

<Electronic Supplementary Information>

**Structural properties of [Cu(II)<sub>3</sub>L<sub>6</sub>] cages: bridged polyatomic anion effects on  
unprecedented efficiency of heterogeneous catechol oxidation**

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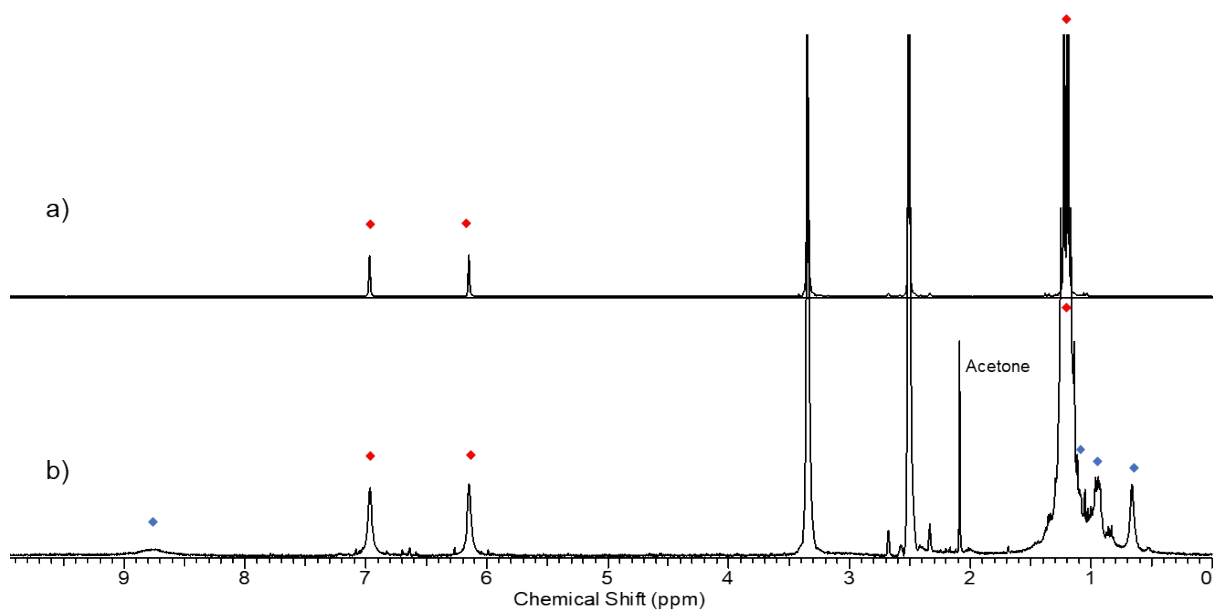
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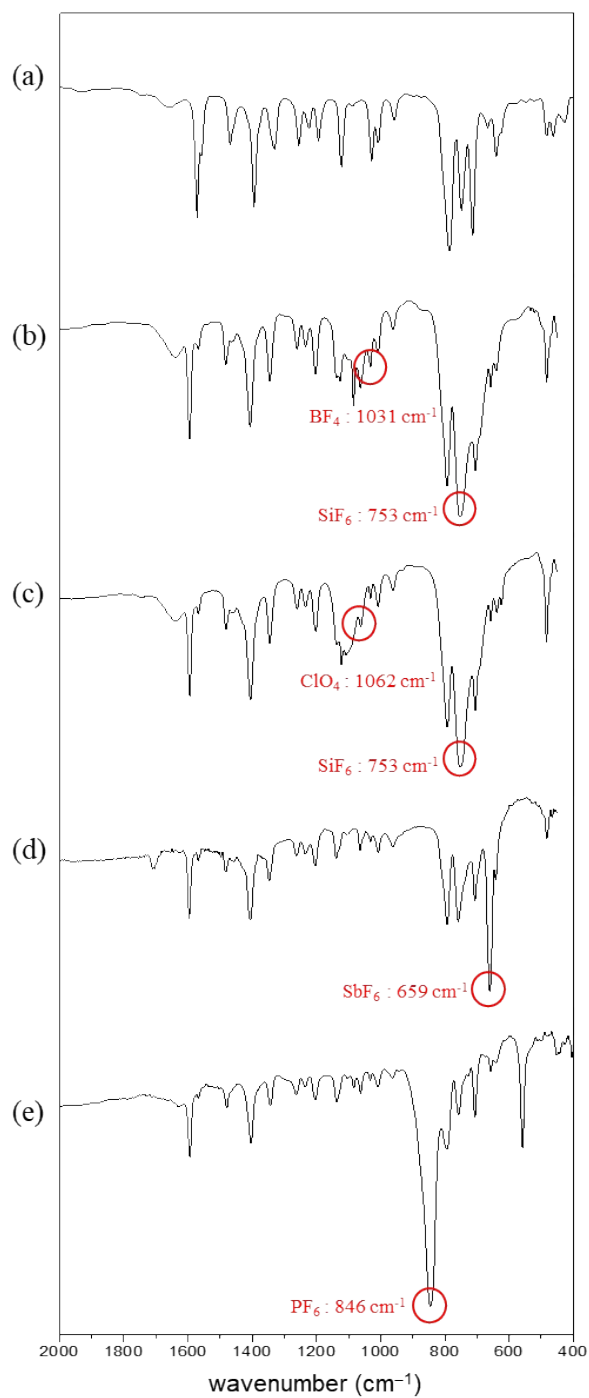
**Table S1** Selected bond lengths and angles

