

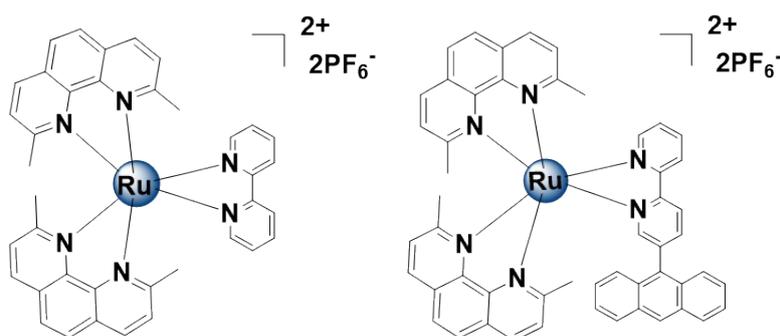
## Supporting Information

### Novel Ru(II) complexes with multiple anticancer photoreactivity: ligand exchange, photoredox catalysis, reactive oxygen generation and endoperoxide formation

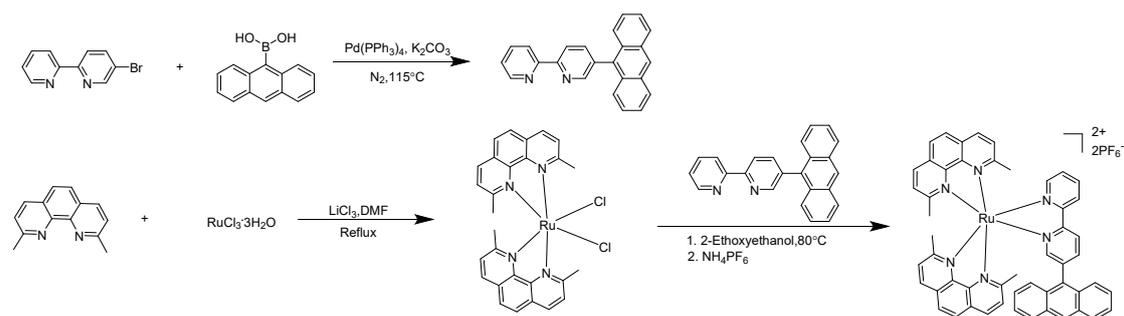
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#### 1. Schemes

