



Showcasing research from Dr. Helaja's laboratory, Department of Chemistry, University of Helsinki, Finland. The team focuses on catalytic redox transformations mediated by carbon materials or organophotoredox catalysis.

Cascade synthesis of diarylamines catalyzed by oxygen-rich and porous carbon

Metal-free method to synthesize diarylamines using oxygen-rich, porous activated carbon as the catalyst. The carbon surface simultaneously promotes enamine formation and oxidative aromatization steps, enabling a cascade reaction between anilines and partially unsaturated ketones. The material's porosity plays a key role in stabilizing reactive intermediates and suppressing side reactions, while a molecular *N*-oxide serves as a mild oxidant under inert conditions. The catalyst is robust and recyclable, offering a sustainable alternative to traditional metal-based C–N bond-forming routes.

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