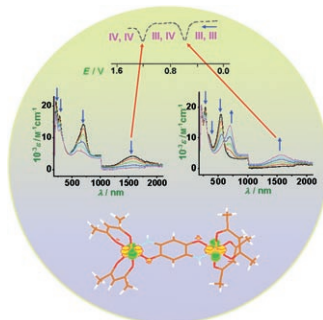
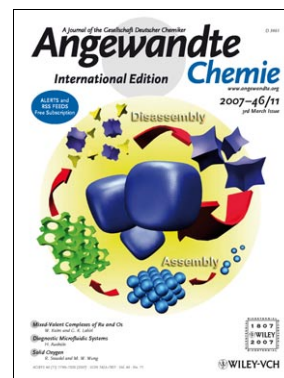


# Cover Picture

Fan Li, Zhiyong Wang, and Andreas Stein\*

**Colloidal crystals** assembled from monodisperse spherical particles, have been used to template macroporous replicas with an inverse opal structure. Stein and co-workers describe in their Communication on page 1885 ff. that uniform mesoporous silica cubes, tetrapods, and spheroids are produced by controlled disassembly of inverse opal silica samples. The shaped nanoparticles can be replicated into carbon or polymer shapes by nanocasting techniques.

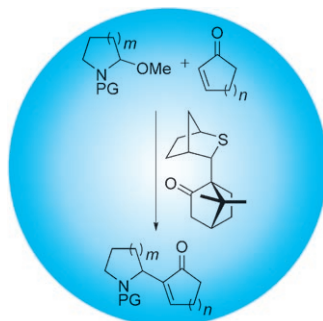
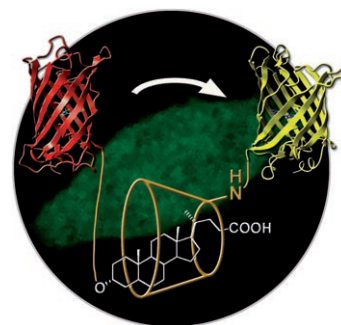


## Mixed-Valence Compounds

The variety of mixed-valence compounds has been extended through the use of multidentate and redox-active ligands. In their Review on page 1778 ff. W. Kaim and G. K. Lahiri describe how these developments have led to a better understanding of electron transfer between metals and ligands.

## Protein-Protein Interactions

In their Communication on page 1798 ff., L. Brunsveld and co-workers describe how supramolecular interactions of synthetic components, such as a cyclodextrin and a steroid, can be used to control protein association in biological settings.



## C-C Coupling

Iminium ions generated from N,O-acetals can be used in Morita-Baylis-Hillman reactions with a wide range of Michael acceptors. As V. K. Aggarwal and co-workers report on page 1893 ff., the reaction, which can also be rendered asymmetric, offers a simple means to synthesize densely functionalized heterocycles.