# Gold-Catalyzed Rearrangement of (Silylcyclopropenyl)methyl Ethers into (Silylmethylene)cyclopropanes

Florence Hiault Alexis Archambeau Frédéric Miege Christophe Meyer\* Janine Cossy\*

Laboratory of Organic Chemistry, Institute of Chemistry, Biology and Innovation (CBI) ESPCI Paris, CNRS (UMR8231), PSL Research University, 10 rue Vauquelin, 75231 Paris Cedex 05, France christophe.meyer@espci.fr janine.cossy@espci.fr

 $R = CH_2OBn, (CH_2)_3OTBS, (CH_2)_2Ph, (CH_2)_3CH=CH_2, (CH_2)_2 - - - TMS, Ph, 2-FC_6H_4, i-Pr, CH(Me)Ph$ 

Dedicated to the memory of Professor Jean-François Normant, a remarkable mentor and scientific personality.

Received: 13.05.2016 Accepted after revision: 08.06.2016 Published online: 27.07.2016

DOI: 10.1055/s-0035-1561486; Art ID: ss-2016-c0350-op

**Abstract** Methoxymethyl ethers derived from 2-(dimethylphenylsilyl)cycloprop-1-enyl carbinols undergo gold-catalyzed rearrangement leading to [(Z)-(dimethylphenylsilyl)methylene]cyclopropanes in moderate to high yields with methyl formate as a byproduct. This transformation proceeds by initial regioselective ring opening of the three-membered ring leading to an  $\alpha$ -silyl vinyl gold carbenoid. This latter organogold species evolves by 1,5-hydride transfer, which triggers subsequent rearrangement involving loss of methyl formate,  $2\pi$ -electrocyclization of the resulting allylic cation, and elimination of the metal to regenerate the catalyst.

**Key words** cyclopropenes, gold catalysis, strained cycles, rearrangement, hydride transfer

Transition-metal-catalyzed reactions of cyclopropenes have attracted considerable mechanistic and synthetic interest.<sup>1,2</sup> Indeed, transition metals are able to catalyze the addition of several reagents across the carbon-carbon double bond of cyclopropenes but also a variety of transformations accompanied by ring cleavage. 1,2 It is well known that many electrophilic metal complexes can trigger the ring opening of cyclopropenes to generate vinyl metal carbenoids that can undergo nucleophilic additions or rearrangements or be involved in cyclopropanation or C-H insertion reactions. 1,2 In 2008, the groups of Shi<sup>3</sup> and Lee<sup>4</sup> disclosed the first examples of gold(I)-catalyzed reactions of cyclopropenes. Their pioneering work and subsequent contributions demonstrated that the gold carbenoids resulting from the ring opening of cyclopropenes can participate in the inter- or intramolecular addition of nucleophiles3-6 and in olefin cyclopropanation.6 Cyclopropenyl carbinol derivatives, readily available by addition of cyclopropenyl organolithium reagents to aldehydes,7 have been successfully involved in gold-catalyzed reactions. To date, Hyland, Ariafard, et al. reported the gold-catalyzed isomerization of cyclopropenylmethyl acetates A into 2-acetoxy-1,3-dienes that proceeds by regioselective ring opening to generate the gold carbenoid B at C1 followed by 1,2-acetoxy shift and elimination of the metal.<sup>5c</sup> Our group has shown that allyl ethers **D** derived from 3,3-dimethylcyclopropenyl carbinols underwent regioselective ring opening to generate gold carbenoids E at C2, which effected the highly diastereoselective intramolecular cyclopropanation of the remote olefin to afford 3-oxabicyclo[4.1.0]heptanes **F**.6c,d The substituents of the cyclopropene double bond in cyclopropenyl carbinol derivatives A and D were crucial to achieve regioselective ring opening. DFT calculations by Hyland, Ariafard, et al. indicated that the regioselectivity of the ring opening of a cyclopropene in the presence of a gold(I) complex is governed by the relative  $\pi$ -donating abilities of substituents at C1 and C2.8,9 This study accounts well for the observed regioselectivities of the ring opening of cyclopropenes **A** and **D** because the  $\pi$ -donating abilities of the substituents vary in the following order Me > CH(OR) > H.8

Herein, we report a new gold-catalyzed rearrangement of ethers derived from silylcyclopropenyl carbinols G, which leads to (silylmethylene)cyclopropanes I and proceeds by rearrangement of  $\alpha$ -silyl vinyl gold carbenoids H triggered by a 1,5-hydride transfer (Scheme 1).

With the goal of extending the scope of the gold-catalyzed cycloisomerization of 1,6-cyclopropene-enes  $\bf D$ , the reactivity of related substrates possessing a substituent at C2 was investigated. However,  $\pi$ -donating groups able to stabilize an adjacent positive charge would alter the regioselectivity of the ring opening and favor the formation of a regioisomeric gold carbenoid at C1.  $^{6c}$  We reasoned that a silyl group should not alter the regioselectivity of the ring opening because of the  $\beta$  effect of silicon,  $^{10}$  although DFT calculations indicated that the ring opening of (trimethylsi-

R AuCl

(5 mol%)

CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>

lyl)cyclopropene would produce an  $\alpha$ -silyl vinyl gold carbenoid with a very modest preference.<sup>8</sup> 1,2-Silyl migration could also occur, as observed in the platinum-catalyzed isomerization of silylcyclopropenes into silylallenes.<sup>11</sup>

(Trimethylsilyl)cyclopropene **1a** was prepared and treated with a catalytic amount of AuCl (5 mol%) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (r.t., 2 h). A clean reaction occurred and analysis of the crude material by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy indicated the formation of a new compound which was identified as [(*Z*)-(trimethylsilyl)methylene]cyclopropane **2**. This compound was formed with high stereoselectivity  $(Z/E \ge 95:5)^{12}$  and isolated in 85% yield. Interestingly, the presence of the silyl

**Scheme 2** Gold-catalyzed rearrangement of allyl and benzyl silylcyclo-propenylmethyl ethers **1a** and **1b** 

group altered the reactivity and suppressed the intramolecular olefin cyclopropanation process. At this stage, the fate of the allyloxy group of **1a**, which is not present in the rearranged product **2**, remained uncertain. This issue was solved by examination of the reactivity of the structurally related (trimethylsilyl)cyclopropene **1b** possessing a benzyl ether. The gold-catalyzed rearrangement of **1b** proceeded under equally mild conditions and also produced (silylmethylene)cyclopropane **2** (87%), but in this case benzaldehyde (**3b**) was identified as the byproduct. This finding suggested that acrolein **3a** had presumably been generated as a volatile byproduct during the gold-catalyzed rearrangement of **1a** but was lost during workup (Scheme 2).

