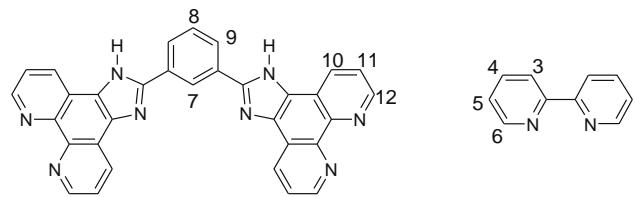


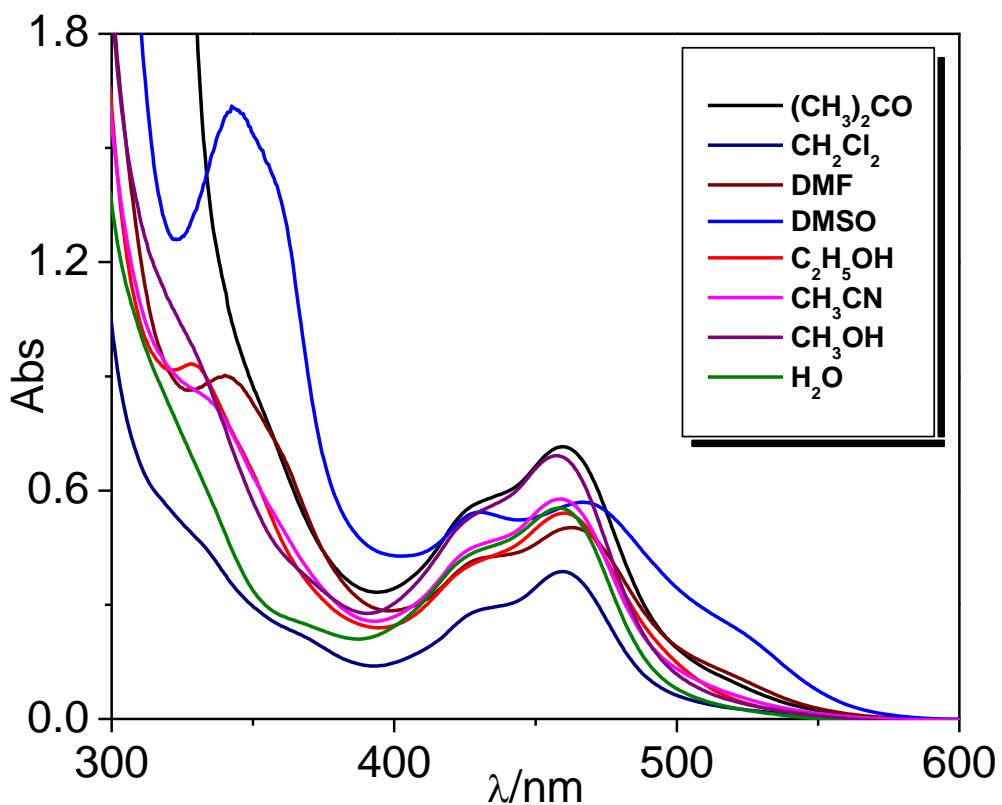
## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

**Structural characterization and spectroelectrochemical, anion sensing and solvent dependence photophysical studies of a bimetallic Ru(II) complex derived from 