

Crostini with Chevre, Spiced Figs and Pistachios

SERVE WITH 2008 NEBBIOLO

Spiced Fig Compote
I I/2 cup Balsamic Vinegar
I/2 cup water
I cup sugar
I cinnamon stick
I/2 teaspoon black peppercorns
2 cloves garlic
I/4" slice fresh ginger
6 ounces dried gs, stems removed and cut into I/2 pieces, about one cup packed
2 tablespoons pistachios, toasted and shelled
I/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
I/2 cup chevre
2 tablespoons heavy cream

In a medium saucepan combine Balsamic Vinegar, water & sugar. Combine the zest, cinnamon, peppercorns, cloves, and ginger in a small piece of cheesecloth and tie to secure. Add the cheesecloth bundle to port mixture and bring to a boil over high heat. Cook until reduced slightly, about 8 minutes. Add figs and return to a boil. Reduce heat to a simmer and cook for 20 minutes, or until figs are tender and liquid has reduced to a syrupy consistency. Remove from heat, remove the cheesecloth bundle, and allow figs to cool in syrup.

Bring chevre to room temperature. Combine with heavy cream and blend until smooth. Finely crush pistachios and combine with extra-virgin olive oil. Smear room-temperature Chevre onto crostini. Top with halved figs. Drizzle with pistachio oil