To explain the formation of alkylidenecyclopropane 2 from [(trimethylsilyl)cyclopropenyllmethyl ethers 1a and **1b.** a plausible mechanism would involve initial regioselective ring opening of the three-membered ring to generate the corresponding  $\alpha$ -trimethylsilyl vinyl gold carbenoids **4a** and **4b** at C2. Coordination of the gold moiety to the C1–C2 double bond with unsymmetrical binding through C2 would induce a partial charge depletion at C1.9 stabilized by the silicon β effect. 10 The electrophilic organogold carbenoids 4a and 4b would then undergo 1,5-hydride transfer, assisted by the oxygen atom, 13 producing the corresponding  $\alpha$ -silyl allyl gold complexes **5a** and **5b** with an oxonium ion leaving group at C4. The rearrangement of these latter species into (silylmethylene)cyclopropane 2 would then involve three elementary key steps: (i) ionization of the C4-O bond with elimination of acrolein or benzaldehyde, 14 (ii) a  $2\pi$ -electrocyclization leading to the formation of the C3–C4 bond and hence constructing a three-membered ring, and (iii) the elimination of the gold moiety resulting in the formation of the C2=C1 alkenylsilane moiety in compound 2 (Scheme 3).

**Scheme 3** Plausible mechanism accounting for the formation of (silyl-methylene)cyclopropane **2** from **1a** and **1b** 

**Scheme 4** Gold-catalyzed rearrangement of *gem*-dideuterated benzyl ether **1b**′

It is worth pointing out that the rearrangement of the cyclopropenylmethyl ether **1b** into (silylmethylene)cyclopropane **2** shares some similarities with the gold-catalyzed rearrangement of benzyl propargyl ethers into allenes, which proceeds by 1,5-hydride shift onto alkynes activated by the gold(I) complex and subsequent fragmentation with loss of benzaldehyde.<sup>15</sup>

Before studying the scope of this new gold-catalyzed rearrangement, our attention was drawn to the search for alternative (silylcyclopropenyl)methyl ether substrates. Indeed, a dimethylphenylsilyl substituent rather than a trimethylsilyl group would potentially offer more opportunities for further functionalization of the carbon-silicon bond.<sup>16</sup> Additionally, the corresponding silylated cyclopropenyl carbinol precursors I would be easily obtained by addition of the organolithium generated from the non-volatile and readily available 3,3-dimethyl-1-(dimethylphenylsilyl)cyclopropene (6)17 to various aldehydes. However, allylation or benzylation of silylcyclopropenyl carbinols I cannot be conveniently achieved under the usual basic conditions (NaH or t-BuOK, Allyl-Br or BnBr, THF) because competitive cleavage of the C-Si bond occurred. Benzyl ethers were also not appealing substrates because the nonvolatile byproduct benzaldehyde has to be separated by

**Scheme 5** Selection of [(dimethylphenylsilyl)cyclopropenyl]methyl MOM ethers **K** as substrates for gold-catalyzed rearrangement

chromatography from the rearranged products. For these reasons, [(dimethylphenylsilyl)cyclopropenyl]methyl methoxymethyl (MOM) ethers **K** were eventually selected as substrates. Indeed, their synthesis from cyclopropenyl carbinols **J** would not require strongly basic conditions and their gold-catalyzed rearrangement into (silylmethylene)cyclopropanes **L** would produce methyl formate as a volatile byproduct (Scheme 5).

Several [(dimethylphenylsilyl)cyclopropenyl]methyl ethers were prepared by addition of the organolithium reagent **7**, generated from silylcyclopropene **6** (n-BuLi, THF, -78 °C to -10 °C), to various aldehydes (-50 °C to -10 °C) followed by conversion of the resulting secondary alcohols **8a-j/8j'** into the corresponding MOM ethers under standard conditions (MOMCl, i-Pr<sub>2</sub>NEt, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C to r.t.). The resulting ethers **9a-j/9j'** were isolated in 15% to 90% overall yields (two steps from the corresponding aldehydes) without any optimization. When 2-phenylpropionaldehyde was used as the substrate, an inseparable 90:10 mixture of syn/anti diastereomers **9j/9j'** was obtained (75% overall yield), as a result of a Felkin–Anh addition mode of the cyclopropenyl organolithium reagent **7** (Scheme 6).<sup>17,18</sup>

The initial screening of the reaction conditions was carried out with substrate **9a**. As observed previously with the allyl and benzyl ethers 1a and 1b (Scheme 2), the rearrangement of MOM ether 9a was efficiently catalyzed by AuCl (5 mol%) (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, r.t., 8 h), albeit a slightly longer reaction time was required. The [(Z)-(dimethylphenylsilyl)methylene]cyclopropane 10a was formed as a single geometric isomer and was isolated in 86% yield. 12 Because AuCl does not lead to a well-defined catalyst in CH2Cl2, 19 the use of the gold(I) complexes (Ph<sub>3</sub>P)AuNTf<sub>2</sub><sup>20</sup> and [Au]-I<sup>21</sup> was also attempted. Although substrate 9a was rapidly consumed with these catalysts, the formation of 10a was immediately accompanied by numerous side products that could not be readily separated or identified.<sup>22</sup> By contrast. the rearrangement of **9a** catalyzed by the gold(III) complex [Au]-II<sup>23</sup> provided **10a** in good yield (74%) (Scheme 7).

The best result was obtained with AuCl which was hence used as a catalyst for the investigation of the rearrangement of the other substrates **9b-i/9i'** (Table 1).

The gold-catalyzed rearrangement of ether **9b** possessing a (3-silyloxypropyl) substituent proceeded well and provided compound **10b** in 74% yield (Table 1, entry 1). The reaction is compatible with a phenyl group or a terminal alkene on the chain as shown with compounds **9c** and **9d**, respectively, which afforded the corresponding alkylidenecyclopropanes **10c** (78%) and **10d** (74%) (Table 1, entries 2 and 3). Interestingly, a (trimethylsilyl)alkyne did not interfere, as illustrated in the case of substrate **9e** which underwent an efficient chemoselective rearrangement leading to methylenecyclopropane **10e** in 86% yield (Table 1, entry 4).<sup>24</sup> The reactivity of arylmethyl ethers **9f-h** was next examined. The rearrangement of the phenyl-substitut-

Me

PhMe<sub>2</sub>Si

Me Me

9i (15%)

ОМОМ

**Scheme 6** Preparation of the [(dimethylphenylsilyl)cyclopropenyl]methyl MOM ether substrates **9a–9j/9j**′. <sup>a</sup> Overall yield from the corresponding aldehydes (two steps).

PhMe<sub>2</sub>S

. OMΩM

9j/9j' (75%)a (syn/anti = 90:10)

ed substrate **9f** led to compound **10f** albeit in moderate yield (49%) (Table 1, entry 5), because of competitive formation of unidentified byproducts. Substrate **9g** possessing an electron-rich aromatic ring decomposed under the reaction

conditions (Table 1, entry 6). The rearrangement of 9h possessing a 2-fluorophenyl group produced alkylidenecyclopropane **10h** in low yield (36%) (Table 1, entry 7). Thus, ethers derived from aryl cyclopropenyl carbinols were not viable substrates in this gold-catalyzed rearrangement. Branched alkyl groups were tolerated as illustrated by the gold-catalyzed rearrangement of cyclopropenylsilane 9i substituted by an isopropyl group which produced alkylidenecyclopropane 10i (90%) (Table 1, entry 8). The rearrangement of the diastereomeric mixture of 9j/9j' (syn/anti 90:10) also proceeded efficiently, but provided a mixture of the corresponding alkylidenecyclopropane diastereomers 10j and 10j' in 65:35 ratio (81%) (Table 1, entry 9). A mixture of 9i/9i' with inverted diastereomeric ratio (9i/9i' 23:77) was also prepared (by oxidation of the mixture of 9j/9j' and reduction of the resulting ketone with DIBAL-H) and involved in the gold-catalyzed rearrangement. The diastereomeric alkylidenecyclopropanes 10i/10i' were then formed in a 43:57 ratio (77%) (Table 1, entry 10).