1,3-di(1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*f*][1,10]phenanthroline-2-yl)benzene**

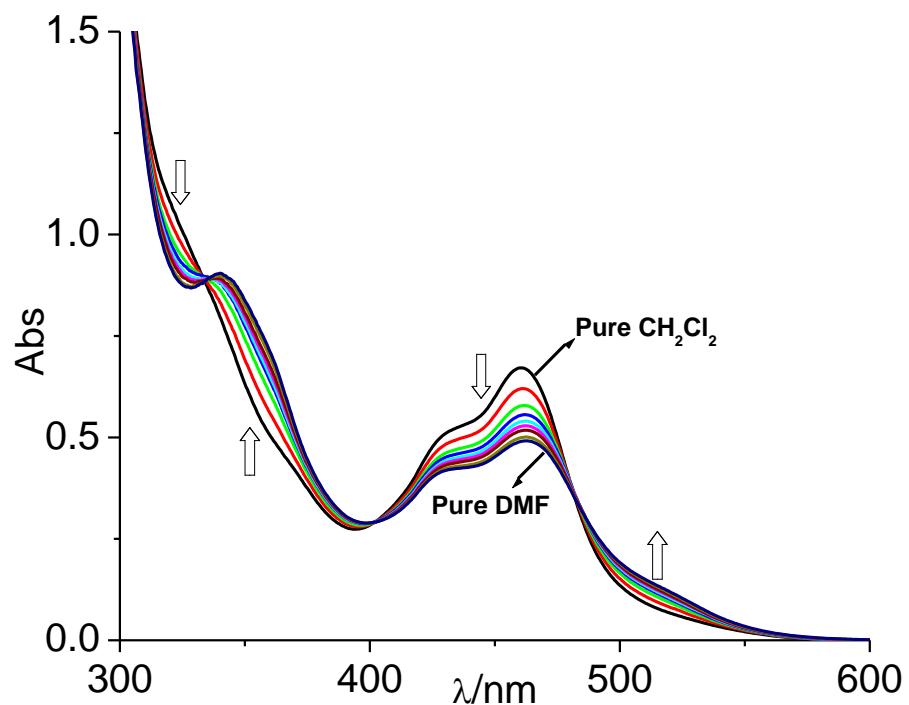
Debasish Saha, Shyamal Das, Sourav Mardanya, and Sujoy Baitalik <sup>\*</sup>



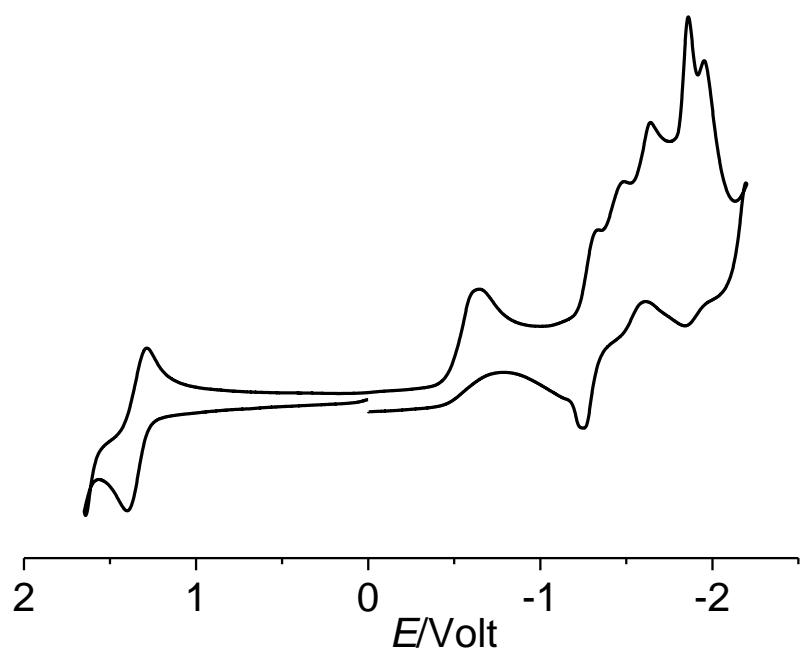
**Scheme S1**



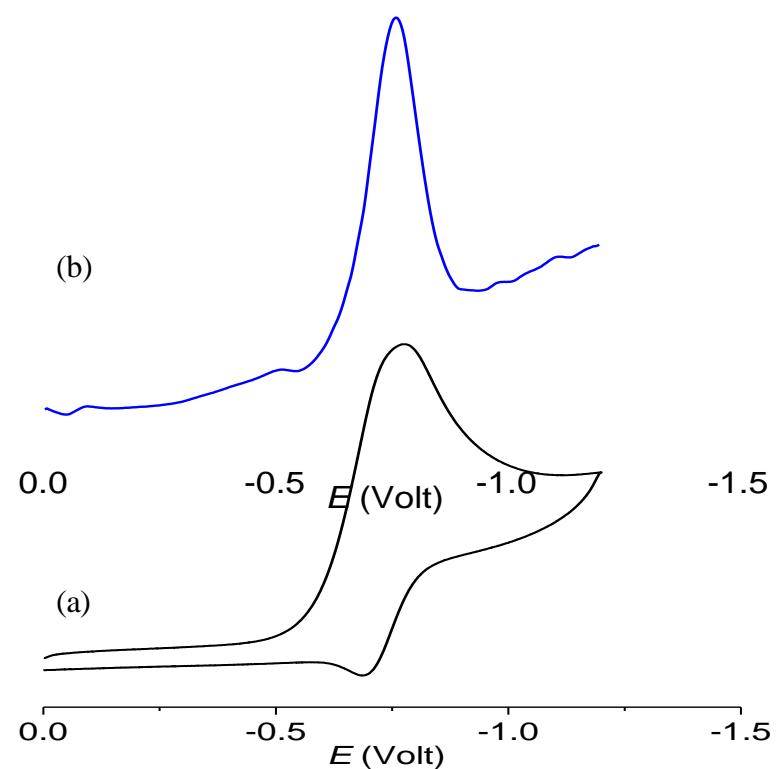
**Fig. S1** UV-vis spectra of  $[(\text{bipy})_2\text{Ru}(\text{H}_2\text{Impib})\text{Ru}(\text{bipy})_2](\text{ClO}_4)_4$  (**1**) in different solvents.



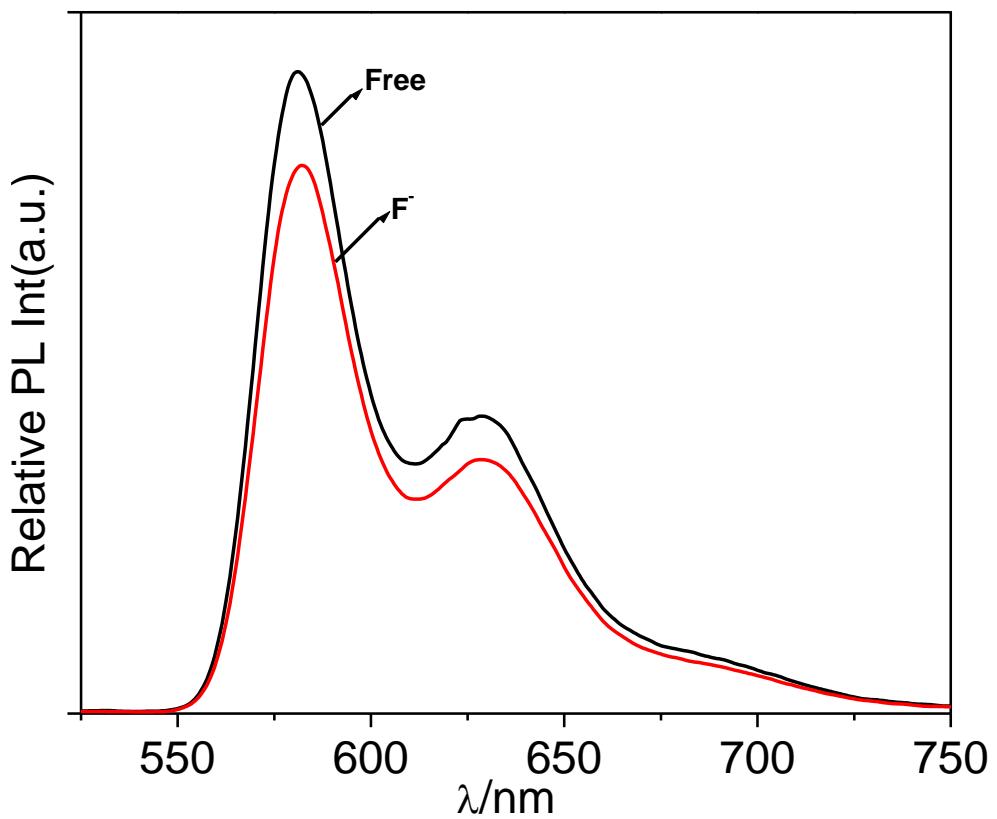
**Fig. S2** Changes in UV-vis spectra of  $[(\text{bipy})_2\text{Ru}(\text{H}_2\text{Impib})\text{Ru}(\text{bipy})_2](\text{ClO}_4)_4$  (**1**) on incremental addition of DMF