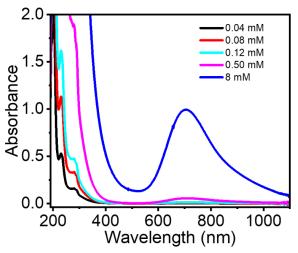
## Supporting online information for

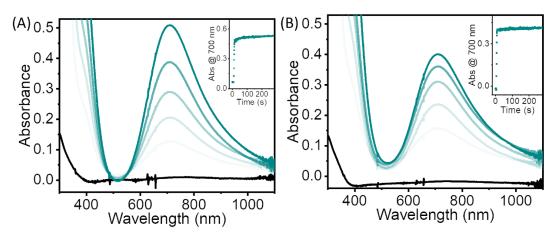
## Amphoteric reactivity of a putative Cu(II)-*m*CPBA intermediate<sup>‡</sup>

Rakesh Kumar, Anweshika Maji, Bhargab Biswas, and Apparao Draksharapu\*

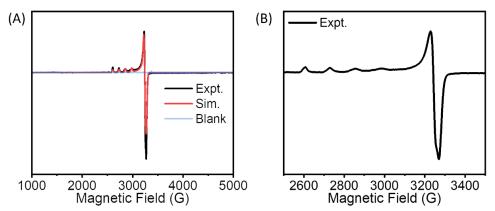
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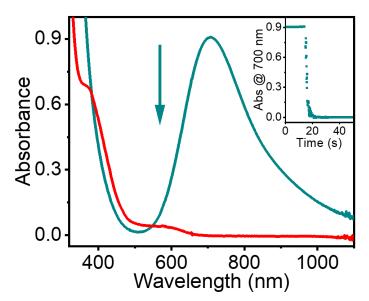
**Figure S1:** UV/Vis absorption spectra at different concentration (black) 0.04 mM, (red) 0.08 mM, (cyan) 0.12 mM, (magenta) 0.50 mM, and (blue) 8 mM of **1**.



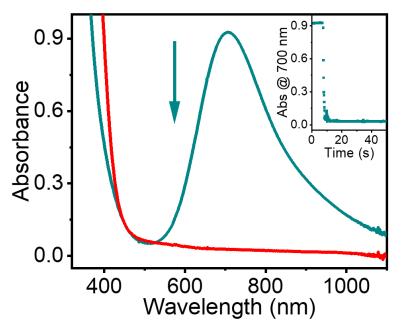
**Figure S2:** UV/Vis absorption changes upon reaction of (A) 3 equivalents and (B) 10 equivalents of *m*CPBA with 8 mM  $[Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4})$  in CH<sub>3</sub>CN at 25 °C. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm over time in seconds.



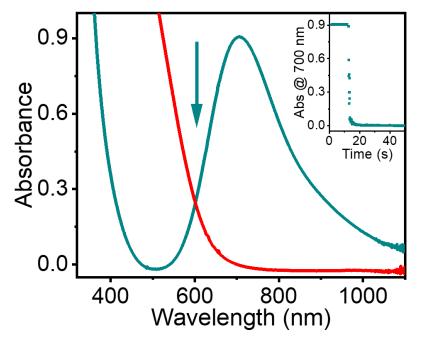
**Figure S3:** (A) Experimental (black) and simulated (red) X-band EPR spectra of **1** ( $g_x = g_y = 2.08$ ,  $g_z = 2.41$ ;  $A_x = A_y = 0$  G,  $A_z = 130$  G), and (blue) [Cu<sup>1</sup>(NCCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>](ClO<sub>4</sub>) (B) Zoomed in experimental spectrum of **1** measured at 120 K; modulation amplitude 2.08 G; modulation frequency 100 kHz, and attenuation 20 dB. *Condition to generate* **1**: 2 mM [Cu<sup>1</sup>(NCCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>](ClO<sub>4</sub>) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN treated with 1 eq. of mCPBA at 25 °C.



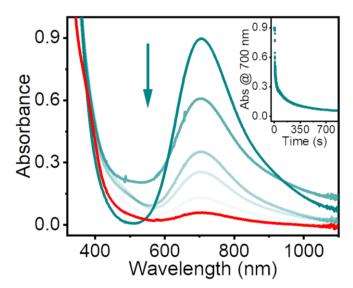
**Figure S4:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 8 mM **1** with 20 eq. of *p*-cresol at 25 °C. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **1**: 8 mM [ $Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}$ ]( $ClO_{4}$ ) in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. of mCPBA at 25 °C.



