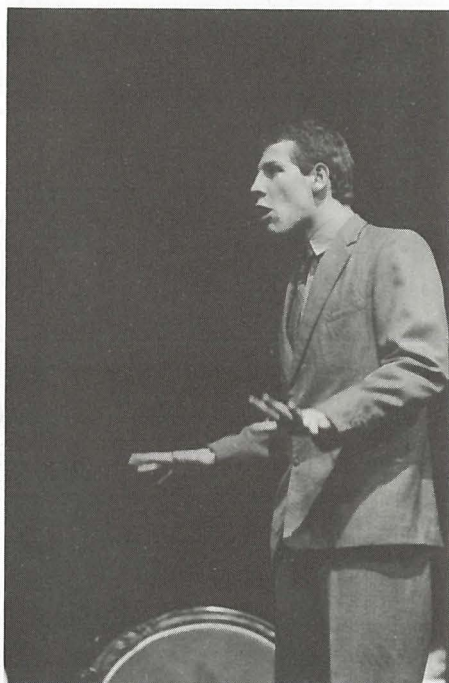


Edward Bond as, with some reservations, he granted the *Evening News* award (a bur-sary of £500 to the author of 'the most distinguished piece of new writing') to Rikki Beadle and his North London Col-lege group for their production of *A-Z?* Well, nobody who is anybody perhaps, except a great number of theatre-goers, and a great number of people who know just why they *aren't* theatre-goers.

Not that *A-Z* (which was more a crowd-scene than a production, more a party than a play, and whose author apologised or boasted that it had only taken four days to write) might not prove *commercially* viable. It had the sort of rough energy and panache that so often tricks an audience into thinking that a statement has been made – an illusion worked by successes as dissimilar as *Zigger Zagger*, *O Calcutta*, and Carol Channing in *Hello Dolly*. But, despite Edward Bond's approval, its sprawling theme of 'Us now... Our



Jane Gibbings and Graham Frost who together with Eric Graham were the Directors of the Festival.



Two of the five productions from the Goldsmith's College Drama Society, *Private Lives* by Noel Coward and *Stevie* by Hugh Whitmore.



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