Supporting Information

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I. General experimental information

Dichloromethane, tetrahydrofuran, diethyl ether, toluene, and acetonitrile were dried by passage through columns of activated alumina. HPLC grade CHCl₃ was washed with 1 M NaOH and deionized H₂O, passed through a column of activated, basic Brockmann I Al₂O₃, and fractionally distilled from K₂CO₃ immediately prior to use. Irradiations were performed using a 1 W blue light-emitting diode (LED) strip ($\lambda = 465-470$ nm) purchased from Creative Lighting Solutions. Chromatography was performed with Purasil 60 Å silica gel (230–400 mesh). ¹H and ¹³C NMR data for all previously uncharacterized compounds were obtained using Varian Inova-500 and Bruker-500 spectrometers and are referenced to TMS (0.00 ppm) or residual protio solvent signal. IR spectral data were obtained using a Bruker Vector 22 spectrometer (thin film on NaCl). Melting points were obtained using a Mel-Temp II (Laboratory Devices, Inc., USA) melting point apparatus. Mass spectrometry was performed with a Micromass LCT (electrospray ionization, time-of-flight analyzer or electron impact). These facilities are funded by the NSF (CHE-9974839, CHE-9304546) and the University of Wisconsin.

The catalyst complexes $Ru(dtbbpy)_3(PF_6)_2^1$ and $[Ir(dF(CF_3)ppy)_2(dtbbpy)](PF_6)^2$ were prepared according to literature procedures. Compounds **5a**, **5b**, **5c**, **5d**, and **8** were prepared as described by Seeberger,³ and compound **5l** was prepared according to a procedure reported by Driver.⁴ Compounds **12** and **13** were prepared according to Lemos⁵ and Gilchrist⁶, respectively.

II. Synthesis of cyclization substrates



(2Z,4E)-Methyl 2-azidohexa-2,4-dienoate (1). Prepared using a modification of the procedure reported by Driver.⁷ To a 100 mL round bottomed flask that had been flame-dried under high vacuum and purged with N₂ was added THF (14 mL) and hexamethyldisilazane (4.84 g, 30.0 mmol). The mixture was cooled to 0 °C after which *sec*-BuLi (24.0 mL of a

1.37 M solution in cyclohexane, 32.8 mmol) was added slowly. (Note: we found that use of *n*-BuLi led to formation of significant amounts of the butyl ester ((2Z,4E)-butyl 2-azidohexa-2,4-dienoate), and purification of the desired product away from the butyl ester derivative was very difficult). To ensure quantitative deprotonation, the reaction was stirred at 0 °C for an additional 10 min and thereafter cooled to -78 °C. After 10 min at -78 °C, a solution of freshly distilled crotonaldehyde (2.00 g, 28.5 mmol) in methyl azidoacetate (13.1 g, 114.1 mmol) was added dropwise over 1 h. Throughout the addition, a thick, dark sludge formed and continuous, vigorous stirring was required to achieve acceptable yields. Subsequently, the reaction was warmed to -10 °C and stirred until complete

consumption of crotonaldehyde was observed (2 h). Thereafter, the mixture was warmed to rt and stirred for 2 h. At this time, the reaction was diluted with Et_2O (20 mL) and quenched via the slow addition of H_2O (20 mL). The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with Et_2O (2 x 30 mL). The organic layers were combined and washed with H_2O (2 x 30 mL), brine (1 x 30 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and the volatiles were removed *in vacuo* to give a brown oil that was purified via flash column chromatography using a solvent gradient (99:1 to 24:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford the product (1.45 g, 8.66 mmol, 30% yield) as a pale yellow oil. Spectral data were in complete agreement with reported values.⁷



(2*Z*,4*E*)-Methyl 2-azido-5-(pyridin-3-yl)penta-2,4-dienoate (5e). Prepared according to the procedure of Seeberger.³ A flame-dried 50 mL round bottomed flask under an atmosphere of N_2 was charged with *trans*-3-(3-pyridyl)acrolein (500 mg, 3.76 mmol), dry MeOH (5.3 mL), and methyl azidoacetate (1080 mg, 9.39 mmol). The solution was

cooled to -15 °C, and after 10 min, a solution of NaOMe (freshly prepared from 216 mg Na (9.39 mmol) in 5.3 mL MeOH) was added dropwise over 20 min. The reaction was stirred at -15 °C for an additional 90 min, then slowly warmed to 4 °C and stirred for 12 h. Subsequently, the heterogeneous mixture was poured into ice-cold saturated aqueous NH₄Cl (15 mL). The resulting precipitate was isolated on a fritted funnel and washed with deionized H₂O until the filtrate came through clear. The beige solid was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ and dried over Na₂SO₄. The organic solution was filtered, and the volatiles were removed *in vacuo* to give a residue that was purified by flash column chromatography using a solvent gradient (1:1 to 1:2 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford the title compound (455 mg, 1.98 mmol, 52% yield) as a pale yellow solid (mp = 99.7–100.4 °C). IR (neat) 2115, 1705, 1598, 1438, 1374, 1248, 971 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.2 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.66 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.52 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (app dt, *J* = 8.0, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 15.9, 11.2 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (dd, *J* = 11.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR: (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.4, 149.7, 149.2, 134.8, 133.1, 132.1, 126.7, 125.9, 124.1, 123.6, 52.8; HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₁₁H₁₀N₄O₂]⁺ requires *m/z* 230.0804, found *m/z* 202.0737 ([M-N₂]⁺, requires *m/z* 202.0742).