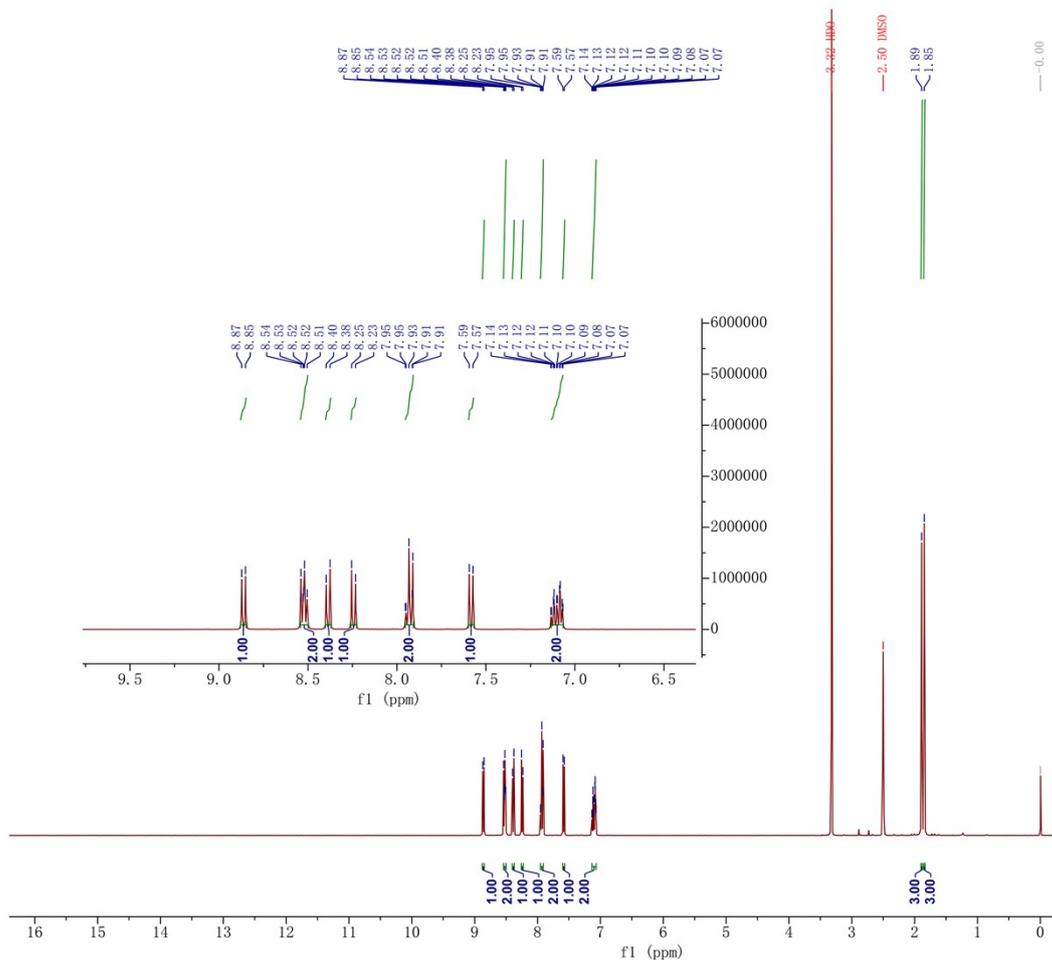


Scheme S1. Structure of Ru1 and Ru2.

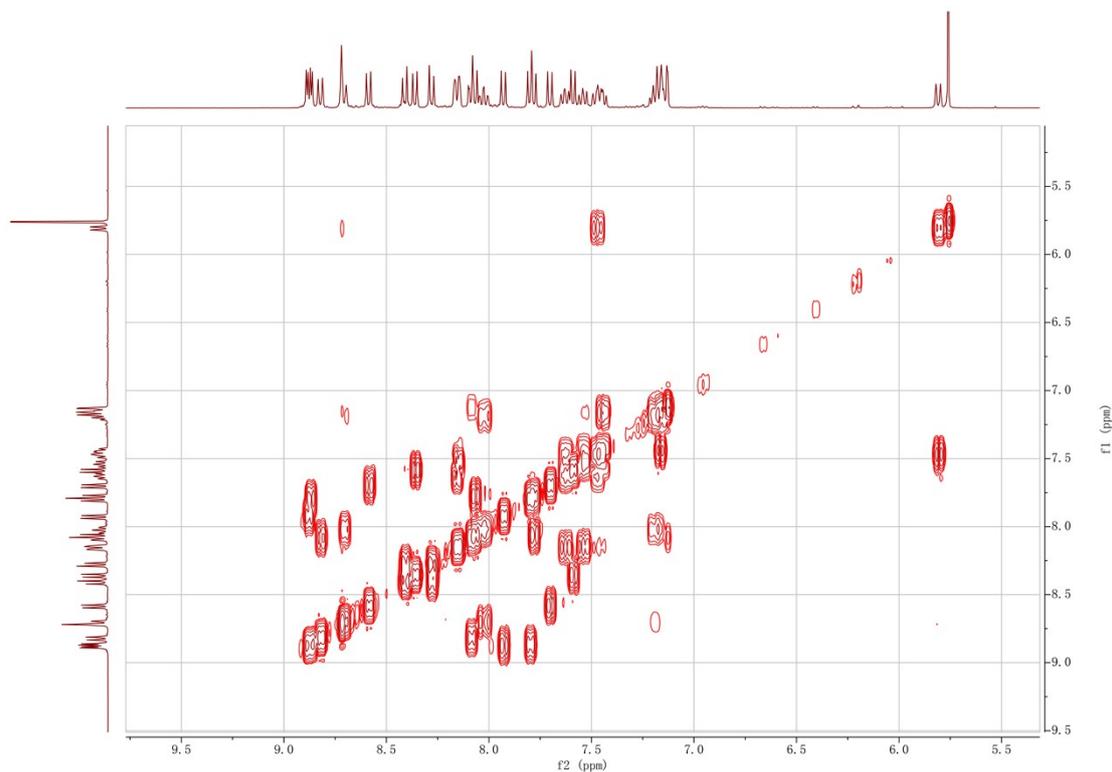


Scheme S2. Synthetic scheme for complex Ru2.