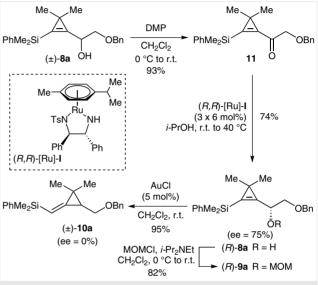
The erosion of the diastereomeric ratio in the gold-catalyzed rearrangement of epimeric substrates **9j/9j'** seems to point toward a non-stereospecific rearrangement process. Therefore, the behavior of the enantioenriched substrate **9a** was investigated to gain further insight into the mechanism.

Considering the similarities between cyclopropenes and alkynes, 25 we surmised that the ruthenium(II)-catalyzed enantioselective hydrogenation transfer of silylcyclopropenyl ketones could provide access to optically enriched silylcyclopropenyl carbinols. Effectively, cyclopropenyl ketone 11, prepared by oxidation of the racemic alcohol ( $\pm$ )-8a using Dess–Martin periodinane (DMP), successfully underwent chemoselective hydrogenation transfer in isopropyl alcohol in the presence of Noyori's catalyst (R,R)-[Ru]-I<sup>26</sup> (3 × 6 mol%) (r.t. to 40 °C). Although the conditions were not optimized, the optically active silylcyclopropenyl carbinol (R)-8a was obtained in good yield (74%) and with a decent enantiomeric excess (75% ee). The absolute configuration of this latter alcohol was not determined unambiguously but assigned by analogy with the known face-

	9b–j/9j'	OMOM CH <sub>2</sub> C	Cl <sub>2</sub> , r.t., 8–16 h	10b-j/10j'	R (Z/E > 96:4)
Entry	Substrate	Product			Yield <sup>a</sup> (%)
1	9b	PhMe <sub>2</sub> Si、	Me_Me	OTBS	74
2	9c	PhMe <sub>2</sub> Si、 <b>10</b> c	Me Me	Ph	78
3	9d	PhMe <sub>2</sub> Si、	Me Me	<b>\</b>	74
4	9e	PhMe <sub>2</sub> Si、	Me Me	ТМ	86 IS
5	9f	PhMe <sub>2</sub> Si、 10f	Me Me		49
6	9g	PhMe <sub>2</sub> Si、	Me Me	OMe	-
7	9h	PhMe₂Si、	Me Me		36
8	9i	PhMe₂Si√ 10i	Me Me	<b>Л</b> е	90
	9j/9j <sup>,</sup>	PhMe <sub>2</sub> Si、	Me MeMe	Ph	
9	<b>9j/9j</b> ′ (dr 90:10)	<b>10j/10j</b> ′ 65	5:35		81
10	<b>9j/9j</b> ′ (dr 23:77)	10i/10i/ A3	3:57		77

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Isolated yield of analytically pure material.

selectivity of the hydrogenation transfer of acetylenic ketones, considering the  $\pi$ -donating character of a cyclopropene. The enantioenriched cyclopropenylmethyl ether (R)- $\mathbf{9a}$  was then prepared from (R)- $\mathbf{8a}$  and involved in the gold-catalyzed rearrangement. The formation of racemic (silylmethylene)cyclopropane ( $\pm$ )- $\mathbf{10a}$  (95%) confirmed the non-stereospecific character of the gold-catalyzed rearrangement (Scheme 8).



 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Scheme 8 & Preparation and gold-catalyzed rearrangement of optically active MOM ether ($\it R$)-9a \\ \end{tabular}$ 

After regioselective ring opening of cyclopropenes **K** and 1,5-hydride transfer to the  $\alpha$ -(dimethylphenylsilyl) gold carbenoids **M**, the rearrangement of the resulting allylic organogold species **N** into (silylmethylene)cyclopropanes **L** likely involves the dissociation of the C4–O bond with elimination of methyl formate to a large extent, if not completely as in the case of substrate (R)-**9a** for which complete racemization occurs. The C3–C4 bond would then be created by  $2\pi$ -electrocyclization of the allylic cation **O** followed by formation of the C1–C2 double bond by elimination of gold. The stereoselectivity of this latter step is difficult to explain at this stage, but the isopropylidene substituent is presumably acting as a key element for the control of the conformation around the C1–C2 and C1–C4 in the cationic intermediate **O** (Scheme 9).<sup>28</sup>

The reactivity of the (silylmethylene)cyclopropanes **L** produced by the gold-catalyzed rearrangement of MOM ethers **K** is still under investigation. We have shown so far that the diastereoselective hydrogenation of the exocyclic alkene could be achieved (H<sub>2</sub>, cat. Pd/C, EtOAc, r.t.) (on the face opposite to the silyloxypropyl chain) to afford the *cis*-disubstituted cyclopropane **12** (88%) (Scheme 10).

**Scheme 9** Plausible mechanism accounting for the formation of (silylmethylene)cyclopropane **2** from **1a** and **1b** 

Scheme 10 Diastereoselective hydrogenation of 10a

In summary, we have disclosed a new transition-metalcatalyzed process involving cyclopropenyl carbinol derivatives that complements the transformations in which these latter substrates have been involved so far. In the presence of gold chloride, MOM ethers derived from (dimethylphenylsilyl)cyclopropenyl carbinols undergo rearrangement to [(dimethylphenylsilyl)methylene]cyclopropanes and methyl formate. We have provided evidence that the key steps of this rearrangement involve regioselective ring opening of the cyclopropene ring leading to an  $\alpha$ -silvl gold carbenoid and 1.5-hydride transfer, which triggers subsequent elimination of methyl formate,  $2\pi$ -electrocyclization of the resulting allylic cation, and elimination of the metal. Further investigation of the scope of this transformation as well as on the reactivity of the corresponding (silylmethylene)cyclopropane products are underway.

Reactions involving air- and moisture-sensitive organometallic reagents were carried out under argon in flame-dried glassware with a magnetic stirring bar and sealed with a rubber septum. THF was distilled from Na-benzophenone. *i*-Pr<sub>2</sub>NH, *i*-Pr<sub>2</sub>NEt, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and *i*-PrOH were distilled from CaH<sub>2</sub>. Reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used as received without further purification. Flash column chromatography was performed on silica gel (230–400 mesh). IR spectra were recorded with a Bruker TENSOR 27 instrument (IR-FT) with attenuated total reflectance (ATR). NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker Avance 400 instrument. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz relative to TMS. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded at 100

MHz referenced to the solvent signal ( $\delta$  = 77.16 for CDCl<sub>3</sub>) and include carbon environment (deduced from DEPT experiments). HRMS (ESI) were obtained with an orbitrap mass analyzer. Enantiomeric purities were determined by supercritical fluid chromatography (SFC) on a Minigram Berger SFC-Mettler Toledo apparatus equipped with a chiral stationary phase.