(2Z,4E)-Methyl 2-azido-6-methylhepta-2,4-dienoate (5f). Prepared in a similar manner to (2Z,4E)-methyl 2-azidohexa-2,4-dienoate 1 using (E)-4-methylpent-2-enal (980 mg, 10.0 mmol),⁸ methyl azidoacetate (4.60 g, 40.0 mmol), hexamethyldisilazane (1.69 g, 10.5 mmol), sec-BuLi (8.38 mL of a 1.37 M solution in cyclohexane, 11.5 mmol), and THF (5.0

mL). Purified via flash column chromatography using a solvent gradient (99:1 to 24:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford the product (683 mg, 3.50 mmol, 35% yield) as a pale yellow oil. IR (neat) 2122, 1714, 1673, 1374, 1271, 1231 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.2 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.58 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (ddd, J = 15.4, 11.2, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (ddd, J = 15.4, 6.8, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.44 (d of septets, J = 6.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 1.05 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR: (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.8, 149.6, 127.0, 122.8, 120.4, 51.5, 30.8, 20.8; HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₉H₁₃N₃O₂]⁺ requires m/z 195.1008, found m/z 167.0941 ([M-N₂]⁺, requires m/z 167.0946).

(2Z,4E)-Methyl 2-azido-6,6-dimethylhepta-2,4-dienoate (5g). Prepared in a similar manner to (2Z,4E)-methyl 2-azidohexa-2,4-dienoate 1 using (E)-4,4-dimethylpent-2-enal (650 mg, 5.79 mmol),⁸ methyl azidoacetate (2.67 g, 23.2 mmol), hexamethyldisilazane

(0.982 g, 6.08 mmol), *sec*-BuLi (4.86 mL of a 1.37 M solution in cyclohexane, 6.66 mmol), and THF (2.9 mL). Purified via flash column chromatography using a solvent gradient (99:1 to 24:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford the product (376 mg, 1.79 mmol, 31% yield) as a pale yellow oil. IR (neat) 2126, 1717, 1689, 1498, 1442, 1239 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.2 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.59 (dd, J = 11.0, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (dd, J = 15.5, 10.9 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (dd, J = 15.5, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 1.07 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR: (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.8, 153.4, 127.3, 122.9, 118.3, 51.5, 33.2, 28.1; HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₁₀H₁₅N₃O₂] requires *m/z* 209.1164, found *m/z* 209.1159.



(2Z,4E)-Methyl 2-azidohepta-2,4,6-trienoate (5h). A flame-dried 50 mL round bottomed flask under an atmosphere of N_2 was charged with (E)-penta-2,4-dienal (600 mg, 7.31

mmol),⁹ dry MeOH (10.3 mL), and methyl azidoacetate (2103 mg, 18.3 mmol). The solution was cooled to -15 °C, and after 10 min, a solution of NaOMe (freshly prepared from 420 mg Na (18.3 mmol) in 10.3 mL MeOH) was added dropwise over 20 min. The reaction was stirred at -15 °C for an additional 90 min, then slowly warmed to 4 °C and stirred for 12 h. Subsequently, the heterogeneous mixture was poured into ice-cold saturated aqueous NH₄Cl (25 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 40 mL). The organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and the volatiles were removed *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was purified via flash column chromatography (99:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford the trienyl azide (458 mg, 2.56 mmol, 35% yield) as a yellow oil that was used immediately. IR (neat) 2124, 1714, 1684, 1438, 1368, 1234 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (499.8 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 6.56 (ddd, *J* = 14.9, 11.4, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 6.19 (dtd, *J* = 17.0, 10.8, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (ddd, *J* = 14.7, 10.9, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (ddd, *J* = 16.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.99 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR: (125.7 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 162.9, 139.3, 136.7, 126.6, 126.1, 125.9, 120.7, 51.7; HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₈H₉N₃O₂]⁺ requires *m/z* 179.0695, found *m/z* 151.0628 ([M-N₂]⁺, requires *m/z* 151.0633).



3,4-Dihydronaphthalene-2-carbaldehyde (S1). Prepared according to the procedure of Mock and Tsou.¹⁰ To a 250 mL round bottomed flask that had been flame-dried under high vacuum and purged with N₂ was added distilled triethyl orthoformate (6.72 g, 45.4 mmol), which was then cooled to -30 °C. Subsequently, a solution of BF₃·Et₂O (7.73 g, 54.5 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (23 mL)

was added dropwise over 20 min. The resulting slurry was stirred at -30 °C for an additional 5 min then warmed to 0 °C for 15 min. The solution was thereafter cooled to -78 °C and α -tetralone (3.32 g, 22.7 mmol) was added dropwise over 5 min followed by dropwise addition of diisopropylethylamine (8.80 g, 68.1 mmol) over 30 min. The reaction was then warmed to -20 °C and stirred for 30 min and slowly warmed to -10 °C over 90 min. Thereafter, the reaction was poured into saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (250 mL) and CH₂Cl₂ (150 mL) was added followed by vigorous stirring for 10 min. The resulting layers were separated, and the organic layer was washed with cold, 0.5 M H₂SO₄ (1 x 50 mL) and cold H₂O (1 x 50 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄. The organic layer was filtered, and the volatiles were removed in vacuo to afford a viscous, orange oil that was purified by Kugelrohr distillation (0.05 Torr, 200 °C glass oven temperature) to give 2-(diethoxymethyl)-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one (5.24 g, 21.1 mmol, 93% yield) as a clear oil whose spectral data matched the reported literature values.¹¹ A dry 250 mL round bottomed flask equipped with an addition funnel was charged with 2-(diethoxymethyl)-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one (3.20 g, 12.9 mmol) and EtOH (25 mL). The mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and then a solution of NaBH₄ (1.71 g, 45.1 mmol) in EtOH (55 mL) was added dropwise over 10 min. The reaction was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 30 min. Thereafter, the mixture was cooled to 0 °C and 6 M HCl was added dropwise over 20 min until H₂ evolution had ceased and the solution achieved a pH of 1. Subsequently, the reaction was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 4 h. At this time, the solution was cooled to rt and poured into brine (300 mL). EtOAc (150 mL) was added, and the organic layer was separated and washed with brine (1 x 50 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and the volatiles were removed in vacuo to afford a crude orange oil. Purification by flash-column chromatography on silica (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) afforded the carbaldehyde (682 mg, 4.31 mmol, 33% yield over two steps) as a pale yellow oil. Spectral data were in complete agreement with previously reported values.¹²