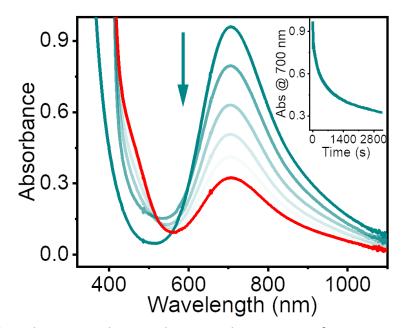
**Figure S5:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 8 mM **1** with 20 eq. of *p*-fluorophenol at 25 °C. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **1**: 8 mM  $[Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4})$  in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. of mCPBA at 25 °C.



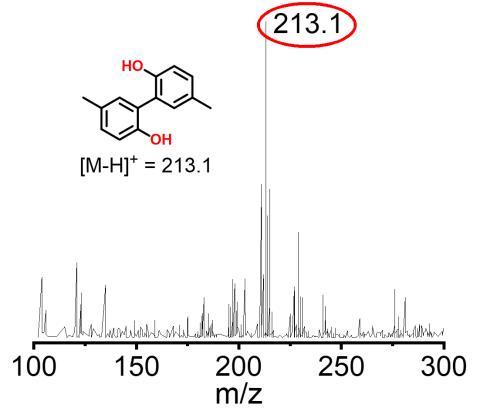
**Figure S6:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 8 mM **1** with 20 eq. of phenol at 25 °C. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **1**: 8 mM [ $Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}$ ]( $CIO_{4}$ ) in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. of mCPBA at 25 °C.



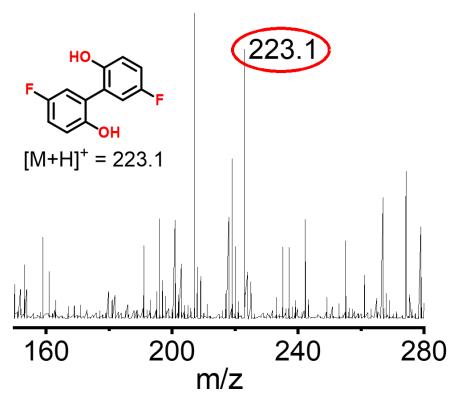
**Figure S7:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 8 mM **1** with 20 eq. of *p*-hydroxybenzonitrile at 25 °C. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **1**: 8 mM [ $Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}$ ]( $CIO_{4}$ ) in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. of mCPBA at 25 °C.



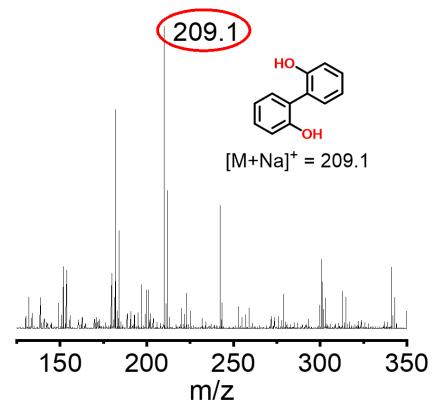
**Figure S8:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 8 mM **1** with 20 eq. of *p*-nitrophenol at 25 °C. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **1**: 8 mM [ $Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}$ ]( $ClO_{4}$ ) in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. of mCPBA at 25 °C.



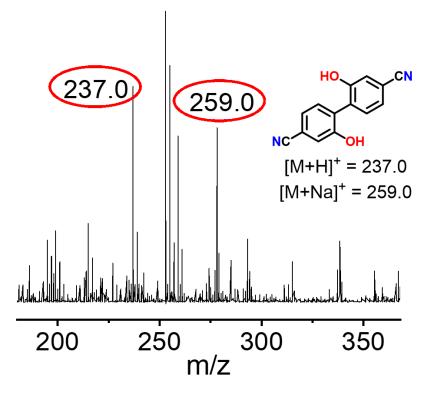
**Figure S9:** Product analysis of the reaction of **1** with 2 eq. of *p*-cresol by ESI-MS. Conditions to generate **1**: 20 mM  $[Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](ClO_{4})$  in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. mCPBA at 25 °C.



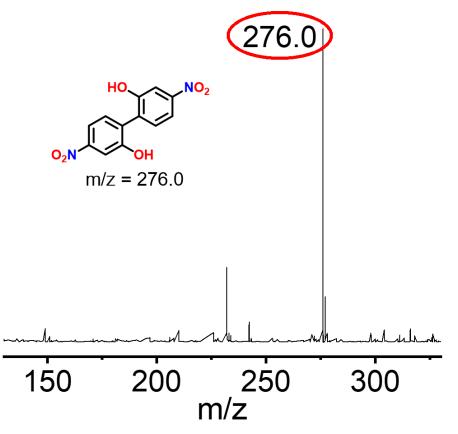
**Figure S10:** Product analysis of the reaction of **1** with 2 eq. of *p*-flurophenol by ESI-MS. Conditions to generate **1**: 20 mM  $[Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](ClO_{4})$  in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. mCPBA at 25 °C.