The preparation of silylcyclopropenes **1a**, **1b**, **1b'**, **9b–j/9j'** is detailed in the Supporting Information.

### Gold-Catalyzed Rearrangement of Cyclopropenes 1a, 1b, and 1b'

#### ({(1Z)-3-[(Benzyloxy)methyl]-2,2-dimethylcyclopropylidene}methyl)trimethylsilane (2)

To a solution of silylcyclopropene  ${\bf 1a}$  (52 mg, 0.16 mmol) in  ${\rm CH_2Cl_2}$  (3 mL) at r.t., was added AuCl (1.8 mg, 0.0077 mmol, 5 mol%). The mixture was stirred for 5 h and then it was filtered through Celite (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure and the crude material was analyzed by  $^1{\rm H}$  NMR spectroscopy, which indicated the formation of  ${\bf 2}$  with high stereoselectivity (Z/E > 95:5). The crude material was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 98:2 to 96:4) to give  ${\bf 2}$  (37 mg, 85%) as a yellow oil. Compound  ${\bf 2}$  (46 mg, 87%) was also obtained by the gold-catalyzed rearrangement of silylcyclopropene  ${\bf 1b}$  and in this case benzaldehyde was detected by analysis of the crude material by  $^1{\rm H}$  NMR spectroscopy.

IR (neat): 1730, 1454, 1365, 1246, 1090, 1075, 862, 835, 734, 695 cm $^{-1}$ .  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz,  $C_6D_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.43 (br d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.31–7.27 (m, 2 H), 7.20 (m, 1 H), 6.10 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.50 (d, AB syst, J = 12.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.45 (d, AB syst, J = 12.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.70 (dd, J = 10.5, 5.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.42 (dd, J = 10.5, 9.1 Hz, 1 H), 1.66 (ddd, J = 9.1, 5.7, 1.8 Hz, 1 H), 1.29 (s, 6 H), 0.25 (s, 9 H).

Signals observed at 6.13 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1 H) and 3.85 (dd, J = 10.3, 5.3 Hz, 1 H), 1.78 (ddd, J = 9.7, 5.3, 2.3 Hz, 1 H) were tentatively assigned to the E-geometric isomer (dr >95:5).

 $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 154.6 (C), 138.8 (C), 128.5 (2 CH), 127.8 (2 CH), 127.6 (CH), 116.9 (CH), 72.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 69.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.5 (CH), 20.9 (C), 19.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), -0.5 (3 CH<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na<sup>+</sup>] calcd for  $C_{17}H_{26}ONaSi$ : 297.16466; found: 297.16451.

### ({(1Z)-3-[(Benzyloxy)methyl]-2,2-dimethylcyclopropylidene}(<sup>2</sup>H)methyl}trimethylsilane (2')

Prepared by gold-catalyzed rearrangement of **1b'** and purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 98:2 to 96:4) to give a colorless oil; yield: 60 mg (89%).

IR (neat): 1726, 1454, 1365, 1245, 1090, 1051, 1028, 834, 755, 734,  $695 \, \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ .

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.37–7.27 (m, 5 H), 4.56 (d, AB syst, J = 12.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.51 (d, AB syst, J = 12.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.64 (dd, J = 10.7, 5.6 Hz, 1 H), 3.34 (dd, J = 10.6, 9.2 Hz, 1 H), 1.47 (dd, J = 9.1, 5.6 Hz, 1 H), 1.24 (s, 3 H), 1.17 (s, 3 H), 0.09 (s, 9 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 154.5 (C), 138.8 (C), 128.5 (2 CH), 127.9 (2 CH), 127.6 (CH), 116.5 (CD, t,  ${}^{1}J_{C-D}$  = 21.2 Hz), 72.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 69.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.5 (CH), 20.8 (C), 19.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), -0.5 (3 CH<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na<sup>+</sup>] calcd for  $C_{17}H_{25}DONaSi$ : 298.17092; found: 298.17079.

### {2-[2-(Benzyloxy)-1-(methoxymethoxy)ethyl]-3.3-dimethylcycloprop-1-en-1-yl}dimethylphenylsilane (9a); Typical Procedures

### 2-(Benzyloxy)-1-[2-(dimethylphenylsilyl)-3,3-dimethylcycloprop-1-en-1-yl]ethan-1-ol (8a)

To a solution of cyclopropenylsilane **6** (1.29 g, 6.39 mmol, 1.6 equiv) in THF (20 mL) at -78 °C was added dropwise 2.5 M n-BuLi in hexanes (2.4 mL, 6.0 mmol, 1.5 equiv). The mixture was stirred for 1 h with the temperature rising from -78 °C to -10 °C, the mixture was cooled to -50 °C and (benzyloxy)acetaldehyde (561  $\mu$ L, 4.00 mmol) was added. The mixture was allowed to warm to -10 °C over 1 h, stirred for a further 1 h at this temperature and then hydrolyzed with sat. aq NH<sub>4</sub>Cl soln. The layers were separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the crude material by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 100:0 to 93:7) afforded alcohol 8a (977 mg, 70%) as a yellow oil.

IR (neat): 3448 (br), 1777, 1454, 1428, 1363, 1248, 1113, 818, 778, 731, 697, 655 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.58–7.55 (m, 2 H), 7.40–7.27 (m, 8 H), 4.91 (m, 1 H), 4.56 (d, AB syst, J = 12.1 Hz, 1 H), 4.53 (d, AB syst, J = 12.1 Hz, 1 H), 3.63 (dd, I = 9.6, 3.5 Hz, 1 H), 3.49 (dd, I = 9.6, 6.9 Hz, 1 H), 2.24 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1 H, OH), 1.18 (s, 3 H), 1.17 (s, 3 H), 0.424 (s, 3 H), 0.419 (s, 3 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 149.0 (C), 138.1 (C), 138.0 (C), 133.8 (2 CH), 129.4 (CH), 128.6 (2 CH), 128.0 (2 CH), 127.9 (3 CH), 124.6 (C), 73.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 73.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 69.8 (CH), 27.93 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.85 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.6 (C), -1.6 (2 CH<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na<sup>+</sup>] calcd for  $C_{22}H_{28}O_2SiNa$ : 375.17508; found: 375.17532.