(Z)-Methyl 2-azido-3-(3,4-dihydronaphthalen-2-yl)acrylate (5i). Prepared in a similar manner to (2Z,4E)-methyl 2-azido-5-(pyridin-3-yl)penta-2,4-dienoate 5e using 3,4-dihydronaphthalene-2-carbaldehyde S1 (600 mg, 3.79 mmol), MeOH (5.3 mL), methyl azidoacetate (1091 mg, 9.49 mmol), and a solution of NaOMe (prepared from 218 mg Na

(9.48 mmol) in 5.3 mL MeOH). The resulting residue was purified by flash-column chromatography using a solvent gradient (9:1 to 7:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford the title compound (534 mg, 2.09 mmol, 55% yield) as a pale yellow solid (mp = 62.6–64.0 °C). IR (neat) 2122, 1717, 1672, 1354, 1231 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (499.8 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.14 (m, 4H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.85 (m, 2H), 2.80 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR: (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.3, 136.0, 135.0, 134.8, 133.8, 128.5, 127.8, 127.4, 126.7, 123.9, 52.9, 27.9, 25.6; HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₁₄H₁₃N₃O₂]⁺ requires *m/z* 255.1003, found *m/z* 255.1002.



³ ((1*E*,3*E*)-4-azidobuta-1,3-dien-1-yl)benzene (5j). Prepared according to the procedure of Guo.¹³ A 25 mL round bottomed flask was charged with anhydrous CuSO₄ (42.5 mg, 0.267 mmol) and sodium azide (208 mg, 3.19 mmol). Then MeOH (8.0 mL) was added followed

immediately by ((1E,3E)-4-phenylbuta-1,3-dien-1-yl)boronic acid (463 mg, 2.66 mmol).¹⁴ The heterogeneous brown solution was vigorously stirred open to the atmosphere for 18 h. Thereafter, the volatiles were removed *in vacuo*, and the crude residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ and filtered through a pad of silica (1:1 hexanes:EtOAc). The volatiles were removed *in vacuo* to give a dark yellow oil that was purified via flash column chromatography on silica (20:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford the product (163 mg, 0.95 mmol, 36% yield) as a pale yellow solid (mp = 51.4–53.1 °C). IR (neat) 2102, 1346, 1264, 976, 907 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.2 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.26-7.20 (m, 1H), 6.70 (ddd, *J* = 15.4, 10.9, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 6.25 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (ddd, *J* = 13.2, 10.8, 0.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR: (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.1, 131.5, 129.1, 128.7, 127.5, 126.1, 124.9, 120.7; HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₁₀H₉N₃]⁺ requires *m/z* 171.0796, found *m/z* 143.0730 ([M-N₂]⁺, requires *m/z* 143.0735).

2-((1*E***,3***E***)-Dodeca-1,3-dien-1-yl)benzo[***d***][1,3,2]dioxaborole (S2). To a 25 mL round bottomed flask with a stir bar that had been flame-dried under high vacuum and purged with N₂ was added (***E***)-dodec-3-en-1-yne (1.39 g, 8.46 mmol).^{15,16} To the stirred compound was added freshly distilled catecholborane¹⁷ (1.02 g, 8.46 mmol) over 5 min. Thereafter, the reaction was heated to 70 °C and stirred for 3 h, resulting in the formation of a dark brown oil. After cooling the mixture to rt, the crude oil was purified by Kugelrohr distillation at 0.05 Torr (impurity collected at 50–80 °C, product distilled at 132 °C) to afford the title compound (1.74 g, 6.12 mmol, 72% yield) as a clear oil. IR (neat) 2937, 2856, 2379, 2345, 1649, 1455, 1136, 1002 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.2 MHz, CDCl₃) \delta 7.34 (dd,** *J* **= 17.7, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (app dd,** *J* **= 5.8, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (app dd,** *J* **= 5.8, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 6.26 (dd,** *J* **= 15.2, 10.5 mis) of the stire of the store of the st**

10.5 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (dt, J = 14.7, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (d, J = 17.7 Hz, 1H), 2.17 (dt, J = 7.9, 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.44 (tt, J = 7.9, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.29 (m, 10H), 0.89 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR: (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.9, 148.3, 142.0, 132.1, 122.5, 112.2, 32.8, 31.8, 29.4, 29.2, 29.2, 28.9, 22.7, 14.1; HRMS (EI) calculated for $[C_{18}H_{25}BO_2]^+$ requires m/z 284.1948, found m/z 284.1979.

(1E,3E)-Dodeca-1,3-dien-1-ylboronic acid (S3). A 50 mL round bottomed $\stackrel{\text{I}}{_{\text{OH}}}$ flask was charged with 2-((1*E*,3*E*)-dodeca-1,3-dien-1yl)benzo[*d*][1,3,2]dioxaborole S2 (1.74 g, 6.12 mmol). Cold H₂O (29.2 mL) was added over 5 min, and the resulting heterogeneous mixture was vigorously stirred at rt for 2 h. The white precipitate that formed was isolated on a 15 mL medium fritted glass funnel, washed with copious H₂O, and air-dried for 15 min to afford the title compound (1.10 g, 5.25 mmol, 86% yield) as a white solid (mp = 88.3–90.2 °C). IR (neat) 2927, 2853, 2360, 2344, 1648, 1455, 1136, 1001 cm^{-1.} ¹H NMR: (500.2 MHz, (CD₃)₂CO) δ 6.95 (dd, *J* = 17.6, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (s, 2H), 6.13 (ddd, *J* = 15.1, 10.3, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 5.84 (dt, *J* = 14.7, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.44 (d, *J* = 17.6 Hz, 1H), 2.11 (dtd, *J* = 7.7, 7.3, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 1.41 (tt, *J* = 7.9, 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.30 (m, 10H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR: (125.8 MHz, (CD₃)₂CO) δ 149.3, 139.3, 134.6, 34.1, 33.5, 30.8, 30.7, 24.2, 15.2; HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₁₂H₂₃BO₂]⁺ requires *m/z* 210.1791, found *m/z* 210.1779.