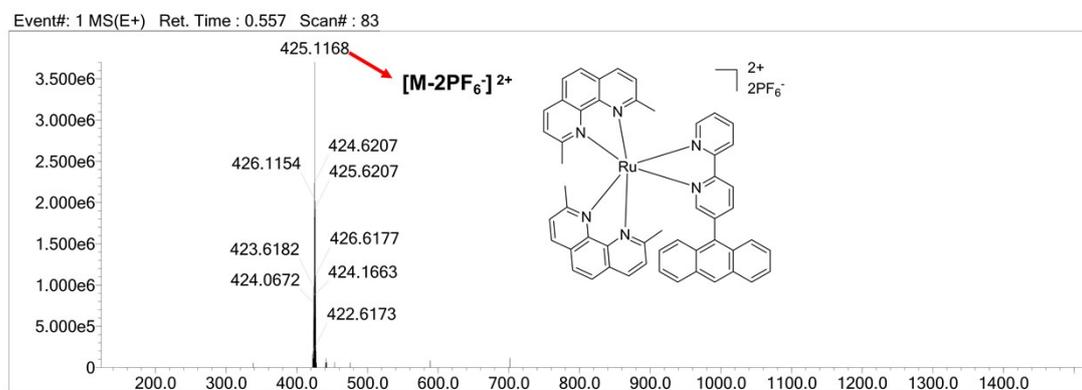
## 2. Figures







**Fig. S2.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectra (500 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ) of **Ru1** and **Ru2**.



**Fig. S3.** HR-ESI-MS spectra of **Ru2**.

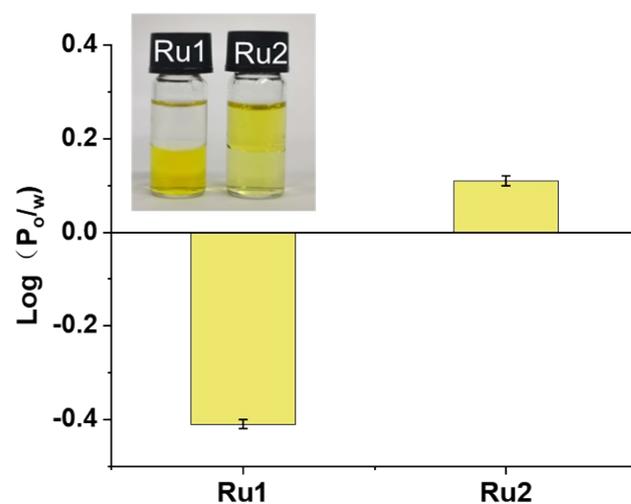


Fig. S4. Octanol/water partition coefficients of **Ru1** and **Ru2**.

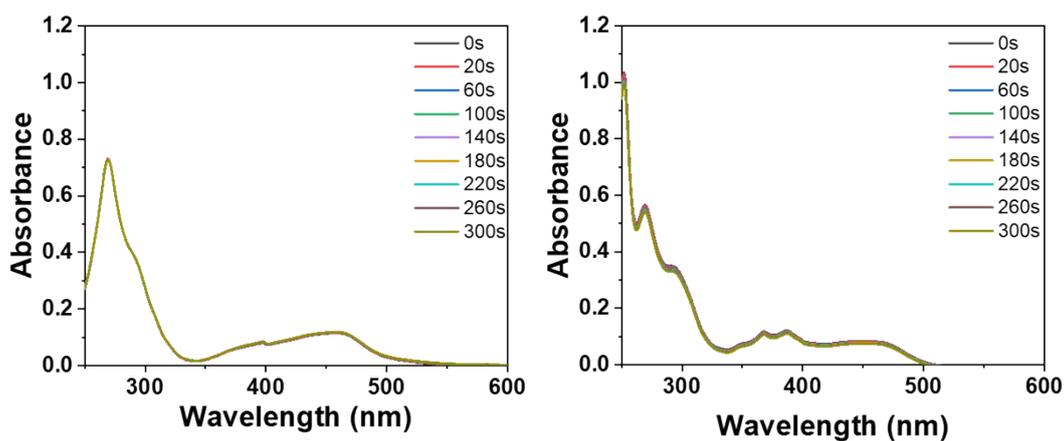


Fig. S5. Dark stability of **Ru1** (Left) and **Ru2** (Right) in PBS.