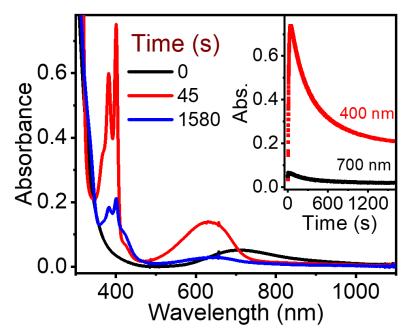
**Figure S11:** Product analysis of the reaction of **1** with 2 eq. of phenol by ESI-MS. Conditions to generate **1**: 20 mM  $[Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4})$  in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. mCPBA at 25 °C.



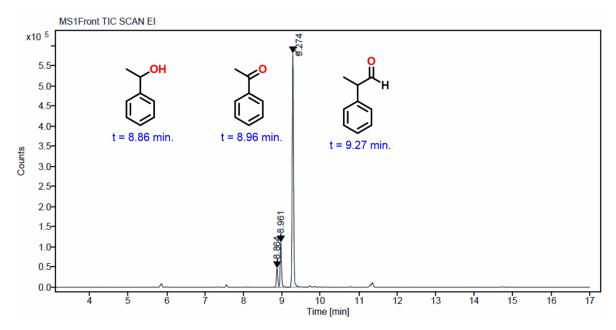
**Figure S12:** Product analysis of the reaction of **1** with 2 eq. of *p*-hydroxybenzonitrile by ESI-MS. Conditions to generate **1**: 20 mM  $[Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](ClO_{4})$  in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. mCPBA at 25 °C.



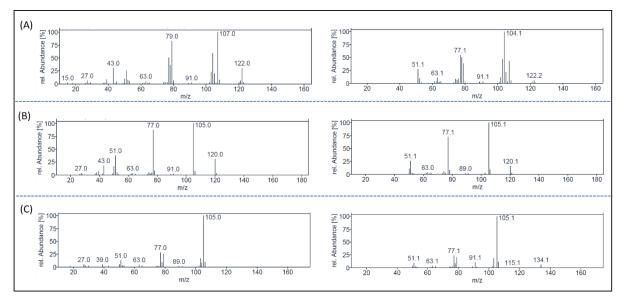
**Figure S13:** Product analysis of the reaction of **1** with 100 eq. of *p*-nitro phenol by ESI-MS. Conditions to generate **1**: 20 mM  $[Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](ClO_{4})$  in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. mCPBA at 25 °C.



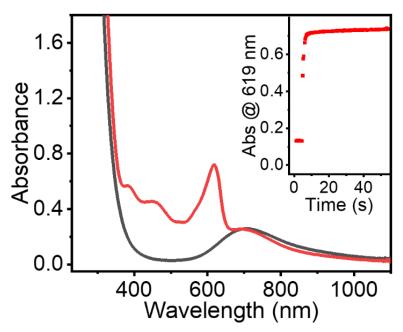
**Figure S14:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 0.5 mM **1** with 2 eq. of 2,4,6-TTBP. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 400 nm (red) and 700 (black) nm over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **1**: 0.5 mM  $[Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](ClO_{4})$  in CH<sub>3</sub>CN + 1 eq. of mCPBA at 25 °C.



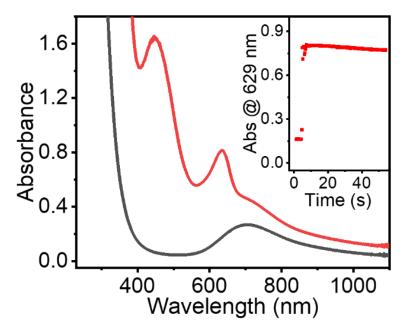
**Figure S15:** Gas Chromatogram of the reaction of **1** with 5 eq. of 2-PPA at 40 °C. *Conditions to generate* **1**: 20 mM [ $Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}$ ]( $CIO_{4}$ ) in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. mCPBA at 25 °C.