### {2-[2-(Benzyloxy)-1-(methoxymethoxy)ethyl]-3,3-dimethylcycloprop-1-en-1-yl}dimethylphenylsilane (9a)

To a solution of alcohol 8a (507 mg, 1.44 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL) at 0 °C were successively added i-Pr<sub>2</sub>NEt (1.25 mL, 7.18 mmol, 5 equiv) and MOMCl (0.55 mL, 7.2 mmol, 5 equiv) dropwise. The mixture was stirred for 12 h at r.t., and then it was hydrolyzed with sat. aq NH<sub>4</sub>Cl soln. The layers were separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 90:10) to afford 9a (508 mg, 89%) as a yellow

IR (neat): 1776, 1364, 1248, 1153, 1113, 1028, 919, 817, 778, 731, 697, 655 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.56–7.53 (m, 2 H), 7.36–7.25 (m, 8 H), 4.98 (app t, J = 5.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.72 (d, AB syst, J = 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.61 (d, AB syst, J = 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.57 (d, AB syst, J = 12.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.53 (d, AB syst, J = 12.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.62 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 2 H), 3.38 (s, 3 H), 1.153 (s, 3 H), 1.148 (s, 3 H), 0.41 (s, 6 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 146.9 (C), 138.3 (C), 137.9 (C), 133.9 (2 CH), 129.3 (CH), 128.4 (2 CH), 127.9 (3 CH), 127.7 (2 CH), 125.3 (C), 94.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 73.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 72.5 (CH), 72.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 55.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.92 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 27.90 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.6 (C), -1.6 (2 CH<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na<sup>+</sup>] calcd for  $C_{24}H_{32}O_3SiNa$ : 419.20129; found: 419.20175.

### $\{[(1Z)-3-(Benzyloxymethyl)-2,2-dimethylcyclopropylidene] meth$ yl}dimethylphenylsilane (10a); Typical Procedure for Gold-Catalyzed Rearrangement of 9a-i/9i'

To a solution of silylcyclopropene **9a** (400 mg, 1.01 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at r.t., was added AuCl (11.7 mg, 0.0503 mmol, 5 mol%). The mixture was stirred for 8 h, and then it was filtered through Celite (CH2Cl2). The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure and the crude material was analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy, which indicated the formation of **10a** as a single detectable geometric isomer (Z/E > 96:4). After purification by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 95:5), **10a** (292 mg, 86%) was isolated as a yellow oil.

IR (neat): 1726, 1454, 1427, 1365, 1246, 1113, 1089, 1074, 840, 827, 730, 696 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.55–7.50 (m, 2 H), 7.36–7.27 (m, 8 H), 5.99 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1 H), 4.55 (d, AB syst, J = 12.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.50 (d, AB syst, Jsyst, I = 12.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.64 (dd, I = 10.6, 5.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.35 (dd, I = 10.6, 9.1 Hz, 1 H), 1.50 (ddd, J = 9.1, 5.7, 1.7 Hz, 1 H), 1.15 (s, 3 H), 1.08 (s, 3 H), 0.36 (s, 6 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 156.6 (C), 139.4 (C), 138.7 (C), 134.0 (2 CH), 129.0 (CH), 128.5 (2 CH), 127.9 (4 CH), 127.7 (CH), 115.0 (CH), 72.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 69.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.4 (CH), 26.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.1 (C), 19.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), -1.8

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na<sup>+</sup>] calcd for  $C_{22}H_{28}OSiNa$ : 359.18016.; found: 359.18051.

### tert-Butyl({3-[(3Z)-3-[(dimethylphenylsilyl)methylidene]-2,2-dimethylcyclopropyl]}propoxy)dimethylsilane (10b)

Purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 98:2) to give a yellow oil; yield: 144 mg (74%).

IR (neat): 1723, 1471, 1462, 1428, 1247, 1111, 1098, 832, 773, 728, 698, 663 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.56–7.51 (m, 2 H), 7.36–7.33 (m, 3 H), 5.95 (d, I = 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 3.67 - 3.58 (m, 2 H), 1.67 - 1.60 (m, 2 H), 1.48 -1.32 (m, 2 H), 1.10 (s, 3 H), 1.05-1.01 (m, 1 H), 1.01 (s, 3 H), 0.89 (s, 9 H), 0.35 (s, 6 H), 0.05 (s, 6 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 160.9 (C), 139.9 (C), 134.0 (2 CH), 128.9 (CH), 127.8 (2 CH), 112.9 (CH), 63.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 33.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.1 (3 CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.1 (C), 19.2 (CH), 18.5 (C), -1.7 (2 CH<sub>3</sub>), -5.1 (2 CH<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H<sup>+</sup>] calcd for  $C_{23}H_{41}OSi_2$ : 389.26905; found: 389.26915.

### {[(1Z)-2,2-Dimethyl-3-(2-phenylethyl)cyclopropylidene|methyl}dimethylphenylsilane (10c)

Purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 98:2) to give a colorless oil; yield: 66 mg (78%).

IR (neat): 1722, 1495, 1454, 1427, 1367, 1245, 1113, 841, 826, 788, 746, 729, 697 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.57–7.54 (m, 2 H), 7.39–7.35 (m, 3 H), 7.32-7.27 (m, 2 H), 7.23-7.18 (m, 3 H), 5.91 (br s, 1 H), 2.74 (br t, J =7.5~Hz, 2~H), 1.75 - 1.68~(m, 2~H), 1.11~(s, 3~H), 1.11 - 1.07~(m, 1~H), 0.99(s, 3 H), 0.37 (s, 6 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 160.5 (C), 142.6 (C), 139.8 (C), 134.0 (2 CH), 128.9 (CH), 128.7 (2 CH), 128.4 (2 CH), 127.8 (2 CH), 125.8  $(CH), 113.1 \ (CH), 36.4 \ (CH_2), 30.6 \ (CH_2), 27.2 \ (CH), 26.6 \ (CH_3), 20.3 \ (C),$ 19.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), -1.7 (2 CH<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na<sup>+</sup>] calcd for  $C_{22}H_{28}SiNa$ : 343.18525; found: 343.18531.

### {[(1Z)-2.2-Dimethyl-3-(pent-4-en-1-yl)cyclopropylidenelmethyl}dimethylphenylsilane (10d)

Purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 95:5) to give a colorless oil; yield: 61 mg (74%).

IR (neat): 1722, 1641, 1428, 1368, 1246, 1113, 910, 840, 825, 787, 729, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.59 - 7.55$  (m, 2 H), 7.39 - 7.35 (m, 3 H), 5.99 (d, I = 1.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.85 (ddt, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1 H), 5.04 (dm, I = 17.0, I = 17app br d, J = 17.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.97 (dm, app br d, J = 10.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.14– 2.08 (m, 2 H), 1.58-1.33 (m, 4 H), 1.13 (s, 3 H), 1.08-1.06 (m, 1 H), 1.06 (s, 3 H), 0.39 (s, 6 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 161.0 (C), 139.9 (C), 139.2 (CH), 134.0 (2 CH), 128.9 (CH), 127.8 (2 CH), 114.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 112.0 (CH), 33.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.6 (CH), 26.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.1 (C), 19.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), -1.7 (2 CH<sub>3</sub>).

### (4-{(3Z)-3-[(Dimethylphenylsilyl)methylene]-2,2-dimethylcyclopropyl}but-1-yn-1-yl)trimethylsilane (10e)

Purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 90:10) to give a colorless oil; yield: 73 mg (86%).