(1*E*,3*E*)-1-Azidododeca-1,3-diene (5k). A 25 mL round bottomed flask was charged with anhydrous CuSO₄ (76.6 mg, 0.480 mmol) and sodium azide (374 mg, 5.76 mmol). Then MeOH (14.4 mL) was added followed immediately by (1*E*,3*E*)-dodeca-1,3-dien-1-ylboronic acid **S3** (1009 mg, 4.80 mmol). The heterogeneous brown solution was stirred vigorously open to the atmosphere for 12 h. Thereafter, the volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the crude residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ and filtered through a pad of silica (1:1 hexanes:EtOAc). The volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the residue was purified via flash column chromatography on silica (hexanes) to afford the title compound (318 mg, 1.53 mmol, 32% yield) as a pale yellow oil. IR (neat) 2102, 1651, 1611, 1457, 972 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (499.8 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 5.85 (dd, *J* = 13.2, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (ddt, *J* = 15.0, 10.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.45 (d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 5.39 (dt, *J* = 14.6, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 1.96

(dtd, J = 7.9, 7.3, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 1.27 (m, 12H), 0.91 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR: (125.7 MHz, C₆D₆) δ 133.9, 126.7, 126.4, 120.6, 32.8, 32.0, 29.6, 29.4, 29.3, 29.3, 22.8, 14.1; HRMS (EI) calculated for $[C_{12}H_{21}N_3]^+$ requires m/z 207.1735, found m/z 179.1669 ([M-N₂]⁺, requires m/z 179.1674).



(*E*)-1-Styrylnaphthalen-2-amine (S4). To a 100 mL round bottomed flask was added 1bromonaphthalen-2-amine (500 mg, 2.25 mmol),¹⁸ trans-2-phenylvinylboronic acid (500 mg, 3.38 mmol), K_2CO_3 (1245 mg, 9.01 mmol), and $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ (260 mg, 0.225 mmol). The system was equipped with a reflux condenser, evacuated, and purged with N₂ before adding toluene (23 mL), EtOH (9 mL), and H₂O (4.5 mL). The reaction was heated to 100 °C and refluxed for 72 h.

Thereafter, the reaction was cooled to rt and diluted with H₂O (30 mL) and CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL). The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with H₂O (1 x 30 mL) and brine (1 x 30 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified via flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (20:1 to 10:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford the title compound (359 mg, 1.46 mmol, 65% yield) as a bright yellow solid (mp = 74.9–76.5 °C). IR (neat) 3448, 3377, 3055, 3023, 2361, 2339, 1618, 1512, 1394, 1280, 1146 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.0 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.40 (m, 4H), 7.32 (tt, *J* = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (td, *J* = 8.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR: (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.5, 137.4, 135.2, 133.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 127.8, 126.5, 126.3, 123.7, 123.4, 122.4, 118.4, 115.3; HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₁₈H₁₆N₃]⁺ requires *m/z* 246.1278, found *m/z* 246.1282.



(*E*)-2-Azido-1-styrylnaphthalene (5m). To a 100 mL round bottomed flask was added (*E*)-1styrylnaphthalen-2-amine (S4) (200 mg, 0.815 mmol) followed by H₂O (4.5 mL) and glacial AcOH (4.5 mL). The heterogeneous mixture was cooled to 0 °C and allowed to stir for 10 min before adding NaNO₂ (78.8 mg, 1.14 mmol) in a single portion. The resulting dark orange mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. Subsequently, NaN₃ (79.4 mg, 1.22 mmol) was added portionwise over 3

min and the resulting yellow solution was warmed to rt and stirred for 45 min. The reaction was diluted with H₂O (30 mL) and transferred to a 250 mL Erlenmeyer flask with a large stir bar. The solution was vigorously stirred while solid Na₂CO₃ was added until pH ~ 7. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with Et₂O (2 x 30 mL). The organic layers were combined and washed with H₂O (2 x 20 mL) and brine (1 x 20 mL) before being dried over Na₂SO₄. The volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the residue was purified via flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (50:1 to 25:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford the title compound (139 mg, 0.512 mmol, 63% yield) as an off-white solid (mp = 95.5–96.1 °C). IR (thin film) 3081, 3061, 2953, 2327, 2111, 2051, 1640, 1619, 1598, 1299 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.0 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.21 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (td, *J* = 6.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (m, 4H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (tt, *J* = 7.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR: (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.3, 136.4, 134.3, 132.5, 131.3, 129.1, 128.8, 128.5, 128.0, 127.1, 126.6, 125.3, 125.2, 125.1, 121.9, 117.2, HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₁₈H₁₃N₃]⁺ requires *m/z* 271.1109, found *m/z* 243.1044 ([M-N₂]⁺, requires *m/z* 243.1043).



1-Allyl-2-azidonaphthalene (15). To a flame-dried 25 mL round bottomed flask was added 1bromonaphthalen-2-amine (290 mg, 1.31 mmol).¹⁸ The flask was equipped with a reflux condenser and the system was evacuated and purged with N_2 before adding DMF (3.3 mL), allyltributylstannane (519 mg, 1.56 mmol), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (151 mg, 0.131 mmol). The mixture was

heated to 85 °C and stirred for 40 h. Thereafter, the reaction was cooled to rt and diluted with H_2O (5 mL) and Et_2O (10 mL). The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with Et_2O (4 x 5 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with H_2O (4 x 5 mL) and subsequently dried over Na₂SO₄. The volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the residue was purified via flash column chromatography on silica (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 1-allylnaphthalen-2-amine (176 mg, 0.960 mmol, 73% yield) as a pale yellow oil. To a