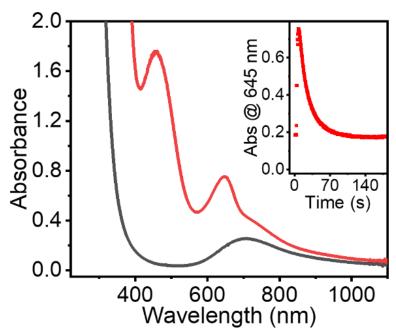
**Figure S16:** Product analysis of the reaction of **1** with 5 eq. of 2-PPA at 40 °C by GC followed by mass spectrometry. (Left) Experimental mass fragment data with peaks at corresponding retention time (in min.) (A) 8.862 min. for 1-phenylethanol (B) 8.959 min. for acetophenone, and (C) 9.274 min. for 2-PPA; (Right) simulated from the mass library of GCMS. *Conditions to generate* **1**: 20 mM [ $Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}$ ]( $ClO_{4}$ ) in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. mCPBA at 25 °C.



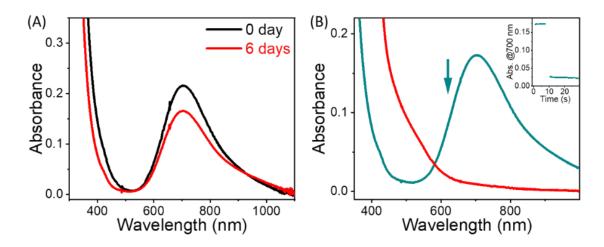
**Figure S17:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 2 mM **1** with 2 eq. of ferrocene. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 619 nm due to ferrocenium (Fc<sup>+</sup>) over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **1**:  $2 \text{ mM} [Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](ClO_{4})$  in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. of mCPBA at 25 °C.



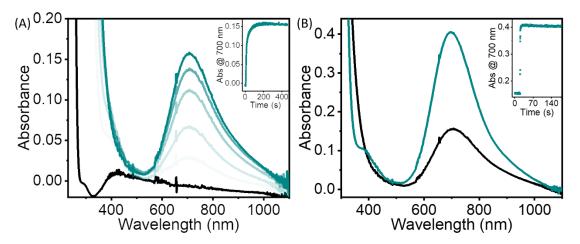
**Figure S18:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 2 mM **1** with 2 eq. of acetylferrocene. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 629 nm due to acetylferrocenium (AcFc<sup>+</sup>) over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **1**: 2 mM  $[Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4})$  in CH<sub>3</sub>CN + 1 eq. mCPBA at 25 °C.



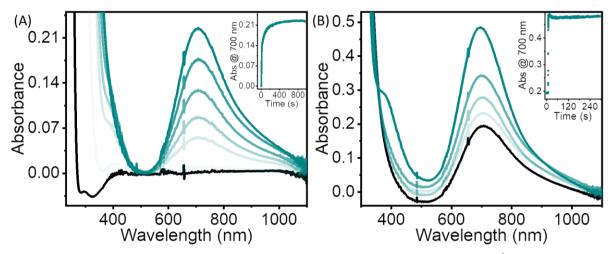
**Figure S19:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 2 mM **1** with 2 eq. of diacetyl ferrocene. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 645 nm due to diacetylferrocenium (Ac<sub>2</sub>Fc<sup>+</sup>) over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **1**: 2 mM  $[Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4})$  in  $CH_{3}CN + 1$  eq. mCPBA at 25 °C.



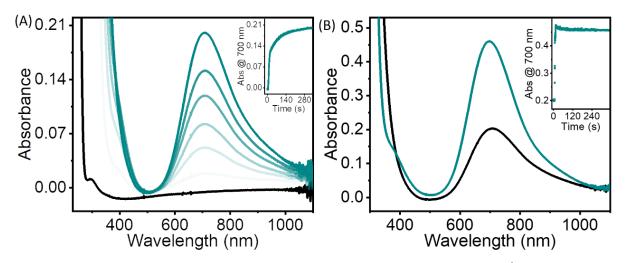
**Figure S20:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the (A) decay of **1**: (black) initial spectra and (red) after 6 days. (B) the instantaneous decay of **1** (solution kept for 6 days) upon addition of 20 eq. of phenol. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorbance at 700 nm over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **1**:  $2 \text{ mM} [Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4})$  in  $CH_{3}CN + 1 \text{ eq. of mCPBA at 25}$   ${}^{o}C$ .



**Figure S21:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of (A) 2 mM  $[Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4})$  with 0.5 eq. of mCPBA at 25 °C. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm over time in seconds. (B) In continuation, to this 1.5 eq. of mCBA and 1.5 eq. of Et<sub>3</sub>N (as a source of 3-chlorobenzoate) added. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm over time in seconds.



