Heart-Loving Pomegranate & Beet Salad w/ Quinoa

Serves 4-6

Ingredients

Dressing:

- 1/3 cup raw cashews, soaked overnight or soaked in hot water for 10 minutes
- 1 large orange, peeled and divided into segments
- 1-2 TBS red wine vinegar or high-quality balsamic vinegar
- 2 tsp pure maple syrup
- 1 tsp dijon mustard
- squeeze of lemon a tsp or two
- ¼ tsp salt
- additional tsp of water as needed to reach desired consistency

Salad:

- 6 cups arugula
- 1-2 tbsp coconut oil for roasting the beets
- 4 medium beet, peeled and cubed
- 1 cup of pomegranate seeds
- ½ cup of cooked quinoa

Directions:

- 1. Preheat the oven to 400 F
- 2. Add the beets to a baking sheet and top with cooking fat and salt
- 3. Roast for 35-40 minutes or until soft. Allow to cool.
- 4. Assemble the salad ingredients in a large bowl including the beets
- 5. Blend all of the dressing ingredients in a high-speed blender until completely smooth.
- 6. Taste the dressing and determine if you need to add a little more of any ingredient syrup for sweetness, lemon or vinegar for acid, salt, etc.
- 7. Toss the dressing with the salad to expose all of the salad vegetables.
- 8. Add protein like chickpeas or other beans, etc. to make it a complete meal

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