Salt and Serenity

Hazelnut Almond "Waffle" Ice Cream Sandwiches

Makes 9 ice cream sandwiches

1 cup hazelnuts

1/2 cup unsalted, roasted almonds

1/2 cup (packed) light brown sugar

1 teaspoon kosher salt

1 teaspoon vanilla bean paste or pure vanilla extract

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour

1 cup (2 sticks) chilled unsalted butter, cut into pieces

2-500 ml containers of Dulce De Leche Ice Cream

- Preheat oven to 350° F. On a baking sheet, toast hazelnuts in middle of oven 10 to 15 minutes, or until lightly colored and skins are blistered.
 Wrap nuts in a kitchen towel and let steam 1 minute. Rub nuts in towel to remove loose skins (don't worry about skins that don't come off) and cool completely.
- 2. Place cooled hazelnuts, almonds, brown sugar, salt and vanilla bean paste or extract in a food processor. Pulse until finely ground, then pulse in flour just to combine. Add butter; process until dough just comes together.
- 3. Roll dough into 2" balls (I used a <u>#24 disher</u>/ice cream scooper for mine) and place on parchment-lined baking sheets, spacing 2" apart. Flatten cookies, using either a cookie press or your palm, to a little less than 1/2" thick.
- 4. Bake, rotating sheets halfway through, until cookies are golden brown, 15–18 minutes. Transfer baking sheets to wire racks and let cookies cool completely.
- 5. Let ice cream soften about 10 minutes on the counter. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper. Portion out 9 large scoops of ice cream. (You will have a bit of ice cream left over). Sandwich each scoop between 2 cookies, pressing gently to flatten. Wrap each sandwich in plastic wrap and store in freezer until ready to eat. They will keep in the freezer for at least 3 weeks. (Well, maybe in your freezer, mine are gone already!)