**Figure S22:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of (A) 2 mM  $[Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4})$  with 1 eq. of mCPBA at 25 °C. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm over time in seconds. (B) In continuation, to this 1 eq. of mCBA and 1 eq. of Et<sub>3</sub>N (as a source of 3-chlorobenzoate) added. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm over time in seconds.



**Figure S23:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of (A) 2 mM  $[Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4})$  with 1 eq. of mCPBA at 25 °C. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm over time in seconds. (B) In continuation, to this 1.5 eq. of mCBA and 1.5 eq. of Et<sub>3</sub>N (as a source of 3-chlorobenzoate) added. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm over time in seconds.

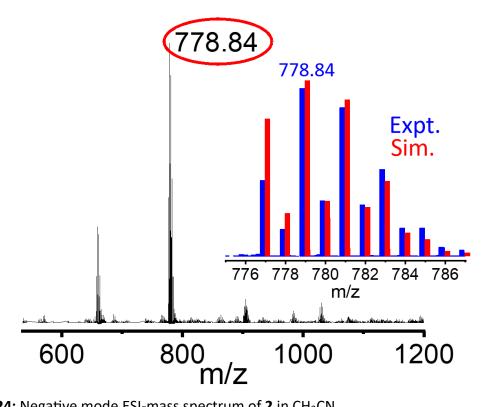
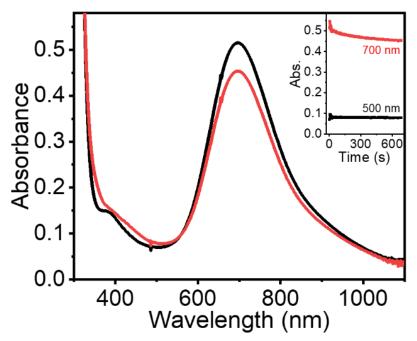
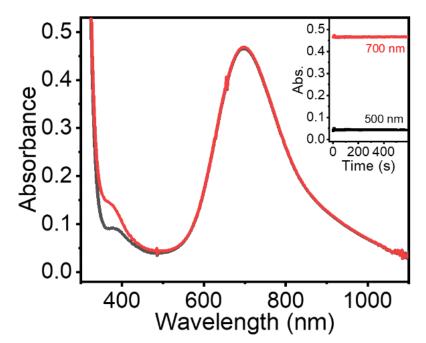


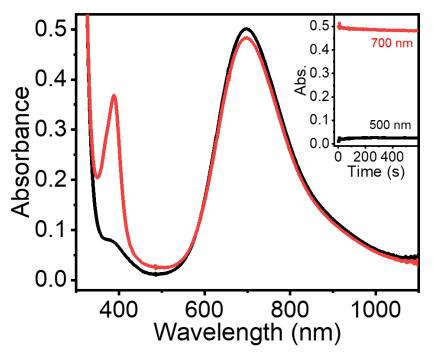
Figure S24: Negative mode ESI-mass spectrum of 2 in CH<sub>3</sub>CN.



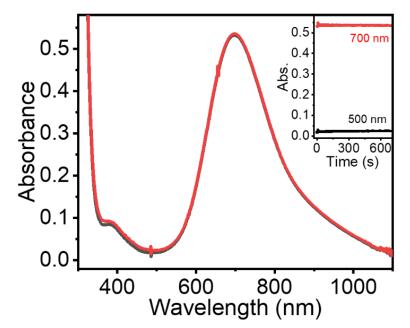
**Figure S25:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 2 mM **2** (black) with 10 eq. of *p*-cresol. (red) Spectra recorded after 600 sec. of reactant added. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm and 500 nm over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **2**:  $2 \text{ mM} [Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](ClO_{4}) + 0.5 \text{ eq. of mCPBA} + 1.5 \text{ eq. of }(mCBA + Et_{3}N) \text{ in } CH_{3}CN \text{ at } 25 \text{ }^{\circ}C.$ 



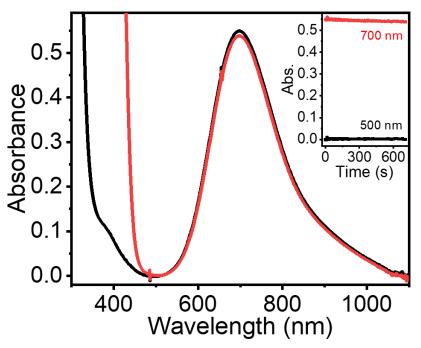
**Figure S26:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 2 mM **2** (black) with 10 eq. of *p*-flurophenol. (red) Spectra recorded after 500 sec. of reactant added. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm and 500 nm over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **2**:  $2 \text{ mM} [Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4}) + 0.5 \text{ eq. of mCPBA} + 1.5 \text{ eq. of } (mCBA + Et_{3}N) \text{ in } CH_{3}CN \text{ at } 25 \, {}^{o}C.$ 