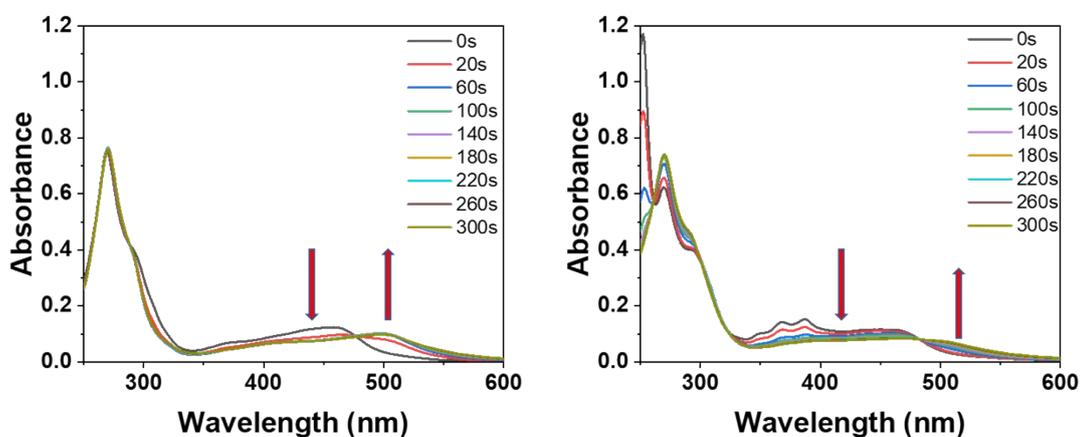
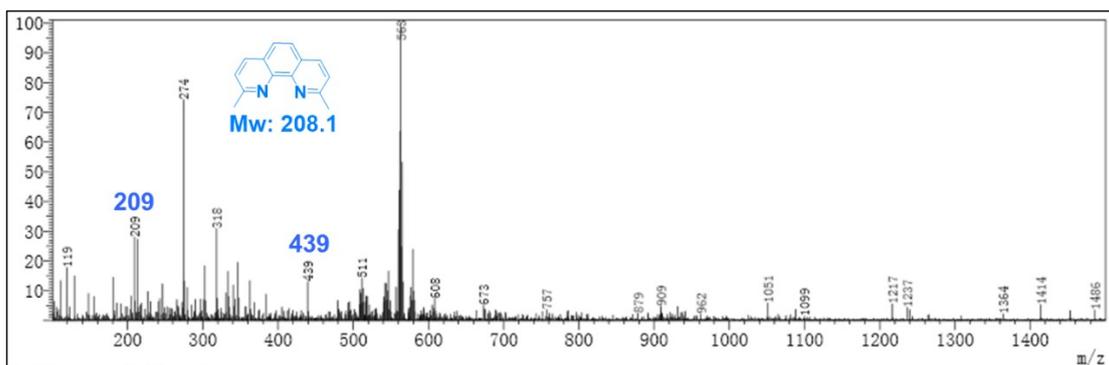
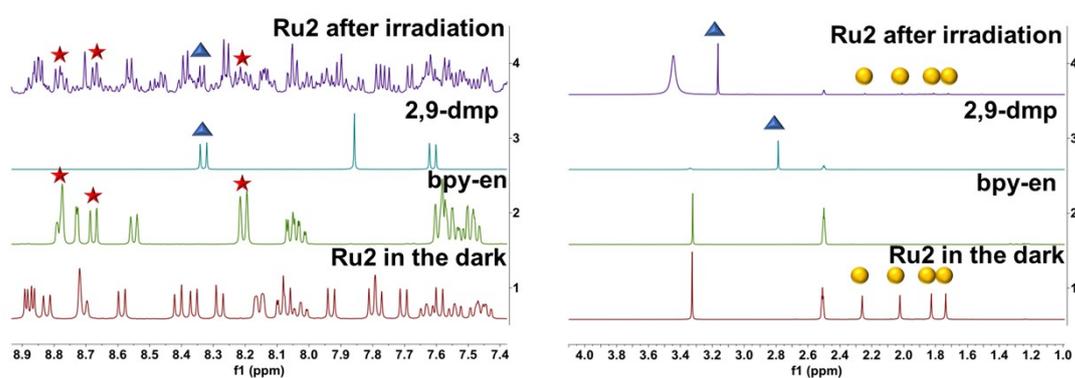


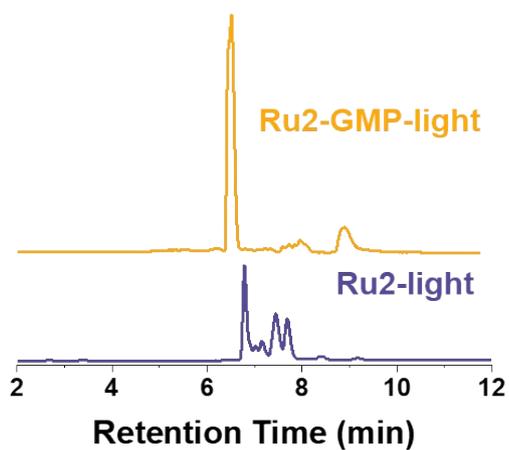
Fig. S6. Absorption spectra changes of **Ru1**(Left) and **Ru2**(Right) upon white light irradiation (11.6 J/cm<sup>2</sup>).