SiF <sub>6</sub> @[Cu <sub>3</sub> L <sub>6</sub> ](μ <sub>2</sub> -SiF <sub>6</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> (BF <sub>4</sub> )-6MeOH		SiF <sub>6</sub> @[Cu <sub>3</sub> L <sub>6</sub> ](μ <sub>2</sub> -SiF <sub>6</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> (ClO <sub>4</sub> )-6MeOH		SiF <sub>6</sub> @[Cu <sub>3</sub> L <sub>6</sub> ](SbF <sub>6</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>		PF <sub>6</sub> @[Cu <sub>3</sub> L <sub>6</sub> (MeOH) <sub>3</sub> ](PF <sub>6</sub> ) <sub>5</sub> ·2MeOH	
Cu(1)-N(1)	1.989(9)	Cu(1)-N(2A)	1.989(5)	Cu(1)-N(13)	1.973(11)	Cu(1)-N(1F)	2.009(5)
Cu(1)-N(3)	1.997(9)	Cu(1)-N(1B)	2.012(5)	Cu(1)-N(10)	1.992(12)	Cu(1)-N(2C)	2.023(5)
Cu(1)-N(4) <sup>#1</sup>	2.020(10)	Cu(1)-N(1A) <sup>#1</sup>	2.021(5)	Cu(1)-N(12)	1.997(10)	Cu(1)-N(2A)	2.041(4)
Cu(1)-N(2) <sup>#2</sup>	2.026(10)	Cu(1)-N(2B) <sup>#2</sup>	2.023(5)	Cu(1)-N(11)	2.017(11)	Cu(1)-N(2D)	2.045(5)
Cu(1)-F(3J)	2.35(4)	Cu(1)-F(5) <sup>#3</sup>	2.393(5)	Cu(1)-F(12)	2.368(12)	Cu(1)-O(2)	2.293(5)
Cu(1)-F(4I)	2.37(5)						
		N(2A)-Cu(1)-N(1B)	177.6(3)	N(13)-Cu(1)-N(10)	170.6(6)	N(1F)-Cu(1)-N(2C)	178.5(2)
N(1)-Cu(1)-N(3)	178.5(4)	N(2A)-Cu(1)-N(1A) <sup>#1</sup>	88.2(3)	N(13)-Cu(1)-N(12)	90.1(6)	N(1F)-Cu(1)-N(2A)	90.10(17)
N(1)-Cu(1)-N(4) <sup>#1</sup>	90.4(4)	N(1B)-Cu(1)-N(1A) <sup>#1</sup>	91.1(3)	N(10)-Cu(1)-N(12)	89.0(6)	N(2C)-Cu(1)-N(2A)	89.68(17)
N(3)-Cu(1)-N(2) <sup>#2</sup>	91.2(4)	N(2A)-Cu(1)-N(2B) <sup>#2</sup>	91.9(3)	N(13)-Cu(1)-N(11)	88.2(6)	N(1F)-Cu(1)-N(2D)	88.95(18)
N(4) <sup>#1</sup> -Cu(1)-N(2) <sup>#2</sup>	174.0(4)	N(1B)-Cu(1)-N(2B) <sup>#2</sup>	89.1(3)	N(10)-Cu(1)-N(11)	93.1(6)	N(2C)-Cu(1)-N(2D)	90.89(19)
N(4) <sup>#1</sup> -Cu(1)-F(3J)	85.4(11)	N(1A) <sup>#1</sup> -Cu(1)-N(2B) <sup>#2</sup>	173.0(2)	N(12)-Cu(1)-N(11)	176.8(6)	N(2A)-Cu(1)-N(2D)	165.93(19)
N(2) <sup>#2</sup> -Cu(1)-F(3J)	88.6(11)	N(2A)-Cu(1)-F(5) <sup>#3</sup>	90.4(3)	N(13)-Cu(1)-F(12)	96.2(5)	N(1F)-Cu(1)-O(2)	90.59(19)
N(1)-Cu(1)-F(4I)	95.0(11)	N(1B)-Cu(1)-F(5) <sup>#3</sup>	91.9(3)	N(10)-Cu(1)-F(12)	93.2(6)	N(2C)-Cu(1)-O(2)	90.92(19)
N(3)-Cu(1)-F(4I)	86.5(11)	N(1A) <sup>#1</sup> -Cu(1)-F(5) <sup>#3</sup>	86.2(2)	N(12)-Cu(1)-F(12)	94.8(5)	N(2A)-Cu(1)-O(2)	94.11(18)
N(4) <sup>#1</sup> -Cu(1)-F(4I)	88.9(15)	N(2B) <sup>#2</sup> -Cu(1)-F(5) <sup>#3</sup>	86.9(2)	N(11)-Cu(1)-F(12)	82.7(6)	N(2D)-Cu(1)-O(2)	99.93(19)
N(2) <sup>#2</sup> -Cu(1)-F(4I)	85.1(15)						

