MEL'S PISTACHIO- RASPBERRY BROWN BUTTER TART

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, cut into small pieces
- Baking spray for pan
- 2 3/4 cups confectioners' sugar
- 1 cup pistachio flour or 1 cup unsalted pistachios and 1 tablespoon unbleached all-purpose flour processed in a food processor
- 3/4 cup cake flour
- 1 teaspoon coarse salt
- 7 large egg whites (3/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons)
- 1 heaping cup fresh raspberries.
- 2 tablespoons demerara sugar
- Vanilla ice-cream or whipped cream to top.

DIRECTIONS

- 1. Melt butter in a small heavy-bottomed saucepan over medium heat. Continue cooking until light brown and nutty-smelling, about 6 minutes. Remove from heat and strain through a fine mesh sieve into a bowl. The brown bits need to be strained out.
- 2. Beat egg whites until stiff peaks form (a little cream of tartar makes the egg whites easier to form stiff peaks)
- 3. Sift together confectioners' sugar, pistachio flour (or pistachios and flour, processed in a food processor until fine), cake flour, and salt in a large bowl. Whisk in strained butter in a slow, steady stream. Fold in egg whites to combine. Cover bowl with plastic wrap and refrigerate until thickened, about 1 hour.
- 4. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Generously spray a 9-inch fluted tart pan with a removable bottom with baking spray.
- 5. Pour chilled batter into prepared tart pan. Sprinkle raspberries over the top, keeping fruit 1/2 inch in from edge of pan. Sprinkle raspberries and batter with demerara sugar.
- 6. Place tart pan on a baking sheet and bake until edges of cake are dark golden brown and top is slightly springy to the touch, 1 hour 15 minutes to 1 hour 30 minutes. Transfer cake to a wire rack, remove outer ring of pan, and let cool; serve warm or at room temperature. This cake is best eaten the day it is made, but can be kept at room temperature, loosely covered with plastic wrap, up to 2 days.

7. I like to serve with a little bit of vanilla ice-cream.