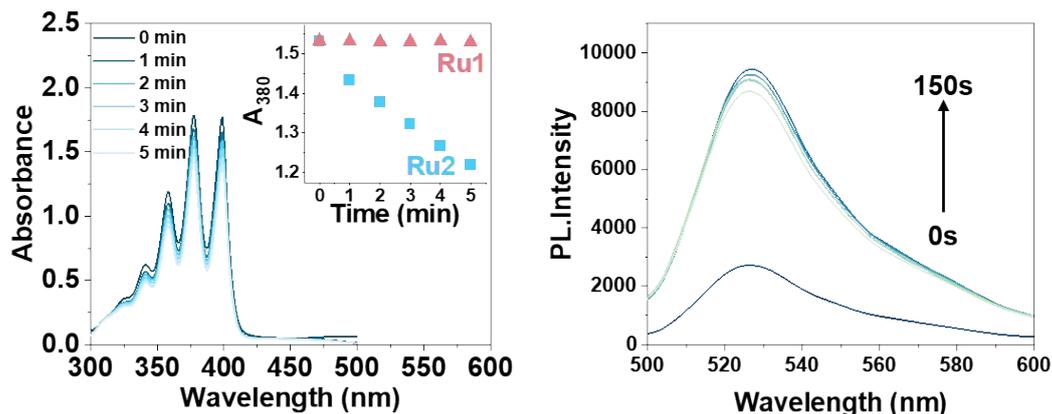
**Fig. S7.** Mass spectra showing ligand dissociation of **Ru1** in methanol after illumination (11.6 J/cm<sup>2</sup>).



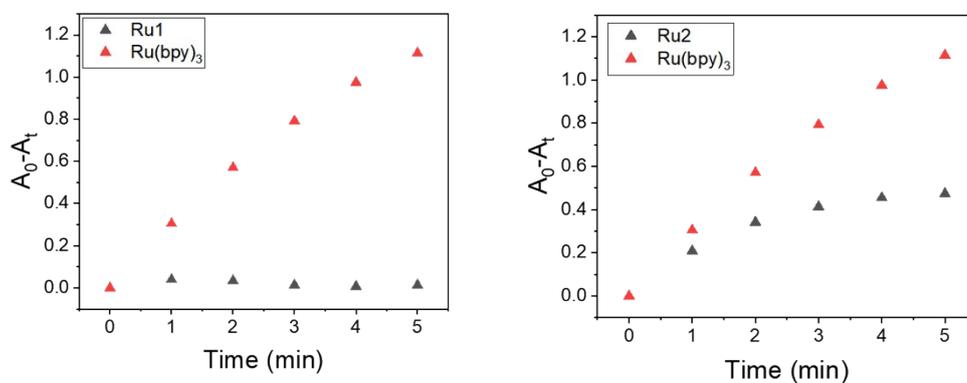
**Fig. S8.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra showing ligand dissociation of **Ru2** after illumination (11.6 J/cm<sup>2</sup>).



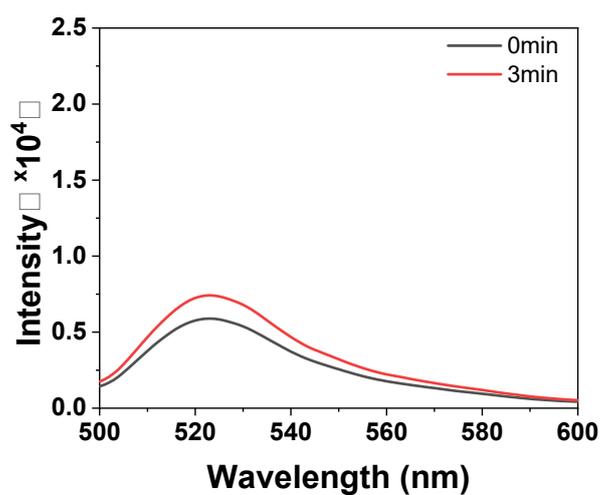
**Fig. S9.** HPLC of GMP and **Ru2** after irradiation. (11.6 J/cm<sup>2</sup>).



