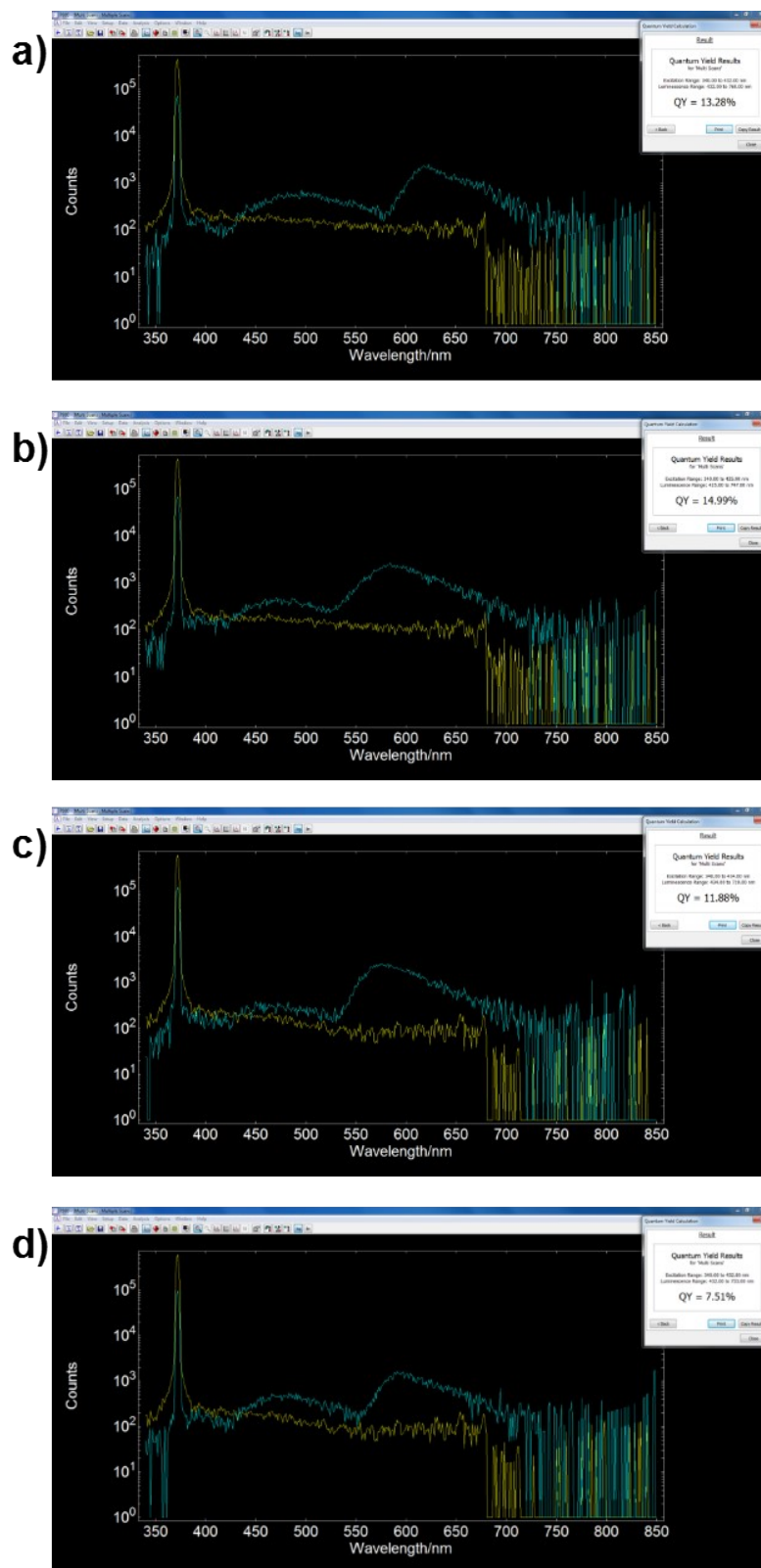