100 mL round bottomed flask was added 1-allylnaphthalen-2-amine (171 mg, 0.933 mmol) followed by H₂O (5.2 mL) and glacial AcOH (5.2 mL). The heterogeneous mixture was cooled to 0 °C and allowed to stir for 10 min before adding NaNO₂ (90.1 mg, 1.31 mmol) in a single portion. The resulting dark orange mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. Subsequently, NaN₃ (91 mg, 1.40 mmol) was added portionwise over 3 min and the resulting yellow solution was warmed to rt and stirred for 1 h. The reaction was diluted with H₂O (30 mL) and Et₂O (30 mL) and transferred to a 250 mL Erlenmeyer flask with a large stir bar. The solution was vigorously stirred while solid Na_2CO_3 was added until pH ~ 7. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with Et₂O (2 x 30 mL). The organic layers were combined and washed with H₂O (2 x 20 mL) and brine (1 x 20 mL) before being dried over Na₂SO₄. The volatiles were removed in vacuo and the residue was purified via flash column chromatography on silica (50:1 hexanes: EtOAc) to afford the title compound (151 mg, 0.722 mmol, 77% yield) as a pale yellow oil. IR (thin film) 3081, 3061, 2953, 2327, 2111, 2051, 1640, 1619, 1598, 1299 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.0 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.52 (td, J = 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (ddt, J = 17.3, 10.6, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (dd, J = 10.3, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.96 (dd, J = 17.3, 1H), 4.96 (dd, J = 17.3, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.96 (dd, J = 1H), 3.82 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR: (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 135.9, 134.6, 132.9, 131.2, 128.7, 128.7, 127.0, 125.2, 125.0, 124.2, 116.9, 115.7, 30.7, HRMS (EI) calculated for $[C_{13}H_{11}N_3]^+$ requires m/z 209.0948, found m/z209.0944.

III. Cyclizations of vinyl and aryl azides

General procedure for visible light sensitization of azides: To an oven-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube with a stir bar was added the azide (0.75 mmol, 1 equiv.), Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂ or [Ir(dF(CF₃)ppy)₂(dtbbpy)](PF₆) (0.0075 mmol, 0.01 equiv.), and freshly distilled CHCl₃ (7.5 mL, 0.1 M). The solution was submitted to three freeze-pump-thaw cycles, purged with N₂, and irradiated at rt with a 1 W blue light-emitting diode (LED) strip (λ = 465–470 nm). Upon completion of the reaction, the mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*, and the crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography to afford the pure pyrrole.



Methyl 5-phenyl-1*H***-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (6a)** (Table 2, entry 1). Experiment 1: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 172 mg (0.75 mmol) of (2Z,4E)-methyl 2-azido-5-phenylpenta-2,4-dienoate **5a**,⁷ 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, 7.5

mL of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 3 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (7:1 to 5:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 148 mg (0.74 mmol, 98% yield) of the pyrrole as a white solid. Experiment 2: 172 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.2 mg (0.0077 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 150 mg (0.75 mmol, 99% yield). All spectral data were in complete agreement with previously reported values.⁷



Methyl 5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1*H***-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (6b)** (Table 2, entry 2). Experiment 1: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 195 mg (0.75 mmol) of (2Z,4E)-methyl 2-azido-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)penta-2,4-dienoate **5b**,⁷ 9.1 mg

(0.0076 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, 7.5 mL of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 4 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (4:1 to 3:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 171 mg (0.74 mmol, 98% yield) of the pyrrole as a white solid. Experiment 2: 194 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 172 mg (0.74 mmol, 99% yield). All spectral data were in complete agreement with previously reported values.⁷



Methyl 5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1*H***-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (6c)** (Table 2, entry 3). Experiment 1: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 224 mg (0.75 mmol) of (2Z, 4E)-methyl 2-azido-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)penta-2,4-dienoate **5c**,⁷

9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, 7.5 mL of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 2.5 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (8:1 to 6:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 194 mg (0.72 mmol, 96% yield) of the pyrrole as a white solid. Experiment 2: 223 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.1 mg

(0.0076 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 190 mg (0.71 mmol, 95% yield). All spectral data were in complete agreement with previously reported values.⁷

O N H O **Methyl 5-(furan-2-yl)-1***H*-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (6d) (Table 2, entry 4). Experiment 1: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 164 mg (0.75 mmol) of (2Z,4E)-methyl 2-azido-5-(furan-2-yl)penta-2,4-dienoate 5d,⁷ 9.1 mg (0.0076 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂,

7.5 mL of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 4 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (4:1 to 3:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 142 mg (0.74 mmol, 99% yield) of the pyrrole as a white solid. Experiment 2: 164 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 138 mg (0.72 mmol, 96% yield). All spectral data were in complete agreement with previously reported values.⁷



Methyl 5-(pyridin-3-yl)-1*H***-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (6e)** (Table 2, entry 5). Experiment 1: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 173 mg (0.75 mmol) of (2Z,4*E*)-methyl 2-azido-5-(pyridin-3-yl)penta-2,4-dienoate **5e**, 9.2 mg (0.0077 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂,

7.5 mL of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 3 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (1:1 to 1:2 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 132 mg (0.65 mmol, 87% yield) of the pyrrole as a white solid (mp = 147.9–149.4 °C). Experiment 2: 173 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 132 mg (0.65 mmol, 86% yield). IR (neat) 3321, 2952, 1689, 1645, 1436, 1283, 1156 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.2 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.96 (m, 1H), 8.93 (dd, *J* = 2.2, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 8.55 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (app dtd, *J* = 8.0, 2.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 4.9, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (dd, *J* = 3.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (dd, *J* = 3.8, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR: (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.8, 148.6, 146.4, 133.7, 132.0, 127.5, 124.1, 123.6, 117.0, 108.9, 51.8; HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₁₁H₁₀N₂O₂]⁺ requires *m/z* 202.0742, found *m/z* 202.0740.