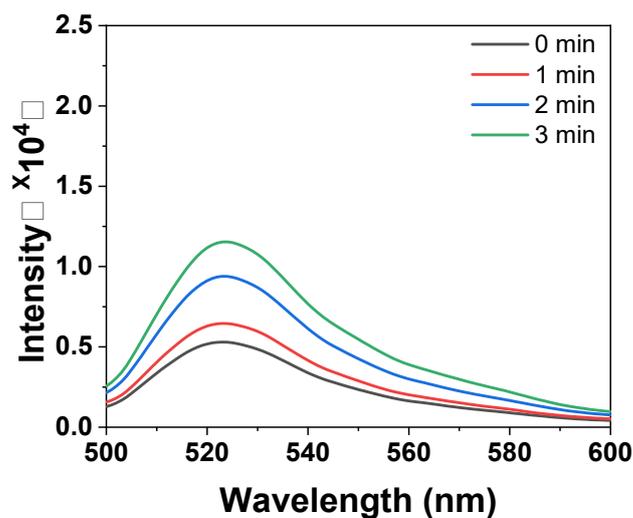
**Fig. S10.**  $^1\text{O}_2$  generation by Ru2(10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) upon white light irradiation (38.6  $\text{mW}/\text{cm}^2$ ) with ABDA (left) and SOSG (right).



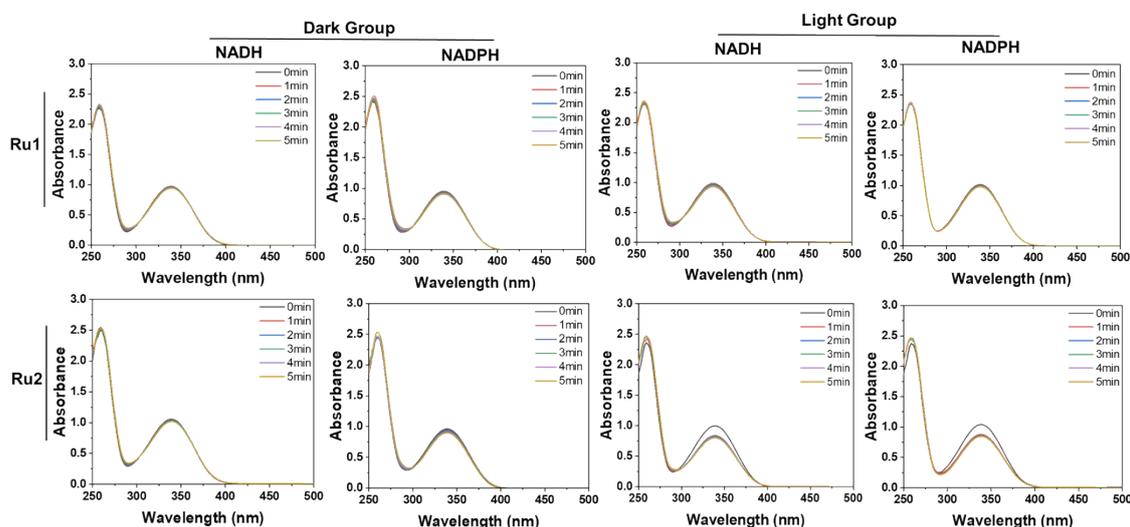
**Fig. S11.** Determination of the quantum yield for the  $^1\text{O}_2$  generation by the complex **Ru1** and **Ru2** or Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (as reference) in PBS under white light irradiation.



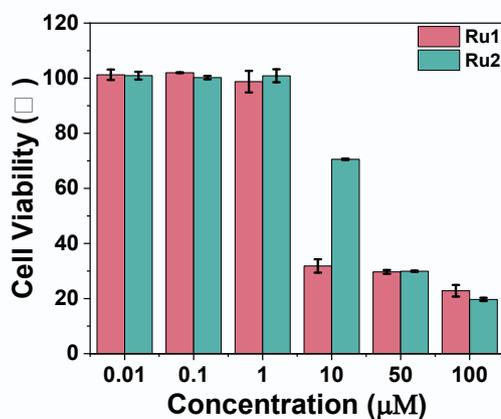
**Fig. S12.** Fluorescence intensity changes of DHR123 (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the dark.