IR (neat): 2174, 1723, 1247, 1113, 1047, 838, 759, 729, 698, 638 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.57–7.53 (m, 2 H), 7.38–7.35 (m, 3 H), 6.02 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1 H), 2.36-2.32 (m, 2 H), 1.70-1.56 (m, 2 H), 1.17-1.13 (m, 1 H), 1.13 (s, 3 H), 1.05 (s, 3 H), 0.38 (s, 6 H), 0.17 (s, 9 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 159.9 (C), 139.7 (C), 134.0 (2 CH), 129.0 (CH), 127.8 (2 CH), 113.6 (CH), 107.6 (C), 84.2 (C), 27.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.0 (CH), 26.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.5 (C), 20.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 19.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.3 (3 CH<sub>3</sub>), -1.7  $(2 CH_3).$ 

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na<sup>+</sup>] calcd for  $C_{21}H_{32}Si_2Na$ : 363.19347; found: 363.19347.

### {[(1Z)-2,2-Dimethyl-3-phenylcyclopropylidene]methyl}dimethylphenylsilane (10f)

Purified by flash column chromatography (toluene) to give a yellow oil; yield: 20 mg (49%).

IR (neat): 1733, 1601, 1494, 1449, 1427, 1246, 1113, 964, 839, 816, 793, 730, 697 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.62 - 7.59$  (m, 2 H), 7.39 - 7.37 (m, 3 H), 7.28-7.25 (m, 2 H), 7.19-7.16 (m, 3 H), 6.29 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 2.41(d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 1.28 (s, 3 H), 0.79 (s, 3 H), 0.44 (s, 6 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 156.9 (C), 139.4 (C), 138.7 (C), 134.0 (2 CH), 129.13 (2 CH), 129.10 (CH), 128.1 (2 CH), 127.9 (2 CH), 125.9 (CH), 117.1 (CH), 32.6 (CH), 26.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.5 (C), 19.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), -1.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), -1.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>).

### {[(1Z)-3-(2-Fluorophenyl)-2,2-dimethylcyclopropylidene]methyl}dimethylphenylsilane (10h)

Purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 90:10) to give a colorless oil; yield: 30 mg (36%).

IR (neat): 1732, 1581, 1489, 1454, 1246, 1220, 1234, 1113, 1098, 965, 829, 814, 789, 753, 730, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.61-7.57$  (m, 2 H), 7.39-7.36 (m, 3 H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 1 H), 7.08 (m, 1 H), 7.04-6.99 (m, 2 H), 6.32 (d, J = 1.8Hz, 1 H), 2.45 (m, app br s, 1 H), 1.31 (s, 3 H), 0.78 (s, 3 H), 0.43 (s, 6 H).

### {[(1Z)-2,2-Dimethyl-3-(propan-2-yl)cyclopropylidene]methyl}di-

colorless oil; yield: 18 mg (90%).

IR (neat): 1720, 1463, 1427, 1368, 1289, 1246, 1176, 1113, 970, 840, 822, 794, 767, 728, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.57–7.53 (m, 2 H), 7.37–7.34 (m, 3 H), 5.99 (d, I = 1.7 Hz, 1 H), 1.36 - 1.30 (m, 1 H), 1.11 (s, 3 H), 1.06 (s, 3 H),1.02 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H), 0.99 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3 H), 0.81 (dd, J = 10.2, 1.7)Hz, 1 H), 0.36 (s, 6 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 160.9 (C), 139.9 (C), 134.0 (2 CH), 128.9 (CH), 127.8 (2 CH), 112.5 (CH), 35.6 (CH), 29.3 (CH), 26.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 23.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 23.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.4 (C), 19.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), -1.7 (2 CH<sub>3</sub>).

### $({(3R^*/S^*)-(1Z)-2,2-Dimethyl-3-[(1R^*)-1-phenylethyl]cyclopro-}$ pylidene}methyl)dimethylphenylsilane (10j/10j')

The gold-catalyzed rearrangement of a diastereomeric mixture of 9j/9j' (90:10) afforded a mixture of 10j/10j' (34 mg, 81%, 65:35). Alternatively, the gold-catalyzed rearrangement of a diasteromeric mixture of 9j/9j' (23:77) produced a diastereomeric mixture of 10j/10j' (13 mg, 77%, 43:57).

IR (neat): 1723, 1602, 1494, 1450, 1427, 1246, 1112, 968, 841, 827, 786, 729, 697 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

### Diastereomer 10i

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.59–7.57 (m, 2 H), 7.38–7.17 (m, 8 H), 6.13 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1 H), 2.55-2.43 (m, 1 H), 1.41-1.37 (m, 1 H), 1.37 (d, I = 6.9 Hz, 3 H), 1.11 (s, 3 H), 0.94 (s, 3 H), 0.39 (s, 6 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 159.9 (C), 147.8 (C), 139.7 (C), 134.0 (2 CH), 129.0 (CH), 128.4 (2 CH), 127.9 (2 CH), 126.8 (2 CH), 125.9 (CH), 113.3 (CH), 39.9 (CH), 33.5 (CH), 26.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 23.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.0 (C), 19.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), -1.7 (2 CH<sub>3</sub>).

#### Diastereomer 10j'

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta = 7.53 - 7.48$  (m, 2 H), 7.38 - 7.17 (m, 8 H). 5.70 (br s, 1 H), 2.54–2.43 (m, 1 H), 1.36 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3 H), 1.28 (m, 1 H), 1.17 (s, 6 H), 0.334 (s, 3 H), 0.329 (s, 3 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 159.1 (C), 147.1 (C), 139.8 (C), 134.0 (2 CH), 128.9 (CH), 128.4 (2 CH), 127.8 (2 CH), 127.3 (2 CH), 125.9 (CH), 113.4 (CH), 39.8 (CH), 34.3 (CH), 26.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.4 (C), 19.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), -1.7 (2 CH<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na<sup>+</sup>] calcd for  $C_{22}H_{28}SiNa$ : 343.18525; found: 343,18529.

### Preparation and Gold-Catalyzed Rearrangement of (R)-9a

### 2-(Benzyloxy)-1-[2-(dimethylphenylsilyl)-3,3-dimethylcycloprop-1-en-1-yl]ethanone (11)

To a solution of  $(\pm)$ -8a (56.9 mg, 0.161 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) at 0 °C, was added Dess-Martin periodinane (82.2 mg, 0.194 mmol, 1.2 equiv). After 10 min at 0 °C, the mixture was warmed to r.t., stirred for further 10 min and then hydrolyzed with sat. aq NaHCO3 soln. The reIR (neat): 1736, 1687, 1250, 1113, 1078, 835, 817, 780, 733, 697, 655  $\rm cm^{-1}.$ 

 $^{1}H$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.54–7.52 (m, 2 H), 7.41–7.30 (m, 8 H), 4.55 (s, 2 H), 4.18 (s, 2 H), 1.25 (s, 6 H), 0.49 (s, 6 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 192.1 (C), 148.0 (C), 143.4 (C), 137.4 (C), 135.8 (C), 133.8 (2 CH), 130.0 (CH), 128.6 (2 CH), 128.3 (2 CH), 128.2 (2 CH), 128.1 (CH), 74.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 73.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.2 (2 CH<sub>3</sub>), 24.8 (C), -2.4 (2 CH<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + Na<sup>+</sup>] calcd for  $C_{22}H_{26}OSiNa$ : 373.15943; found: 373.15948.