Methyl 5-methyl-1*H***-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (2)** (Table 2, entry 6). Experiment 1: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 126 mg (0.75 mmol) of (2Z,4E)-methyl 2-azidohexa-2,4-dienoate 1, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, 7.5 mL of chloroform, and an

irradiation time of 8 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (9:1 to 7:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 96 mg (0.69 mmol, 92% yield) of the pyrrole as a white solid. Experiment 2: 126 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 99 mg (0.71 mmol, 95% yield). All spectral data were in complete agreement with previously reported values.^{7,19}



Methyl 5-isopropyl-1*H***-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (6f)** (Table 2, entry 7). Experiment 1: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 146 mg (0.75 mmol) of (2Z,4E)-methyl 2-azido-6-methylhepta-2,4-dienoate **5f**, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, 7.5 mL of

chloroform, and an irradiation time of 11 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (9:1 to 7:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 111 mg (0.66 mmol, 89% yield) of the pyrrole as a white solid (mp = 59.8-61.8 °C). Experiment 2: 147 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 112 mg (0.67 mmol, 89% yield). IR (neat) 3311, 2956, 1682, 1496, 1221, 1158 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.2 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.10 (br s, 1H), 6.83 (dd, *J* = 3.6, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.98 (m, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.96 (septet, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.28 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR: (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.9, 144.8, 120.8, 115.9, 106.1, 51.3, 27.4, 22.3; HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₉H₁₃NO₂]⁺ requires *m/z* 167.0946, found *m/z* 167.0938.



Methyl 5-(*tert***-butyl)-1***H***-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (6g)** (Table 2, entry 8). Experiment 1: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 157 mg (0.75 mmol) of (2Z,4E)-methyl 2-azido-6,6-dimethylhepta-2,4-dienoate **5g**, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, 7.5 mL

of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 14 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (9:1 to 7:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 115 mg (0.63 mmol, 85% yield) of the pyrrole as a white solid (mp = 125.0-126.8 °C). Experiment 2: 157 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂,

and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 119 mg (0.66 mmol, 88% yield). IR (neat) 3333, 2952, 1689, 1492, 1274, 1171 cm^{-1} . ¹H NMR: (500.2 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.98 (br s, 1H), 6.82 (dd, J = 3.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (dd, J = 3.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR: (125.8 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.9, 147.8, 120.8, 115.7, 105.7, 51.4, 31.8, 30.3; HRMS (EI) calculated for $[C_{10}H_{15}NO_2]^+$ requires m/z 181.1103, found m/z 181.1100.

Methyl 5-vinyl-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxylate (6h) (Table 2, entry 9). Experiment 1: Prepared OMe according to the General Procedure using 134 mg (0.75 mmol) of (2Z,4E)-methyl 2-azidohepta-2,4,6-trienoate **5h**, 9.1 mg (0.0076 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, 7.5 mL of chloroform, and an

irradiation time of 2 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (8:1 to 7:1 hexanes: EtOAc) to afford 99 mg (0.65 mmol, 87% yield) of the pyrrole as a white solid (mp = 100.3-101.4 °C). Experiment 2: 134 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.1 mg (0.0076 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 102 mg (0.67 mmol, 90% yield). IR (neat) 3285, 1682, 1483, 1439, 1331, 1257, 1149, 1052 cm^{-1} . ¹H NMR: (500.2 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.26 (m, 1H), 6.86 (dd, J = 3.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (dd, J = 17.8, 11.2 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (dd, J = 17.8, 11.2 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (dd, J = 17.8, 11.2 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (dd, J 1H), 6.27 (dd, J = 3.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 5.57 (d, J = 17.9 Hz, 1H), 5.22 (d, J = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR: $(125.8 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta$ 161.6, 135.3, 126.3, 122.5, 116.3, 113.1, 109.7, 51.5; HRMS (EI) calculated for $[C_8H_9NO_2]^{\dagger}$ requires *m/z* 151.0633, found *m/z* 151.0628.



Methyl 4,5-dihydro-1H-benzo[g]indole-2-carboxylate (6i) (Table 2, entry 10). Experiment 1: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 191 mg (0.75 mmol) of (Z)-methyl 2azido-3-(3,4-dihydronaphthalen-2-yl)acrylate 5i, 9.1 mg (0.0076 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆₎₂, 7.5 mL of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 4 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (6:1 to 4:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 164 mg (0.72 mmol, 96% yield) of the pyrrole as a white solid (mp = 145.3-147.0 °C).

Experiment 2: 191 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 165 mg (0.73 mmol, 97% yield). IR (neat) 3303, 2844, 1686, 1448, 1300, 766 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: $(499.8 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta 9.75 \text{ (br s, 1H)}, 7.47 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.19 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 6.78 \text{ (d, } J = 2.2 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{ H)}, 3.90 \text{ (s, 3H)}, 2.94 \text{ (t, } J = 3.98 \text{ Hz}, 1.98 \text{ Hz}$ 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR: (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.2, 136.4, 133.0, 128.6, 128.1, 127.0, 126.7, 121.9, 121.8, 120.4, 114.4, 51.7, 29.8, 21.5; HRMS (EI) calculated for $[C_{14}H_{13}NO_2]^+$ requires m/z 227.0946, found m/z 227.0950.



2-Phenyl-1*H*-pyrrole (6) (Table 2, entry 11). Experiment 1: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 129 mg (0.75 mmol) of ((1E,3E)-4-azidobuta-1,3-dien-1-yl)benzene 5j, 9.1 mg (0.0076 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, 7.5 mL of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 3 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (7:1 to 6:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 100 mg (0.70 mmol, 93% yield) of the pyrrole as a white solid. Experiment 2: 128 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 97 mg (0.68 mmol, 90% yield). All spectral data were in complete agreement with a sample of commercially available material.