**Fig. S13.** O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> detection using the DHR123 (10 μM) assay for Ru1 (5 μM) in aqueous solution after white light irradiation (7 J/cm<sup>2</sup>).

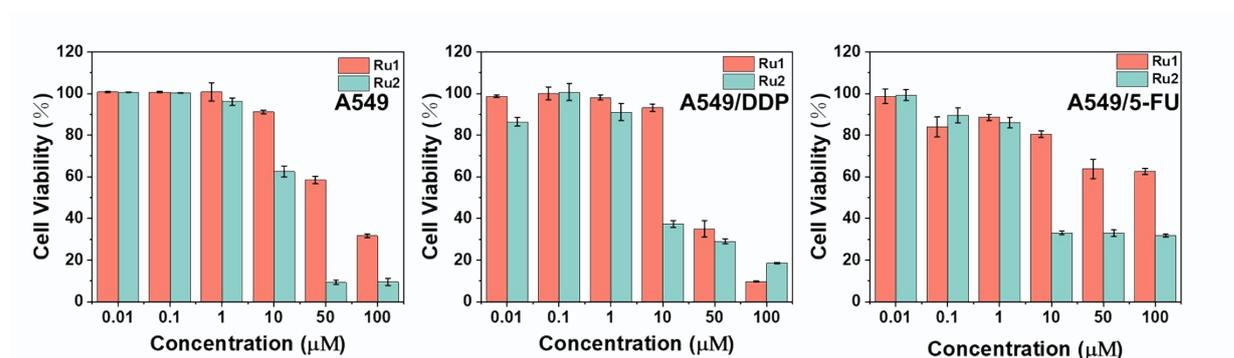


**Fig. S14.** UV-vis spectra showing the photocatalytic oxidation of NADH (160 μM) and NADPH (160 μM) by Ru1 and Ru2 (10 μM) in aqueous solution.



**Fig. S15.** Dark toxicity of Ru2 toward non-tumorigenic cell lines HEK-293T.

	A549(21% O <sub>2</sub> )			A549(5% O <sub>2</sub> )		
	Dark <sup>a</sup>	Light <sup>b</sup>	PI <sup>c</sup>	Dark <sup>a</sup>	Light <sup>b</sup>	PI <sup>c</sup>
Ru1	28.3±1.6	8.8±0.7	3.2	>100	40.7±2.1	2.5
Ru2	65.0±1.1	0.29±0.04	224.1	81.3±3.1	10.3±2.8	7.9
Cisplatin	2.4±0.2	1.8±0.1	1.3	3.7±1.4	4.1±1.5	0.9
5-FU	67.1±1.4	66.8±1.1	1.0	88.3±0.9	86.4±1.2	1.0
Ce6	22.4±0.7	0.21±0.08	106.7	17.4±2.3	8.4±1.7	2.1



**Fig. S16.** Antiproliferative activity of **Ru1** and **Ru2** against different tumor cell lines under hypoxia (5% O<sub>2</sub>) conditions.

### 3. Tables

**Table S1.** Dark and photo IC<sub>50</sub> values (µM) and photo-cytotoxicity index (PI = IC<sub>50</sub> dark/IC<sub>50</sub> light) in A549 cells under normoxic and hypoxic conditions

<sup>a</sup>48 h drug exposure in the dark.

<sup>b</sup>16h drug exposure in the dark, followed by white light irradiation (11.6 J/cm<sup>2</sup>) for 5 min and further 32 h incubation.

<sup>c</sup>PI = IC<sub>50</sub>(Dark<sup>a</sup>) / IC<sub>50</sub>(Light<sup>b</sup>).

5-FU =5-Fluorouracil, n.a. = Not applicable.

**Table S2.** Dark and photo IC<sub>50</sub> values (μM) and photo-cytotoxicity index (PI = IC<sub>50</sub> dark/IC<sub>50</sub> light) in A549/5-FU cells under normoxic and hypoxic conditions

	A549/5-FU(21% O <sub>2</sub> )			A549/5-FU(5% O <sub>2</sub> )		
	Dark <sup>a</sup>	Light <sup>b</sup>	PI <sup>c</sup>	Dark <sup>a</sup>	Light <sup>b</sup>	PI <sup>c</sup>
<b>Ru1</b>	<b>66.6±3.7</b>	<b>21.6±2.4</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>&gt;100</b>	<b>53.7±2.4</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>Ru2</b>	<b>67.2±2.1</b>	<b>0.66±0.09</b>	<b>101.8</b>	<b>&gt;100</b>	<b>4.2±1.9</b>	<b>23.8</b>
<b>5-FU</b>	<b>&gt;200</b>	<b>&gt;200</b>	<b>n.a.</b>	<b>&gt;200</b>	<b>&gt;200</b>	<b>n.a.</b>
<b>Ce6</b>	<b>32.4±1.6</b>	<b>0.25±0.02</b>	<b>129.6</b>	<b>17.5±1.6</b>	<b>1.4±1.1</b>	<b>12.5</b>

<sup>a</sup>48 h drug exposure in the dark.