in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



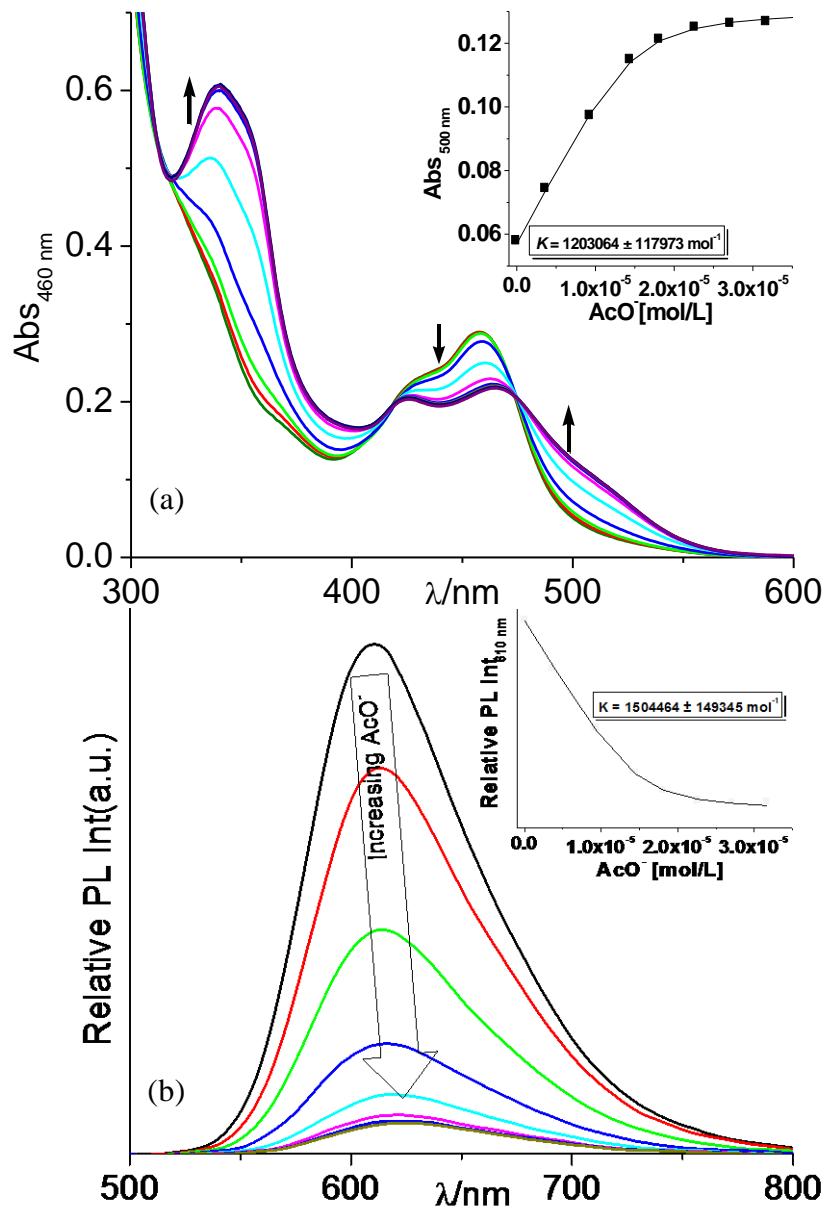
**Fig. S3** Cyclic voltammogram of  $[(\text{bipy})_2\text{Ru}(\text{H}_2\text{Impib})\text{Ru}(\text{bipy})_2](\text{ClO}_4)_4$  (**1**) in acetonitrile solution ( $5.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M) showing both oxidation and reduction.