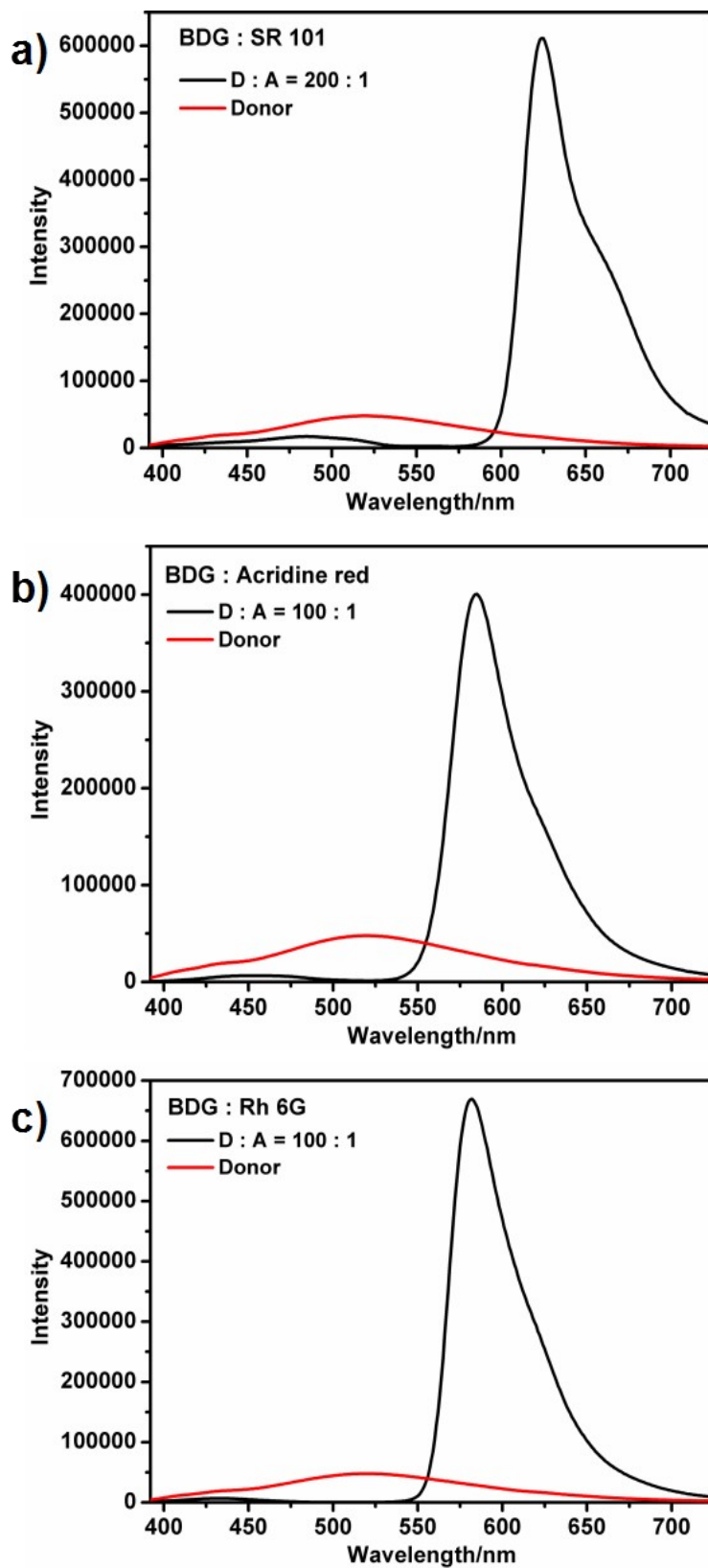