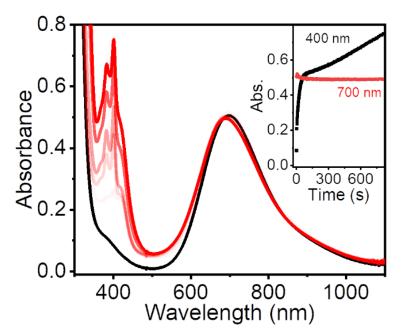
**Figure S27:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 2 mM **2** (black) with 10 eq. of phenol. (red) Spectra recorded after 500 sec. of reactant added. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm and 500 nm over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **2**:  $2 \text{ mM} [Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4}) + 0.5 \text{ eq. of mCPBA} + 1.5 \text{ eq. of }(mCBA + Et_{3}N) \text{ in } CH_{3}CN \text{ at } 25 \text{ }^{\circ}C.$ 



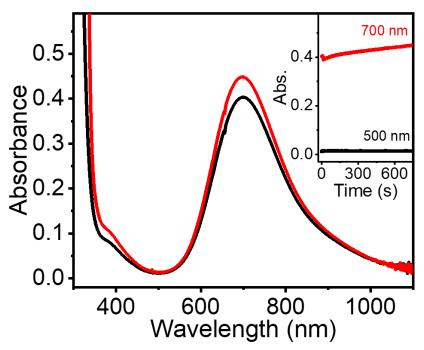
**Figure S28:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 2 mM **2** (black) with 10 eq. of *p*-hydroxybenzonitrile. (red) Spectra recorded after 600 sec. of reactant added. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm and 500 nm over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **2**: 2 mM  $[Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4}) + 0.5$  eq. of mCPBA + 1.5 eq. of (mCBA + *Et*<sub>3</sub>N) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN at 25 °C.



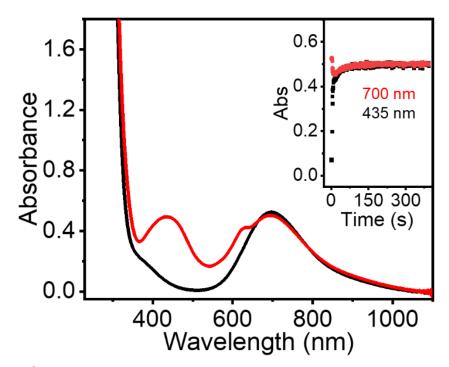
**Figure S29:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 2 mM **2** (black) with 10 eq. of *p*-nitro phenol. (red) Spectra recorded after 600 sec. of reactant added. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm and 500 nm over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **2**:  $2 \text{ mM} [Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4}) + 0.5 \text{ eq. of mCPBA} + 1.5 \text{ eq. of } (mCBA + Et_{3}N) \text{ in } CH_{3}CN \text{ at } 25 \, {}^{o}C.$ 



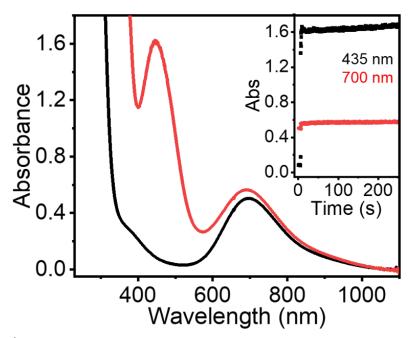
**Figure S30:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 2 mM **2** with 2 eq. of 2,4,6-TTBP. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm and 400 nm over time in seconds. *Conditions to generate* **2**: 2 mM  $[Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4}) + 0.5$  eq. of mCPBA + 1.5 eq. of (mCBA + Et<sub>3</sub>N) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN at 25 °C.



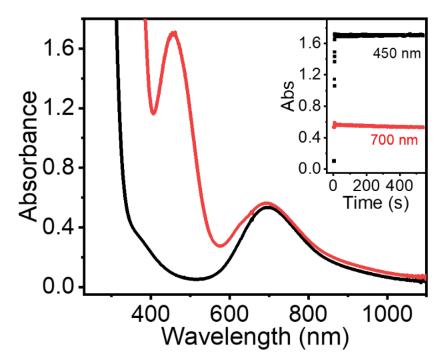
**Figure S31:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 2 mM **2** (black) with 40 eq. of 2-PPA at 40 °C. Inset: The corresponding changes in the absorption at 700 nm and 500 nm over time in seconds. Conditions to generate **2**: 2 mM  $[Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](ClO_{4}) + 0.5$  eq. of mCPBA + 1.5 eq. of (mCBA + Et<sub>3</sub>N) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN at 40 °C.