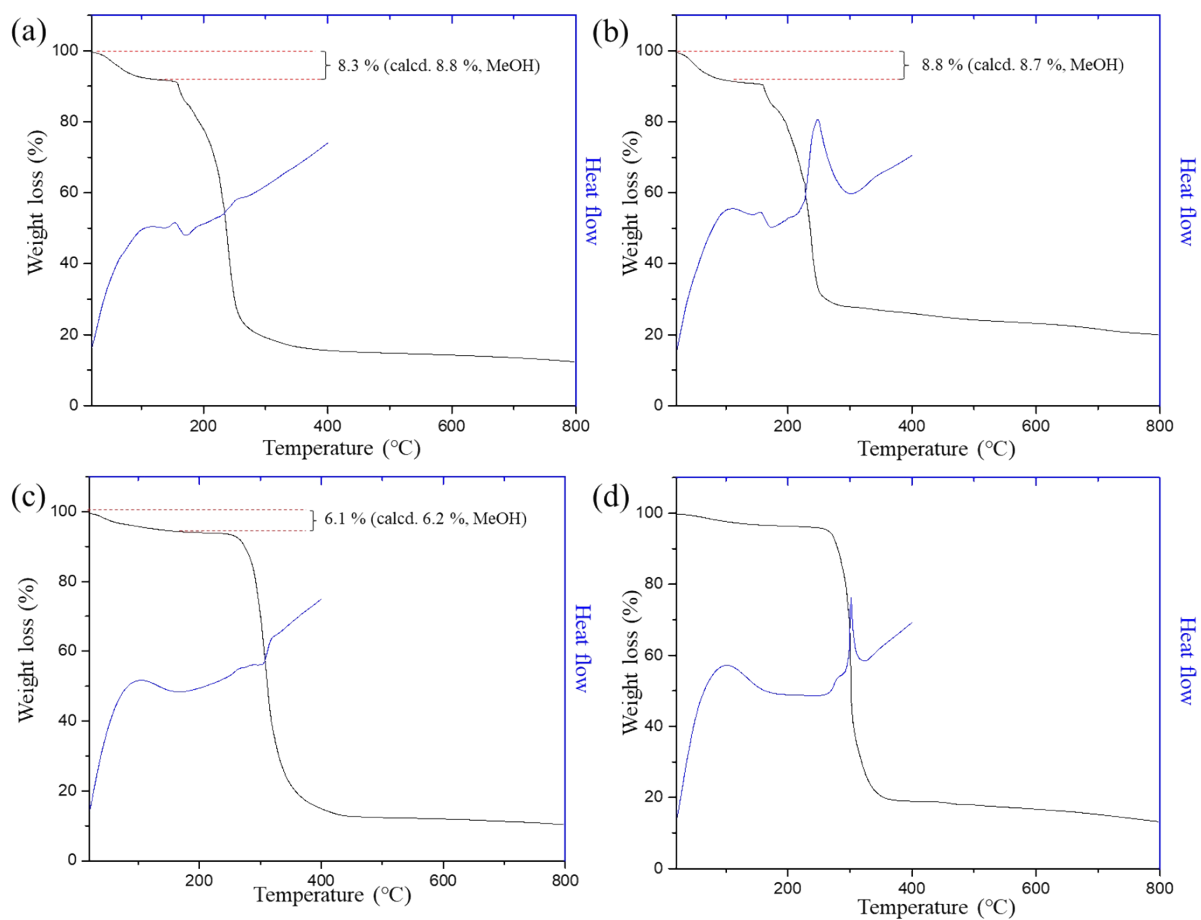
<sup>#1</sup> y, -z+1, -x+1<sup>#1</sup> z, -x+1, -y+1<sup>#2</sup> -z+1, x, -y+1<sup>#2</sup> -y+1, -z+1, x<sup>#3</sup> -x+1, -y, z