# $\label{eq:continuous} $(R)$-2-(Benzyloxy)-1-[2-(dimethylphenylsilyl)-3,3-dimethylcyclo-prop-1-en-1-yl]ethan-1-ol [(R)-8a]$

To a solution of ketone **11** (51.4 mg, 0.147 mmol) in *i*-PrOH (3 mL) at r.t., was added catalyst (R,R)-[Ru]-I<sup>26</sup> (50 µL, 0.17 M stock solution in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.0085 mmol, 6 mol%). After 15 h at r.t., more catalyst (R,R)-[Ru]-I (6 mol%) was added. After 4 h at r.t., the reaction was still incomplete and another portion of catalyst (R,R)-[Ru]-I (6 mol%) was added. The mixture was heated at 40 °C for 2 h, then cooled to r.t. and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 80:20) to afford optically active alcohol (R)-8a (38.4 mg, 74%) as a colorless oil.

 $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -7.2 (c 0.25, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

The enantiomeric excess of (R)-8a (75% ee) was determined by SFC [Daicel Chiralpak OD-H, 100 bar, sc CO<sub>2</sub>/MeOH (97:3), flow rate 5.0 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 210 nm] after calibration with racemic sample:  $t_R$  = 5.38 (minor), 5.74 min (major), see Supporting Information.

## (R)-{2-[2-(Benzyloxy)-1-(methoxymethoxy)ethyl]-3,3-dimethyl-cycloprop-1-en-1-yl}dimethylphenylsilane [(R)-9a]

Alcohol (R)-**8a** (75% ee) was converted into the MOM ether (R)-**9a**, as described for the preparation of the racemic compound.

 $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  +16.0 (*c* 0.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

### Gold-Catalyzed Rearrangement of (R)-9a

The rearrangement of optically active (R)-**9a** (75% ee) catalyzed by AuCl (5 mol%) (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, r.t., 8 h) provided (silylmethylene)cyclopropane **10a** (23 mg, 95%) as a racemate (0% ee).

The enantiomeric excess of this latter product was determined by SFC [Daicel Chiralpak OJ-H, 100 bar, sc  $CO_2/MeOH$  (95:5), 5.0 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 220 nm] after calibration with an authentic sample of (±)-**10a** arising from the gold-catalyzed rearrangement of (±)-**9a**:  $t_R$  = 2.99, 3.85 min, see Supporting Information.

### $\{(1R^*,3S^*)-3-[3-(tert-Butyldimethylsiloxy)propyl]-2,2-dimethylcy-clopropylmethyl\}dimethylphenylsilane (12)$

To a solution of **10a** (30 mg, 0.077 mmol) in EtOAc (1.5 mL) was added 5% Pd/C (4 mg, 0.004 mmol, 5 mol%). After 1 h stirring under an atmospheric pressure of  $\rm H_2$ , the mixture was filtered through Celite (EtOAc) and the filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 90:10) to provide **12** (27 mg, 88%, dr > 95:5) as a colorless oil. The relative configuration of **12** was assigned on the basis of the coupling constant value between the two cyclopropyl protons ( $\it J$  = 8.6 Hz).

IR (neat): 1471, 1462, 1249, 1111, 1098, 833, 773, 726, 698, 661 cm $^{-1}$ . 
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.55–5.51 (m, 2 H), 7.37–7.35 (m, 3 H), 3.60 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2 H), 1.59–1.50 (m, 2 H), 1.26–1.15 (m, 2 H), 0.98 (s, 3 H), 0.90 (s, 9 H), 0.80 (s, 3 H), 0.72 (dd, J = 14.8, 5.0 Hz, 1 H), 0.57 (dd, J = 14.8, 8.6 Hz, 1 H), 0.47 (app td, J = 8.6, 5.0 Hz, 1 H), 0.36 (ddd, J = 8.6, 7.7, 6.5 Hz, 1 H), 0.302 (s, 3 H), 0.298 (s, 3 H), 0.06 (s, 6 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 139.8 (C), 133.8 (2 CH), 128.9 (CH), 127.8 (2 CH), 63.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 33.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.8 (CH), 26.1 (3 CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.9 (CH), 20.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 18.5 (C), 17.2 (C), 15.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 9.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), -2.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), -2.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), -5.1 (2 CH<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M + H<sup>+</sup>] calcd for  $C_{23}H_{43}OSi_2$ : 391.28470; found: 391.28444.

### Acknowledgment

One of us (A.A.) thanks the MNSER for a Ph.D. grant.

### **Supporting Information**

Supporting information for this article is available online at http://dx.doi.org/10.1055/s-0035-1561486.

### References

- (1) For reviews, see: (a) Binger, P.; Büch, H. M. Top. Curr. Chem. 1987, 135, 77. (b) Fox, J. M.; Yan, N. Curr. Org. Chem. 2005, 9, 719. (c) Nakamura, M.; Isobe, H.; Nakamura, E. Chem. Rev. 2003, 103, 1295. (d) Rubin, M.; Rubina, M.; Gevorgyan, V. Synthesis 2006, 1221. (e) Rubin, M.; Rubina, M.; Gevorgyan, V. Chem. Rev. 2007, 107, 3117. (f) Marek, I.; Simaan, S.; Masarwa, A. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2007, 46, 7364. (g) Miege, F.; Meyer, C.; Cossy, J. Beilstein J. Org. Chem. 2011, 7, 717. (h) Zhu, Z.-B.; Wei, Y.; Shi, M. Chem. Soc. Rev. 2011, 40, 5534. (i) Archambeau, A.; Miege, F.; Cossy, J.; Meyer, C. In The Chemistry of Organogold Complexes; Rappoport, Z.; Liebman, J. F.; Marek, I., Eds.; Wiley: Chichester, 2014, 631. (j) Rubin, M.; Ryabchuk, P. G. Chem. Heterocycl. Compd. 2012, 48, 126. (k) Müller, D. S.; Marek, I. Chem. Soc. Rev. 2016, in press, DOI: 10.1039/c5cs00897b.
- (2) For selected recent contributions, see: (a) Zhang, F.-G.; Eppe, G.; Marek, I. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2016, 55, 714. (b) Archambeau, A.; Nguyen, D.-V.; Meyer, C.; Cossy, J. Chem. Eur. J. 2016, 22, 6100. (c) Nakano, T.; Endo, K.; Ukaji, Y. Chem. Asian J. 2016, 11, 713. (d) Le, P. Q.; May, J. A. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2015, 137, 12219. (e) Archambeau, A.; Miege, F.; Meyer, C.; Cossy, J. Acc. Chem. Res. 2015, 48, 1021. (f) Müller, D. S.; Marek, I. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2015, 137, 15414. (g) González, M. J.; González, J.; López, L. A.; Vicente, R. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2015, 54, 12139. (h) Xu, X.; Deng, Y.; Yim, D. N.; Zavalij, P. Y.; Doyle, M. P. Chem. Sci. 2015, 6, 2196. (i) Zhang, H.; Wang, B.; Yi, H.; Zhang, Y.; Wang, J. Org. Lett. 2015, 17, 3322. (j) Sawano, T.; Hashizume, M.; Nishimoto, S.; Ou, K.; Nishimura, T. Org. Lett. 2015, 17, 2630. (k) Parra, A.; Amenós, L.; Guisán-Ceinos, M.; López, A.; García Ruano, J. L.; Tortosa, M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2014, 136, 15833. (1) Tian, B.; Liu, Q.; Tong, X.; Tian, P.; Lin, G.-Q. Org. Chem. Front. 2014, 1, 1116. (m) Zhang, H.; Li, C.; Xie, G.; Wang, B.; Zhang, Y.; Wang, J. J. Org. Chem. 2014, 79, 6286.
- (3) Zhu, Z.-B.; Shi, M. Chem. Eur. J. 2008, 14, 10219.
- (4) Bauer, J. T.; Hadfield, M. S.; Lee, A.-L. Chem. Commun. 2008, 6405.

