Celadon

presents Duck Salad with Apricots and Wild Rice paired with 2002 Downing Family Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon - Napa Valley

Ingredients: Serves 4

2 cups chicken broth
½ cup wild rice
4 boneless duck breasts
7 tbsp olive oil
3 large garlic cloves, pressed
1 tsp dried thyme
3 tbsp raspberry vinegar or red wine vinegar
2 tbsp minced fresh tarragon or 2 tsp dried tarragon
¾ tsp sugar
1 large bunch watercress trimmed
2 large heads Belgian endive, 1 cut into 1" pieces and 1 cut into spears
4 apricots, pitted and sliced
2 green onions, thinly sliced.

Combine broth and wild rice in a small saucepan. Cover and cook over low heat until rice is tender and liquid is absorbed, about 1 hour. Chill until cold. (Can be prepared 1 day ahead). Place duck breasts in a shallow baking dish. Mix 2 tbsp oil, 2 garlic cloves and thyme and drizzle mixture over duck. Season with salt and pepper. Cover and chill 4 hours or overnight. Combine vinegar, tarragon, sugar and remaining pressed garlic clove in bowl. Gradually whisk in 5 tbsp olive oil. Season dressing to taste with salt and pepper. Combine wild rice, watercress, endive pieces, ³/₄ apricots and green onions in a large bowl. Toss with enough dressing to coat. Divide salad among 4 plates, mounding in center – keep cool.

Heat heavy large skillet over medium-high heat. Add duck, skin side down, and sauté until just pink in center, about 5 minutes per side. Transfer duck to plate. Thinly slice on diagonal. Arrange duck slices around salad. Garnish with endive spears and remaining apricots. Serve immediately.

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