2-Octyl-1*H***-pyrrole (6k)** (Table 2, entries 12-13). Experiment 1: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 156 mg (0.75 mmol) of (1E,3E)-1-azidododeca-1,3-diene **5k**, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, 7.5 mL of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 36 h. Purified by flash column

chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (10:1 to 8:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 61 mg (0.34 mmol, 45% yield) of the pyrrole as a clear oil that turned yellow upon standing. Experiment 2: 156 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.2 mg (0.0077 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 66 mg (0.37 mmol, 49% yield). Experiment 3: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 156 mg (0.75 mmol) of (1E,3E)-1azidododeca-1,3-diene 5k, 8.4 mg (0.0075 mmol) of [Ir(dF(CF₃)ppy)₂(dtbbpy)](PF₆), 7.5 mL of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 12 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica using a solvent gradient (10:1 to 8:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 91 mg (0.51 mmol, 68% yield) of the pyrrole. Experiment 4: 156 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienvl azide. 8.3 mg (0.0074 mmol) of [Ir(dF(CF₃)ppv)₂(dtbbpv)](PF₆), and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 95 mg (0.53 mmol, 71% yield). IR (neat) 3383, 2952, 2931, 2856, 1567, 1467, 1093 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.2 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (br s, 1H), 6.66 (dd, J = 2.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.13 (app dt, J = 3.0, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 5.91 (m, 1H), 2.59 (m, 2H), 1.62 (tt, J = 7.9, 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.30 (m, 10H), 0.88 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR: (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 133.0, 116.0, 108.3, 104.9, 32.0, 29.8, 29.5, 29.5, 29.3, 27.8, 22.8, 14.2; HRMS (EI) calculated for $[C_{12}H_{21}N]^+$ requires m/z179.1674, found *m/z* 179.1669.

> 2-Phenyl-1H-indole (6l) (Table 2, entry 14). Experiment 1: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 166 mg (0.75 mmol) of (E)-1-azido-2-styrylbenzene 5l, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of $Ru(dtbbpy)_3(PF_6)_2$, 7.5 mL of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 20 h. Purified by flash column

chromatography on silica (20:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 107 mg (0.55 mmol, 74% yield) of the pyrrole as a white solid. Experiment 2: 166 mg (0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 110 mg (0.57 mmol, 76% yield). All spectral data were in complete agreement with previously reported values.²



2-Phenyl-3H-benzo[e]indole (6m) (Table 2, entry 15). Experiment 1: Prepared according to the General Procedure using 204 mg (0.75 mmol) of (E)-2-azido-1-styrylnaphthalene 5m, 9.1 mg (0.0076 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, 7.5 mL of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 6 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica (9:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 169 mg (0.69 mmol, 93% yield) of the pyrrole as a white solid (mp = 136.6-137.1 °C). Experiment 2: 204 mg

(0.75 mmol) of dienyl azide, 9.0 mg (0.0075 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 7.5 mL of chloroform. Isolated 167 mg (0.69 mmol, 92% yield). IR (neat) 3427, 3048, 1621, 1603, 1484, 1455, 1333, 1181, 1026 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: $(500.0 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta 8.65 \text{ (br s, 1H)}, 8.27 \text{ (d, } J = 8.1 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 7.90 \text{ (d, } J = 8.1 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 7.72 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.61 \text{ (d, } J = 8.1 \text{ Hz, 1H)}, 7.90 \text{ (d, } J = 8.1 \text{ Hz, 1Hz, 1H)}, 7.90 \text{ (d, } J = 8.1 \text{ Hz, 1Hz, 1H)}, 7.90 \text$ 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.43 (td, *J* = 6.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (tt, *J* = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR: (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 136.1, 133.2, 132.5, 129.4, 129.1, 128.6, 128.1, 127.4, 125.9, 124.9, 124.3, 123.6, 123.4, 123.0, 112.5, 99.3; HRMS (EI) calculated for $[C_{18}H_{14}N]^+$ requires m/z 244.1121, found m/z244.1116.



8a,9-Dihydro-8*H*-azirino[1,2-*a*]benzo[*e*]indole (16). Prepared according to the General Procedure using 103 mg (0.49 mmol) of 1-allyl-2-azidonaphthalene (15), 5.5 mg (0.0049 mmol) of [Ir(dF(CF₃)ppy)₂(dtbbpy)](PF₆), 4.9 mL of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 5 h. Purified by flash column chromatography on silica (3:2 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford 71 mg (0.39 mmol, 81%

yield) of the aziridine as an off-white solid (mp = 78.4-80.8 °C). IR (neat) 3060, 3024, 2988, 2904, 2850, 1625, 1586, 1517, 1460, 1257, 1157 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.0 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (m, 1H), 7.39 (m, 1H), 3.69 (d, J = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 3.56 $(dd, J = 16.8, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (m, 1H), 2.46 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 1.41 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H); {}^{13}C NMR: (125.7 MHz, 1H), 1.41 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H); {}^{13}C NMR: (125.7 MHz, 1H), 1.41 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H); {}^{13}C NMR: (125.7 MHz, 1H), 1.41 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H); {}^{13}C NMR: (125.7 MHz, 1H); {}^{13}C NMR$ CDCl₃) & 155.7, 131.5, 131.3, 130.0, 128.6, 128.0, 126.3, 124.4, 123.5, 119.5, 41.2, 39.4, 31.7; HRMS (EI) calculated for $[C_{13}H_{11}N]^+$ requires *m/z* 181.0886, found *m/z* 181.0884.

IV. Azirine trapping experiments



Methyl 3-((E)-prop-1-en-1-yl)-2-azatricyclo[3.2.1.0^{2,4}]oct-6-ene-4-carboxylate (7). To an ovendried 25 mL Schlenk tube with a stir bar was added 41.8 mg (0.25 mmol) of (2Z,4E)-methyl 2azidohexa-2,4-dienoate 1, 16.5 mg (0.25 mmol) of freshly cracked cyclopentadiene, 3.0 mg (0.0025 mmol) of Ru(dtbbpy)₃(PF₆)₂, and 2.5 mL of CH₃CN. The solution was submitted to three freeze-pump-thaw cycles, purged with N₂, and irradiated at rt with a 1 W blue light-emitting diode (LED) strip ($\lambda =$ 465–470 nm) for 150 min. Thereafter, the reaction was diluted with 1:1 hexanes:EtOAc (1 mL) and eluted through a short silica plug. The volatiles were removed in vacuo, and the residue was purified via flash column chromatography on silica (3:2 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford the title compound (36.1 mg, 0.176 mmol, 71% yield) as a Hz, 1H), 4.20 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 1H), 2.09 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.02 (dt, J = 8.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 1.69 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 1.67 (dd, J = 6.6, 1.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR: (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.3, 132.6, 130.4, 128.6, 126.3, 66.8, 58.9, 54.6, 52.4, 49.6, 47.4, 18.0; HRMS (EI) calculated for $[C_{12}H_{16}NO_2]^+$ requires m/z 206.1176, found m/z 206.1173.