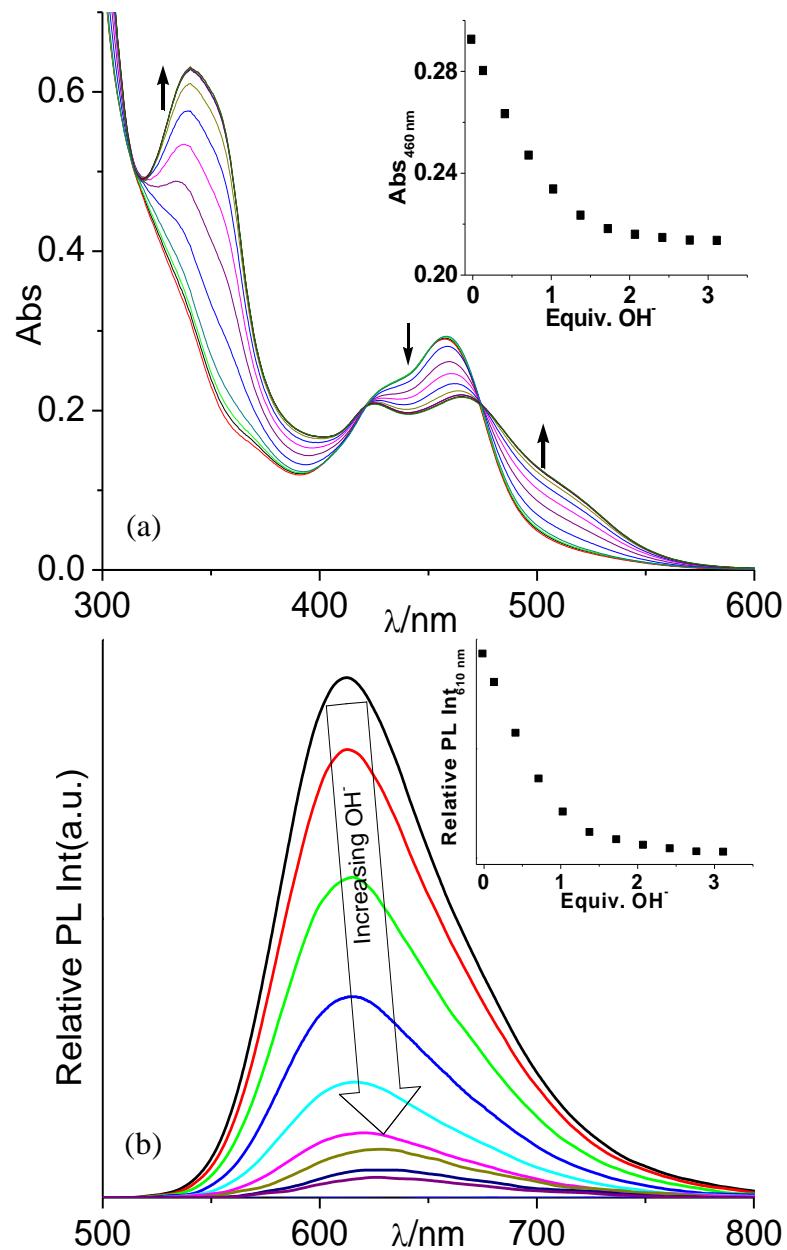
**Fig. S4** CV (a) and SWV (b) of H<sub>2</sub>Impib in dimethylsulfoxide solution ( $5.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M) showing reduction only.



