

Artist derives inspiration from Tahoe's charred trees

By **Gina Kim, Sacramento Bee**

The black and charred trees spoke silently on that winter day three years ago.

Gong Yuebin was driving with his family to a Lake Tahoe ski resort when he caught sight of the garishly angled trunks and burnt remains of tree after tree, strikingly black against the pure white snow.

He veered the Honda Pilot off the highway and knew he had found it – that elusive thing called inspiration after a years-long hiatus from art.

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