



Corporate Overview

Esteemed entrepreneur and singer-songwriter Peter Cornell (Inflatable Soule, Black Market Radio) has always had a passion for three of life's greatest treasures – family, music, and a really good cup of coffee.

Now for his latest venture, Cornell has combined all of these loves with the opening of the Cornell Brothers Coffee Espresso Bar in the heart of Historic Downtown Nolensville, TN, as well as the international launch of his premier line, Cornell Brothers Coffee: Small Batch Roasters and merchandise.

According to Cornell, the company was named in memory of his late brother Chris Cornell, the iconic frontman for Soundgarden and Audioslave, who passed in 2017. However, it is also in recognition of their grandfather and his three brothers, all of whom were very influential in the boys' lives.

“Cornell Brothers Coffee is, of course, an homage to Chris, but it goes deeper than that,” said Cornell. “Our granddad, Ralph T. Cornell, was an enormous presence in our lives growing up. Ralph T. and his three brothers -- Emmersen, Harvey and Peter -- left an indelible mark on us and were the driving force behind Chris and me changing our surname, to carry on the Cornell legacy. The Cornell Brothers and the Cornell name always represented an old-worldliness, integrity, dignity and decorum to us. The opportunity to represent all of the Cornell brothers is my genuine honor.”

In fact, family is so important to Cornell that he says the very idea for Cornell Brothers Coffee stems from his Seattle upbringing, where he and his brothers and sisters practically “grew up with coffee in their veins.”

“My siblings and I first learned about coffee from our parents, who always brought home the latest technology in brewing. Heaven came to them in the form of a programmable coffee machine that would brew itself before they woke up in the morning. They took turns bringing each other coffee in bed. so we woke up to the smell of a fresh cup every morning,” he said. “In the late 80s and early 90s, espresso shops became a regular part of the Emerald City landscape and the espresso snob was born. Everyone had a regular spot and a regular espresso drink. My favorite haunt was a place called Uptown Espresso on lower Queen Anne Hill. My first ever espresso was an iced quad with the tiniest bit of soy milk. To this day, I never have my coffee any other way. And being that I’m an espresso drinker, I became very particular about the quality of my beans.”

Cornell Brothers Coffee Espresso Bar serves up multiple varieties of freshly-roasted espresso and coffee, which Cornell partnered with Nashville master roaster Lesa Wood to source and produce.

“When I decided I wanted my own brand of beans and an espresso bar, I knew I had to find the best roaster,” Cornell said. “Researching beans and roasting was my first step, and then I had the great fortune of meeting master roaster Lesa Wood right here in Nashville. Lesa is a pioneer and an innovator in the field of small batch roasting– a true artisan and a purist when it comes to perfecting her roasts –and has become a guiding beacon and mentor in this process. She is the Yoda of all things coffee.”

Cornell's wife and business partner is veteran music industry executive Amy Decker, who located the espresso bar's premises inside Oh My Chives Natural Co-Op Market (7332 Nolensville Rd, Nolensville, TN), a popular co-op owned and operated by Angela Daly.

"Oh My Chives is proud to be teaming up with Cornell Brothers Coffee," said Daly. "Together, our guests will be able to enjoy an expanded cafe menu along with small batch roasted coffee and espresso in our relaxed and friendly community atmosphere. It is a win for everyone!"

You don't need to live in Nolensville to enjoy Cornell Brothers Coffee, however. Available through www.cornellbrotherscoffee.com, coffee aficionados worldwide are able to purchase fresh-roasted Cornell varieties online. "We roast on Tuesday and ship on Thursday. If we don't have your order by Monday night, we will hold it until the following Tuesday so your product is of the highest quality we can provide."

In addition to beans, official Cornell Brothers Coffee merchandise will be available from anywhere with an internet connection. And because every purchase made, whether online or in-person at the Espresso Bar, supports Second Harvest Food Bank Of Middle Tennessee, patrons can feel good knowing that they are directly supporting both a local business and a charity organization.

"It has always been important to me to give back and be of service; that lesson was ingrained in me from childhood," said Cornell. "I knew that I wanted to partner with a local charity organization when I first conceptualized the business, and the work that Second Harvest does in our community and the greater Middle Tennessee area is second to none. They serve so many families in need, the elderly and those affected by disasters, whether natural or the recent pandemic. The number of children and families going hungry on a daily basis is staggering and unacceptable. Second Harvest DOES make a difference. They are truly remarkable."

Nolensville is the first place since Seattle that Cornell says truly feels like home, which is why he's excited to build a business and give back to his community in such a meaningful way. Prior to moving to TN, he spent the majority of his adult life crisscrossing the country performing in various musical projects, including his very first band Inflatable Soule, featuring his sisters Suzy (percussion/vocals) and Katy (flute/vocals), and managed by Susan Silver (Soundgarden, Alice in Chains).

The group released three albums before Cornell moved to New York City and started hard rock band Black Market Radio (BMR) with bassist Keith Mannino. Their 2006 album, *Suicide Parlor*, was hailed as “vibrant [and] blistering, with emotionally resonant tracks” (*Last.FM*). After that release, Cornell decided to take his career in a new direction and record a solo album entitled *Champion* with former Pearl Jam drummer Dave Abbruzzese on drums. Lauded by critics as an “instantly impactful and passionately powerful collection of songs” (*Artist Direct*), Cornell’s solo effort saw commercial success with its single “Wash” appearing in the *Vampire Diaries*.

Now, settled into TN life, Cornell has started writing and collaborating with other artists in addition to launching Cornell Brothers Coffee. His latest project was with multi-platinum rock band Candlebox. Cornell co-wrote the single “Let Me Down Easy” with frontman Kevin Martin for their forthcoming album *Wolves* (September 2021).

Whether fueled by his love of family, music or his eternal pursuit of the best cup of coffee, one thing is for sure, whatever Peter Cornell puts his mind (and passion) to is a success. And when he combines all three well, that’s just the perfect blend.