The relative stereochemistry of 7 was determined using NOESY1D spectra – Varian's standard NOESY1D Chempack sequence was used with a typical setup as follows: $mix=0.7 \cdot T_1(shortest) \sim 1 \text{ s}$, $d1=3 \cdot T_1(longest) \sim 12 \text{ s}$, nt=16, ss=-2, selective pulse using a seduce shape. The numbers shown are % enhancements measured as ratios of integrals, normalized by number of protons involved, of the enhanced to selected protons.





Methyl 2-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)-2*H***-azirine-3-carboxylate (9)**. Prepared according to the General Procedure using 204 mg (0.75 mmol) of vinyl azide **8**, 8.4 mg (0.0049 mmol) of $[Ir(dF(CF_3)ppy)_2(dtbbpy)](PF_6)$, 7.5 mL of chloroform, and an irradiation time of 8 h. Thereafter, the volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the resulting residue was recrystallized

from benzene/hexanes to afford 165 mg (0.68 mmol, 90% yield) of the azirine as an off-white solid. All spectral data were in complete agreement with previously reported values.²⁰



Methyl 3-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)aziridine-2-carboxylate (10). To a flame-dried 24 mL vial was added methyl 2-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)-2*H*-azirine-3-carboxylate **9** (120 mg, 0.492 mmol). The system was evacuated and purged with N₂ three times before adding CH_2Cl_2 (4.9 mL). The homogenous solution was cooled to -78 °C and subsequently a solution of Bu_4NBH_4 (127 mg,

0.492 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (4.9 mL) was added dropwise over 5 min. The reaction was stirred for an additional 30 min, after which ¹H NMR showed no remaining azirine. The reaction was warmed to 0 °C and H₂O (5 mL) was added to quench the reaction. The organic layer was separated and further extracted with H₂O (2 x 5 mL), washed with brine (1 x 5 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and the volatiles were removed *in vacuo* to afford 198 mg of a viscous yellow oil. The residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) and eluted through a short plug of silica gel (4:1 hexanes:EtOAc). The volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the resulting residue was purified via flash column chromatography on silica (5:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford the title compound (72 mg, 0.293 mmol, 58% yield) as a clear oil as a single diastereomer. IR (neat) 3282, 1723, 1546, 1132, 798 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.0 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.27 (br s, 1H), 3.10 (br s, 1H), 2.02 (br s, 1H); ¹³C NMR: (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.1, 136.0, 131.5, 129.4, 128.4, 52.6, 39.1, 36.9; HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₁₀H₉Cl₂NO₂]⁺ requires *m/z* 245.0010, found *m/z* 245.0008. The relative stereochemistry was determined by performing a D₂O shake – the broad singlets at δ 3.27 and δ 3.10 resolved to δ 3.27 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.10

(dd, J = 7.8, 5.8 Hz, 1H). The ${}^{3}J = 5.8$ Hz coupling is consistent with a *cis* relationship of the aziridine ring protons.



Methyl 3-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)-2-methoxyaziridine-2-carboxylate (11). To a flame-dried 12 mL vial was added a solution of NaOMe (freshly prepared from 5.7 mg Na (0.25 mmol) in 1.23 mL MeOH). The solution was cooled to 0 °C and then THF (1.23 mL) was added. The

solution was stirred for 5 min before adding methyl 2-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)-2H-azirine-3-carboxylate 9 (30 mg, 0.123 mmol) in a single portion. The reaction immediately turned light yellow and was stirred for 10 min, at which

time TLC analysis indicated complete consumption of the azirine. The reaction was quenched with H₂O (5 mL) and extracted into EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The organic layers were combined and washed with brine (1 x 25 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to give a clear residue that was purified was purified via flash column chromatography using a solvent gradient (4:1 to 2:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford the title product (31 mg, 0.11 mmol, 91% yield) as a clear oil as a single diastereomer. IR (neat) 3277, 1740, 1533, 1121, 777 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.0 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.57 (s, 3H) 3.47 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR: (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.6, 135.6, 130.8, 129.5, 128.5, 73.9, 54.8, 53.3, 46.8; HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₁₁H₁₂Cl₂NO₃]⁺ requires *m/z* 276.0189, found *m/z* 276.0194.



Methyl 2-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carboxylate (14). To a flame-dried 12 mL vial under N_2 was added methyl 2-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)-2*H*-azirine-3-carboxylate **9** (100 mg, 0.41 mmol) and 1-phenyl-2-(triphenyl-phosphanylidene)-ethanone (156 mg, 0.41 mmol) followed by CH₂Cl₂ (2.0 mL). The reaction was stirred at rt for 24 h after which the mixture was

directly purified via flash column chromatography using a solvent gradient (5:1 to 2:1 hexanes:EtOAc) to afford the title product (82 mg, 0.24 mmol, 58% yield) as a white solid (mp = 161.6–163.1 °C). IR (neat) 3319, 2962, 1689, 1645, 1436, 1137 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: (500.0 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.54 (br s, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (m, 4H), 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR: (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.4, 136.6, 132.6, 131.4, 131.1, 131.0, 130.6, 129.1, 127.9, 127.3, 124.1, 116.3, 107.4, 51.2; HRMS (EI) calculated for [C₁₈H₁₄Cl₂NO₂]⁺ requires *m/z* 346.0397, found *m/z* 346.0409.

V. References

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