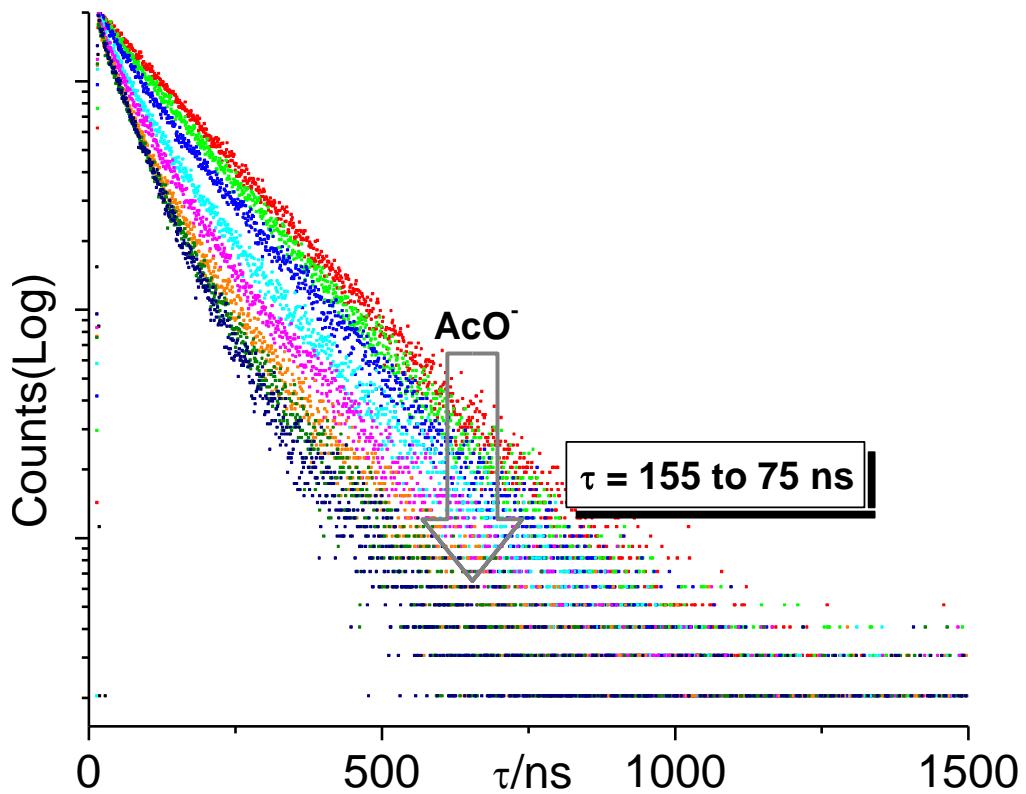
**Fig. S5** Luminescence spectra of  $[(\text{bipy})_2\text{Ru}(\text{H}_2\text{Impib})\text{Ru}(\text{bipy})_2](\text{ClO}_4)_4$  (**1**) in presence (red line) and in absence (black line) of  $\text{F}^-$  at 77 K in 4:1 ethanol–methanol glass.