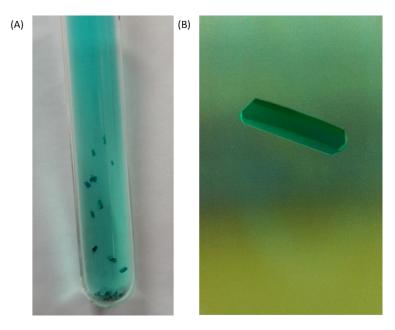
**Figure S32:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 2 mM **2** with 2 eq. of ferrocene in CH<sub>3</sub>CN. *Conditions to generate* **2**:  $2 \text{ mM} [Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](ClO_{4}) + 0.5 \text{ eq. of mCPBA} + 1.5 \text{ eq. of } (mCBA + Et_{3}N) \text{ in CH}_{3}CN \text{ at } 25 \text{ }^{\circ}C.$ 



**Figure S33:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 2 mM **2** with 2 eq. of acetylferrocene in CH<sub>3</sub>CN. *Conditions to generate* **2**: 2 mM  $[Cu^{I}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](CIO_{4}) + 0.5$  eq. of mCPBA + 1.5 eq. of (mCBA + Et<sub>3</sub>N) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN at 25 °C.



**Figure S34:** UV/Vis absorption changes depicting the reaction of 2 mM of **2** with 2 eq. of diacetyl ferrocene in CH<sub>3</sub>CN. *Conditions to generate* **2**:  $2 \text{ mM} [Cu^{l}(NCCH_{3})_{4}](ClO_{4}) + 0.5 \text{ eq. of } mCPBA + 1.5 \text{ eq. of } (mCBA + Et_{3}N) \text{ in CH}_{3}CN \text{ at } 25 \text{ }^{\circ}C.$ 



**Figure S35:** (A) Crystals of **2** formed by layering of hexane upon **1** in  $CH_3CN$  and (B) magnified view of a selected crystal.

$C_{20}H_{17}Cl_2CuN_3O_4$
497.80
100
triclinic
Р-1
10.1316(3)
10.7203(3)
11.9188(3)
68.1470(10)
68.4210(10)
86.3640(10)
1113.25(5)
2
1.485
1.251
506.0
0.22 × 0.22 × 0.2
ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)
5.426 to 56.706
-13 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 13, -14 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 14, -15 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 15
18162
5560 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0283, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0287]
5560/0/293
1.080
$R_1 = 0.0261, wR_2 = 0.0658$
R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0287, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0674
0.52/-0.46

Table S2: Selected Bond lengths (Å) of 2.

	Length/Å		Length/Å
$Cu_1 \bullet \bullet \bullet Cu_1^1$	2.6483(3)	Cu <sub>1</sub> —O <sub>3</sub>	1.9583(10)
$Cu_1 - O_2^1$	1.9716(11)	Cu <sub>1</sub> —O <sub>1</sub>	1.9657(10)
$Cu_1 - O_4^1$	1.9706(10)	$Cu_1 - N_1$	2.1675(13)
<sup>1</sup> 1-X,1-Y,-Z		•	•

	Angle/°		Angle/°
$O_2^1 - Cu_1 - Cu_1^1$	83.18(3)	$O_3 - Cu_1 - O_4^1$	168.19(4)
$O_2^1 - Cu_1 - N_1$	93.74(5)	$O_1 - Cu_1 - O_2^1$	168.33(4)
$O_4^1 - Cu_1 - Cu_1^1$	86.62(3)	$N_1$ — $Cu_1$ — $Cu_1^1$	175.13(4)
$O_4^1 - Cu_1 - O_2^1$	89.37(5)	$O_1 - Cu_1 - O_4^1$	89.23(5)
$O_4^1 - Cu_1 - N_1$	97.14(5)	$O_1 - Cu_1 - N_1$	97.93(5)
$O_3$ - $Cu_1$ - $Cu_1^1$	81.66(3)	$O_3 - Cu_1 - N_1$	94.64(5)
$O_3 - Cu_1 - O_2^1$	90.66(5)	$O_1$ — $Cu_1$ — $Cu_1^1$	85.17(3)
$O_3 - Cu_1 - O_1$	88.35(5)		
<sup>1</sup> 1-X,1-Y,-Z			

 Table S3:
 Selected Bond Angles (Å) of 2.