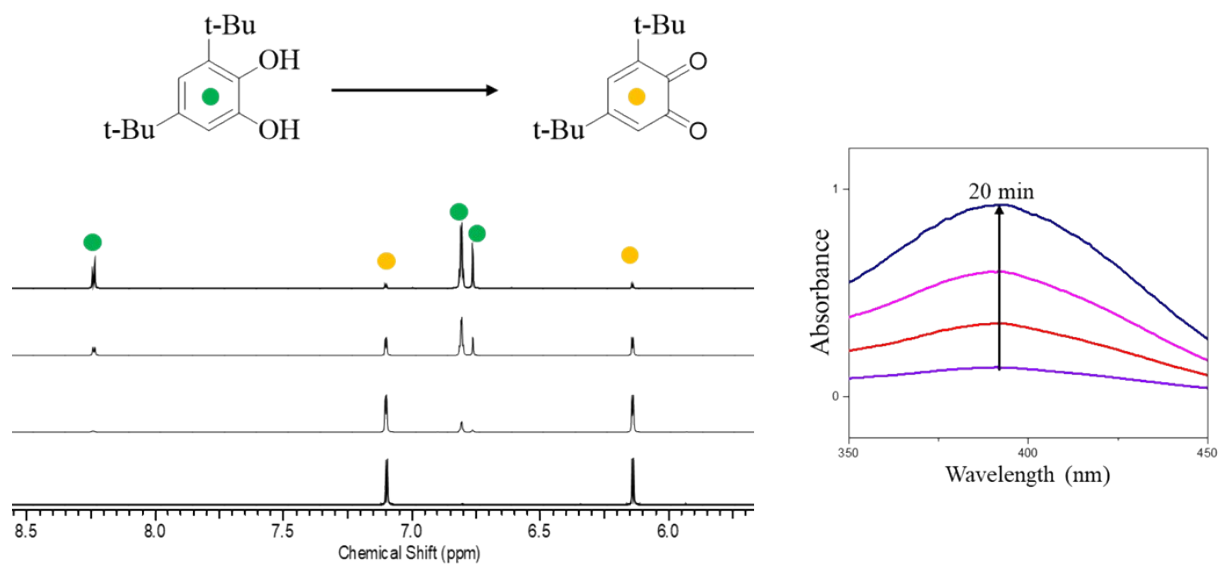
**Fig. S1.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of authentic 3,5-di-*tert*-butylorthoquinone (a) in Me<sub>2</sub>SO-*d*<sub>6</sub>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum in Me<sub>2</sub>SO-*d*<sub>6</sub> after catalysis using SiF<sub>6</sub>@[Cu<sub>3</sub>L<sub>6</sub>](μ<sub>2</sub>-SiF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>(ClO<sub>4</sub>)·6MeOH in acetone.