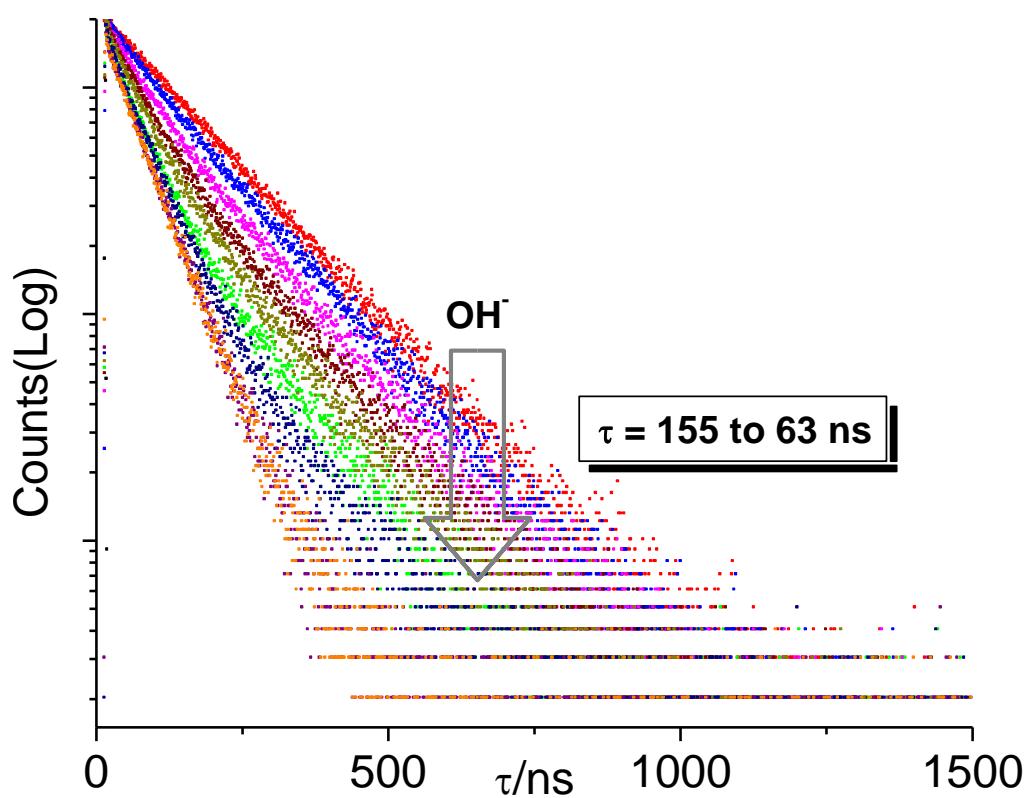
**Fig. S6** Changes in UV-vis (a) and photoluminescence (b) spectra of  $[(\text{bipy})_2\text{Ru}(\text{H}_2\text{Impib})\text{Ru}(\text{bipy})_2](\text{ClO}_4)_4$  (**1**) in acetonitrile upon addition of  $\text{AcO}^-$  ion. Inset shows the fit of the experimental data to a 1:1 binding profile.



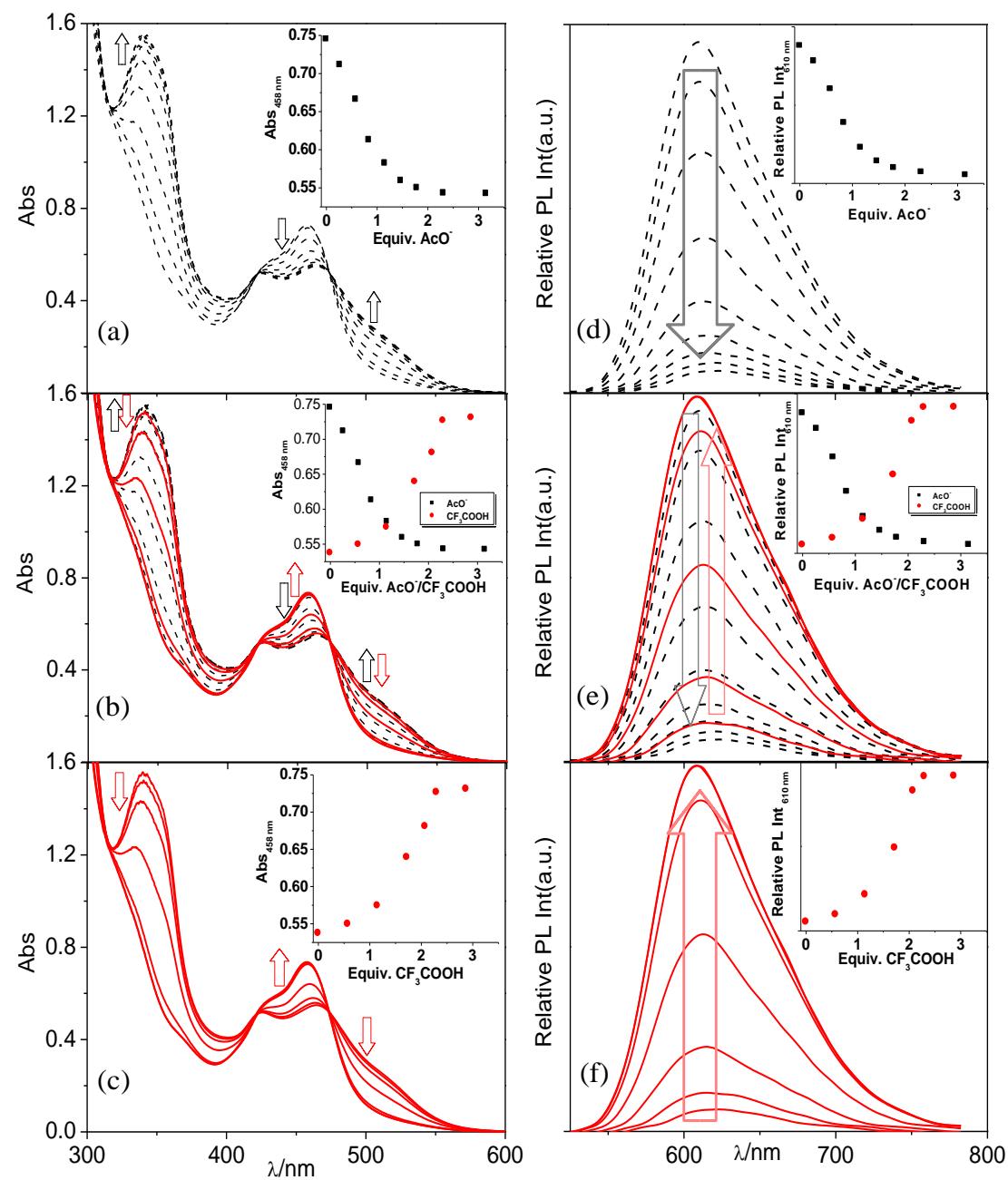
**Fig. S7.** Changes in UV-vis (a) and photoluminescence (b) spectra of  $[(\text{bipy})_2\text{Ru}(\text{H}_2\text{Impib})\text{Ru}(\text{bipy})_2](\text{ClO}_4)_4$  (**1**) in acetonitrile upon addition of  $\text{OH}^-$  ion. The inset shows the change of absorption and emission intensity as a function of the equivalent of  $\text{OH}^-$  ion added.



**Fig. S8** Time-resolved decay profiles of  $[(\text{bipy})_2\text{Ru}(\text{H}_2\text{Impib})\text{Ru}(\text{bipy})_2](\text{ClO}_4)_4$  (**1**) in acetonitrile as function of the incremental addition of  $\text{AcO}^-$ .



**Fig. S9** Time-resolved decay profiles of  $[(\text{bipy})_2\text{Ru}(\text{H}_2\text{Impib})\text{Ru}(\text{bipy})_2](\text{ClO}_4)_4$  (**1**) in acetonitrile as function of the incremental addition of  $\text{OH}^-$ .



**Fig. S10** Changes in UV-vis (a-c) and photoluminescence (d-f) spectra of  $[(\text{bipy})_2\text{Ru}(\text{H}_2\text{Impib})\text{Ru}(\text{bipy})_2](\text{ClO}_4)_4$  (**1**) in acetonitrile upon incremental addition of 2 equiv of  $\text{AcO}^-$  (dotted black line, part a and d) followed by 2 equiv of trifluoroacetic acid (solid red line, part c and f) ion.