Fig. S17. Absolute fluorescence quantum yields ($\Phi_{f(abs)}$) of (a) BDG / SR 101 (7.7 mM / 38.5 mM), (b) BDG / acridine red (7.7 mM / 77 μ M), (c) BDG / Rh 6G (7.7 mM / 77 μ M) and (d) BDG / Rh B (7.7 mM / 38.5 μ M) ($\lambda_{ex} = 372$ nm) in DMF/H₂O

Energy-transfer efficiency, Φ_{ET} , the fraction of the absorbed energy that is transferred to the acceptor is experimentally measured as a ratio of the fluorescence intensities of the donor in the absence and presence of the acceptor (I_D and I_{DA}).¹

$$\Phi_{ET} = 1 - I_{DA}/I_D$$



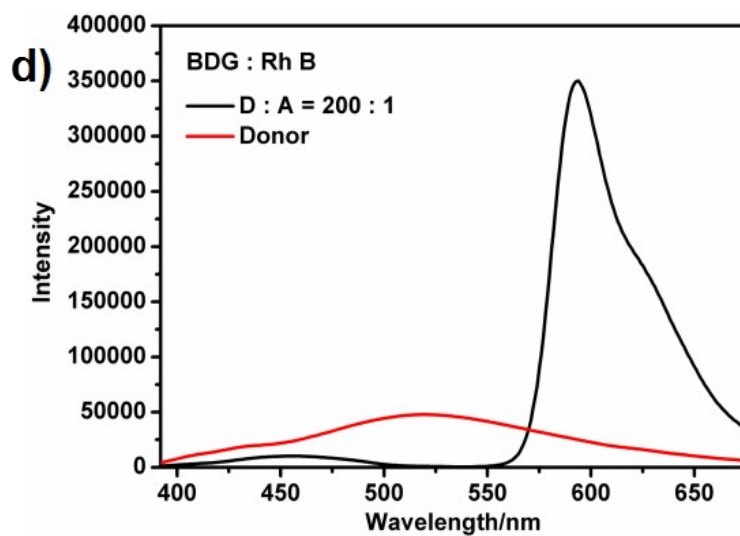


Fig. S18. Fluorescence spectra of a) BDG and BDG/SR 101 assembly, b) BDG and BDG/acridine red assembly, c) BDG and BDG/Rh 6G assembly and d) BDG and BDG/Rh B assembly ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 372$ nm, [BDG] = 7.7 mM, [SR 101] = 38.5 μM , [acridine red] = 77 μM , [Rh 6G] = 77 μM and [Rh B] = 38.5 μM)

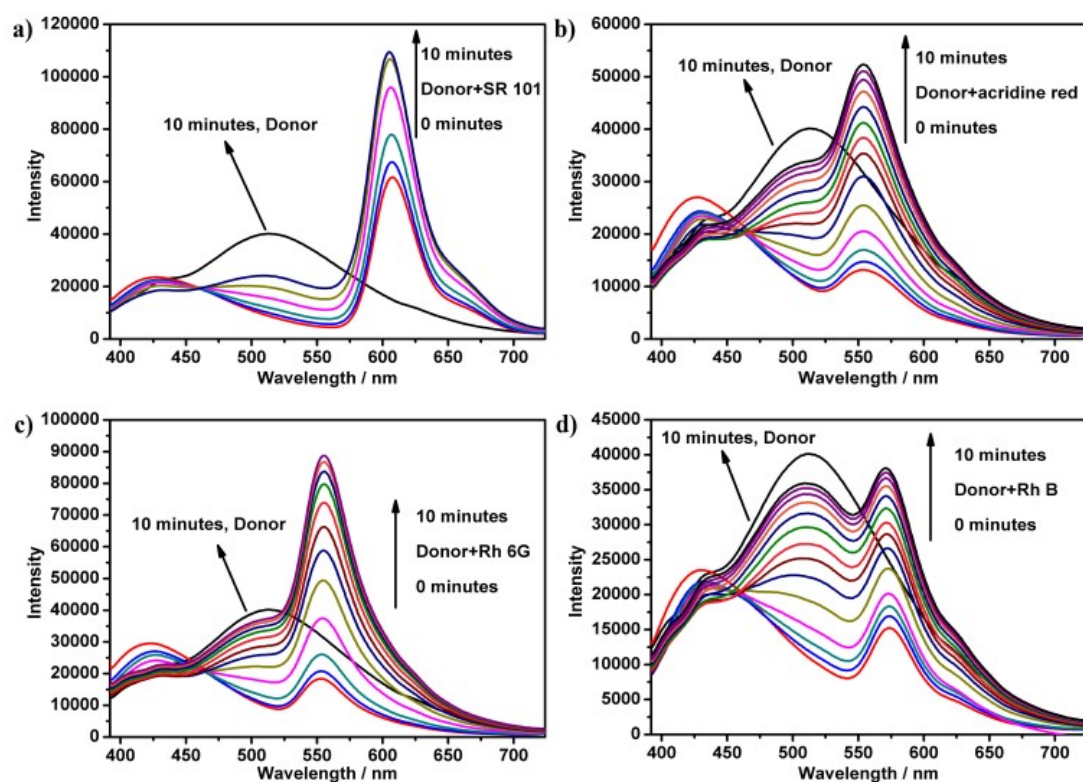


Fig. S19. Fluorescence spectra ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 372 \text{ nm}$) of a) BDG and BDG/SR 101, b) BDG/acridine red, c) BDG/Rh 6G and d) BDG/Rh B in mixed solutions ($[\text{BDG}] = 2.5 \text{ mM}$, $[\text{SR 101}] = 0.83 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$, $[\text{acridine red}] = 0.83 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$, $[\text{Rh 6G}] = 0.25 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$ and $[\text{Rh B}] = 0.25 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$, $V_{\text{DMF}} : V_{\text{water}} = 1 : 4$)