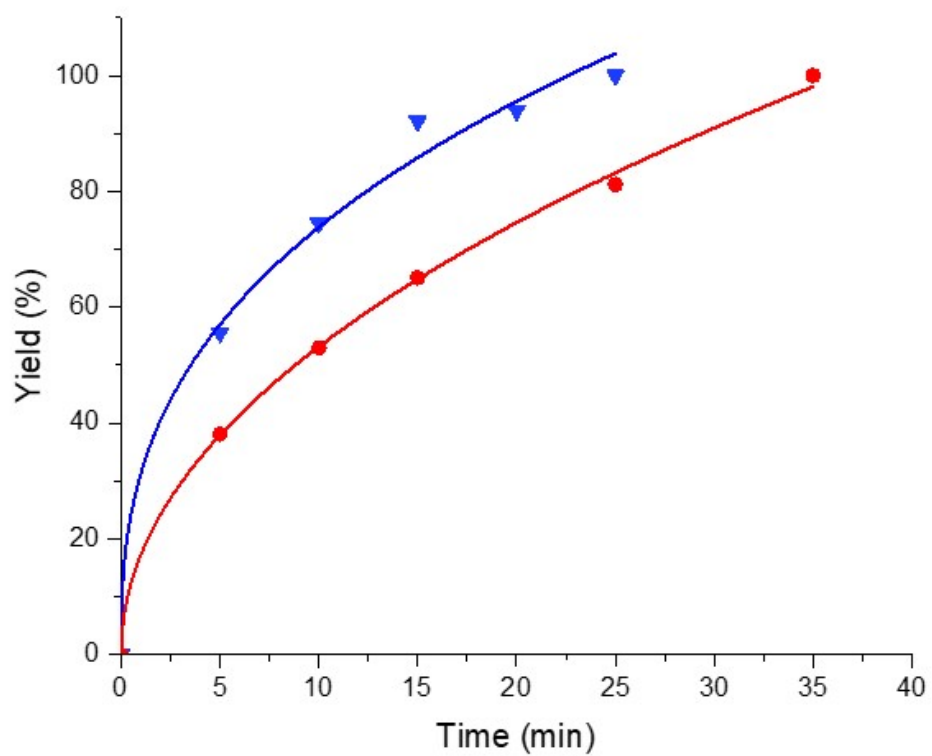
**Fig. S2.** FT-IR spectra of L (a),  $\text{SiF}_6@[\text{Cu}_3\text{L}_6](\mu_2\text{-SiF}_6)_{1.5}(\text{BF}_4)\cdot 6\text{MeOH}$  (b),  $\text{SiF}_6@[\text{Cu}_3\text{L}_6](\mu_2\text{-SiF}_6)_{1.5}(\text{ClO}_4)\cdot 6\text{MeOH}$  (c),  $[\text{Cu}_3(\text{SiF}_6)\text{L}_6](\text{SbF}_6)_4$  (d), and  $\text{PF}_6@[\text{Cu}_3\text{L}_6(\text{MeOH})_3](\text{PF}_6)_5\cdot (\text{MeOH})_2$  (e).



