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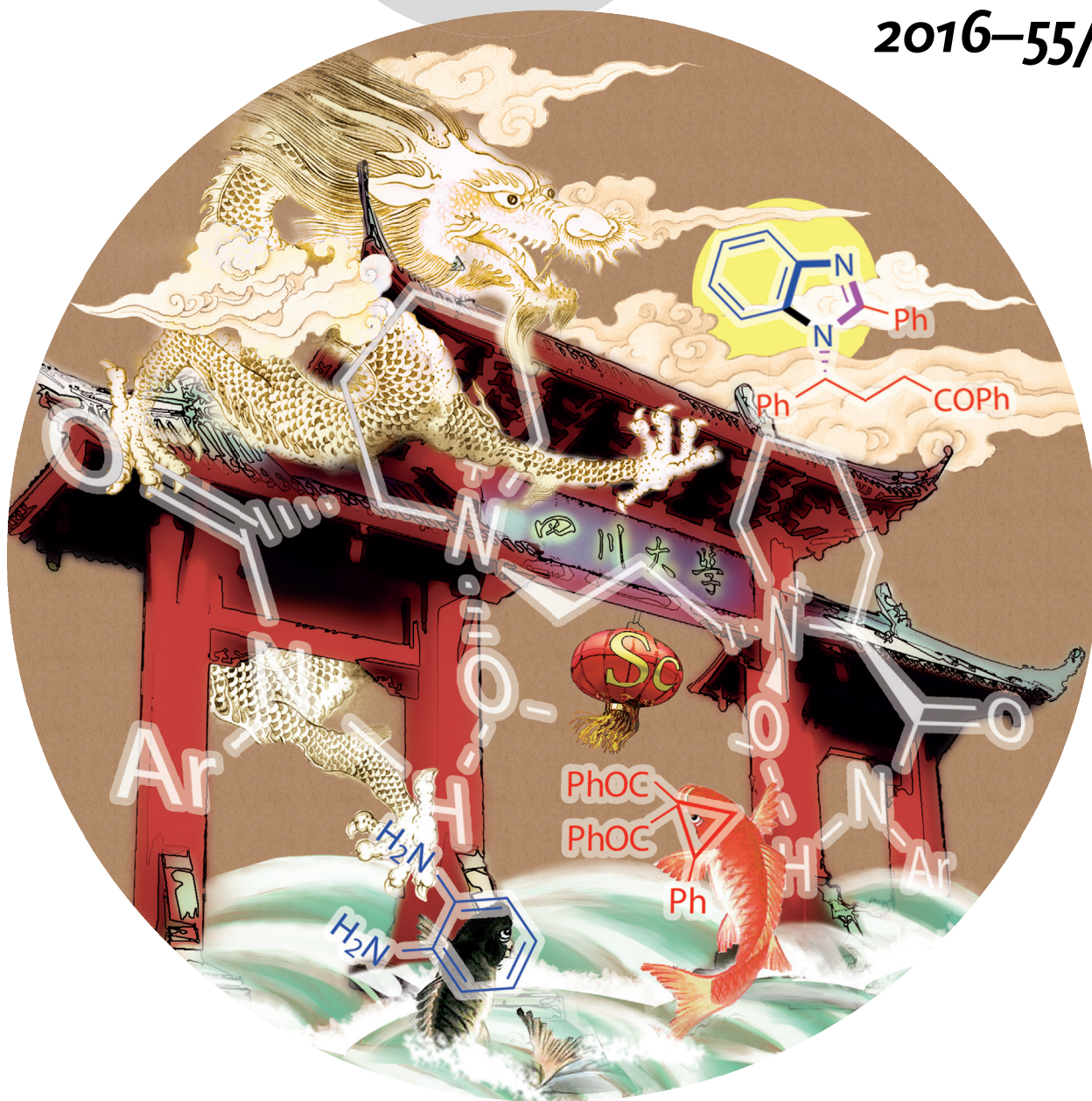
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The first asymmetric ...

... ring-opening/cyclization/retro-Mannich reaction of cyclopropyl ketones with aryl-1,2-diamines is described by X. M. Feng, X. H. Liu and co-workers in their Communication on page 12228 ff. The construction of benzimidazole backbones and establishing the stereochemistry in their side chains are accomplished in only one step in the presence of a N,N' -dioxide/ Sc^{III} complex. “The carp has leaped through the dragon’s gate” means success in a Chinese saying. The N,N' -dioxide/ Sc^{III} complex is the dragon’s gate, the reagents are the carp, and the successfully generated product is the dragon.

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