

Figure S1 SEM images of nano-porous Pt-coated MEs recording-sites. (a) An entire 40  $\times$  80  $\mu$ m ECM-NEs recording site; (b) An enlarged view of the ECM-NEs recording site.



Figure S2 (a) Detailed geometry and dimensions of the composite ECM-NEs; and (b) geometry and dimensions of the ECM-NEs, PDMS-NEs or Si-NEs.



Figure S3 FEM model of the brain tissue-NE.



**Figure S4** FEM results showing the von Mises strain distribution in the brain resulting from a 6  $\mu$ m forward displacement of the ECM-NEs in its axial direction with an electrode-brain coupling coefficient of 0.40.



Figure S5 FEM results showing the von Mises strain distribution in the brain resulting from a 6  $\mu m$  forward displacement of the ultrasoft PDMS-NEs.



Figure S6 FEM results showing the von Mises strain distribution in the brain resulting from a 6  $\mu$ m forward displacement of the stiff Si-NEs.



**Figure 57** Power spectrum density of the representative Day 0 neural recording shown in Figure 6a-d.