

The Lithuanian pianist Gaiva Bandzinaite discovered her affinity to vocal literature through German and French poetry.

After finishing her piano studies in Vilnius with honours, she pursued her passion and studied Lied accompaniment in Graz. Upon finishing her studies there, she received the Furtherance Prize awarded by the Austrian Minister of culture.

Since 1995 she teaches in the vocal department of the Mozarteum.

As partner to numerous singers she has performed in the Konzerthaus Vienna, the Philharmonie im Gasteig Munich, in Lincoln Center New York, the Musikverein Graz and in the Philharmonic Halls of Ljubljana and Vilnius. In addition, she has appeared in the Festival du Lied Fribourg, the Ljubljana Festival, the Mendelssohn Tage Koblenz, the Al Bustan Festival Beirut and many others. She has accompanied master classes given by Christa Ludwig, Brigitte Fassbaender, Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, Thomas Hampson and Helmut Deutsch.

Gaiva Bandzinaite is active as a coach at the National Opera in Vilnius and is an official accompanist of the International Mozart Competition in Salzburg. Within the Salzburg Festival she was recently directress of studies for the Young Singers Project. In her native Lithuania she holds a guest professorship at the University of Kaunas.