



We Asked Timothy...

What is one of your favorite operas?

One of my favorite operas would have to be *La bohème*, composed by Giacomo Puccini. Puccini is one of my favorite composers; I love all the Romantic-era composers. The music in *La bohème* is just glorious. The storyline, as is sometimes the case in the operatic repertoire, is kind of tragic, but there are many glorious moments. *La bohème* is one of my favorite operas—the moments, the music—it doesn't get much better than that.

Who taught you to sing opera?

I heard a wide variety of music as a child, but opera wasn't really on my radar. But through studying classical voice, I was introduced to opera as a student at Morehouse College. One of the first arias my professor gave me to sing was the bohème aria.

What do you like about singing opera?

What I like most is that we get to tell a story about someone else, whether it is a fictional character or a nonfictional character. It is an opportunity to step outside our own experience and tell a story to the audience. It is the height of musical theater, and to communicate these stories to the audience is probably my favorite part.

What is one of your favorite musical memories?

One of my first public singing performances was serenading the homecoming queens at a high school pep rally. A friend of mine and I sang a song by Brian McKnight in an open assembly in the gym in front of all of our peers. I had no idea how I made it through that, but it prepared me for singing in front of thousands of people at the Braves' game.