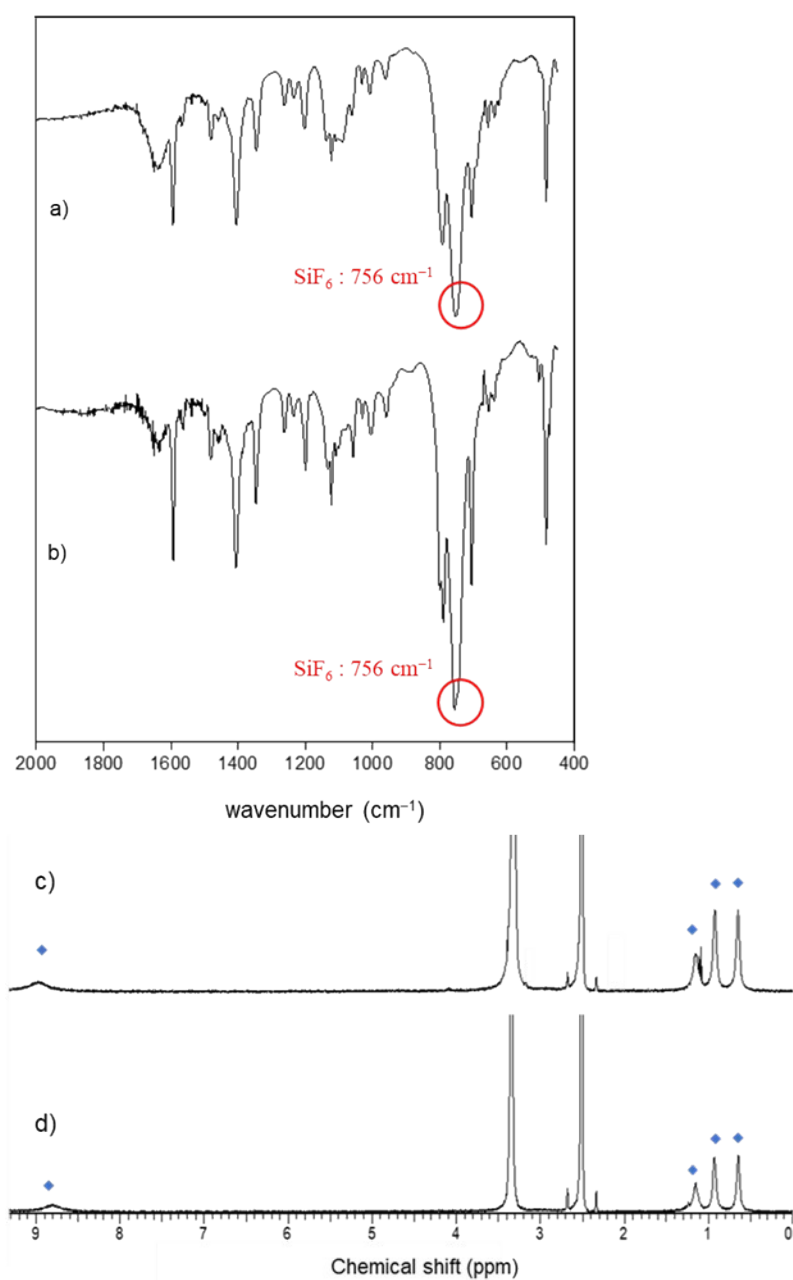
**Fig. S3.** TGA and DSC curves for  $\text{SiF}_6@[\text{Cu}_3\text{L}_6](\mu_2\text{-SiF}_6)_{1.5}(\text{BF}_4)\cdot 6\text{MeOH}$  (a),  $\text{SiF}_6@[\text{Cu}_3\text{L}_6](\mu_2\text{-SiF}_6)_{1.5}(\text{ClO}_4)\cdot 6\text{MeOH}$  (b),  $\text{PF}_6@[\text{Cu}_3\text{L}_6(\text{MeOH})_3](\text{PF}_6)_5\cdot (\text{MeOH})_2$  (c), and  $[\text{Cu}_3(\text{SiF}_6)\text{L}_6](\text{SbF}_6)_4$  (d).



**Fig. S4.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectral procedure on catalytic oxidation 3,5-di-*tert*-butylcatechol to 3,5-di-*tert*-butylorthoquinone using SiF<sub>6</sub>@[Cu<sub>3</sub>L<sub>6</sub>](μ<sub>2</sub>-SiF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>(ClO<sub>4</sub>)·6MeOH in Me<sub>2</sub>CO-*d*<sub>6</sub> (left). UV spectral change during the catalytic reaction (right).

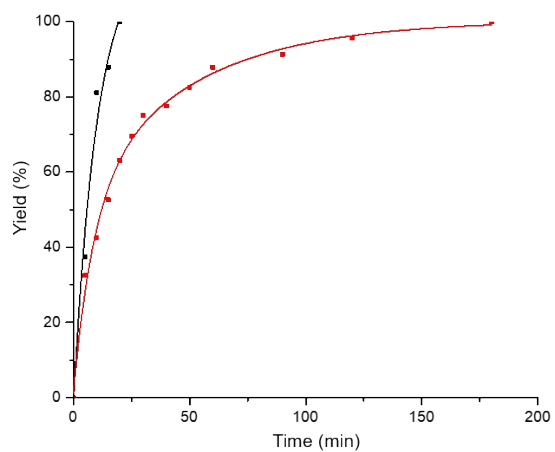


**Fig. S5.** Catalytic oxidation results of 3,5-di-*tert*-butylcatechol using  $\text{SiF}_6@[\text{Cu}_3\text{L}_6](\mu_2\text{-SiF}_6)_{1.5}(\text{ClO}_4)$  in 15 mL acetone (blue line) and in 20 mL acetone (red line).