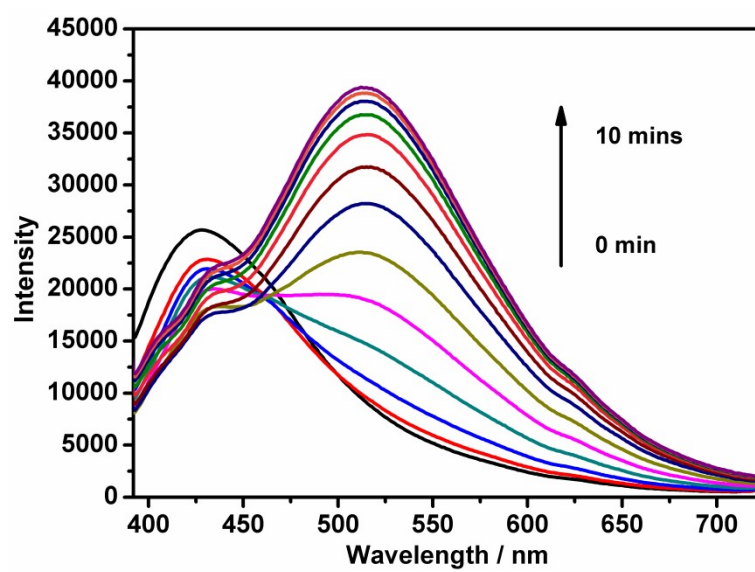


Fig. S20. Fluorescence spectra ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 372 \text{ nm}$) of BD during the gelation process from 95 °C to 25 °C ([BD] = 2.5 mM, $V_{\text{DMF}} : V_{\text{water}} = 1 : 4$)