**Table S4:** Kinetic data for aldehyde deformylation of 2-phenylpropanaldehyde (2-PPA) with various 3d-metal based high valent intermediates at various temperatures.

Complex	k <sub>2</sub> [M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ] (T [°C])	Reference
1	0.0515 (40)	This work
[Mn <sup>III</sup> (O <sub>2</sub> )(12-TMC)] <sup>+</sup>	0.04 (20)	1
[Mn <sup>III</sup> (O <sub>2</sub> )(13-TMC)] <sup>+</sup>	0.03 (20)	1
[Mn <sup>III</sup> (O <sub>2</sub> )(14-TMC)] <sup>+</sup>	0.04 (20)	1
[Mn <sup>III</sup> (O <sub>2</sub> )(Pro3Py)] <sup>+</sup>	0.003 (0)	2
[Mn <sup>III</sup> (N <sub>3</sub> Py <sub>2</sub> )(O <sub>2</sub> )] <sup>+</sup>	0.16 (25)	3
(BPMP)Mn <sup>II</sup> Mn <sup>III</sup> -peroxide	0.0006 (-90)	4
[Mn <sup>III</sup> (bispidine)(O <sub>2</sub> )] <sup>+</sup>	0.0274 (15)	5
[Fe <sup>III</sup> (η <sub>2</sub> -OO)(TMC)] <sup>+</sup>	0.041 (15)	6
[Fe <sup>III</sup> (ŋ₁-OOH)(TMC)]⁺	0.13 (-40)	7
[Co <sup>III</sup> (η <sub>2</sub> -OO)(14-TMC)] <sup>+</sup>	0.058 (0)	8
[Co <sup>III</sup> (η <sub>2</sub> -OO)(13-TMC)] <sup>+</sup>	0.015 (25)	8
[Co <sup>III</sup> (η <sub>2</sub> -OO)(TMC)] <sup>+</sup>	0.058 (0)	9
[Co <sup>III</sup> (Me <sub>3</sub> -TPADP)(OO <sup>t</sup> Bu) <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	0.41 (25)	10
[Ni <sup>III</sup> (η <sub>2</sub> -OO)(TMC)] <sup>+</sup>	0.04 (25)	11
(L <sub>2</sub> )Ni <sup>II</sup> (superoxido)	0.00012 (25)	12
[Ni <sup>III</sup> (TBDAP)(O <sub>2</sub> )] <sup>+</sup>	0.0074 (25)	13
[Ni <sup>III</sup> (CHDAP)(O <sub>2</sub> )] <sup>+</sup>	0.062 (25)	13
[Cu <sup>II</sup> (CHDAP)(OOR)] <sup>+</sup>	0.12 (-40)	14
(BPC)Cu <sup>II</sup> (O-O <sup>-</sup> )	0.062 (-80)	15
[Cu <sup>II</sup> ( <sup>i</sup> Pr <sub>3</sub> -tren)(OOH)] <sup>+</sup>	0.15 (-50)	16

12-TMC = 1,4,7,10-tetramethyl-1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane, 13-TMC = 1,4,7,10-tetramethyl-TMC) = 1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclotridecane, 14-TMC 1,4,8,11-tetramethyl-1,4,8,11-(or tetraazacyclotetradecane, Pro3Py = 1-(pyridin-2-yl)-N-(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-N-((1-(pyridin-2ylmethyl)pyrrolidin-2-yl)methyl)methanamine,  $N_3Py_2 = N_1N'$ -dimethyl-N-(2-(methyl)pyridin-2ylmethyl)amino)ethyl)-N'-(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)ethane-1,2-diamine, HBPMP = 2,6-bis{[(bis(2pyridylmethyl)amino]methyl}-4-methylphenol), bispidine = dimethyl 2,4-di(2-pyridyl)-3-benzyl-7-(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-3,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.1] nonan-9-one-1,5-dicarboxylate, Me<sub>3</sub>-TPADP = 3,6,9trimethyl-3,6,9-triaza-1 (2,6)-pyridinacyclodecaphane,  $L_2 = MeN-(C(=O)NAr)_2$ ;  $Ar=2,6-Pr_2C_6H_3$ ), TBDAP = N,N'-di-*tert*-butyl-2,11-diaza[3.3](2,6)pyridinophane, CHDAP = N,N'-dicyclohexyl-2,11-diaza[3.3](2,6)pyridinophane, H<sub>2</sub>BPC = N,N'-bis(2,6-diisoproylphenyl)-2,6-pyridinedicarboxamide, <sup>i</sup>Pr<sub>3</sub>-tren = tris[2-(isopropylamino)ethyl]amine.

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