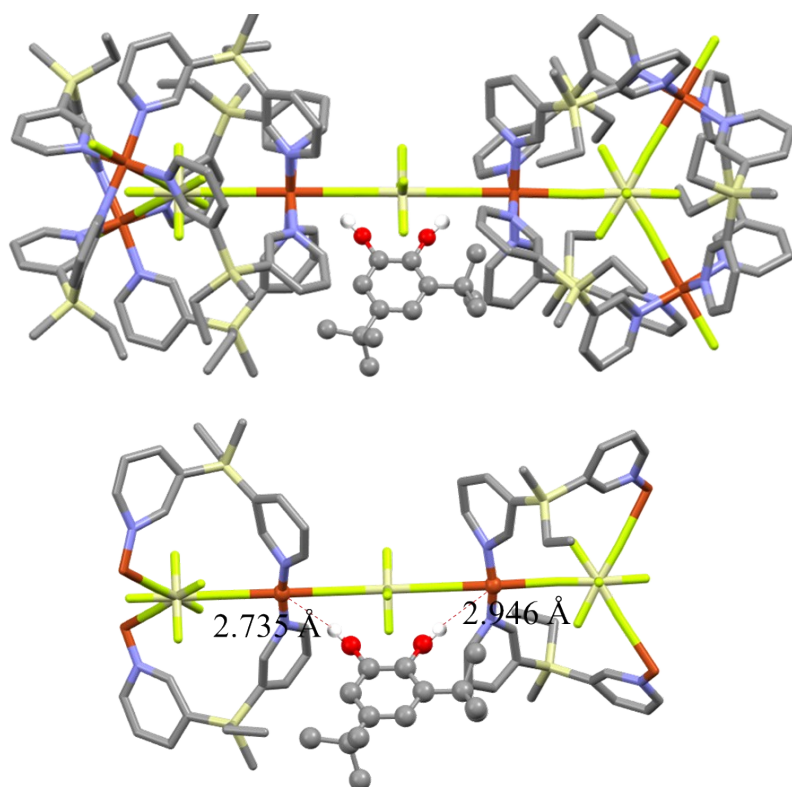


**Fig. S6.** IR spectra of SiF<sub>6</sub>@[Cu<sub>3</sub>L<sub>6</sub>](μ<sub>2</sub>-SiF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>(ClO<sub>4</sub>)·6MeOH (a) and the recycled crystals after catechol oxidation (b). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of SiF<sub>6</sub>@[Cu<sub>3</sub>L<sub>6</sub>](μ<sub>2</sub>-SiF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>(ClO<sub>4</sub>)·6MeOH (c) and the recycled crystals after catechol oxidation (d).

