THE PEDAL PIANO

needed to write those books to become a better pianist.”

Prosseda is also the founder of Donatori di Musica, a network of volunteer doctors and musicians that organises concerts in the oncology departments of Italian hospitals. He says: ‘I saw the miraculous effects when my friend and CD producer Gian Andrea Lodovici was diagnosed with cancer, and he organised a series of concerts in the hospital. Doctors, nurses, patients and their families were able to meet informally and playing there was an incredible experience for me. You forget about your ego and focus on sharing the beauty of music. Now, at regular concerts, I try to regain that feeling.’

In 2012, Prosseda embarked on another daring and innovative project together with Teo Tronico, a robot with 53 fingers that can play any work from the piano repertoire on any normal piano. The robot played Chopin’s Polonaise Op 22 with the Berlin Symphony Orchestra, with Prosseda as a ‘ghost’ pianist playing a digital piano backstage. ‘This brings interesting insights for the public into the human element of performance and the differences between reproduction and interpretation, going beyond what is