<sup>b</sup>16h drug exposure in the dark, followed by white light irradiation (11.6 J/cm<sup>2</sup>) for 5 min and further 32 h incubation.

<sup>c</sup>PI = IC<sub>50</sub>(Dark<sup>a</sup>) / IC<sub>50</sub> (Light<sup>b</sup>).

5-FU =5-Fluorouracil , n.a. = Not applicable.

	A549/DDP(21% O <sub>2</sub> )			A549(5% O <sub>2</sub> )		
	Dark <sup>a</sup>	Light <sup>b</sup>	PI <sup>c</sup>	Dark <sup>a</sup>	Light <sup>b</sup>	PI <sup>c</sup>
<b>Ru1</b>	<b>51.4±3.2</b>	<b>11.8±1.9</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>&gt;100</b>	<b>&gt;100</b>	<b>n.a.</b>
<b>Ru2</b>	<b>&gt;100</b>	<b>0.13±0.03</b>	<b>769.2</b>	<b>62.8±2.3</b>	<b>1.2±0.6</b>	<b>52.3</b>
<b>Cisplatin</b>	<b>15.5±2.2</b>	<b>11.8±0.4</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>77.6±2.9</b>	<b>74.1±3.1</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>Ce6</b>	<b>63.5±1.7</b>	<b>0.36±0.2</b>	<b>176.4</b>	<b>21.4±2.4</b>	<b>8.0±1.2</b>	<b>2.7</b>

<sup>a</sup>48 h drug exposure in the dark.

<sup>b</sup>16h drug exposure in the dark, followed by white light irradiation (11.6 J/cm<sup>2</sup>) for 5 min and further 32 h incubation.

<sup>c</sup>PI = IC<sub>50</sub>(Dark<sup>a</sup>) / IC<sub>50</sub>(Light<sup>b</sup>).

n.a. = Not applicable.

**Table S3.** Dark and photo IC<sub>50</sub> values (μM) and photo-cytotoxicity index (PI = IC<sub>50</sub> dark/IC<sub>50</sub> light) in A549/DDP cells under normoxic and hypoxic conditions

**Table S4.** Photo IC<sub>50</sub> values (μM) in A549 cells under different photo dose.

	5.8 J/cm <sup>2</sup>	11.6 J/cm <sup>2</sup>	23.2 J/cm <sup>2</sup>
Light IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)	0.93±0.08	0.29±0.04	0.26±0.009

**Table S5.** Photo IC<sub>50</sub> values (μM) and photo-cytotoxicity index (PI = IC<sub>50</sub> dark/IC<sub>50</sub> light) in A549 cells of various Ruthenium complexes.

	Light IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)	PI
Ru (Reported by Glazer) <sup>1</sup>	1.1 ± 0.3	136
Ru (Reported by Glazer) <sup>1</sup>	1.2 ± 0.1	208
Ru (Reported by Bonnet) <sup>2</sup>	6.5	9.1
Ru (Reported by Zhou) <sup>3</sup>	11.2 ± 0.2	3
Ru2	0.29±0.04	224

#### 4. References

- 1 B. S. Howerton, D. K. Heidary and E. C. Glazer, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2012, **134**, 8324-8327.
- 2 C. Chen, J. A. Cuello-Garibo, L. Bretin, L. Zhang, V. Ramu, Y. Aydar, Y. Batsiun, S. Bronkhorst, Y. Husiev, N. Beztsinna, L. Chen, X. Zhou, C. Schmidt, I. Ott, M. J. Jager, A. M. Brouwer, B. E. Snaar-Jagalska and S. Bonnet, *Chem.Sci.*, 2022, **13**, 6899-6919.
- 3 C. Zhang, X. Guo, X. Da, Z. Wang, X. Wang and Q. Zhou, *Dalton Trans.*, 2021, **50**, 10845-10852.

