

**FRESHNESS GUARANTEED**

Playing a gig every Wednesday in the same city for six straight years provides some real life lessons. **Chris Gangi**, co-founder of **Cornmeal**, and his bandmates quickly realized they had better change up their music—fast and frequently—or the audience would disappear. In this case, necessity was truly the mother of invention that set this bluegrass/country/jamband on a path of constant experimentation. The result is a solid midwestern fanbase that has launched the band onto a national tour. “We are always trying to push ourselves to keep things completely fresh,” says Gangi. “We are always working on changing thing up stylistically... I am doing a lot of listening and adding a lot of stuff that we wouldn’t usually add to bluegrass.” The dabbling in hooks and transitions born in genres that range from old soul to world allows Cornmeal’s signature sound to continually shift and expand. “We let the stage develop the songs,” he said. “We’re ready as a band and confident in what we’re doing. We’re really ready to take this national.”

[www.cornmealinthekitchen.com](http://www.cornmealinthekitchen.com) ★ Nancy Dunham

