HAZELNUT AND WILD MUSHROOM BISQUE

SERVES: 4-6

INGREDIENTS

1 pound mixed wild mushrooms (shiitake, porcini, cremini)

1/2 cup whole hazelnuts

4 tablespoons unsalted butter

1 large shallot, finely chopped

3 garlic cloves, minced

2 tablespoons all-purpose flour

4 cups vegetable or chicken broth

1 cup dry white wine

1/2 cup heavy cream

2 sprigs fresh thyme

2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

Salt and white pepper to taste

Truffle oil for garnish

METHOD

- 1. Clean and roughly chop mushrooms, keeping different varieties separate.
- 2. Toast hazelnuts in a dry skillet until fragrant, about 5-7 minutes.
- 3. In a large pot, melt butter over medium heat. Sauté shallots for 2-3 minutes until translucent. Add garlic and cook for an additional 30 seconds. Add chopped mushrooms and cook until they release their moisture, about 8-10 minutes.
- 4. Sprinkle flour over mushrooms and stir to coat. Slowly add white wine, stirring constantly to prevent lumps. Pour in broth and add thyme sprigs.
- 5. Simmer for 20 minutes, allowing flavors to develop. Remove thyme sprigs and use an immersion blender to partially puree the soup. Stir in heavy cream and heat through.
- 6. Finely chop toasted hazelnuts. Season with salt and white pepper.
- 7. Serve hot, garnished with chopped hazelnuts, parsley, and a drizzle of truffle oil.