- (a) Li, C.; Zeng, Y.; Wang, J. Tetrahedron Lett. 2009, 50, 2956.
   (b) Hadfield, M. S.; Bauer, J. T.; Glen, P. E.; Lee, A.-L. Org. Biomol. Chem. 2010, 8, 4090.
   (c) Seraya, E.; Slack, E.; Ariafard, A.; Yates, B. F.; Hyland, C. J. T. Org. Lett. 2010, 12, 4768.
   (d) Hadfield, M. S.; Lee, A.-L. Chem. Commun. 2011, 47, 1333.
   (e) Mudd, R. J.; Young, P. C.; Jordan-Hore, J. A.; Rosair, G. M.; Lee, A.-L. J. Org. Chem. 2012, 77, 7633.
   (f) Young, P. C.; Hadfield, M. S.; Arrowsmith, L.; Macleod, K. M.; Mudd, R. J.; Jordan-Hore, J. A.; Lee, A.-L. Org. Lett. 2012, 14, 898.
- (6) (a) Zhou, Y.; Trewyn, B. G.; Angelici, R. J.; Woo, L. K. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2009, 131, 11734. (b) Benitez, D.; Shapiro, N. D.; Tkatchouk, E.; Wang, Y.; Goddard, W. A. III.; Toste, F. D. Nat. Chem. 2009, 1, 482. (c) Miege, F.; Meyer, C.; Cossy, J. Org. Lett. 2010, 12, 4144. (d) Miege, F.; Meyer, C.; Cossy, J. Chem. Eur. J. 2012, 18, 7810.
- (7) (a) Baird, M. S.; Hussain, H. H.; Nethercott, W. J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1 1986, 1845. (b) Simaan, S.; Masarwa, A.; Zohar, E.; Stanger, A.; Bertus, P.; Marek, I. Chem. Eur. J. 2009, 15, 8449.
- (8) Rajabi, N. A.; Atashgah, M. J.; BabaAhmadi, R.; Hyland, C.; Ariafard, A. J. Org. Chem. 2013, 78, 9553.
- (9) For monosubstituted cyclopropenes possessing a substituent able to stabilize an adjacent positive charge, theoretical studies show that binding of a cationic gold-phosphine complex occurs in an unsymmetrical fashion through the unsubstituted carbon and subsequent kinetically controlled ring opening leads to the less substituted gold carbenoid, see: Hadfield, M. S.; Häller, L. J. L.; Lee, A.-L.; Macgregor, S. A.; O'Neill, J. A. T.; Watson, A. M. Org. Biomol. Chem. 2012, 10, 4433.
- (10) Wierschke, S. G.; Chadrasekhar, J.; Jorgensen, W. L. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1985, 107, 1496.
- (11) (a) Li, J.; Sun, C.; Demerzhan, S.; Lee, D. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 12964. (b) For a DFT study of the mechanism which involves a [1,2]-silyl shift leading to a cyclopropyl platinum carbenoid intermediate, see: Fang, R.; Yang, L.; Wang, Q. Organometallics 2012, 31, 4020.
- (12) The configuration of the (silylmethylene)cyclopropanes resulting from the gold-catalyzed rearrangement of (silylcyclopropenyl)methyl ethers was assigned by analogy with the results observed in the case of substrates **9a**, **9b** and **9c**. The *Z*-configuration of the resulting products **10a**, **10b**, and **10c** was assigned by NMR (NOESY), see Supporting Information.

- (13) For a review on gold-catalyzed C(sp³)–H bond functionalization including processes mediated by a 1,5-hydride shift, see: Xie, J.; Pan, C.; Abdukader, A.; Zhu, C. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2014**, 43, 5245.
- (14) After elimination of acrolein and benzaldehyde in 5a and 5b, respectively, the resulting intermediate species formally possesses a zwitterionic character (allyl cation and allyl metal).
- (15) Bolte, B.; Odabachian, Y.; Gagosz, F. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2010, 132, 7294.
- (16) Jones, G. R.; Landais, Y. Tetrahedron 1996, 52, 7599.
- (17) Basheer, A.; Masaaki, M.; Marek, I. Org. Lett. 2011, 13, 4076.
- (18) Mengel, A.; Reiser, O. Chem. Rev. 1999, 99, 1191.
- (19) Lemière, G.; Gandon, V.; Agenet, N.; Goddard, J.-P.; de Kozak, A.; Aubert, C.; Fensterbank, L.; Malacria, M. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2006. 45. 7596.
- (20) Mézailles, N.; Ricard, L.; Gagosz, F. Org. Lett. 2005, 7, 4133.
- (21) Nieto-Oberhuber, C.; López, S.; Muñoz, M. P.; Cárdenas, D. J.; Buñuel, E.; Nevado, C.; Echavarren, A. M. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2005**, *44*, 6146.
- (22) Control experiments revealed that (silylmethylene)cyclopropane 10a reacted further in the presence of the phosphine gold catalysts and evolved to numerous (unidentified) products. Monitoring the reaction temperature did not improve the results.
- (23) Hashmi, A. S. K.; Weyrauch, J. P.; Rudolph, M.; Kuperjovic, E. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2004, 43, 6545.
- (24) Alkynes were preferentially activated in the gold-catalyzed cycloisomerization of 1,5-cyclopropene-ynes, having a terminal, an aryl- or an alkyl-substituted triple bond tethered to the C3 atom of the cyclopropene, see: (a) Li, C.; Zeng, Y.; Zhang, H.; Feng, J.; Zhang, Y.; Wang, J. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, 49, 6413. (b) Zhou, Q.; Li, Y. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, 136, 1505; by contrast, an alkynylsilane was compatible with the Pt-catalyzed isomerization of silvlcyclopropenes into silvlallenes, see ref. 11.
- (25) (a) Allen, F. H. Tetrahedron 1982, 38, 645. (b) Fattahi, A.; McCarthy, R. E.; Ahmad, M. R.; Kass, S. R. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2003, 125, 11746.
- (26) Matsumura, K.; Hashiguchi, S.; Ikariya, T.; Noyori, R. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1997, 119, 8738.
- (27) Yamakawa, M.; Yamada, I.; Noyori, R. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2001, 40. 2818.
- (28) For a review on allylic A<sup>1,3</sup> strain, see: Hoffmann, R. W. *Chem. Rev.* **1989**. *8*9. 1841.