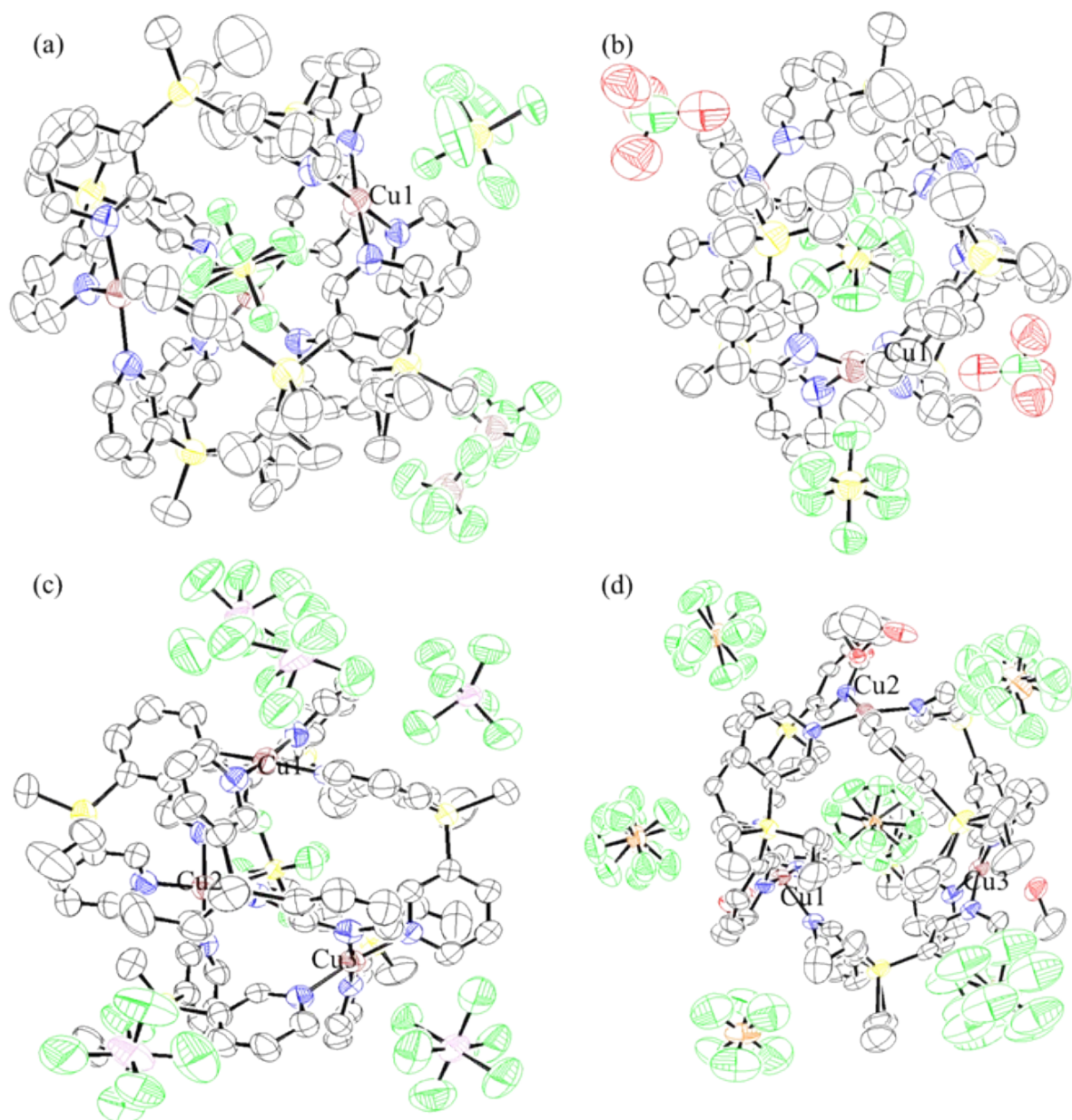




**Fig. S7.** Catalytic oxidation rates of 3,5-di-*tert*-butylcatechol using  $\text{SiF}_6@[\text{Cu}_3\text{L}_6](\mu_2\text{-SiF}_6)_{1.5}(\text{ClO}_4)\cdot 6\text{MeOH}$  (black line) and using the recycled  $\text{SiF}_6@[\text{Cu}_3\text{L}_6](\mu_2\text{-SiF}_6)_{1.5}(\text{ClO}_4)\cdot 6\text{MeOH}$  (red line).



**Fig. S8.** Molecular model of the inter-cage Cu $\cdots$ Cu of heterogeneous 3D catalyst as a catalytic center and 3,5-di-*tert*-butylcatechol (OH $\cdots$ Cu: 2.735 – 2.946 Å).



**Fig. S9.** ORTEP drawings of  $\text{SiF}_6@[\text{Cu}_3\text{L}_6](\mu_2\text{-SiF}_6)_{1.5}(\text{BF}_4)\cdot 6\text{MeOH}$  (a),  $\text{SiF}_6@[\text{Cu}_3\text{L}_6](\mu_2\text{-SiF}_6)_{1.5}(\text{ClO}_4)\cdot 6\text{MeOH}$  (b),  $\text{PF}_6@[\text{Cu}_3\text{L}_6(\text{MeOH})_3](\text{PF}_6)_5\cdot (\text{MeOH})_2$  (c), and  $[\text{Cu}_3(\text{SiF}_6)\text{L}_6](\text{SbF}_6)_4$  (d). Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Ellipsoids are depicted at 50% probability