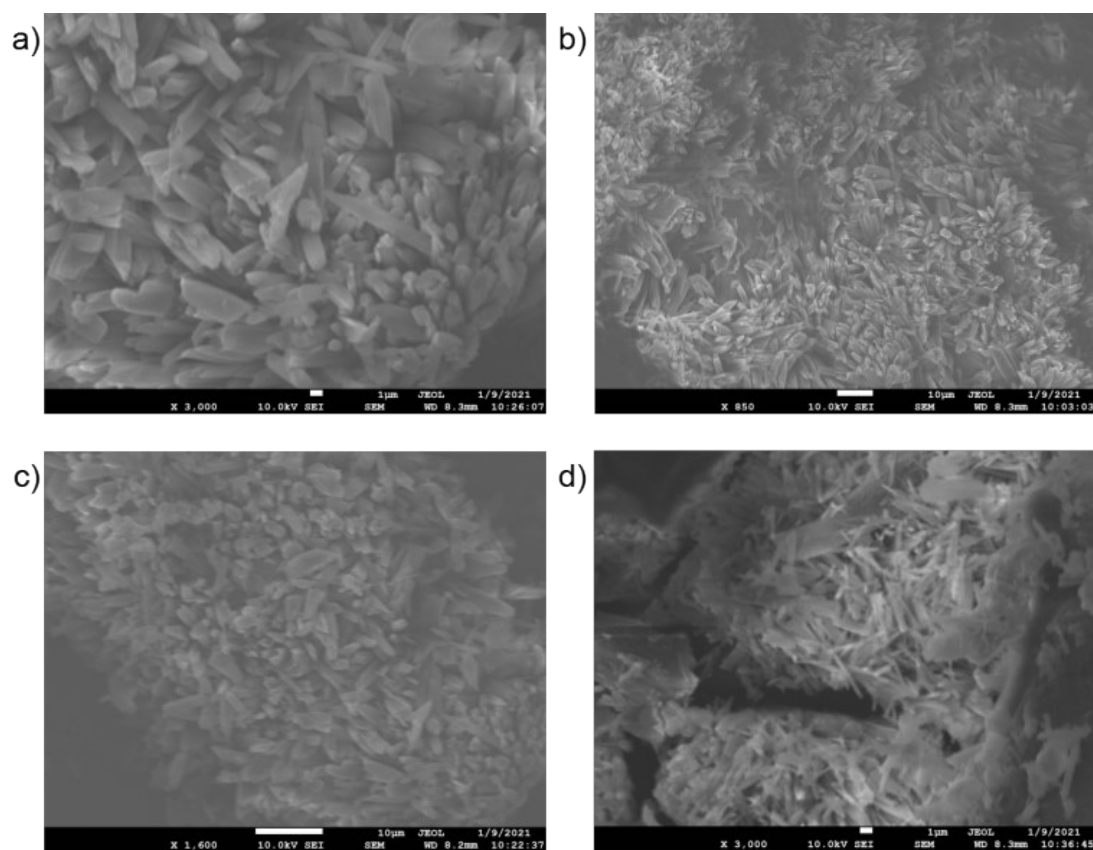


Fig. S21. FE-SEM micrographs of the xerogel of a) BDG/SR 101, b) BDG/acridine red, c) BDG/Rh 6G and d) BDG/Rh B. The gel was two days old before the images were taken. ([BDG] = 7.7 mM, [SR 101] = 38.5 μ M, [acridine red] = 77 μ M, [Rh 6G] = 77 μ M and [Rh B] = 38.5 μ M, $V_{\text{DMF}} : V_{\text{water}} = 1 : 4$)

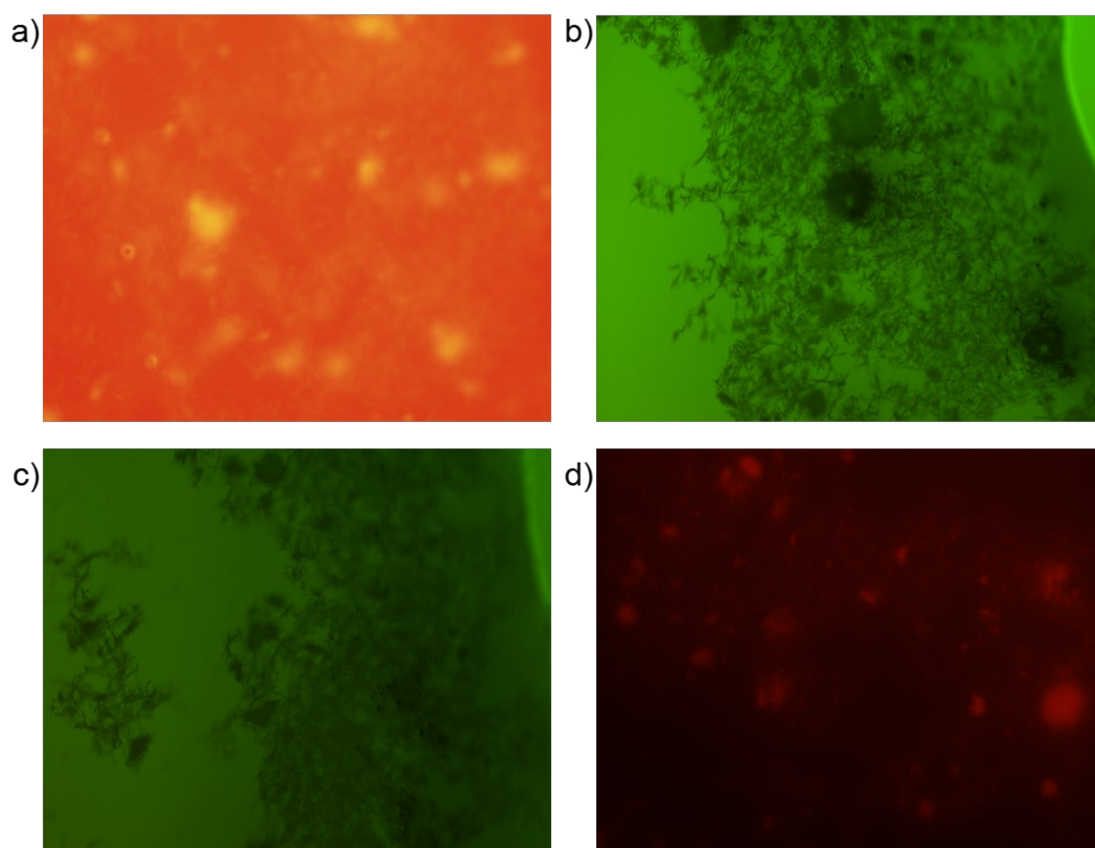


Fig. S22. FOM images of a) BDG/SR 101, b) BDG/acridine red, c) BDG/Rh 6G and d) BDG/Rh B. ([BDG] = 7.7 mM, [SR 101] = 38.5 μ M, [acridine red] = 77 μ M, [Rh 6G] = 77 μ M and [Rh B] = 38.5 μ M, $V_{\text{DMF}} : V_{\text{water}} = 1 : 4$)

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(b) S. Guo, Y. Song, Y. He, X. Y. Hu and L. Y. Wang, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 2018, **57**,
3163-3167; (c) M. Hao, G. P. Sun, M. Z. Zuo, Z. Q. Xu, Y. Chen, X. Y. Hu and L. Y. Wang,
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