

Heath Ledger Still Lives in ‘The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus’

Submitted by [PatrickMcD](#) [1] on January 8, 2010 - 9:10am

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CHICAGO – Bogart, James Dean and Heath Ledger are not dead, they’re just stuck in the Netflix queue. And Ledger, with a little help from some friends, gets one more theatrical release in “The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus.”



In this Terry Gilliam directed fantasy, Heath Ledger portrays Tony, who becomes part of an “Imaginarium,” a traveling show featuring the mysterious Doctor Parnassus (Christopher Plummer). Parnassus has the gift of being able to guide a person’s imagination and uses his medicinal show for flights of fancy that can magically become broader than the small stage on which it is presented.

The daughter of Parnassus, Valentina (Lily Cole), becomes involved in an old-time promise between Dr. P and Mr. Nick (an oily Tom Waits), who is actually the devil. Parnassus had exchanged his immortality for youth through Mr. Nick, so better to woo his former one true love. Lily became the result of this pairing and now Mr. Nick has come to collect her soul – per agreement – on the occasion of her 16th birthday.

Dr. Parnassus now has to scramble to ward off the ultimate evil, and agrees to a yet another contest with Mr. Nick. Whoever can get five souls first will be declared the winner of Valentina, but first an ever-evolving Tony, Dr. P and a cast of bizarre characters must journey themselves through the consequences of the Imaginarium to assure that this will be done.

“The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus” continues its limited release on January 8th. Check local listings. Featuring Heath Ledger, Jude Law, Johnny Depp, Colin Farrell, Lily Cole, Christopher Plummer, Verne Troyer and directed by Terry Gilliam. Rated “PG-13”

 [Click to read Patrick McDonald’s full review of “The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus”](#) [14]





Through the Glass Lightly: Heath Ledger as Tony in ‘The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus’

Photo credit: © Liam Daniel for Sony Pictures Classic



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