Lemon Cheesecake Tart (NYT)

1 23-cm tart

Crust

- 190 g all-purpose flour
- 50 g powdered sugar
- ½ tsp fine salt
- Finely grated zest of 1 lemon
- 142 grams unsalted butter, cold and cut into cubes, plus more for greasing the pan
- 1 egg yolk

Filling

- 450 g cream cheese, softened to room temperature
- 100 g granulated sugar
- Finely grated zest of 2 lemons plus ¼ cup (about 1¼ lemon) freshly squeezed juice
- Pinch fine salt
- 2 large eggs
- 1. Heat oven to 190°C.

Crust:

- 2. Combine the **flour**, **powdered sugar**, **salt** and **lemon zest** in the bowl of a food processor fitted with the steel blade; pulse a few times to combine.
- 3. Scatter the cubed **butter** on top, then pulse until the butter is almost completely incorporated and the mixture is sandy.
- 4. Add the **egg yolk** and pulse until incorporated. The dough should hold together easily. If not, pulse in up to **3 tsp of cold water**, 1 tsp at a time.
- 5. Lightly butter a 23-cm tart pan with a removable bottom and press the dough mixture evenly on the bottom and up the sides of the pan using a lightly floured straight-sided measuring cup to help press the dough into the corners of the pan.
- 6. Line the tart shell with a piece of aluminum foil, making sure to tuck it into the corners and over the edges. Set the tart shell on a baking sheet and **bake the shell for 25 to 30 minutes** or until the dough appears dry and lightly golden. If the dough puffs up while baking, gently press it back into the pan with an offset spatula or similar tool.
- 7. Turn the oven down to 180°C. If necessary, repair any cracks with the remaining raw dough before filling.

While the shell cools slightly, make the filling:

- 8. Add the **cream cheese**, **granulated sugar**, **lemon zest** and **salt** to a large bowl. Use a stand mixer to whip the cream cheese mixture until smooth and fluffy, **about 4 minutes**.
- 9. Add the **eggs** one at a time, mixing until completely incorporated before adding the next, scraping down the sides of the bowl with a rubber spatula, if needed.
- 10. Add the **lemon juice** and mix until smooth. Tap the bowl on the counter a few times then stir a few times with a rubber spatula to release any large air bubbles.
- 11. Pour the mixture into the warm crust, smooth the top and carefully transfer the pan, still on the baking sheet, into the oven.
- 12. Bake until just set around the edges and slightly wiggly in the center, 15 to 20 minutes.
- 13. Let the tart cool to room temperature, then transfer to the refrigerator to cool completely.
- 14. Remove the outer ring and slice with a warm knife, wiping the knife with a towel in between cuts for the tidiest slices. Serve cold or at room temperature. This keeps well in the fridge, covered for a few days.

