



MOVIE REVIEWS

NINE

This innovative, musical retelling of Federico Fellini's semi-autobiographical *8 1/2* revolves around Guido Contini (Daniel Day-Lewis), a world-famous film director, in the throes of a mid-life crisis. Contini's problems include trying to balance the many women in his life, from his wife (Marion Cotillard) to his mistress (Penélope Cruz), his film star muse (Nicole Kidman), his confidante and costume designer (Judi Dench), an American fashion journalist (Kate Hudson), the prostitute he picked up in his youth (Fergie) and his mother (Sophia Loren). Wonderfully entertaining. Release date: 12 February.

WHITE LION

A truly African tale about Letsatsi, a white lion born among the Shangaan tribe, who believe it to be a divine messenger. The story follows the hardships and pressures experienced by the animal while trying to survive and find a home of its own. Release date: 19 February.

IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS

A Faustian tale with a stellar cast, including the late Heath Ledger in his final role, Johnny Depp and Colin Farrell, who stepped into Ledger's shoes after his death to complete the filming. The central character is the leader of a travelling theatre troupe who, having made a pact with Satan, takes audience members through an enchanted mirror to explore their fantasies. Release date: 10 February.