Spicy Cranberry Muffins

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Makes 10 muffins

Adapted from Delia Smith cookbook *Delia's Cakes*

Ingredients:

1 ½ cups all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon ground ginger

½ teaspoon ground cinnamon

1 teaspoon baking powder

½ teaspoon salt

1 egg room temperature

¾ cup caster sugar, plus more for rolling the cranberries

1 cup of cranberries

zest and juice of one orange

4 tablespoons unsalted butter melted, at room temp

2 tablespoons milk

Frosted Cranberries:

30 cranberries (three each for topping)

1 egg white

Royal Icing:

1 cup powdered sugar

1 egg white

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400°

- 1. Line a 12- cup muffin pan with 10 paper liners and put a couple tablespoons of water in the remaining empty cups (the water keeps the baking even and stops the pan from warping).
- 2. Melt the butter and set aside to cool.
- 3. While the butter is cooling, place a mesh strainer over a large bowl and sift the flour, ginger, cinnamon, baking powder and salt into the bowl.
- 4. In a measuring cup add egg, juice, zest, castor sugar,milk, and melted butter. Whisk to combine.
- 5. Pour the egg mixture into the dry ingredients and fold together— do not overmix. A bit of flour that isn't completely combined is fine.
- 6. Now fold in the cranberries but don't over-stir. (* As mentioned above, there are a lot more cranberries than batter.) Divide the mixture into the 10 prepared cups

7. Place in the middle of a preheated 400° oven and bake for 20-25 minutes, or until golden. Cool on a wire rack.

While muffins are cooling you can make the frosted cranberries for decoration and the royal icing.

For the frosted cranberries: Whisk an egg white in a small bowl. Pour some caster sugar onto a plate. Dip the cranberries one at a time into the egg wash and then roll them around in the sugar by tilting the plate from side to side. Put the frosted cranberries on a piece of parchment paper to dry.

For the royal icing: Pour the powdered sugar in to a medium-sized bowl. Add the egg white and with a fork mix it up until the powdered sugar is completely wet. Next, using either a handheld or countertop electric mixer, beat to a marshmallow-like consistency, which takes about 7 minutes. Using an offset spatula, frost the muffins. Top with three frosted cranberries.